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Balance due Shawnee Indians

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BALANCE DUE SHAWNEE INDIANS.

[To accompany joint resolution H. R. No. 40.]

JUNE 7, 1844.

Mr. HUGHES, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom were referred the memorial and other papers of the chiefs of the Shawnee tribe of Indians, submit the following report:

It appears, from the papers in this case, that the Shawnee Indians, under a treaty made with them August 8, 1831, have due them from the Government the sum of \$36,892 40, which has been invested by the Government in State stocks. A part of the fund (to wit, the sum of \$33,912 40) is invested in Maryland 6 per cent. stock, which at this time is worth but little; the balance of the fund invested is in Kentucky 5 per cent. stock, and United States loan of 1841, at 6 per cent. The chiefs represent that they owe a national debt of \$9,600, which they desire to pay out of this fund; but, as it has been invested in stocks, contrary to the stipulations of the treaty, and the money not now in the treasury, they are unable to get any portion of it without the action of Congress. The Government, in the treaty alluded to, stipulated to pay to these Indians, for certain lands ceded by them, after deducting the expense of surveying, &c., besides certain sums for improvements, &c., "it was agreed that any balance which may remain of the avails of the lands after sale, shall constitute a fund for the future necessities of said Indians, on which the United States agree to pay 5 per cent. interest." The lands were sold under this treaty; and after deducting the sums specified in the 7th article, there still remains due said Indians \$36,892 40, which has been invested, as before mentioned, contrary to the stipulations of the treaty, and not with the assent of the Indians, since the treaty was made. Under this state of the case, the Government is bound to make the investment good. The Indians are not to be the losers; they had nothing to do with the investment made by the Government, nor did the treaty authorize it.

The Indians, in a letter addressed to the War Department, represent that they are in debt; and unless they can get a part of the money due them, they will be unable to sustain their national character. They also represent that, in the year 1837, the then Secretary of War deeming it advisable to employ a body of friendly Indians to aid in the operations against the Seminoles of Florida, ninety-one of their tribe volunteered, under the promise that they should receive for six months' services the sum of \$270 each. The liberal pay offered them by the Government caused them to extend

their credit, and to buy much more than they would have otherwise done, knowing that they would have ample means to pay their debts out of the sum promised by the Government. After ninety-one of their tribe volunteered and reached Florida, (having served some four months,) they were informed that a mistake had been made by the Secretary of War in reference to the pay they were to receive for the six months' services; that, instead of \$270 pay, they could only be allowed the sum of \$70 22. This fact was made known to General Jesup, as will appear from a letter dated "Headquarters of the army, Picolata, November 10, 1837," addressed to the Secretary of War, in which he states: "To discharge them now, or to pursue any course towards them which would dissatisfy them, might, and no doubt would, have a most injurious effect. Until I have your further instructions on the subject, I consider it my duty to retain them." So it appears, from this communication, that General Jesup refused to communicate to the Indians the mistake that had been made by the Secretary of War relative to their pay, for fear it might have a bad effect.

The committee, after a careful examination of the facts connected with this case, are of opinion that the Government should pay to the ninety-one Indians who served in the Florida war, the sum promised them under an order from the War Department, requiring certain officers to employ a body of friendly Indians to aid in the operations against the Seminoles of Florida, dated July 22, 1837. The Government is bound, by every obligation, under the circumstances, to pay the balance due these Indians; and when this is done, the Indians will be able to pay their national debt without using the fund due them from the Government; but unless the Government does pay them for their services in the Florida war, according to contract, of course they must resort to the fund due them to sustain their national character and credit. The committee, therefore, report a joint resolution, authorizing the Secretary of War to pay any balance that may be due said Indians who served in the Florida war, to the chiefs of said tribe, according to the order of the War Department dated 22d of July, 1837; which order, with other papers connected with it, is made a part of this report.

