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Yancton Sioux Indians. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, recommending an appropriation for loss of goods in transit for the Yancton Sioux Indians of Dakota Territory

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YANCTON SIOUX INDIANS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

RECOMMENDING

*An appropriation for loss of goods in transitu for the Yancton Sioux Indians
of Dakota Territory.*

FEBRUARY 7, 1863.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means and ordered to be
printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

February 6, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication of the 31st ultimo, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and accompanying papers, showing what amount of goods belonging to the Yancton Sioux Indians of Dakota Territory were lost on the 29th of August, 1862, by the sinking of the steamer J. G. Morrow, on board which vessel they were being conveyed to the Indians.

I have the honor to recommend that an appropriation of \$4,820 38 be made by Congress, to be applied in making good the loss sustained by the Indians by the sinking of the above-named steamer, the goods having been purchased for them and with their funds. but which, by treaty stipulations, the government had agreed to deliver to them on their reservation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. USHER, *Secretary.*

Hon. GALUSHA A. GROW,

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Office of Indian Affairs, January 31, 1863.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of certain papers pertaining to the loss of the steamer J. G. Morrow, on the evening of the 29th August, 1861, showing the amount of goods on board that were lost that had been purchased for the Yancton Sioux Indians with their funds, but which, by treaty stipulations, the government was bound to deliver to them on their reservation.

Inasmuch as the loss of the goods does not impair the claim of the Indians upon the government, I respectfully recommend that Congress be asked to appro-

priate the sum of \$4,320 38, to be applied to making good the loss sustained by the sinking of the above-named steamer J. G. Morrow, that being the amount of goods lost, as shown by the enclosed certificate of Agent W. A. Burleigh, who was at the time accompanying them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. DOLE, *Commissioner.*

Hon. J. P. USHER,

Secretary of the Interior.

YANCTON, DAKOTA TERRITORY,
Executive Office, October 22, 1862.

SIR: I enclose herewith a letter from Agent Burleigh, in relation to a requisition for funds to be furnished to pay for Indian supplies purchased last fall, to replace those lost on the "steamer Morrow."

You are well aware of all the facts connected with that accident. The Yancton Indians received no cash payment during the year 1861, the payment being delayed for reasons best known to your office. The Yanctons were greatly in need of provisions during the summer and fall of 1861. After the sinking of the "steamer Morrow," and partial loss of the supplies for the Yanctons, the agent consulted me as to what course he should take to make good the loss to the Indians. I told him that I saw but one course to pursue: that the Indians were badly in need of provisions, and that he had better make purchases to supply the deficit caused by the sinking of the boat. The parties of whom he purchased have certainly waited long enough for their pay. I would most respectfully suggest that the necessary funds be placed at the disposal of Agent Burleigh to pay the debts contracted for the above-mentioned purpose.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. JAYNE,

Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

Hon. W. P. DOLE,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Extract of a letter from W. A. Burleigh, United States Indian agent.

YANCTON, DAKOTA TERRITORY,
September 6, 1861.

SIR: I arrived at this place last night from near St. James, a point on the Nebraska side of the Missouri river, some twenty-five miles below, bringing with me a part of my family. The steamer J. G. Morrow, Captain Chaliss, on board of which I took passage with my family, and shipped my Indian supplies, agent purchases, together with my private supplies, household effects, &c., &c., sank at that point on Thursday evening, the 29th August.

After leaving St. Joseph, on the 20th August, we proceeded favorably on our trip until the above-named time and place, when the boat was run upon a succession of sand bars and snags, which stove in its hull, causing it to sink in a few minutes, leaving us barely time to reach the shore and land those on board, after the discovery of the accident. We landed a little after dark, and took up our quarters in a small deserted cabin near by, where we have since been doing all in our power to save what we could from the wreck.

Colonel H. B. BRANCH,

Superintendent of Indian Affairs, St. Joseph, Mo.

Certificate of goods purchased by Agent W. N. Burleigh, for the Yancton Indians, and freight, &c., on the same, and lost on board the steamer J. G. Morrow, August 29, 1861.

