

SIMEON BUCKNER—WIDOW OF.

JUNE 23, 1854.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT.

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was submitted the memorial of the widow of Simeon Buckner, beg leave to submit the following report:

In 1837, Simeon Buckner contracted with the government for the removal of Chickasaw Indians from Memphis, Tennessee, to Fort Coffee, by steamboats.

By the terms of the contract, Buckner was to furnish such number of boats, in good order, as would be sufficient for that purpose. The steamboat Kentuckian and some four or five other boats left Memphis, with a large portion of the emigrating Indians on board.

In consequence of the blowing up of a boat at Memphis about the time the Indians were to leave, a number of their people refused to go on board of the boats, and persisted in going by land. All the boats left. The steamer Kentuckian made a trip to Fort Coffee, and returned to Little Rock with a view of taking on board the Indians, who had left Memphis with a view to emigrate by land. On the arrival of the Indians at Little Rock, they persisted in their refusal to go on board any boat.

The claimant now asks compensation, at the rate of \$100 per day, for the time the Kentuckian remained at the wharf at Little Rock. The committee are of opinion that the claimants are not entitled to any demurrage on account of the alleged detention of the boat, as there is no evidence before the committee which proves, or conduces to prove, that the boat was detained at Little Rock by the order of the superintendent of emigration, or any other duly authorized officer of the government.