—

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

We, the undersigned chiefs, counsellors, head men, and individuals of the Shawnee tribe of Indians within the Fort Leavenworth agency, very respectfully desire to represent to your honorable bodies, that a treaty was concluded on the 8th day of August, 1831, by and between James B. Gardner, commissioner on the part of the United States, and the Shawnee tribe of Indians, the 7th article of which provides for the sale of the lands ceded by the tribe to the United States; and, also, that the funds arising from the sale of said lands was to constitute a fund for the future necessities of said tribe. We do not think proper to recite the whole article, but will respectfully call your honorable bodies to an examination of the treaty.

We would also represent to your honorable bodies, that after we removed west, to our new homes, our necessities were great; and that in February, 1842, we petitioned the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to pay the sum of ten thousand five hundred dollars to the chiefs of our tribe who

carried on the petition to Washington city, and that the remainder might be sent to us with our annuity for that year. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs informed our delegation that the Government of the United States could not pay the amount of money asked for in our petition at that time.

Being in great need of money to sustain our national character and credit, we, in the month of June, 1842, drew a draft on the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, in favor of the superintendent of affairs at St. Louis, Missouri, for the sum of nine thousand six hundred dollars; which draft, we understand, has not been paid, in consequence of the money arising from the sale of said lands having been invested in State and other stocks now worth but little.

We believe that, by an examination of the treaty, your honorable bodies will readily perceive that we ought not to sustain any loss in consequence of the decline in the value of stocks. We wish to maintain our national faith, and to redeem the pledges we made to those who have assisted us in our needs; and for this purpose we respectfully request your honorable bodies to pass a law authorizing the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to pay the amount of the draft we have already drawn, out of said trust fund, and send the balance to be paid to our tribe with our next annuity.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Letho, | his x mark. |
| Cus-qua-the, | his x mark. |
| Pa-tah Cumne, | his x mark. |
| Chock-a-semo, | his x mark. |
| Geo. McDogle, | his x mark. |
| Black-hoof, | his x mark. |
| Joseph Parks, | his x mark. |
| Black-feather, | his x mark. |
| Wah-se Repehuckor, | his x mark. |
| Lewis, | his x mark. |
| Black-body, | his x mark. |
| Maah-wah tomar, | his x mark. |
| Nah-at-wah-tuck, | his x mark. |
| Sab-wah-secah, | his x mark. |
| Chaw-we, | his x mark. |
| Joseph Dougherty, | his x mark. |
| Jim Woolf, | his x mark. |
| Henry Clay, | his x mark. |
| William Rogers, | his x mark. |
| Sah-qua-wa, | his x mark. |

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY, *November 13, 1843.*

I certify, on honor, that I read and carefully explained the contents of the above and foregoing petition or instrument of writing to the Shawnee chiefs and others whose names are thereunto annexed, and that they freely and voluntarily affixed their marks to their names in my presence.

RICHD. W. CUMMINS, *Indian Agent.*

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY, *January 31, 1842.*

SIR: The undersigned, your petitioners, chiefs, headmen, and individuals, Shawnees, parties to the treaty of the 8th of August, 1831, respectfully

represent to you that it is the wish and desire of the whole band, expressed in general council, that the proceeds arising from the sale of the land under the seventh article of the treaty of 1831, with all the interest due thereon, should be paid over to the band this year. We will state to you, that we have not come to this conclusion without maturing the subject well: we have had it under advisement for some time: we are well convinced, from long experience, that the little pittance which we, or each of us, receive from the United States, annually, in the way of annuity, does many of our people more harm than good: on that, many mostly depend, from year to year, and do not make the proper exertion to procure a subsistence that we believe they otherwise would do: we are also well apprized that some will soon run through their share; be it so: we think that they will then go to work, and take the better care of what they earn in that way.

