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Letter from the Acting Secretary of the Interior, transmitting a draught of an act to amend an act entitled "An act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the northern superintendency," approved June 10, 1872.

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RELIEF OF INDIANS IN NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

LETTER

FROM THE

ACTING SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

A draught of an act to amend an act entitled "An act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the northern superintendency," approved June 10, 1872.

JANUARY 9, 1873.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., December 20, 1872.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter, dated the 19th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the accompanying draught of an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the northern superintendency,' approved June 10, 1872." (Stats., vol. 17, p. 391.)

The Commissioner explains that the draught is intended to supply an evident omission in the original act in relation to the disposition of a portion of the reserve of the Otoe and Missouri tribe of Indians, and he recommends that the same receive the favorable action of Congress, which recommendation meets with the approval of this Department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. COWEN,
Acting Secretary.

The Hon. SPEAKER of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., December 19, 1872.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith, with the recommendation that the same be laid before Congress for its action, a draught of an act to amend an act entitled "An act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the northern superintendency," approved June 10, 1872. (Stat. at Large, vol. 17, p. 391.)

The original act provided for the disposition, with the consent of the Otoe and Missouri tribe of Indians, of "a portion of their reservation,

lying in the States of Nebraska and Kansas, not exceeding eighty thousand acres."

The Indians, however, refuse their assent to the disposition of any "portion" of their said reservation, but it appears from the report of the superintendent, dated September 11, 1872, (copy herewith,) are willing to sell their entire reserve and remove to the Indian Territory. The wishes of these Indians meet with the approval of this Office, and the proposed amendment, in respect to them, is intended to provide for carrying the same into effect.

The said act also provided in the fourth section for the disposition of "a portion, or the whole" of the Sac and Fox of the Missouri Indian reservation, in the State of Nebraska.

These Indians have consented to the sale of the "whole" of their reservation, a part of which, however, lies in the State of Kansas.

The proposed amendment in respect to these Indians is intended to supply an evident omission in the original act.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,
Commissioner.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the northern superintendency," approved June 10, 1872.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the third section of an act entitled "An act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the northern superintendency," approved June tenth one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two, be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, with the consent and concurrence of the Otoe and Missouri tribe of Indians, expressed in open council in the usual manner, to cause to be surveyed, if necessary, the entire reservation of said Indians lying in the States of Nebraska and Kansas, and to appraise and dispose of the same for the benefit of the aforesaid Indians, in the manner therein provided.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the fourth section of the aforesaid act be, and the same is hereby, amended so as to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cause to be surveyed, if necessary, appraised, and disposed of, in the manner therein provided for, that portion of the Sac and Fox Indian reservation in the State of Nebraska, such part of the said reservation as lies within the State of Kansas.

NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY,
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Omaha, Nebraska, Ninthmonth 11, 1872.

RESPECTED FRIEND: I herewith inclose a resolution passed by the Otoe and Missouri tribe of Indians in council assembled, relative to the sale of a portion of their reservation, from which it will be seen that they refuse to sign a petition asking for the sale of 80,000 acres of said reservation.

In a communication received from Agent Green, he says "that they assert their determination to dispose of the whole or none," as they wish to remove to the Indian Territory.

Very respectfully, thy friend,

ELIZA F. JANNEY,
Chief Clerk for Barclay White, Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

HON. F. A. WALKER,
Commissioner, Washington, D. C.

OTOE AGENCY,
Nebraska, September 6, 1872.

In council assembled, this 6th day of September, we, the undersigned, chiefs of the Otoe and Missouri tribe, resolve—

That we do not approve of the sale of eighty thousand acres of our land, as provided for in an act recently passed by Congress, entitled "An act for the relief of certain tribes in the northern superintendency."

MEDICINE HORSE, his x mark.
BUFFALO CHIEF, his x mark.
MISSOURI CHIEF, his x mark.
WHAN-A-GA-HE, his x mark.
PIPE STEM, his x mark.
LITTLE PIPE, his x mark.
JOE JOHN, his x mark.

In our presence—

BATISTE DEVOIR,
United States Interpreter.
ALBERT L. GREEN,
United States Indian Agent.

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