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Establishment of Indian tribes. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior transmitting letter from the Associated Executive Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs, relative to the location and establishment of the Kiowas, Comanches, and Apache Indians

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ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIAN TRIBES.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

TRANSMITTING

Letter from the associated executive committee of Friends on Indian affairs, relative to the location and establishment of the Kiowas, Comanches, and Apache Indians.

FEBRUARY 11, 1870.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., February 8, 1870.

SIR: I transmit herewith a copy of a letter of the 31st ultimo from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and accompanying copy of a communication from "the associated executive committee of Friends on Indian affairs," dated the 27th ultimo, relative to the location and establishment of the Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches, the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, and the Sacs and Foxes of the Mississippi, upon unimproved lands in the Indian territory, stating the objects desired to be accomplished in behalf of said Indians, and submitting an estimate of funds deemed necessary to effect such objects during the remainder of the current fiscal year.

The estimates of the committee amount to \$43,000, but the Commissioner reports sufficient funds on hand belonging to the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, and the Sacs and Foxes, to meet the requirements of those tribes, viz: \$23,000.

There is no money now to the credit of the Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches, applicable to the objects desired to be accomplished for said tribes, and I therefore recommend that the sum of \$20,000 be appropriated by Congress to be expended for their benefit, in accordance with the estimate of the committee of Friends, herewith submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Secretary.

Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., January 31, 1870.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of a communication from "the associated executive committee of Friends on Indian affairs," dated the 27th instant, relative to the location and establishment of the Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches, the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, and the Sacs and Foxes, of the Mississippi, upon unimproved lands in the Indian territory, stating the objects desired to be accomplished in behalf of said Indians, and submitting an estimate of funds deemed necessary to effect such objects during the remainder of the present fiscal year.

The estimate is as follows: For the Kiowa and Comanche agency, \$20,000; for the Arapaho and Cheyenne agency, \$13,000; and for the Sac and Fox agency, \$10,000; making, in the aggregate, \$43,000.

There are sufficient funds at the disposal of the department belonging to the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, and the Sacs and Foxes, to meet the estimate for those tribes; but there is no money now to the credit of the Kiowas, Comanches and Apaches, that is applicable, or that can be used for the objects desired to be accomplished for them. In view of this fact, I respectfully recommend that the matter be submitted to Congress, with the view of having the sum of \$20,000 appropriated for the last-named tribes—the same to be expended for their benefit, in accordance with the estimate of said committee.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. S. PARKER,
Commissioner.

Hon. J. D. Cox,
Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, 1st Month, 27th, 1870.

To the Commissioner of Indian Affairs:

In the prosecution of the work assigned to us by the government, of aiding in the civilization of the Indians of the central superintendency, we find that the agents appointed upon our recommendation have no means to accomplish, during the five months preceding the next fiscal year, that which is essential to the continued peaceful settlement of certain tribes upon the reservations allotted to them.

The Kiowas, Comanches, and Apaches, constituting one agency; the Arapahoes and Cheyennes, another; and the Sacs and Foxes, a third; numbering, together, nearly 10,000 persons, have all been located within the past year upon unimproved lands of the Indian territory, and are being fed by the government. This course must necessarily continue until crops are raised by themselves, unless we are prepared to permit their return to nomadic habits.

The expense of the transfer of breadstuffs from the line of railroad in Kansas to the present abodes of these Indians, is about six dollars per hundred pounds, involving a cost to the government of upwards of \$200,000 annually.

It is our desire to promote the settlement of these Indians upon farms, and secure their support from the labor of their own hands; and we believe it can be accomplished within a short term of years, if the expense of breaking and fencing the ground, and of a small number of experi-

enced white farmers to labor with and instruct the Indians, is provided by the government, and suitable provision made for the education of their children.

Under the orders of General William B. Hazen, about 1,500 acres of land in detached plots were last year broken in the Kiowa and Comanche reserve. On part of this land wheat is now growing, and the remainder is available for planting. Unless it is immediately fenced the crop of the present year will probably be destroyed or lost, as the tracts are overrun by the Indians' ponies and other stock. But if properly protected, it is our belief that, under the blessing of Providence, crops of wheat and corn will be harvested, which will avoid a large expenditure of money for supplies to be brought from a distance.

To effect these objects, we estimate that the judicious expenditure of \$43,000 is necessary, during the remaining months of the current fiscal year, namely:

In Kiowa and Comanche agency :

For fencing 1,500 acres	\$15,000	
For ten farmers and their wives, for five months remaining of fiscal year 1869-'70.	3,125	
For school purposes	1,875	
		<u>\$20,000</u>

In Arapahoe and Cheyenne agency :

For fencing	10,000	
For six farmers and their wives, for four months.	1,500	
For school purposes	1,500	
		<u>13,000</u>

In Sac and Fox agency :

For fencing	7,000	
For six farmers and their wives, for four months.	1,500	
For school purposes	1,500	
		<u>10,000</u>

Total		<u><u>43,000</u></u>
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All which we respectfully submit, with the desire that it may claim thy early attention.

On behalf of the associated executive committee of Friends on Indian affairs.

THOMAS WISTAR,
of Philadelphia.
 FRANCIS T. KING,
of Baltimore.
 BENJ. FARHAM,
of New York.
 JOHN B. GARRETT,
of Philadelphia.