We have appointed five of our men to proceed to Washington city, to present to you this our petition; their names are as follows, to wit: Wawilop, Cosquithe, Joseph Parks, Cuttawathaw, and Chaw-we. It is our wish and desire that you pay to these five men the sum of ten thousand five hundred dollars, and their receipt shall be good for that amount. The remaining sum, with all the interest due on the whole amount, we wish and desire you to send here, and have paid to the band through our agent, the present year. Your compliance with our desire and request will greatly oblige your most obedient children.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. John Perry, | his x mark. |
| 2. Black Hoof, | his x mark. |
| Cusquathe, | his x mark. |
| Letho, | his x mark. |
| Blackfeather, | his x mark. |
| Wahsekephocker, | his x mark. |
| Big Knife, | his x mark. |
| Tom Bigknife, | his x mark. |
| Young Tcumpsa, | his x mark. |
| Geo. McDogle, | his x mark. |
| Blackbody, | his x mark. |
| Chalkesemo, | his x mark. |
| Patahcomme, | his x mark. |
| Lewis Rogers, | his x mark. |
| Tom Fish, | his x mark. |
| Lahmahkesekah, | his x mark. |
| Eli Blachooof, | his x mark. |
| Geo. Blue Jacket, | his x mark. |
| Bil Wesal, | his x mark. |
| Turkeyfoot, | his x mark. |
| Bil McNair, | his x mark. |
| White Corn, | his x mark. |
| Chas. Blue Jacket, | his x mark. |
| Spiebuck, | his x mark. |
| Blackfish, | his x mark. |
| Pemtha, | his x mark. |
| Big Bone, | his x mark. |
| Waseectha, | his x mark. |
| White Fish, | his x mark. |
| Milton Blackhoof, | his x mark. |

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| P.h.l.wason, | his x mark. |
| Totth, | his x mark. |
| Jim Woolf, | his x mark. |
| John Coldwater, | his x mark. |
| Heolaway, | his x mark. |
| Logan, | his x mark. |
| Naquah Comme, | his x mark. |
| John Blanchard, | his x mark. |
| Pacotsekah, | his x mark. |
| Gra Feather, | his x mark. |
| Warrior, | his x mark. |
| Joseph Frances, | his x mark. |
| White Deer, | his x mark. |
| Joseph Flint, | his x mark. |
| Black Wolf, | his x mark. |
| Joseph Deshane, | his x mark. |
| Neaonah, | his x mark. |
| Dodge, | his x mark. |
| Chesekah, | his x mark. |
| Sanquana, | his x mark. |
| Old Flint, | his x mark. |
| Opase, | his x mark. |
| Muchchelena, | his x mark. |
| Spot, | his x mark. |
| Archtha, | his x mark. |
| Picatahasecah, | his x mark. |
| Big John, | his x mark. |
| Lalaquonah, | his x mark. |
| Keokahtah, | his x mark. |
| Sunrise, | his x mark. |
| Talaso, | his x mark. |
| Soola, | his x mark. |
| Watahbeasekah, | his x mark. |
| John Ellick, | his x mark. |
| Billy Ellick, | his x mark. |

Signed in presence of—CHAS. FINDLEY.

I certify, on honor, that the above petition was written by me at the request of the Shawnees; and that, after it was written, the same was read, and carefully explained to them; and they stated that it expressed their wish and desire; and that the persons whose names are above written, affixed their marks therunto in my presence.

R. W. CUMMINS, *Indian Agent.*

Hon. T. H. CRAWFORD,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.

WASHINGTON, March 31, 1842.

Received from D. Kurtz, disbursing agent, the sum of three thousand one hundred and eighty dollars and ninety one cents, being the whole amount

of unexpended interest received on investments for the Shawnee Indians, as per statement delivered to us.

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Wa-wilop, | his x mark. |
| Cosquithe, | his x mark. |
| Jos. Parks, | his x mark. |
| Cuttawathaw, | his x mark. |
| Chaw we, | his x mark. |

Witness—SAMUEL J. POTTS.

I certify the above to be a true copy of the original, on file in the Office of Indian Affairs.

