43D CONGRESS, 2d Session. | SENATE. | REPORT No. 672.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 23, 1875.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SPENCER, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the memorial of officers of the Masonic Lodge, praying compensation for the destruction of the Masonic Hall at Georgetown, S. C., by United States troops in 1865, *report:*

The petition in this case is accompanied by proof sufficient to corroborate the facts charged that this Masonic Hall was wantonly burned by United States troops at the close of the war in 1865 and after hostilities had ceased, and that the property was worth $12,000 to $15,000. It had been occupied as quarters for United States soldiers, who, being relieved by a colored regiment, burned the building in revenge. Inasmuch as the President has vetoed acts awarding compensation for property destroyed during the rebellion, the committee are of opinion that this case, notwithstanding its justice, comes within the rule established, and, therefore, ask to be discharged from further consideration of the same.

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