

1-24-1850

Letter from the Second Comptroller and Second Auditor, transmitting a statement of the claims of the Cherokee Nation of Indians, in compliance with a resolution of Congress of the 7th August, 1848

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#### Recommended Citation

H.R. Exec. Doc. No. 29, 31st Cong., 1st Sess. (1850)

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CHEROKEE CLAIMS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECOND COMPTROLLER AND SECOND AUDITOR,

TRANSMITTING

*A statement of the claims of the Cherokee nation of Indians, in compliance with a resolution of Congress of the 7th August, 1848.*

JANUARY 24, 1850.

Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
December 3, 1849.

SIR: The proper accounting officers of the treasury having been required by the joint resolution of the 7th of August, 1848, to make a just and fair statement of the claims of the Cherokee nation of Indians, according to the principles established by the treaty of August, 1846, between the United States and said Indians, do now, as required by said resolution, report that they have caused a full and thorough examination to be made of all the accounts and vouchers of the several officers and agents of the government of the United States who have disbursed money appropriated to carry into effect the treaty with the Cherokee nation of 1835, and also of the claims that have been admitted at the treasury. As the result of said examination, it appears that there has been paid—

For improvements, the sum of	-	-	-	-	\$1,540,572	27
For ferries, the sum of	-	-	-	-	159,572	12
For spoliations, the sum of	-	-	-	-	264,894	09
For removal and subsistence, and commutation therefor, including \$2,765 84 expended for goods for the poorer classes of Cherokees, as mentioned in the 15th article of the treaty of 1835-'36, and including, also, necessary incidental expenses of enrolling agents, conductors, commissaries, medical attendance and supplies, &c., the sum of	-	-	-	-	2,952,196	26
For debts and claims upon the Cherokee nation, the sum of	-	-	-	-	101,348	31
For the additional quantity of land ceded to said nation, the sum of	-	-	-	-	500,000	00
For amount invested as the general fund of the nation, the sum of	-	-	-	-	500,880	00
The "aggregate of which general sums" is	-	-	-	-	6,019,463	05

And which, being deducted from the sum of \$6,647,067, agreeably to the directions of the ninth article of the treaty of 1846, leaves a balance of \$627,603 95 due to the Cherokee nation.

As it is contended by the agents of the Cherokee nation that sundry items of expenditure embraced in the foregoing statement are not properly chargeable upon the nation under the treaty of 1846, particularly a portion of the incidental expenses connected with the removal, amounting to \$96,999 42, the undersigned report herewith a particular statement of those expenses, showing the amount thereof in detail, in order that the question thus raised on the part of the Cherokees may be decided by Congress.

Which is respectfully submitted.

ALBION K. PARRIS,  
Second Comptroller.  
P. CLAYTON,  
Second Auditor.

To the SPEAKER  
of the House of Representatives of the United States.

*Statement of the claims of the Cherokee nation of Indians, according to the principles established by the treaty of August, 1846, between the United States and said Indians: prepared by the accounting officers, in obedience to a resolution of Congress, approved August 7, 1848.*

Amount granted to the Cherokees by the first article of the treaty of 1635, for their lands east of the Mississippi	- - - - -	\$5,000,000 00
Amount granted by the third article of the supplement	- - - - -	600,000 00
Amount appropriated by Congress for objects specified in the third article of the supplement, per act June 12, 1838	- - - - -	1,047,067 00
		<hr/>
		6,647,067 00
From which deduct—		
Amount paid for improvements	- - - - -	\$1,540,572 27
Amount paid for ferries	- - - - -	159,572 12
Amount paid for spoiliations	- - - - -	264,894 09
Amount paid for removal and subsistence, and commutation therefor, including \$2,765 84, expended for goods for the poorer classes of Cherokees, as mentioned in the 15th article of the treaty of 1835-'36, and including, also, necessary incidental expenses of enrolling agents, conductors, commissaries, medical attendance, and supplies, &c., viz:		
Removal and subsistence, and commutation therefor	- - - - -	\$2,823,192 93
Physicians, matrons, medicines, hospital stores, &c.	- - - - -	32,003 91
Superintendent of removal	- - - - -	7,188 70
Clerk to superintendent of removal	- - - - -	3,985 50
Interpreter to superintendent of removal	- - - - -	2,706 54
Disbursing agents	- - - - -	2,725 00
Conductors	- - - - -	12,097 40
Interpreters to various agents	- - - - -	16,102 00
Issuing agents	- - - - -	9,792 40
Enrolling agents	- - - - -	16,418 50
Contingent expenses of superintendent and disbursing agent	- - - - -	25,983 38
		<hr/>
		2,952,196 26
Debts and claims upon the Cherokee nation, viz:		
National debts (10th article)	- - - - -	\$18,062 06
Claims of United States citizens, &c. (10th article)	- - - - -	61,073 49
Cherokee committee (12th article)	- - - - -	22,212 76
		<hr/>
		101,348 31
Amount allowed the United States for the additional quantity of land ceded to said nation	- - - - -	500,000 00
Amount invested as the general fund of the nation	- - - - -	500,880 00
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		6,019,463 05
Balance due Cherokee Indians	- - - - -	<hr/> <hr/> 627,603 95