SAM. HUMES PORTER, *Chief Clerk.*

May 8, 1844.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, *March 30, 1844.*

SIR: We, the undersigned chiefs, counsellors, and braves of the Shawnee tribe of Indians, are compelled to lay before you the real situation of our nation, with a hope that you will enable us to relieve ourselves of the existing difficulties which we labor under. We do not conceive that we ask anything here as a favor, but we think as a matter of right and justice, at your hands.

You recollect well, sir, when you engaged us to go into the Florida war, what you promised to pay to each individual. On the faith of your promise, we made arrangements with our traders to furnish our families with whatever they might need until we returned. This promise, on the part of our traders, was faithfully complied with; but, unfortunately for us, the good pay that was promised us was largely curtailed, which left us largely in debt to our traders. We gave it all up to them, and they quarreled over it; some wanted more than their share. In consequence of our absence, we lost most of our crops, which compelled us to enlarge our credits. The only alternative left us to keep our credit as a nation, and pay our honest debts, was to break on our annuity. In order to relieve ourselves of the debt and obligation for their favors, we gave a draft on you in favor * * * as well as we now recollect, for \$9,600, to be paid out of the funds arising from the sale of our lands under the 7th article of the treaty of August 8th, 1831; but, sir, to our great mortification, we were informed that you refused to pay the draft, because the funds have been invested in State stocks which are now valueless. Now, sir, suppose the funds should be lost entirely by this investment: are we to be the sufferers? Surely not. Look carefully at the treaty and article above referred to. We know the President of the United States may, if he thinks proper, withhold the funds which have or may accrue under this article of the treaty; but we confidently believe that, when he takes into consideration all the circumstances that we have truly related, together with the difficulties which we had to encounter after emigrating to a new country, he will not do so.

There is, sir, another matter which greatly disturbs us. When we first emigrated from Ohio to this place, George C. Johnson, one of our traders in Ohio, followed after us, and, by his cunning and intrigue, he induced

us to acknowledge that we owed him a debt of about \$20,000, by stating to us that he could get the Government of the United States to pay that sum, and that we would be nothing losers, &c. Now, sir, this is the plain naked truth, notwithstanding we soon made this fact known to you, and protested against your paying this amount, or any other, to George C. Johnson, out of our money, until he could come here with his books and make a fair settlement. We then stated to you that we would pay him every dollar that we honestly owed him; this was our determination. But, instead of doing this, we understand that George C. Johnson has laid the claim before Congress, and got a law passed for his benefit. We know not for how much; but suppose for the \$20,000—\$2,000 of which to be paid annually; the latter amount, of course, stopped annually out of our annuity. Now, sir, it is possible that we owe George C. Johnson the one-third part of this amount—not more. But why was he afraid to come forward with his accounts and have a fair settlement? Why, sir, because he knew well we did not owe him this amount. Now, sir, you take our money against our consent, and pay unjust claims, and retain our money from us which we wish applied to the payment of just and honest debts—debts of honor, as well as honest. We think surely that the Government of the United States will never suffer us to be imposed on in this way. We hope Congress will repeal the unjust act, and let George C. Johnson produce his accounts, and have fair settlement; then, whatever we may be indebted to him, we will have no objections to its being paid by you or the Government. But, sir, until this is done, we protest against its payment.

Now, sir, in order to maintain our credit and standing, and to pay our just debts, we will again, in the most respectful manner, ask you first to pay the draft of \$9,600 which has been presented to you; and next we will ask you, in the same respectful manner, to send to our agent the residue of the money arising from the sale of our lands, as provided in the 7th article of our treaty of August the 8th, 1831, to be paid by him to us, in compliance with the provisions of the treaty. The interest due us on the above amount we wish you to pay to one of our chiefs, Joseph Parks, who will hand you this letter and petition. Now, sir, in order that we will be sure that you will get this letter, we have appointed one of our chiefs, Joseph Parks, to carry it to Washington and hand to you in person; and we give him full power and authority to act for us, and to carry our wishes, as above stated, into effect. In conclusion, sir, we will offer our sincere prayers and best wishes for our great father and the heads of departments.

