

THOMAS J. LAWLER—SMITH M. MILES.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 43.]

DECEMBER 14, 1837.—Reprinted.

APRIL 15, 1836.

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

REPORT:

The Committee of Claims, instructed by a resolution of the House of Representatives, passed on the 6th of April, 1836, to inquire into the expediency of paying the claim of Thomas J. Lawler against the United States, report:

That Jared Cable, of Natchitoches, in the State of Louisiana, a deputy collector of the customs, and inspector of the revenue for the district of Teché, made a complaint, on the 9th of April, 1833, that John H. Thompson and Milly Berry, about the 1st of March, preceding, had brought into the United States, in contravention of the laws thereof for the suppression of the slave trade, four negroes: upon which Isaac Holmes, a justice of the peace for said parish, issued his mittimus, commanding the sheriff, his deputy, and keeper of the public prison, in said parish, to take said negroes, and confine them in prison until legally discharged.

Suits were instituted in the name of the United States, by the district attorney of the western district of Louisiana, against John H. Thompson and Barrel J. Thompson.

The slaves were kept in confinement from the 14th of April, 1833, to the 18th of March, 1834, when they were delivered to the defendants on the order of the district judge, on their entering into bonds that they would return them when required by the court. The claimant asks a compensation of thirty cents a day, for each of said negroes, during the time they were so confined. He was, during the time mentioned, deputy sheriff and jailer.

During the time said negroes were thus confined, they were sick, and Dr. Smith M. Miles was called to attend them as a physician. His account amounts to \$91 50. The accounts were examined by Samuel H. Harper, the district judge, and allowed.

It is the policy of all the laws enacted to prevent the slave trade to encourage all classes of our citizens to unite in putting an end to that traffic.

The committee think the claimant should be paid for sustaining the prisoners when they were in his custody.

He also presents a claim of \$44 93, for sustaining and keeping Martin Lee in jail 132 days, who was charged with robbing the mail. It ap-

appears that the said Lee was in custody under said charge, and that he was turned loose on the 14th of July, 1833, because the prison was abandoned on account of the cholera. This item is contained in the account, which is certified by the district judge as having been examined by him and allowed.

The committee think the claimant is entitled to this charge.

As there is not any evidence before the committee proving that Mr. Lawler is liable to pay Dr. Miles for his services, the committee will report a bill making provision for the payment to each person of the amount of his claim.

REPORT
The Committee of Claims, in a resolution of the 14th of July, 1833, passed on the 6th of July, 1833, to inquire into the expediency of paying the claim of Thomas A. Lawler against the United States, report:

That James Esbie, of North Carolina, in the State of Louisiana, a deputy collector of the revenues, and inspector of the revenues for the district of Texas, made a complaint on the 5th of April, 1833, that John H. Thompson and Milly Perry, about the 1st of March, proceeding had brought into the United States, in contravention of the laws thereof for the suppression of the slave trade, four negroes; upon which Isaac Hobbes, a justice of the peace for said parish, issued his warrant commanding the sheriff, his deputy, and keeper of the public prison, in said parish, to take said negroes, and confine them in prison until legally discharged.

Some were detained in the name of the United States by the attorney of the western district of Louisiana, against John H. Thompson and David L. Thompson.
The slaves were kept in confinement from the 1st of April, 1833, to the 15th of March, 1834, when they were delivered to the defendants on the order of the district judge, on their entering into bonds that they would return them when required by the court. The claimant asks a compensation of thirty cents a day, for each of said negroes, during the time they were so confined. It was during the time mentioned, during the sheriff and jailer.
During the time said negroes were thus confined, they were sick, and Dr. Samuel M. Miles was called to attend them as a physician. His account amounts to \$41.50. The accounts were examined by James H. Harper, the district judge, and allowed.

It is the policy of all the laws enacted to prevent the slave trade to our country all citizens of our country to make it paying an aid to that traffic. The committee think the claimant should be paid for sustaining the prisoners whom they were in his custody.
He also presents a claim of \$14.00, for sustaining and keeping William Lee in jail 132 days, who was charged with robbing the mail. It ap-