Six hundred and sixty-three sacks flour, at \$1 50.....	\$994 50
One hundred and eighty barrels flour, at \$3 50.....	630 00
Forty-three hundred and twenty pounds bacon, at \$9 44.....	407 50
Six barrels mess pork, at \$16.....	96 00
Two kegs nails, at \$6.....	12 00
One thousand pounds sugar, at 10 cents.....	100 00
Seven hundred and fifty pounds coffee, at 17 cents.....	127 50
Forty-nine and one-half pounds brazier's copper, at 28 cents.....	13 86
Two dozen hunting shirts, at \$12 50.....	25 00
Two thousand pounds pilot bread, at 4 cents.....	80 00
Two dozen L. H. cast-steel shovels, at \$9.....	18 00
Two dozen three-pronged forks, at \$7 50.....	15 00
Two dozen four-pronged forks, at \$10 50.....	21 00
Two dozen scythe snaths, at \$6.....	12 00
Thirty feet 8-inch leather belting, at 70 cents.....	21 00
Two dozen cast-steel axes, at \$12.....	24 00
One dozen painted candlesticks.....	1 35
Three pairs brass candlesticks, at 77 cents.....	2 31
One half dozen brass snuffers.....	1 13
One half dozen rear lanterns.....	3 00
One pair soldering coppers.....	1 80
Two pairs steel shovel and tongs.....	2 70
One half dozen wallets.....	75
Two boxes 10 by 12 glass, at \$2 50.....	5 00
Eighty pounds, 2 boxes, at 20 cents, star candles, at 14 cents.....	11 60
One box, 25 cents; candles, 47 pounds, at 10 cents.....	4 95
Twenty-four ox yokes, twenty-four extra bows.....	58 80
Seventeen hundred feet lumber.....	51 00
Fifty blue coats, cloth; 25 at \$6 50, \$162 50; 25 at \$5 25, \$131 25.....	293 75
Fifty pairs woollen pants, at \$1 87½.....	93 75
Fifty woollen shirts, at \$1.....	50 00
Forty boys' jackets, at \$2.....	80 00
Forty boys' pants, at 87½ cents.....	35 00
Four dozen Osgood Spellers, at \$1.....	4 00
Four dozen First Readers, at 90 cents.....	3 60
One half dozen Second Readers, at \$1 80.....	90
One half dozen Third Readers, at \$2 70.....	1 35
One half dozen Fourth Readers, at \$5 25.....	2 63
One half dozen Fifth Readers, at \$6 50.....	3 25
One half dozen Ray's Arithmetic, at \$1.....	50
One half dozen second Ray's Arithmetic, at \$2.....	1 00
One half dozen third Ray's Arithmetic, at \$3 50.....	1 75
One half dozen Britton's Grammar, at \$4 50.....	2 25
Four dozen copy books, at 50 cents.....	2 00
One half dozen Mitchell's Primary Geography, at \$3 75.....	1 87
One half dozen Mitchell's Int. Geography, at \$10.....	5 00
One half dozen Mitchell's Atlas and Geography, at \$10 50.....	5 25
One Warner's Play.....	94
One ream note paper.....	2 50
One ream letter paper.....	3 50

One gross pens	\$0 75
Two dozen handles	50
One dozen pencils	50
One Brightly's Digest United States Laws	5 60
One day-book	1 40
One journal	1 50
One ledger	2 60
One dozen memorandum books, No. 5	50
One dozen tuck memorandum books, extra	3 50
One ream white cap paper	2 50
One ream lib. letter paper, No. 1	2 75
One ream lib. note paper, No. 2	1 87
One thousand white envelopes	3 00
Two gross parchment white envelopes	1 75
Four quires envelope paper, buff	1 00
One-sixth dozen mucilage, pints, at \$3 50	58
One gross Gillot's pens	80
One dozen lead pencils, No. 2	25
One dozen penholders	31
One roll red tape, No. 19	60
One-sixth dozen Rogers's knives, 5480, at \$15 25	2 55
One hundred quills	75
One-twelfth dozen erasers, 1363, at \$3	25
Four pieces rubber	20
One quire blotting paper	1 50
One pound sealing-wax, United States government	60
One-twelfth dozen dividers	13
One-twelfth dozen alphabets, at \$5	42
One-twelfth dozen razor-straps, No. 90, at \$9	75
One-half dozen iron slates, No. 4, at \$4 25	2 13
One hundred soapstone pencils	15
Two balls twine, at 18 cents	36
Freight bill to H. and St. Jo. railroad on 46,655 pounds, as per voucher No. 28, abstract B	353 92
Storing 1,000 sacks flour to Nutt & Co., as per voucher No. 26, ab- stract B.	40 00
Demurrage to steamer J. G. Morris, at St. Joseph, Missouri, as per voucher No. 32, abstract B.	315 00
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I certify on honor that the above is a correct statement of all the Indian goods, and freight, &c., on same, lost by the sinking of the steamboat J. G. Morrow, excepting certain articles of hardware, purchased of Conrad & Walton, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, amounting to \$233 50, the bill of which, upon examination, being found imperfect, was returned for correction, and said articles will be embraced in my account for the 4th quarter of 1861, making a total amount of goods, freight, &c., lost on the steamer J. G. Morrow, \$4,320 38.

W. A. BURLEIGH,
United States Yancton Agent.

YANCTON AGENCY, *September 30, 1861.*