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | Chief John Perry, | his x mark. |
| 2. | " P. A tah cumme, | his x mark. |
| 3. | " Joseph Parks, | his x mark. |
| 4. | " Sah-qua-we, | his x mark. |
| 5. | " Black hoof, | his x mark. |
| 6. | " Letho, | his x mark. |
| 7. | Counsello William McNair, | his x mark. |
| 8. | " Chocke semo, | his x mark. |
| 9. | " George McDogle, | his x mark. |
| 10. | " Nah-wah-we wa tuckor, | his x mark. |
| 11. | " To-we-che-nah, | his x mark. |
| 12. | " Thomas Fish, | his x mark. |
| 13. | " Eli Blackhoof, | his x mark. |
| 14. | " Blackfeather, | his x mark. |

| | | | |
|-----|------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 15. | Counsellor | James Blackfellow, | his x mark. |
| 16. | " | Chaw-we, | his x mark. |
| 17. | " | Joseph Dougherty, | his x mark. |
| | | Lewis Rogers | his x mark. |
| | | Pu che-we-semb; | his x mark. |
| | | Joe Day, | his x mark. |
| | | William Rogers, | his x mark. |
| | | Coffee, | his x mark. |
| | | Tah-sah be-ah, | his x mark. |

HON. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington city.

I certify, on honor, that the above letter was written by me, at the request of the Shawnees, and that the same was read and carefully explained to them; and that they stated that the same was just what they desired; that it fully embraced what they wanted written, and that their marks were made by them to their names in my presence.

RICHARD W. CUMMINS, *Indian Agent.*

WAR DEPARTMENT, *May 15, 1844.*

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 10th instant, I transmit herewith copies of all the correspondence of this department, in 1837, relative to the employment of friendly Indians (Shawnees and Delawares of Missouri,) against the Seminoles in Florida.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. WILKINS,
Secretary of War.

Hon. J. M. HUGHES,
House of Representatives.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *July 22, 1837.*

SIR: It having been deemed advisable to employ a body of friendly Indians, to aid in the operations against the Seminoles of Florida, during the next campaign, you are required to endeavor to engage for this service 400 Shawnees, 200 Delawares, and 100 Kickapoos—to be selected from the most intelligent of those best affected towards the United States. You will represent to them that they will be divided into bands of 50 each, including the individual who may have the command of each band, and who will be selected by those composing the bands out of their own numbers. The compensation of these Indians, for six months' service, will be as follows: to the chief of each band, \$417; and to all others, each, \$270. Besides this pay, they will be subsisted at the expense of the Government; and it may be proper to assure them that every effort will be made to give them, should they desire it, the same kind of ration which they now receive; and that, should any of the Indians thus engaged die or be killed while in the service of the Government, the amount of pay which may be due them for the six months' service will be given to their families.

These Indians will be armed with their own rifles and equipments, so

far as they possess them; and those who may not have them of their own, will be furnished by the United States; the cost of which to be deducted from their pay. Each band will select its own interpreter, who will be enrolled, and will compose one of the 50. The compensation of each interpreter, for the six months' service, will be \$350.

It is of great importance that the enrollment and organization of this force should be completed sufficiently early to admit of its transportation to Tampa Bay, Florida, by the middle of October next, at latest.

In the duty of enrolling and organizing, you will be assisted by one or more officers of the army, who will join you at the proper time for this purpose; and who, when this duty shall have been completed, will take charge of the Indians, and conduct them, in transports, on their way to Florida.

Very, &c.,

J. R. POINSETT.

Major R. W. CUMMINS,
Fort Leavenworth, Missouri.

[The same to Captain William Armstrong, Choctaw agency, Arkansas; substituting, for the names and numbers of the tribes herein required, 200 Choctaws.

The same to General J. M. Street; substituting, as above, 100 Sacs and Foxes.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, *October 2, 1837.*

SIR: In my letter of the 22d July last, on the subject of engaging Indians for service in Florida, a mistake was made in the computation of one of the amounts named in the letter, which you were authorized to offer them for their services during six months. The amount specified for the chiefs of the bands is correct; but that for the others, instead of \$270, should have been but \$71 22.

