4-3-1854

Report of the Secretary of the Interior, made in compliance with a resolution of the Senate calling for a statement of the amount of money received and expended by Luther Blake, late agent for the removal of the Indians from Florida, the objects for which expended, and the number of Indians removed.

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REPORT

OF

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

MADE

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate calling for a statement of the amount of money received and expended by Luther Blake, late agent for the removal of the Indians from Florida, the objects for which expended, and the number of Indians removed.

MARCH 3, 1854.—Read and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, March 2, 1854.

Sir: In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, dated 5th January last, requesting a statement of "the amount of public money received and expended by Luther Blake, late agent for the removal of Indians from Florida, as such agent, with the objects for which said money was expended, and the number of Indians removed by him," I have the honor to report:

That on the 19th April, 1851, there was advanced to Luther Blake, special agent, &c., from the treasury, the sum of $2,000 00

And that he afterwards received the following additional amounts from Captain J. C. Casey, U. S. A., viz: October 20, 1852 20,350 00

November 23, 1852 39,693 66

Whole amount received by him 62,043 66

Of which he subsequently refunded to the treasury the sum of 31,633 66

Leaving to be accounted for by him 30,410 00

For the information as to the amount expended by him, and for what objects, together with the number of Indians removed, I can only refer to the items in his accounts, as they have not yet been finally adjusted and settled. They are as follows:

For commutation of expenses connected with the preliminary arrangements for the removal of the Indians, as per contract and instructions of April 19, 1851 $10,000 00

Per capita allowance, as per same, for 36 Indians emigrated to the country west, or that died before reaching there, 20,270 00

Expenses of delegation of western Seminoles employed to aid in the emigration of those in Florida 12,075 39
Expenses of delegations, consisting of "Billy Bowlegs" and others, from Florida to Washington and New York, and returning: $1,430 90
Per diem and mileage for services and travelling expenses while engaged in the business: 4,230 00

Deduct amount in his hands: 30,410 00

Leaving a balance claimed by him of: 17,596 29

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

R. McCLELLAND, Secretary.

Hon. D. R. Atchison,
President of the Senate.