

4-4-1854

Additional estimates for the Indian Department.  
Letter from the Secretary of the Interior,  
transmitting additional estimates, and explanations  
thereof, for the service of the Indian department

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ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR THE INDIAN DEPARTMENT.

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LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

*Additional estimates, and explanations thereof, for the service of the Indian department.*

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APRIL 4, 1854.—Ordered to be printed.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, April 1, 1854.*

SIR: I beg leave respectfully to submit the enclosed additional estimates for the service of the Indian department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1855, in New Mexico and the regions beyond the Rocky mountains, being the special estimates referred to in the letter of 12th October last from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
R. McCLELLAND, *Secretary.*

HON. GEO. S. HOUSTON,  
*Chairman Com. of Ways and Means, Ho. of Reps.*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Office of Indian Affairs, March 28, 1854.*

SIR: Referring to a communication of the Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs of the 11th October last, accompanying the annual estimates of funds required for the service of the Indian department during the year ending June 30, 1855, I have the honor, herewith, to transmit additional estimates of appropriations required for the same service during the same fiscal year.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
GEO. W. MANYPENNY,  
*Commissioner.*

HON. R. McCLELLAND,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Office of Indian Affairs, October 12, 1853.*

SIR: I have the honor, herewith, to transmit the estimate of funds required for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1854, and ending June 30, 1855, for all objects usually embraced in the annual estimates of this office.

Special estimates will be sent you, in time to be laid before Congress at its next session, of the amounts that will be required for the Indian service in New Mexico and the regions beyond the Rocky mountains, and for any objects of a miscellaneous nature for which it may be found necessary to furnish them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES E. MIX,  
*Acting Commissioner.*

Hon. R. McCLELLAND,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

*Special estimate of funds required for the Indian service during the fiscal year commencing on the 1st of July, 1854, and ending on the 30th of June, 1855.*

No. 1.—For the general incidental expenses of the Indian service in Oregon Territory.	\$10,000 00	Superintendent Palmer, in a recent communication to this office, estimates that \$10,000 will be required during the year to pay the travelling and incidental expenses of the superintendent, agents, and sub-agents, in the exploration of the country, in preserving peace, &c. For a few years past specific appropriations have been made for specific purposes in Oregon—one for the pay of travelling and incidental expenses, and one for office expenses of the superintendent. It will be more convenient for the department, more advantageous to the public service, and more satisfactory to the people of that Territory, to have a single appropriation applicable to various expenditures which it becomes from time to time necessary to incur in our remote possessions.
No. 2.—For adjusting sudden difficulties and preventing outbreaks among the Indians in Oregon Territory.	10,000 00	Superintendent Palmer, in his recent annual report, recommends that the sum of \$15,000 be placed at the disposal of the superintendent and agents in Oregon for this purpose. Embarrassment in managing the Indian affairs of Oregon has heretofore occurred for want of an appropriation of this kind, and Congress has been called on to allow claims long after expenditures have been incurred. The impropriety of compelling private citizens to advance their funds to the government for such purposes is manifest, particularly in a country where the rate of interest on money is as high as it is in the Territory of Oregon.
No. 3.—For pay of four Indian sub-agents in Oregon, at an annual salary of \$1,000 each.	4,000 00	Superintendent Palmer reports that it is highly desirable that four instead of three sub-agents be employed in Oregon; that he believes it to be necessary in order to preserve peace with the tribes. He recommends, also, that a larger amount of salary be allowed them than is fixed by law (\$750) for sub-agents east of the Rocky mountains; that the sum of \$750 per annum is not above the wages of a common laborer in Oregon. That a class of men well qualified may be induced to retain and accept such appointments, Superintendent Palmer's recommendation is approved. The balance of old appropriations (made by the act of February 27, 1851, and previous acts) for pay of sub-agents, has been used to pay the salaries of sub agents in Oregon for the past two years. That balance is now nearly exhausted, and it becomes necessary to ask Congress for an appropriation.
No. 4.—For pay of two Indian sub-agents in Washington Territory, at an annual salary of \$1,000 each.	2,000 00	See explanations to item No. 1. These estimates are based on the remarks of Governor Stevens, in his communication dated December 31, 1853; the estimates being modified by this office in accordance with the remarks made as explanatory to item No. 1.
No. 5.—For pay of six interpreters for the Indian tribes in Washington Territory.	3,000 00	
No. 6.—For general and incidental expenses of the Indian service in Washington Territory.	15,000 00	
No. 7.—For erecting buildings for Indian agent in Washington Territory.	5,000 00	

SPECIAL ESTIMATE—Continued.

