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Mr. Willey : Report

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 2, 1870.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILLEY, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

R E P O R T .

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Christian Luth, of Jefferson County, Nebraska, praying compensation for property taken from him by the Indians in June, 1868, report :

The facts on which the petitioner bases his claim are thus stated by himself :

“Upon the 8th day of June, 1868, about daybreak in the morning, a party of Cheyenne Indians drove away from my land, where I reside, seven head of stock, viz., two mares, one five and one ten years old, both large and fine animals, and with foal, valued by me at actual cost, \$300; also three yearling colts, valued at \$75 each, and two sucking colts, valued at \$50 each;” making an aggregate sum of \$625.

Claimant further says that “this depredation was not committed upon or near any Indian reservation, but upon his own premises, for which he holds a patent from the United States government.”

This is the whole of the case. The committee cannot see any obligation on the part of the government to pay the claimant for the loss of his said property, and cannot recommend that Congress should initiate a policy of paying for this character of Indian depredations. They therefore report against the prayer of the petition, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration thereof.