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Report : Mr. Buckingham

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 7, 1871.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BUCKINGHAM made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany bill S. No. 1315.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to which was referred the petition of Mrs. Fanny Kelly, praying for compensation for losses sustained by the destruction of property by the Sioux Indians, submit the following report :

In the early part of the year 1864, Mrs. Kelly, with her husband and family, started from Allen County, Kansas, for Montana. They took with them all their property, which consisted of horses, wagons, cattle, wearing apparel, and a variety of merchandise. On the 12th of July, while near Fort Laramie, the train was attacked by the Sioux Indians, five of the emigrating party were killed, all their property was taken or destroyed, and Mrs. Kelly taken captive and detained nearly five months, during which time she suffered great cruelty at their hands. Her husband is now dead, and she presents a detailed account of property destroyed, which, although made from memory, yet in the leading articles and in the amount is declared to be correct.

Accompanying the account is a statement signed by Spotted Tail, Swift Bear, and other chiefs and warriors of the Brulé Sioux; by Red Cloud and other chiefs and warriors of the Ogallallas; by Little Swan, and others, warriors of the Minneconjous and Sans Arcs, bands of Sioux Indians, in which they certify to the facts set forth in the affidavit of Mrs. Kelly, and acknowledge the justness of the claim against them, and request that the amount set forth in Mrs. Kelly's statement be paid her out of any money now due, or which may become due them by annuities or by any appropriation made by Congress. Certificates accompany their request, signed by their interpreters, which state that they were present when the statements were signed by the chiefs and warriors, and they were fully explained by them before they were signed. The committee recommend the passage of the accompanying bill.