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Appropriation, further additional to suppress Indian hostilities

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ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR SUPPRESSING INDIAN
HOSTILITIES.

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 922.]

FEBRUARY 14, 1837.

Laid before the House, by the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
February 11, 1837.

SIR: Although there is good reason to hope that the Indian hostilities now existing will be suppressed in a few months, yet, considering the actual condition of things in Florida and on the frontiers of Georgia and Alabama, and the dangers to which our southwestern frontier is exposed, I have deemed it my duty to call for estimates of the expenditures which will be requisite for the purpose of keeping up the present force to the 1st of December next. They are herewith enclosed, and, on the statements therein, I beg leave to submit to your committee the propriety of a further appropriation of two millions of dollars for the suppression and prevention of Indian hostilities.

I avail myself of this occasion to call the attention of your committee to the propriety of making some allowance to paymasters engaged in making payments to militia and volunteers, as recommended by the Paymaster General, and in the annual report of the Secretary of War. The Paymaster General reports to me, that the justice, and, indeed, the necessity of this measure, are every day rendered more apparent.

Very respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,

Secretary of War *ad interim*.

Hon. C. C. CAMBRELENG,

Chairman Committee Ways and Means, House of Reps.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 10, 1837.

SIR: In compliance with your direction to me, of this date, to furnish an estimate of the funds that will be required for the service of the Quartermaster's Department for the residue of the present year, in preventing and suppressing Indian hostilities, based upon the calculation that the force at present employed on that service will be continued until December next, I have the honor to state that, judging from the experience of the past year, I should estimate that at least eight hundred thousand dollars will be re-

quired, in addition to the unexpended balance of the partial appropriation already made, for all the objects due from the Quartermaster's Department. This estimate is not limited to the war in Florida, but embraces also the operations in the Cherokee country, where a force is still maintained for purposes of prevention.

Of the appropriation of one million, made on my estimate of the 8th of December last, upwards of six hundred thousand dollars have already been remitted to the disbursing officers, leaving a balance of about four hundred thousand dollars in the Treasury; and it is estimated that the unexpended balances now in the hands of officers are equal to two hundred thousand dollars; thus giving a total of one million four hundred thousand dollars for the residue of the year, should the estimate now submitted be granted. That sum, I am quite sure, will be required, should active operations continue through the year.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,
T. CROSS,

Major, Acting Quartermaster General.

Hon. B. F. BUTLER,
Secretary of War ad interim, Washington.

PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 10, 1837.

SIR: In obedience to your call, of this morning, for an estimate of the amount required by the Pay Department "for the Florida war, for the residue of the year 1837, based upon the calculation that the present force may be required until December next," I have the honor to state, that the 2,000,000 dollars appropriated by the act of January 9, 1837, included \$600,000 for the Pay Department, of which \$490,000 have been placed in the hands of paymasters, and, with the balance, is believed will not be more than sufficient to complete the payment of the volunteers and militia that have been and now are in service, to the 1st of March, leaving ten months of the year 1837 to be provided for.

It appears, from the last returns in the Adjutant General's office, that there are now in service in Florida 1,340 volunteers, 541 in Tennessee, and 629 in Arkansas; making the aggregate now in service, *so far as reported*, 2,510, exclusive of Indians. It is probable that the Indians and volunteers not reported will make the number required to be paid at least 3,000. So far as can be ascertained from the rolls, it appears that all the volunteers are mounted, and of course the most expensive of all troops.

According to this data, it will require for the volunteers in Florida, sup-
 posing them to serve to the 31st December - - - \$469,000
 For the volunteers in Tennessee, for the same period - - - 189,350
 Those in Arkansas - - - - - 220,150
 And for volunteers not reported, and Indians - - - 171,500

Making together - - \$1,050,000

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
N. TOWSON,
Paymaster General.

To the Hon. B. F. BUTLER,
Secretary of War ad interim.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSARY GEN. OF SUBSISTENCE,
Washington, February 10, 1837.

SIR: In reply to the letter of the Hon. Joseph M. White, of the 9th inst., and referred to this office, requesting "estimates for the Florida war;" I have the honor to state, that on the 5th November, 1836, a general estimate for subsisting the regular troops of the United States, and the militia and volunteers called into that service during the Florida campaign in 1837, was submitted to you, amounting to - - \$913,445 00
 By the letter addressed you 19th December ult., an additional sum was asked, of - - - - - 218,361 25

Aggregate - \$1,131,806 25

Of this sum, it will require to subsist the regular troops - \$753,433 91
 And to subsist the militia and volunteers in the Florida campaign - - - - - 378,372 34

Making the above total of - \$1,131,806 25

So that, if the \$378,372 34 be appropriated for subsisting the militia and volunteers engaged in the Florida war, the residue, \$753,433 91, will have to be appropriated for subsisting the army proper, up to 31st December, 1837.

Very respectfully,
 Your most obedient servant,
 GEO. GIBSON,
Commissary General Subsistence.

Hon. B. F. BUTLER,
Secretary of War ad interim.