The department regrets that the mistake has occurred, as the latter sum is all that the law will allow being given to them. You will at once explain the mistake to the Indians; and such of them as may have engaged for \$270, and are unwilling to serve for the \$71 22, you will permit to withdraw.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. R. POINSETT.

Major R. W. CUMMINS,
Fort Leavenworth, Missouri.

Captain Wm. ARMSTRONG,
Choctaw agency, Arkansas.

P. S.—You are authorized to muster eight out of every fifty as non-commissioned officers; that is, four sergeants and four corporals. The sergeants to receive \$108 90, and the corporals \$83 22 for the six months' service.

J. R. P.

Extract of a letter from the Hon. J. R. Poinsett, Secretary of War, dated December 21, 1837, to the Hon. C. C. Cambreleng, chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means.

"There is another subject now before me, with which I beg leave to trouble the committee.

"There is the error noticed in the annual report of this department, which was made in the instructions for raising a body of Indians for service in Florida, in respect to the amount of pay which was to be given them. For the period between the time when those who entered the service enrolled themselves, and that when the error was explained to them, the difference between what was erroneously offered them, and what the existing laws allow to volunteers serving on foot, amounts to \$7,775 53. By recent intelligence from Florida, the department has been advised that these Indians are rendering highly important and valuable services by their efforts to influence the Seminoles to submit to a peaceful termination of hostilities; and in order that the faith of the Government may be preserved with these valuable allies, I beg leave respectfully to suggest that the committee will take the proper measures to have the sum specified appropriated at an early day."

NOTE.—The act of June 12, 1838, making appropriations for "preventing and suppressing Indian hostilities," (vol. 9, page 778, Laws United States,) provides:

SEC. 1. "For correcting an error in paying the Indians employed in the public service in Florida, *seven thousand seven hundred and seventy-five dollars and fifty three cents.*"

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, May 14, 1844.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions, I respectfully furnish, herewith, copies of a letter of instructions to Captain Bean and Lieutenant Poole, of August 1, 1837, and of an order directing those officers to engage a body of friendly Indians to aid in the operations against the Seminoles.

Under these instructions, Captain Bean mustered into the service of the United States two companies of Delaware Indians, for six months from September 29, 1837; and Lieutenant Poole two companies of Shawnee Indians, for a similar term from October 2, 1837.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. THOMAS,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Hon. WILLIAM WILKINS,
Secretary of War, Washington.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, August 1, 1837.

SIR: The War Department has decided on employing a body of friendly Indians to aid in the operations against the Seminoles during the next campaign. The Indian agent (Major Cummins) has been instructed to take

measures for engaging certain Indians in the vicinity of Fort Leavenworth, (viz: 400 Shawnees, 200 Delawares, and 100 Kickapoos,) to be organized in bands of 50 each, including the leader and interpreter. It is the wish of the Secretary of War that you should assist the Indian agent in organizing these bands, and, when organized, to take charge of them, and conduct them to Tampa Bay, where it is expected they will arrive by the middle of October, at farthest. You will therefore correspond with Major Cummins concerning this matter, and use your personal endeavors to fulfil the wishes of the Secretary of War.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

ALEXANDER MACOMB,
Major General, commanding-in-chief.

Captain BEAN,
Lieutenant POOLE.

P. S.—Lieutenant Poole, being at Washington, is ordered forthwith to proceed to Fort Leavenworth.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, August 2, 1837.

[GENERAL ORDERS No. 51.]

It being the intention of the War Department to engage a body of friendly Indians to aid in the operations against the Seminoles during the next campaign in Florida, the following named officers are assigned to the duty of mustering the said Indians into service, and to conduct them to Tampa Bay, according to the instructions they have respectively received.

* * * * *

Captain J. L. Bean, 2d dragoons.

1st Lieutenant B. Poole, 3d artillery.

