

TRUSTEES, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LUMBER  
BRIDGE, N. C.

LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE COURT OF CLAIMS  
TRANSMITTING A COPY OF THE FINDINGS OF THE COURT IN  
THE CASE OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF LUMBER BRIDGE, N. C., AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 15, 1906.—Referred to the Committee on Claims and ordered to be printed.

COURT OF CLAIMS, CLERK'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, January 13, 1906.*

SIR: Pursuant to the order of the court I transmit herewith a certified copy of the findings of fact filed by the court in the aforesaid cause, which case was referred to this court by the resolution of the United States Senate under the act of March 3, 1887, known as the Tucker Act.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

JOHN RANDOLPH,  
*Assistant Clerk Court of Claims.*

HON. CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS,  
*President of the Senate.*

[Court of Claims. Congressional, No. 11727. Trustees of the Presbyterian Church of Lumber Bridge, N. C., v. The United States.]

STATEMENT OF CASE.

The following bill was referred to the court April 27, 1904, by resolution of the United States Senate under act of Congress approved March 3, 1887, known as the Tucker Act:

"A BILL For the relief of the Presbyterian Church at Lumber Bridge, North Carolina, for the church edifice destroyed by the Army in eighteen hundred and sixty-five.

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and hereby is, empowered, directed, and instructed to pay to the Lumber Bridge Presbyterian Church, at Lumber Bridge, North Carolina, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of three thousand dollars, the value of the church building or edifice destroyed by the Army of the United States on March eleventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, and used for constructing a causeway at Lumber Bridge, in Robeson County, North Carolina."

The trustees of the Presbyterian Church at Lumber Bridge, N. C., appeared and filed their petition in this court February 2, 1905, in which they make the following allegations:

That during the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, and on or about March 10, 1865, the military forces of the United States took possession of the church building of the Presbyterian Church at Lumber Bridge, N. C., tore down the said building

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and used the material for the use of the army under command of General Sherman. That at the same time and place and by the same command there was also taken and used for fuel two buildings, known as temperance hall and session house, belonging to the said church. That the said buildings at the time they were taken and used as aforesaid were reasonably worth the sum of \$3,000, for which no payment has been made.

The case was brought to a hearing on loyalty and merits on the 11th day of December, 1905. G. W. Z. Black, esq., appeared for the claimants, and the Attorney-General by George M. Anderson, esq., his assistant, and under his direction appeared for the defense and protection of the interests of the United States.

The court, upon the evidence and after considering the briefs and arguments of counsel on both sides, makes the following

**FINDINGS OF FACT.**

I. It appears from the evidence that the Presbyterian Church of Lumber Bridge, N. C., as a church, was loyal to the Government of the United States throughout the war for the suppression of the rebellion.

II. During the war for the suppression of the rebellion the military forces of the United States, by proper authority, for the use of the Army, took possession of, tore down, and used the materials therein, the buildings belonging to the Presbyterian Church of Lumber Bridge, N. C., which then and there were reasonably worth the sum of eighteen hundred dollars (\$1,800).

No payment appears to have been made therefor.

BY THE COURT.

Filed December 18, 1905.

A true copy.

Test this 13th day of January, 1906.

[SEAL.]

JOHN RANDOLPH,  
*Assistant Clerk Court of Claims.*

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