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ALABAMA TROOPS—THREE COMPANIES UNDER MAJ. HOLT

February 22, 1837.

Committed to a Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. E. Whittlesey, from the Committee of Claims, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee of Claims, having under consideration the subject of the payment to be made to the troops of the State of Alabama, while in the service of the United States, report, in part:

That Samuel D. Holt states he commanded a battalion of four companies, which was called out by Governor Clay to keep the Creek Indians in check until a more permanent force should take the field; that the companies were the Montgomery Guards, the Rifle Rangers, Coosada Volunteers, and the Independent Blues; that they were in actual service from the 11th of May to the 7th of June, 1836, when they were dismissed, their places having been supplied by other troops. He says Paymaster Muhlenberg paid the Montgomery Guards, and several companies in another battalion, but refused to pay his other three companies.

Application was made to Paymaster General Towson for information whether the said companies could not be paid under existing laws. He answered they could not, and referred to the second section of the act of May 28, 1836, which is as follows:

"That the Secretary of War be authorized to cause the militia called out to defend East Florida by Generals Clinch and Hernández, or by the Governor of Middle and West Florida, and such other militia and volunteers as have been received and mustered into the service of the United States, and regularly discharged, to be paid in like manner with the volunteers and militia ordered into service under orders from the War Department."

General Towson furnished the committee, on another call, with an estimate of the expense of a company for one month, and an estimate of the pay of a major and battalion staff for the same time. The committee recommend an appropriation of a sum sufficient to cover the pay of the three companies and field and staff officers mentioned.

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