By order of Major General Macomb,

R. JONES, *Adjutant General.*

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE SOUTH,
Picolata, November 10, 1837.

SIR: An error in regard to the compensation to be allowed to the Shawnee and Delaware warriors has been reported to me; and I have also been furnished with a copy of an order for their discharge, unless they consent to receive the sum authorized by law. One hundred and seventy-seven of them had arrived at Tampa Bay before the order for their discharge had been received by the officer who conducted them thither, and I had ordered a portion of them to join me on the St. John's.

To discharge them now, or to pursue any course towards them which would dissatisfy them, might, and no doubt would, have a most injurious effect on our relations with the Seminoles. The moral effect produced upon the Seminoles by their arrival, will be most advantageous; and if they were to be removed, particularly under circumstances which would be likely to give dissatisfaction to them, it might cost us another campaign. I enclose a copy of a letter addressed to Lieutenant Colonel Davenport on the subject of the Indians. Part of them will probably have marched to

the interior before that letter is received at Tampa; and to order them to return, might cause the Seminoles, who are now inclined to surrender, to hold out with the Mickasukies.

Until I have your instructions on the subject, I consider it to be my duty to retain them.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,
 TH. S. JESUP,
Major General commanding.

Hon. J. R. POINSETT,
Secretary of War, Washington city.

[Enclosure of Major General Jesup's letter to Secretary of War, of November 10, 1837.]

[Extract.]

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE SOUTH,
St. Augustine, November 7, 1837.

COLONEL: * * * * *

I have also received your letter of the 1st instant. I regret the circumstance to which you refer. The importance of fulfilling all our engagements with the Indians, with most scrupulous good faith, is unquestionable. To dismiss them now, might not only cost us an additional campaign here, but cause difficulties on our western border; we must therefore retain them at all hazards. I wish you to assure them that our laws do not authorize the payment of the sum stipulated, but that the enemy has a large property, consisting of ponies, cattle, and negroes; and that I will pay them for all the cattle they take, and they will also be paid fifty dollars for every negro they take; and they will be allowed to keep the ponies, or sell them, as they may think proper. Represent to them, also, that our country is just, and that, if they serve well, I will take their chiefs to Washington, and represent their case to our great council, (Congress,) and I have no doubt of obtaining for them all that has been promised.

I am, colonel, most respectfully, your obedient servant,
 TH. S. JESUP,
Major General commanding.

Lt. Col. WM. DAVENPORT,
Commanding 1st Infantry, Tampa Bay, Florida.

PAY OFFICE, ST. LOUIS,
September 15, 1839.

GENERAL: I have the honor to enclose, herewith, the pay-rolls of four companies of Shawnee and Delaware Indians, who served a tour of duty in Florida in 1837.

I allowed the privates the pay promised them by Mr. Poinsett in his letter to Major Cummins, under date of the 2d October, 1837, a copy of which I enclose herewith.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

ADAM STEUART,
Paymaster United States Army.

Gen. N. TOWSON,
*Paymaster General U. S. Army,
 Washington city.*

Captain Moses's band of Delawares from 29th September, 1837, to 29th March, 1838:

Thirty-seven men. Paid by Massias, including the additional appropriation, \$4,350 19. Additional pay \$46 38 each for the six months, and averaging per month \$19 60, with additional included.

Captain Shawnick, Delaware, same as above. Fifty men \$5,696 96.
Eighty-seven men, in all, of Delawares.

Captain Will Parks's band of Shawnees from 2d October, 1837, to 2d April, 1838:

Forty-six men. Paid as above, \$5,094 68.

Captain Joseph Parks's band of Shawnees from 2d October, 1837, to 2d April, 1838:

Forty-five men, \$5,055 61.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Shawnees - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 91 |
| Delawares - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 87 |
| Total - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 178 |

Paymaster Steuart made a payment, for twenty-three days from 2d April, to the Shawnees; and twenty-six days from 29th March, 1838, to the Delawares, additional.