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Appropriations for Sioux Indians. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting estimates of additional appropriations required for various bands of Sioux Indians of the upper Missouri agency

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APPROPRIATIONS FOR SIOUX INDIANS.

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

*Estimates of additional appropriations required for various bands of Sioux
Indians of the upper Missouri agency.*

FEBRUARY 24, 1868.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., February 21, 1868.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter dated the 20th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and accompanying papers, including an estimate of additional appropriations for various bands of Sioux Indians of the upper Missouri agency, to which the early attention of Congress is respectfully invited, in connection with the estimates submitted to that body, by this department, on the 25th ultimo.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. H. BROWNING, *Secretary.*

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., February 20, 1868.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from special agent C. T. Campbell, dated the 18th instant, relative to furnishing the nine bands of Sioux, on the upper Missouri river, with saw-mills and the necessary assistance in farming operations; also of an estimate, submitted by him, for funds to carry out the views and recommendations of the Indian peace commission in regard to said Indians.

The estimate of the special agent amounts to \$16,480, and is for the erection of two saw-mills, two store-houses with council rooms, and for pay of the necessary employes to run the mills and assist the Indians in their agricultural operations. It is true, as the special agent states, that the Indian peace commissioners who visited these Indians last fall promised these things, and the promise should, in my opinion, be made good.

I therefore respectfully request that copies of the enclosed papers be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the

Senate, with such favorable recommendation as you may deem advisable and proper, and with the suggestion that speedy action be had in the premises by Congress.

In this connection I desire to say that it is absolutely necessary that immediate action be had upon the matters set forth and referred to in office reports of the 20th and 25th ultimo. (See Ex. Doc. Nos. 110 and 124, House of Representatives.) The goods, agricultural implements, seeds, &c., that are required by the Indians on the upper Missouri river, and at certain other distant points, must be purchased within a few days, or weeks at most, or they cannot be delivered at the different reservations in time to be of any service the coming spring.

The good faith of the government, as pledged by treaty stipulations, and also by the Indian peace commission, is at stake, and unless the necessary funds are appropriated to enable the department to carry out the promises made to the Indians, this office cannot be held responsible for any acts of hostility or depredations committed by them.

I therefore respectfully request that the attention of Congress be again invited to the matter, with the view to have the required appropriations made at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. G. TAYLOR,
Commissioner.

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

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 18, 1868.*

SIR: By your instructions, and after having consulted with Governor Faulk, superintendent Indian affairs, D. T., and Major J. R. Hanson, local agent, I made a memorandum of matter necessary for those of the nine bands of Sioux who have been and are anxious to go to farming. I find that no appropriation has been asked for but that which they are entitled to under treaty, which is not sufficient to give them means to go on as rapidly in improvement as other bands on the Missouri have done; all other Indians when located upon reservations have been provided with what I have estimated for in the accompanying paper. I cannot urge too strongly the importance of this small amount, both for the benefit of the Indians and the economy of the government. You will recollect that the memorandum was read by the peace commissioners and indorsed by them as necessary and very reasonable, and moreover these things were promised to these Indians in council by them, the commissioners.

I am, sir, most respectfully yours,

C. T. CAMPBELL,
United States Special Agent.

Hon. N. G. TAYLOR,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 18, 1868.

Estimate for additional appropriations for matter necessary for the Lower Brulé, Two Kettles, Sans Arcs, Minneconjous, Blackfeet, and Ogallala bands of Sioux Indians, belonging to the upper Missouri agency—recommended by the Indian Peace Commission—to be used upon their reservations necessary for their improvements in agriculture, as follows :

For the Lower Brulé band, located at the mouth of White Earth river :

One saw-mill, with grinders attached	\$4,000 00
For the building of store-house and council-room.....	1,000 00
For the pay of four employés at \$50 per month.....	2,400 00
For the pay of engineer and sawyer.....	840 00
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	8,240 00
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For the Two Kettles, Sans Arcs, Minneconjous, and Ogallala bands, located at the mouth of the Cheyenne river :

For saw-mill, with grinders attached	\$4,000 00
For the pay of four employés at \$50 per month.....	2,400 00
For the building of one store-house and council-room.....	1,000 00
For the pay of engineer and sawyer.....	840 00
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	8,240 00
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C. T. CAMPBELL,
United States Special Agent.