<p>No. 8.—For the general incidental expenses of the Indian service in the Territory of New Mexico.</p>	<p>\$25,000 00</p>	<p>Governor Meriwether estimates that \$20,000 will be needed for presents and provisions for the Indians, and \$4,500 for travelling expenses and contingencies. In view of the distance of the Territory of New Mexico from the border States; of the high price there of goods and provisions; of the large number of Indians within the Territory, and of the extensive emigration and trading interests brought in contact with the Indians within that Territory, the sum asked for will be required to enable this department to meet the expectations of the people of the United States.</p>
<p>No. 9.—For fulfilling treaties with the Navajoes, 10th article treaty of September 9, 1849.</p>	<p>5,000 00</p>	<p>By the treaty of September 9, 1849, with the Navajoes, (United States Statutes, volume 9, page 975,) these Indians were received under the protection of the laws of the United States, and agreed to live on terms of perpetual peace and amity with its citizens. Other stipulations, valuable to the United States, were also made on the part of the Indians. By the act of February 27, 1851, "to supply deficiencies, &amp;c.," the sum of \$18,000 was appropriated by Congress for fulfilling the stipulations of that treaty; of that sum it was estimated that \$10,000 would be needed for presents, and \$8,000 for "designating and settling their boundaries." The \$10,000 has been expended, excepting between \$100 and \$200 remaining in the hands of a disbursing agent. Governor Meriwether seems to understand that the 10th article of the treaty contemplated that the United States became bound to make some permanent provision for the benefit of the Navajoes, or to make liberal presents to them annually.</p>
<p>No. 10.—For fulfilling treaties with the Utahs, 8th article treaty of December 30, 1849.</p>	<p>5,000 00</p>	<p>On the 30th December, 1849, the Utahs made a treaty with the United States very similar in its provisions to that made with the Navajoes on the 9th September preceding. (See United States Statutes, volume 9, page 985, section 8.) The appropriation made by the act of February 27, 1851, for this purpose, has all been expended. Governor Meriwether takes the same view of the 8th section of this treaty as he does of the 10th section of the treaty with the Navajoes; hence this estimate.</p>
<p>No. 11.—For the general incidental expenses of the Indian service in the Territory of Utah.</p>	<p>20,000 00</p>	<p>In the absence of an estimate by the governor of Utah, this sum is adjudged to be necessary for the object named. It is not anticipated that there will be any balance of former appropriations for this purpose in the treasury on the 30th June next.</p>
<p>No. 12.—For the fourth of ten instalments for provisions, merchandise, &amp;c., and the transportation of the same to certain tribes of Indians, per 7th article of the treaty at Fort Laramie, September 7, 1851.</p>	<p>72,000 00</p>	<p>This amount is required in fulfilment of the article referred to; and it is desirable that it be appropriated at the present session of Congress, as a large portion of it will be required for expenditure before the rising of the second session of the present Congress.</p>
<p>No. 13.—For payment, to the Winnebago nation of Indians, of certain unexpended balances of appropriations, under various treaties, on account of annuities, education, provisions, goods, &amp;c.</p>	<p>40,004 69</p>	<p>By an account predicated on information furnished by the Second Auditor of the Treasury, a copy of which was transmitted to Congress at its last session, accompanying special estimates of this office for funds required for the year ending June 30, 1853, the estimated amount is shown to be due the Winnebagoes.</p>

No. 14.—For compensation of five Indian sub-agents for California, at an annual salary of \$1,500 each.

No. 15.—For the payment of the balance found due the Creek Indians for losses sustained, during the war with Great Britain, by that portion of the tribe that was friendly to, and co-operated with, the United States, &c., in addition to the appropriation of August 30, 1852.

No. 16.—For payment to certain Creek Indians for their individual reserves, sold, with the approbation of the Secretary of War, in the year 1841, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs having received the consideration, for the use of said Indians, in certificates of deposit in the Planters' and Mechanics' Bank, of Columbus, Ga., which failing whilst said certificates were in the hands of the Commissioner, became lost to said Indians.

7,500 00

The President having approved the plan for the removal of the Indians in California to five military reservations, as provided for by the act of March 3, 1853, "making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian department, &c." the three Indian agencies heretofore existing in California have been discontinued in pursuance of a clause of the same act. Superintendent Beale reports that it is necessary to the success of his "plans" that there be a sub-agent for each of the reservations, as provided by that act. Hence this estimate.

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It has been discovered since the appropriation of August 30, 1852, for this purpose, was made, that the name of John Stidham was omitted in the list of claimants by mistake. This sum is due on the same principle on which the other payments have been made.

2,600 00

The reserves alluded to were alienated with the approbation of the Secretary of War, and the purchase-money received by the Office of Indian Affairs in twenty-one certificates of deposit in the Planters' and Mechanics' Bank, of Columbus, Georgia, (one of \$500, two of \$150 each, and eighteen of \$100 each,) which certificates bear date April 14, 1841. They were permitted to remain in the Office of Indian Affairs for several months; during which time the bank failed, and when presented payment could not be made. The department has never received anything on account of them. The Indians having lost the money by the improper management of the department, in my opinion the United States ought to reimburse the amount of the purchase-money of their several reserves to the Indians respectively entitled.