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Letter from the Secretary of the Interior,  
transmitting a draught of a bill relative to  
investments of certain funds belonging to the  
Prairie band of Pottawatomie Indians.

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POTTAWATOMIE INDIAN FUNDS.

LETTER

FROM THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

*A draught of a bill relative to investments of certain funds belonging to the Prairie band of Pottawatomie Indians.*

DECEMBER 18, 1873.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, D. C., December 16, 1873.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of a letter addressed to this Department by the Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs on the 13th instant, with inclosure, being draught of a bill relative to the investment of certain funds belonging to the Prairie band of Pottawatomie Indians, and copy of an agreement entered into between the Prairie band and Citizen class of Pottawatomies on the 18th of July last.

I fully concur with the Acting Commissioner in regard to the investment of funds belonging to the above-named Indians, and would respectfully request that the subject may receive the favorable action of Congress.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. DELANO,  
*Secretary.*

HON. JAMES G. BLAINE,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Office of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., December 13, 1873.*

SIR: I have the honor to present herewith a draught for a bill regarding the disposition to be made of certain funds belonging to the Pottawatomie Indians, and to recommend that, if the measures proposed therein meet your approval, the matter be submitted to Congress for appropriate action.

Under the provisions of the treaty of February 27, 1867, (Stats., vol. 15, pp. 531 and 538) there is due the Prairie band of Pottawatomie

Indians the sum of \$86,694, more or less, which, to promote the best interests of all concerned, should be invested in securities of the United States, and interest as well as principal used for the civilization and benefit of said Indians at such times and in such manner as the President may direct.

I also inclose a copy of an agreement entered into between the Prairie band and citizen class of Pottawatomies on the 18th July last to settle all matters of difference between them arising under treaty stipulations, upon the basis proposed in said agreement, and respectfully recommend, in order to carry out the same, that any sum of money which may be found due from the Citizen band to the Prairie band be transferred from the amount to the credit of the former band and placed to the credit of the latter, and, when so transferred, invested in United States bonds and used for the civilization of the Prairie band of Pottawatomies under the same directions and by the same authority as above referred to.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,  
*Acting Commissioner.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Whereas there is due to the Prairie band of Pottawatomie Indians, under the provisions of the treaty of February 27, 1867, the sum of \$86,694, more or less, which, by the terms of the treaty aforesaid and the amendment thereto, is to be paid to the said Pottawatomies; and whereas it is deemed advisable, instead of paying the same to the said band of Indians, according to the terms of the treaty, that the sum should be invested for them, to be used for the purpose of their civilization: Therefore,

*Be it further enacted,* That the Secretary of the Interior be required to invest any sum found due said Prairie band of Pottawatomies, in bonds of the United States bearing five per cent. interest, which sum thus invested shall hereafter be used by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, both principal and interest, for the benefit of said Indians, for their civilization, in such way and at such times as may be authorized by the President of the United States.

*Be it further enacted,* That any sum of money which may be found due from the Citizen band of Pottawatomies to the Prairie band, according to an agreement entered into between the said bands at the office of superintendent of Indian affairs in Kansas, July 18, 1873, may be transferred from the amount to the credit of the Citizen band and placed to the credit of the Prairie band, and when so transferred the same shall be invested by the Secretary of the Interior in United States bonds, bearing interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, and shall be regarded as a fund for the civilization of said Prairie band, to be used by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, both principal and interest, for their civilization, under the direction and by the authority of the President of the United States.

*Agreement.*

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY,  
*Lawrence, Kans., July 18, 1873.*

Pending an investigation into the rights, respectively, of certain children of Citizen or sectionizing Pottawatomies, to allotments of lands and moneys under the treaty of 1861 between the United States and said nation of Indians, whereby it is claimed that the rights of the Prairie band would be affected, and in lieu of said investigation, it is agreed by and between the respective parties in interest, to wit, the Citizen or sectionizing Indians, on the one part, and the Prairie band on the other part, to settle all matters of difference between us, arising under said treaty, and subsequent or supplemental treaties, upon the following basis or ratio, to wit:

1st. We accept and admit the original enrollment of the Pottawatomie Nation under said treaty of 1861, containing twenty-one hundred and eighty names, as correct.

2d. We admit that of the twenty-one hundred and eighty persons belonging to said nation, the sectionizers, or Citizen Indians, number fourteen hundred, and are entitled to fourteen hundred twenty-one hundred and eightieth parts of all the assets of the nation, and no more.

3d. We admit, and agree, that of the twenty-one hundred and eighty persons so enrolled, the Prairie band number, and have numbered, seven hundred and eighty, and are entitled to seven hundred and eighty twenty-one hundred and eightieth parts of the entire assets of the nation, and no more.

4th. We agree that the entire assets of the nation, as they existed at the time of the original enrollment under said treaty, are to be divided upon the foregoing basis.

5th. We agree that whatever amount of the common funds of the tribe has been drawn by the sectionizers, or Citizen Indians, since and at the time of the original enrollment under said treaty of 1861, in excess of the amount due them under said basis or ratio, ( $\frac{1}{2180}$ ) shall be refunded to the Prairie band out of the sectionizers' share of the funds now due or to become due to the tribe, applying their share of the school-fund first, and the remainder to be paid out of any funds due said tribe, being that portion of the same accruing to the sectionizers, or Citizen Indians, of the said tribe.

It is understood by this agreement that the balance claimed to be due to eighty-six children and others, enrolled by late Agent Morris, and provided for by the appropriation bill of the last Congress, shall be paid as provided, and the Prairie band shall be reimbursed therefor out of the sectionizers' or Citizen Indians' share of the funds due the tribe from the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Railroad Company, or to become due hereafter.

A. F. NAVARRE,  
E. G. NADEAU,  
GEO. L. YOUNG,

*Business Committee of Pottawatomies.*

PAM-NUK-NUK, chief, his + mark,  
SHAW-O-NES-SEC, his + mark,  
MAS-QUASS, speaker, his + mark,  
PEE-SHEE-DWIN, his + mark,  
KACK-KACK, brave, his + mark,  
SHAW-QUA-NAW, his + mark,  
MAW-NAW-WECK, his + mark,  
NAM-GEOER, young man, his + mark,  
WIS-KAW, young man, his + mark,  
SHEE-NOW-GEE-WIN, his + mark,

*Head-men of Prairie Band.*

J. S. MERRITT,  
J. E. CLANDY,  
JOHN ANDERSON,  
B. H. BERTRAND,  
D. G. EASTON,

*Head-men of Sectionizers.*

Witnesses to marks or signatures of Indians :

WM. NICHOLSON,  
GEO. T. NICHOLSON,  
CYRUS BEEDE.

The foregoing was fully explained and interpreted to the Indians before signing.

E. G. NADEAU,  
*United States Interpreter.*  
M. H. NEWLIN,  
*United States Indian Agent.*