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Tulalip Indian Agency, Washington Territory. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, relative to an appropriation for a deficiency to pay outstanding indebtedness incurred by H. C, Hale, late sub-agent, during his administration of the Tulalip Indian Agency, Washington Territory.

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TULALIP INDIAN AGENCY, WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

RELATIVE TO

An appropriation for a deficiency to pay outstanding indebtedness incurred by H. C. Hale, late sub-agent, during his administration of the Tulalip Indian agency, Washington Territory.

FEBRUARY 17, 1871.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., February 16, 1871.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 14th instant, together with accompanying papers, and estimate of an appropriation for a deficiency to pay outstanding indebtedness incurred by late Sub-Agent H. C. Hale, during his administration of the Tulalip Indian agency, Washington Territory, amounting to \$7,553 44.

Agreeably to the recommendation of the Commissioner, the matter is respectfully submitted to Congress for its action, with a view to an appropriation for the payment of the indebtedness referred to, which is explained in the accompanying papers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. DELANO,
Secretary.

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., February 14, 1871.

SIR: I have the honor to report that there are unpaid claims standing against the Tulalip Indian agency, Washington Territory, for supplies, transportation, &c., amounting to \$7,553 44, most of which are on file in this office. These claims were contracted by late Sub-Agent H. C. Hale, in 1868-69, then in charge of said agency, while carrying on

logging operations on the Tulalip reservation, and are, principally, for goods and provisions consumed in the camps and delivered to Indians employed by the sub-agent.

No authority was granted by this Bureau to commence and carry on the operations referred to. From the reports of Superintendent Ross and Agent Hill, (copies herewith,) it is evident the indebtedness was incurred, and I am of the opinion that the amounts stated in Superintendent Ross's report of January 26, 1870, are justly due the several claimants. There are no funds at the disposal of the Department that can be used to pay this indebtedness, and I, therefore, respectfully recommend that the matter be submitted to Congress for its action, and with the view of having the necessary appropriation made to pay the amount due on said claims.

The necessary estimate of appropriation for the amount above referred to is herewith inclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. S. PARKER,
Commissioner.

Hon. C. DELANO,
Secretary of the Interior.

Estimate of appropriation for a deficiency to pay outstanding indebtedness incurred by late Sub-Agent H. C. Hale, during his administration of the Tulalip Indian agency, Washington Territory.

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the outstanding claims incurred by late Sub-Agent H. C. Hale during his administration of affairs at the Tulalip agency, Washington Territory.....	<u>\$7,553 44</u>
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OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Olympia, W. T., January 26, 1870.

SIR: I have the honor to report that one more claim against late Sub-Agent H. C. Hale, Tulalip agency, W. T., under the treaty of Point Elliott, has been filed in this office, examined, and found due and unpaid, viz:

Tilley & Coulter, for provisions	\$630
making the accounts due merchants against that agency, contracted by said Hale, and remaining due and unpaid, as follows:	
J. S. Hill.....	\$4,626 30
Ward & Mitchell.....	82 34
Booth, Foss & Borst.....	91 26
Rothschild & Co.....	474 37
Steamer "Eliza Anderson".....	283 25
Atkins & Shoudy.....	1,312 50
Frost & Fowler.....	46 76
Lightner & Rosenthal.....	6 66
Tilley & Coulter.....	630 00
Total.....	<u>7,553 44</u>

(See my report on this subject, of November 11, 1869.)

The above is exclusive of the amount (\$2,486 45) due Indians for labor, and authorized, by your letter of November 22, 1869, to be paid from any surplus of moneys for incidental expenses in my hands, and which I can pay; but, after a careful examination, I am convinced that it will be impossible to make any other payments of debts contracted under the administration of my predecessor, without additional funds for that purpose.

I have no recommendation to make in regard to these claims. They were undoubtedly contracted and remain unpaid. The whole fault lies in the reckless conduct of affairs by said Hale.

The merchants are clamorous for payment.

If, in your opinion, equity requires that the Department should pay these claims, money will be required for that purpose.

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

SAMUEL ROSS,

Brevet Colonel United States Army, Superintendent.

Hon. E. S. PARKER,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Olympia, W. T., November 11, 1869.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith report of Brevet Captain George D. Hill, United States Army, Indian agent Tulalip Reservation, made in compliance with instructions from this office, in reference to liabilities incurred by the late sub-agent, Henry C. Hale, and still remaining unpaid.

* Said report is accompanied by ten inclosures, marked respectively A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, and K.

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

SAMUEL ROSS,

Brevet Colonel United States Army, Superintendent.

