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Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, relative to appropriations for survey of Indian reservations.

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ESTIMATES OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR SURVEY OF INDIAN
LANDS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

RELATIVE TO

Appropriations for survey of Indian reservations.

DECEMBER 17, 1867.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., December 17, 1867.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication of the 16th instant from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with copy of the estimates therein referred to, of appropriation required for surveying Indian reservations under treaty stipulations for the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1869, and for the present fiscal year, amounting to \$161,678 86; of which amount the sum of \$97,770 83 is asked to be advanced to liquidate present liabilities, to be reimbursed from proceeds of sales of lands. Full explanations accompany the estimates referred to. I commend the subject to the favorable consideration of the House of Representatives.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. H. BROWNING, *Secretary.*

Hon. SCHUYLER COLFAX,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., December 16, 1867.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith the estimate of appropriation required for surveying Indian reservations under treaty stipulations, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, and for the present fiscal year, amounting to \$161,678 86, of which amount the sum of \$97,770 83 is asked to be advanced to liquidate present liabilities, to be reimbursed from proceeds of sales of lands. A full explanation accompanies said estimate, designating the various reservations to be surveyed, amount required for each, and the present liabilities for which an advance is asked.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES E. MIX,
Acting Commissioner.

Hon. O. H. BROWNING,
Secretary of the Interior.

Estimate of appropriation required for surveying Indian reserves for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, and for the present fiscal year.

For surveying Indian reserves, under treaty stipulations..... \$161,678 86

EXPLANATION OF THE FOREGOING ESTIMATE.

For additional appropriation required to complete survey of a line dividing the Creek country, under third and fifth article of treaty with the Creek nation of Indians concluded June 14, 1866, at the city of Washington, (see Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty-ninth Congress, treaties, pages 102 and 103,) and for surveying exterior boundary of a grant of land to the Seminole nation of Indians, under the third article of the treaty with that nation concluded at the city of Washington March 21, 1866, (see Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty-ninth Congress—treaties—pages 72 and 73,) estimated amount required.....	\$5,000 00
For locating and defining the boundaries of a reservation for the Boise Fort band of Chippewa Indians, under the first clause of the third article of the treaty with said Indians of April 7, 1866.....	5,000 00
or so much thereof as may be necessary for such service, (see Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty ninth Congress—treaties—page 81.)	
For surveying the Umatilla reservation, Oregon, under the first article of the treaty between the United States and the Walla-Walla, Cayuse, and Umatilla bands of Indians of June 9, 1855, (Statutes at Large, vol. 12, page 945 :)	
Estimated boundary of said reservation, 90 miles, at \$15 per mile....	\$1,350
Estimated standard and township lines of four townships of said reservation, under the sixth article of said treaty, 78 miles, at \$12 per mile.	936
Estimated subdivision of said four townships into forty-acre tracts, under said sixth article, 528 miles, at \$10 per mile.....	5,280
	7,566 00
For re-survey of the boundaries of the Yancton reservation, treaty of February 16, 1859, (Statutes at Large, vol. 11, page 743,) the former survey being erroneous and the marks and monuments obliterated, as stated by the surveyor in the field and by the surveyor general of Dakota.....	1,000 00
For additional surveys of Omaha and Winnebago Indian reservations in Nebraska, subdividing a portion of the same into lots, so that each allottee may have, as near as may be, an equitable share of timber land with his allotment, as provided for under the fourth article of the treaty with the Omaha tribe of Indians concluded March 6, 1865, (see Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty-ninth Congress—treaties—page 13,) estimated amount required.....	10,000 00
Amount required to make payment of balance due for surveys of Omaha and Winnebago Indian reservations, which have been completed under contract with the General Land Office, (see copy of letter of October 7, 1867, from General Land Office herewith).....	3,362 03
For surveying the line of the ninety-sixth degree through the Cherokee country, under the fifteenth and sixteenth articles of the treaty with the Cherokee nation concluded at the city of Washington July 19, 1866, (see Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty-ninth Congress, pages 119 and 120,) estimated amount required.....	3,000 00
For surveying boundary line between the Cherokee country and the States of Arkansas, Missouri, and Kansas as far west as the Arkansas river, under the twenty-first article of the treaty with the Cherokee nation concluded at the city of Washington July 19, 1866, (see Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty-ninth Congress, page 121,) estimated amount required.....	\$3,510
For pay of two commissioners to run the above line, and mark the same by permanent and conspicuous monuments, under same authority as above, estimate.....	5,000
	8,510 00
For surveying the Nez Percé Indian reservation in Idaho Territory, under the provisions of the second and third articles of the treaty with said Indians concluded June 9, 1863, and proclaimed April 20, 1867, (printed copy of treaty herewith :)	
Estimated exterior lines of reservation, 228 miles, at \$15 per mile....	\$3,420
Estimated township lines of reservation, 700 miles, at \$12 per mile....	8,400
Estimated survey into twenty-acre lots of so much of said reservation, suitable for cultivation, as may be necessary to give every male member of the tribe twenty-one years of age a lot of twenty acres, as provided in article three of said treaty.....	1,900
or so much thereof as may be necessary.	13,720 00

