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A bill to be en

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Jan. 20, 1865.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

[By Mr. HERBERT, from Committee on Claims.

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## A BILL

To be entitled An Act providing for the auditing and payment of properly authenticated claims.

1 WHEREAS, Under authority of Lt. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, com-  
2 manding the Trans-Mississippi Military Department, large quan-  
3 tities of cotton have been purchased for the use of the Confed-  
4 erate States by W. J. Hutchins, appointed for that purpose, for  
5 which certificates have been given, providing that payment should  
6 be made as Congress might thereafter prescribe. AND WHERE-  
7 AS, Said claims cannot be paid without the sanction of Congress,  
8 according to the terms of the contract, Therefore,

1 *The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact,*  
2 That the Secretary of the Treasury do cause all such claims for  
3 cotton sold and delivered to the said W. J. Hutchins, for the  
4 use of the Confederate States, to be examined and audited by  
5 the proper accounting officer of the Trans-Mississippi Depart-  
6 ment, according to such regulations as he may deem just and  
7 proper, and that there be paid therefor just compensation, out  
8 of any funds appropriated thereto.

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