34TH CONGRESS,
3D SESSION.

H. R. 825.

[Report No. 204.]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 13, 1857.

Read twice, and committed to a Committee of the Whole House to-morrow.

Mr. TODD, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported the following bill:

A BILL

To execute the treaties of eighteen hundred and seventeen and eighteen hundred and nineteen with the Cherokees, by making provision for the reservations under the same.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whereas a reversion in fee simple, reserving to the widow her dower, was granted to the children of heads of families taking reservations under the eighth article of the treaty of eighteen hundred and seventeen with the Cherokees, and under the second article of the treaty of eighteen hundred and nineteen with the Cherokees, which reversion in fee simple and reservation of dower could not be affected by any act or omission of the tenants of the life estate

in such reservations; and whereas many of these reservations are now held, under the laws of the States where they are situated, or otherwise, by titles or permission adverse to the just rights of the children and widows of such heads of families, the President of the United States is hereby required to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, two suitable commissioners, whose duty it shall be to appraise the full and fair value of the reversion in fee simple of the children, and of the reserved dower of the widows, of the aforesaid heads of families, where such reservations may now be held by adverse titles as aforesaid: *Provided,* That no appraisement shall be made of such reversions in fee simple, or of reserved rights of dower, which may have been heretofore paid for by the United States.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the commissioners aforesaid, after making the appraisements provided for in the first section of this act, shall report the same to the Secretary of the Treasury, whose duty it shall be to pay the same out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated: *Provided,* The said children and widows, or legal representatives, shall first file in the office of said Secretary full releases to the United States of their titles respectively.