For survey of reservation for the Sisiton and Wahpeton bands of Dakota or Sioux Indians on Devil's lake and Lake Traverse, in Dakota Territory, under the third, fourth, and fifth articles of the treaty with said Indians concluded February 19, 1867, and proclaimed May 2, 1867, (copy of treaty herewith,) as follows:

Estimated exterior boundaries of said reservation which are required to be surveyed, 175 miles, at \$10 per mile	\$1,750	
Estimated survey into tracts, to be allotted under the fifth article of said treaty	5,000	
		<u>\$6,750 00</u>

or so much thereof as may be necessary.

NOTE.—The foregoing estimates have been made at the same rates paid by the General Land Office for similar surveys in the same States and Territories.

In estimating for the total amount "for surveying Indian reserves under treaty stipulations," the sum of \$97,770 83 has been estimated for and is included in the total amount of \$161,678 86 given under the above head. This amount of \$97,770 83 being required by the Commissioner of the General Land Office to liquidate present liabilities on account of surveys of Indian reservations already completed and being carried out under contract, which are to be paid for out of the proceeds of sale of the lands surveyed, and this portion of the total amount estimated for to be advanced by the United States, to be reimbursed when the proceeds are realized from the sale of the reservations surveyed.

EXPLANATION.

The act of Congress "to vacate and sell the present Indian reservation in Utah Territory," approved May 5, 1864, (Statutes at Large, volume 13, page 63,) provides for the survey and sale of said reservations, but is silent as to the manner of payment for the costs of such surveys. The honorable Secretary of the Interior, by letter to the General Land Office, dated July 30, 1864, directed the expenses of these surveys to be paid out of the proceeds of the sale of lands when sold.

Accounts for such surveys which have been completed have been presented and allowed and await payment, as follows, viz:

