61st Congress, 2d Session. } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. { Report No. 1683.

HEIRS OF ANTOINE LAURENT.

June 21, 1910.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Floyd, from the Committee on War Claims submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. Res. No. 820.]

The Committee on War Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 18360) for the relief of the heirs of Antoine Laurent submit the following report:

This is a claim for stores or supplies alleged to have been taken by or furnished to the military forces of the United States for their use during the civil war, by Antoine Laurent, deceased, late of Natchitoches Parish, La.

Claim stated at $6,800.

The evidence offered in support of this claim is in the form of ex parte affidavits, and your committee have no opportunity of subjecting the witnesses to a cross-examination, and are therefore of the opinion that this claim should be referred to the Court of Claims; where depositions can be taken in the usual manner prescribed by law, counsel for the Government having the right to cross-examine the witnesses making such depositions; and when the facts shall have been determined by the court upon the legal testimony thus taken and submitted, said facts to be reported to Congress for its consideration; and report herewith a resolution to that effect and recommend its adoption.

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