

2-5-1855

Message of the President of the United States, communicating a report of the Secretary of the Interior, and recommending certain appropriations for the service of the Indian department.

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Recommended Citation

S. Exec. Doc. No. 35, 33d Cong., 2nd Sess. (1855)

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MESSAGE

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

COMMUNICATING

A report of the Secretary of the Interior, and recommending certain appropriations for the service of the Indian department.

FEBRUARY 5, 1855.—Read, referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States :

I communicate to Congress the accompanying papers from the Secretary of the Interior, and recommend that the appropriations therein asked for may be made.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

WASHINGTON, *February 4, 1855.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, February 2, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a copy of a communication addressed to me on the 30th ultimo by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, calling my attention to a letter and estimate from the special agent, Robert S. Neighbors, of Texas, (copies of which are also enclosed,) on the subject of expenses necessary to be incurred in carrying out the plan of colonizing the Texas Indians upon the reservations which have been selected, and approved by this department.

To meet these expenses, I recommend that Congress be asked to make appropriation, for the year ending June 30, 1856, of the sum of eighty-six thousand four hundred and thirty dollars, (\$86,430,) as estimated by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

And for the purpose of enabling this department to adopt measures for the opening of communication with the Texas Camanches and Apaches, who have not heretofore been parties to any treaty with the United States, I recommend that Congress be asked to make an appropriation of ten thousand dollars, (\$10,000.)

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

R. McCLELLAND,
Secretary.

To the PRESIDENT.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, January 30, 1855.

SIR: On the 28th of November last, I had the honor to submit to you supplemental estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1856, for California, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, Oregon, and Washington; and in connexion with those for Texas stated, that the selections and surveys of land for reservations to colonize the Indians of that State had been completed, but that I had not received the surveyor's report nor his field notes, and consequently could not tell whether the reservations would be approved and the Indians removed upon them; and was, of course, unprepared to decide whether any amount would be required to be appropriated for the said fiscal year for the removal of the Indians and the sustaining the reservations, and it might become necessary to submit an estimate for the object indicated.

You having concurred in the views expressed in my letter to you of the 25th instant, and of the reservations made, as described in the report of Captain Marcy and Agent Neighbors, which was transmitted with my letter, and having directed me to adopt the necessary measures to carry out the policy suggested by Agent Neighbors in his letter of the 30th October, taking as a basis the estimates made for that purpose by Mr. Neighbors in his report of the 16th September, as modified in his letter to me of this date, a copy of which is herewith, I have the honor now to submit for your approval and transmission to Congress the following estimates for this purpose, for the year ending June 30, 1856.

For provisions, farming purposes, &c., for Camanche settlement.....	\$28,810
For Iowas, Caddoes, Annadahkoes, &c., special agent Hill's agency.....	28,810
For Tonkawas, Lipans, special agent Howard's agency....	28,810
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	86,430
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I also recommend that Congress be asked the sum of \$10,000, for the purpose of enabling this department to adopt measures for the opening of communication with the Texas Camanches and Apaches, who have not heretofore been parties to any treaty with the United States. For reasons rendering this expedient, I beg leave to refer you to the last paragraph of Agent Neighbors' letter to me of this date, above referred to.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

Hon. R. McCLELLAND,
Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, January 30, 1855.

SIR: Referring to my communication to you of 16th September last, in which I submitted an estimate for the fiscal year 1855-'56, I

have now to state that, in view of the usual estimate for pay of agents and interpreters being laid before Congress, the two items of \$5,000 each, included in my exhibit, may be stricken out. It is my opinion that the last items for Tonkawas and Lipans may be reduced to the sum of \$28,810, so as to make the appropriation for each of the three districts of the same amount—particularly, if hereafter it should appear to be insufficient, an opportunity will be afforded of asking Congress for an additional sum before it will be required.

I take this occasion to solicit, through you, an appropriation by Congress of \$10,000, for the purpose of opening communications with the Texan Camanches and Apaches, who have not heretofore been parties to any treaty with the United States. They are known as the No-come and Ten-a-wish bands of Camanches, and Muska-cero-Apaches, who inhabit the country west of the Pecor river, and east of the Rio Grande. These Indians profess to be in favor of peace with the whites, but they have committed very serious depredations upon our border citizens. My opinion is, that with the small amount that I have asked for, I could make such arrangements with them as to cause a cessation of their marauding attacks upon the whites.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROB. S. NEIGHBORS,
Special Agent, &c., Texas Indians.

Colonel GEO. W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.