Account presented and allowed Oct. 7, 1865, by Joseph Clark, deputy surveyor, for the survey of "Spanish Fork Indian reservation"		\$552 30
Account presented and allowed August 21, 1866, by Joseph Clark, deputy surveyor, for the survey of "San Pete Indian reservation"	3 007 89	
Account presented and allowed March 17, 1867, by Joseph Clark, deputy surveyor, for the survey of "Corn Creek Indian reservation"	2,843 26	
Account presented and allowed March 26, 1867, by Joseph Clark, deputy surveyor, for the survey of "Deep Creek Indian reservation"	1,371 55	
		<u>7,775 00</u>
Total amount due for surveys in Utah Territory		
Amount of contract by E. S. Norris with General Land Office, dated August 14, 1866, for survey of boundary of lands sold to the United States by the Osage tribe of Indians according to provisions of article one of treaty with that tribe concluded September 29, 1865, (see Pamphlet Laws, second session thirty-ninth Congress—treaties—page 135)	\$16,117 58	
Paid to said Norris out of appropriation of \$50,000, approved July 28, 1866, (Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty-ninth Congress, page 318,) "for surveying Indian and other reservations," and to be reimbursed from proceeds of sale of lands	15,000 00	
		<u>1,117 58</u>
Balance due said Norris on this contract		
Amount of contract by E. S. Norris with the General Land Office, dated August 14, 1866, for surveying subdivisions of lands sold to the United States by the Osage Indians, according to provisions of the first article of the treaty with that tribe concluded September 29, 1865, (see Pamphlet Laws, second session thirty-ninth Congress—treaties—page 135)	8,146 27	
		<u>8,146 27</u>
Amount due		
Amount of contract by E. S. Norris with the General Land Office, dated August 16, 1866, for surveying lands ceded in trust to the United States according to provisions of the seventeenth article of the treaty concluded with the Cherokee Indians July 19, 1866, (see Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty-ninth Congress—treaties—page 120)	18,716 66	
		<u>18,716 66</u>
Amount due		
		<u>18,716 66</u>

Amount of contract by Messrs. Coryell & Bowles with the General Land Office, dated September 18, 1866, for surveying a portion of lands ceded to the United States in trust by the second article of treaty with Osage Indians, concluded September 29, 1865, (Pamphlet Laws, second session thirty-ninth Congress, page 136)	\$30,515 32
Paid to Messrs. Coryell & Bowles on this contract, out of appropriation of \$50,000, "for surveying Indian and other reservations," approved July 28, 1866, (see Pamphlet Laws, first session thirty-ninth Congress, page 318,) and to be reimbursed out of proceeds of sales of land	27,000 00
Balance due Messrs. Coryell & Bowles on their contract.....	\$3,515 32
Amount of contract by Samuel S. Smoot with the General Land Office, dated May 28, 1867, for surveying a portion of lands ceded to the United States by the Osage Indians in trust, according to provisions of the second article of the treaty with that tribe concluded September 29, 1865, west of the Arkansas river, (see Pamphlet Laws, second session, thirty-ninth Congress—treaties—page 135)	58,500 00
The surveys under this contract are not yet completed, but will be, probably, by February 14, 1868.	
Total amount required to be advanced to liquidate present liabilities on account of surveys of Indian reservations already completed and being carried out under contract, to be reimbursed out of proceeds of sales of said lands.....	97,770 83
(Sent to Secretary of the Interior with report, December 16, 1867.)	

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, GENERAL LAND OFFICE,

October 7, 1867.

SIR: Referring to our letter of the 17th August last, transmitting a portion of the plats and field-notes of the survey of the Omaha reservation, in Nebraska, for the purpose of being copied, I have the honor now to transmit the plats and field-notes of the remainder of the survey, embracing the following townships, viz: township twenty-four north, ranges ten and eleven east; township twenty-five north, ranges five to ten east; township twenty-six north, ranges five to ten east; and township twenty-seven north, ranges five to nine east, sixth principal meridian. Also a diagram showing the boundaries of the reservation, and the exteriors of the townships embraced therein.

(In this connection, I have to communicate to your office that the actual cost of the survey of the Omaha and Winnebago reservations has exceeded the amount estimated by \$3,362 03, and there existing no means at the disposal of this office wherewith to pay the same, I have to request that you cause a deficiency estimate to be submitted to Congress, at as early a day as possible, in order to meet the outstanding obligations incurred in the survey of the foregoing reservations.)

The area of the Winnebago reservation is 97,497 acres, and that of the Omaha reservation 205,335 acres, making a total of the former Omaha reservation, 302,832 acres.

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

JOS. S. WILSON, *Commissioner*.

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,

Commissioner Indian Affairs.