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Indian spoliation claims. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, in answer to a resolution of the House of the 14th February, 1868, relative to amounts of Indian spoliation claims in the Department of the Interior, growing out of the Indian War in Oregon, Washington and Montana Territories

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INDIAN SPOLIATION CLAIMS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

IN ANSWER TO

A resolution of the House of the 14th February, 1868, relative to amounts of Indian spoliation claims in the Department of the Interior, growing out of the Indian war in Oregon, Washington and Montana Territories.

MARCH 3, 1868.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., March 2, 1868.

SIR: In compliance with resolution of the House of Representatives of the 14th ultimo, "that the Secretary of the Interior be requested to inform this house of the amount of 'Indian spoliation claims' now on file in his department, growing out of the Indian war of 1855-'56 in Oregon and Washington Territory, and in Montana in 1865, 1866, and 1867," I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication, dated the 29th ultimo, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, containing the information called for in said resolution.

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 29, 1868.

SIR: I have the honor to report on the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 14th instant, calling for "the amount of Indian spoliation claims now on file in the department growing out of the Indian war of 1855-'56 in Oregon and Washington Territory, and in Montana in 1865, 1866, and 1867," referred by you to this office, that there are claims now on file in this bureau for spoliations in Oregon and Washington during hostilities which lasted from October, 1855, to July, 1856, amounting in the aggregate to \$352,349 42; also claims for spoliations growing out of the hostilities in 1865, '66, and '67, by Indians who range in Montana and the Territory of Dakota and in Nebraska, amounting to \$73,843.

It may be well to remark that claims of this latter class, to the amount of \$116,475, were, at different times, filed in this office, but are not now on file, having been returned either to the claimants or their agents.

The resolution is herewith returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. G. TAYLOR, *Commissioner.*

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