Hon. E. S. PARKER,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

AGENCY TULALIP INDIAN RESERVATION,
Washington Territory, October 9, 1869.

COLONEL: In compliance with your communication of the 17th ultimo, directing a full and careful investigation of certain logging operations performed on this reservation, also of certain accounts alleged to have been contracted by H. C. Hale, while agent in charge of the reservation, I have the honor to submit the following, after as full and careful an investigation as circumstances would permit:

As near as I can ascertain, the logging business was first begun on the reservation some time in October, 1868, by the agent, H. C. Hale, who himself supplied the necessary material, and conducted the business in person. This business seems to have been continued by said Hale, without intermission, until about the 1st of August, 1869, during which time the logs cut were disposed of to one John Cosgrove, by written contract. (See inclosure marked A.) Mr. Cosgrove informs me that during the time he received from Hale three rafts of logs, measuring in all a little more than 800,000 feet, for which he paid him at the rate of \$4 25 per thousand, coin, equal to \$5 67, currency, the total amount thus paid being \$4,985 33, currency.

The next logging done on the reservation, other than that above referred to, was by one G. A. Meigs, of Port Madison, who began operations some time in December, 1868, under written contract made with the agent, H. C. Hale, (see inclosure marked B,) giving the said Meigs permission to cut logs on a specified portion of the reservation for a given period. Again, in February, 1869, another contract was entered into between the same parties, (see inclosure marked C,) giving the said Meigs permission to cut logs on a portion of the reservation not specified in the first contract.

I have been unable to ascertain correctly the amount of logs thus procured by the said Meigs, though it must have been considerable, as it appears he worked incessantly from the date of the first contract up to the time of my assuming charge in August last.

Mr. Meigs's own statement of the amount paid the agent, H. C. Hale, as per contract, is the only information I can get. He (Meigs) informs me that the entire amount, \$5,400, (coin,) was paid over by him, though \$3,050 of it was subsequently refunded, (leaving \$1,350 in coin, equal to \$1,800 in currency,) on the contract being terminated by the late superintendent, Mr. McKinney. Mr. Meigs does not inform me which contract was thus terminated, neither does he give the date; though certain it is that it did not effect to stop his logging, for he continued his operations until ordered off the reservation by myself.

In investigating the different claims alleged to have been contracted by the late agent, H. C. Hale, I have visited the different points on the sound where the parties reside, obtaining in each case itemized bills, which I inclose, also ascertaining as nearly as possible dates of shipment, &c.

The account of J. S. Hill, trader on the reservation, (see inclosure marked D,) is, a large portion of it, for goods furnished Indian laborers in the logging camps, from time to time, per order of the agent; while the remainder, except a small amount for transportation and freight, is for provisions and articles furnished to carry on said camp, and as near as I can learn were expended for that purpose.

The account of Ward & Mitchell, of Olympia, (see inclosure marked E,) is for provisions, and I find that the articles were shipped as stated. These articles were probably expended in subsisting laborers at the logging camps on the reservation.

The account of Booth & Foss, of Seattle, (see inclosure marked F,) is for meats furnished, and I find that the same was shipped on the steamer Mary Woodruff, as stated, and was also expended in the logging camps.

In the account of Rothschild & Co., the articles were without doubt furnished, as stated in the bill, that being substantiated by the accompanying bills of lading. A majority of the articles were probably expended in the logging camps. The bill, however, embraces certain items which it would seem were intended for H. C. Hale's private use.

The account contracted with steamer Eliza Anderson (see inclosure marked H) embraces items for transportation and freight as far back as November, 1868. As I have no means of ascertaining the correctness of the account, I submit it without comment.

Atkins & Shoudy, of Seattle, have furnished an account extending as far back as December, 1868; and, though incorrectly made out, I believe that the articles enumerated therein were furnished as stated. Nearly all the articles mentioned in the bill were supplies or equipage for the logging camps, and have either all been expended as such or removed from the reservation. It will be observed that H. C. Hale is credited on this bill with a payment of \$400, currency draft, which amount they inform me was paid them by the late Superintendent McKinney, on his draft No. 280, of date June 30, 1869, payable to D. Horton, their agent at San Francisco.

The different claims of Indians for labor performed in the logging camps on the reservation (see inclosure marked K) are, I believe, without exception, just. From personal interviews with these Indians and otherwise, I am satisfied that they actually performed the labor for which they claim payment, and that said labor was performed at a fair price.

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

GEORGE D. HILL,

Brevet Captain United States Army, Indian Agent.

Brevet Colonel SAMUEL ROSS, U. S. A.,

Superintendent Indian Affairs, Olympia, Washington Territory.