36TH CONGRESS, 1st Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { REPORT No. 495.

R. C. MARTIN.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 693.]

MAY 4, 1860.

Mr. ETHERIDGE, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Richard C. Martin, praying that an appropriation be made for the payment of a draft for $1,050 drawn by G. W. Barbour, Indian commissioner, on Ridick McKee, disbursing agent for the United States in California, beg leave to report:

That in the year 1851 Thomas W. Lane furnished beef cattle to said Barbour for the use of the Indians in California who were then threatening hostilities on account of their starving condition, and received from said Barbour his draft on the then disbursing agent of the United States, Ridick McKee, for one thousand and fifty dollars, which said draft was duly presented for payment, but was not paid, because the appropriation for the purpose of maintaining peace with the Indians in California was exhausted. That subsequently said Lane assigned, by indorsement, said draft to the petitioner, for the sum of one thousand and fifty dollars, the full amount and value of the same; that at the first session of the thirty-fifth Congress petitioner presented his petition (and filed said draft with the same) to the Congress of the United States, which, together with said draft, was lost or mislaid without his negligence or fault; that at the second session of said thirty-fifth Congress he presented his petition, setting forth the facts and alleging the loss of the papers filed at the first session, and the Committee on Indian Affairs unanimously authorized a report in favor of the petitioner, but owing to the want of time by reason of the expiration of the session, report was not made, and the papers in the case were lost or mislaid, and cannot now be found. The committee are satisfied of the authority of Barbour to draw said draft, and of the legality and genuineness of the assignment to Martin, and that said draft has never been paid, therefore report the accompanying bill; and in consideration of the peculiar circumstances attending the claim recommend that it be passed at the earliest possible day.

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