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Appropriations for Quapaw Indian Lands. Letter from the Acting Secretary of the Interior, relative to appropriations for land ceded to the United States by the Quapaw Indians

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APPROPRIATIONS FOR QUAPAW INDIAN LANDS.

LETTER

FROM THE

ACTING SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

RELATIVE TO

Appropriations for land ceded to the United States by the Quapaw Indians.

APRIL 25, 1872.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., April 25, 1872.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the accompanying copy of the report from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 23d instant, inclosing the following estimates (copies herewith) of appropriations required to make good the estimated value of lands in and near Kansas ceded by the Quapaw Indians to the United States; viz:

1st. Estimate of appropriation required to make good the Quapaw tribe of Indians the estimated value, at the rate of \$1.25 per acre, of certain lands in the State of Kansas ceded by them to the United States, \$4,500.40.

2d. Estimate of appropriation required to make good to the Quapaw tribe of Indians the estimated value, at \$1.15 per acre, of certain lands lying south of Kansas, ceded by them to the United States, \$21,300.87.

The amount of the second estimate, viz, \$21,300.87, I would respectfully suggest should be transferred from the sum now to the credit of the Peorias, Kaskaskias, &c., in the United States Treasury, under the act of July 12, 1862, to the credit of the Quapaws, and respectfully recommend that such authority be given to the Secretary of the Treasury as will enable him to make the transfer.

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

B. R. COWEN,
Acting Secretary.

Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE,

Speaker of the House of Representatives, United States.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., April 23, 1872.

SIR: By the terms of the fourth article of the treaty with the Senecas, Mixed Senecas and Shawnees, Quapaws, Confederated Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, Ottawas of Blanchard's Fork and Roche de Bœuf, and certain Wyandotts, concluded February 23, 1867, (Stats., p. 513,) the Quapaws ceded to the United States a tract of land in the State of Kansas, on the north line of their reservation, containing about twelve sections in all, excepting therefrom one-half section, to be patented to Samuel G. Vallier, the land thus ceded to be paid for by the United States, at the rate of \$1.25 per acre, whenever the area of the same should be ascertained, and to be open to entry and settlement as other public lands belonging to the Government.

The area of this tract, exclusive of the half section excepted, has been ascertained by actual survey to be 7,600.32 acres, as will appear from the inclosed copy of a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, dated the 18th instant.

The Quapaws also ceded to the United States, by the same article of the treaty, a tract of land, therein described, lying south of Kansas, and within their present reserve, for which the United States agreed to pay \$1.15 per acre when the area of the same should be ascertained. This tract has been surveyed under the direction of this office, and found to contain 18,522.50 acres.

Of the amount due these Indians for the lands ceded as above, the sum of \$5,000 has been paid to assist them in re-establishing themselves at their new homes, in accordance with the terms of the ninth article of the same treaty, by which it is also provided that the balance of said amount shall be invested as a permanent fund, payable per capita, semi-annually.

With the above data as a basis for computation, it will be found that the United States are indebted to the Quapaws as follows:

For 7,600.32 acres in the State of Kansas, at \$1.25 per acre.....	\$9,500 40	
Less amount paid in advance.....	5,000 00	
		\$4,500 40
For 18,522.50 acres lying south of Kansas, at \$1.15 per acre		21,300 87
Making a total of		<u>25,801 27</u>

By the twenty-second article of said treaty (15 Stats., p. 519,) the land purchased from the Quapaws, and lying south of Kansas, is granted and sold to the Confederated Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, to be paid for by them at the rate paid for the same by the Government, out of the proceeds of the nine and one-half sections of land sold for said confederated tribes to actual settlers, in accordance with the terms of the twenty-first article of said treaty, adding thereto whatever may be necessary out of other moneys in the hands of the United States belonging to said Indians.

The proceeds of the nine and one-half sections, above referred to, were invested in United States bonds. These bonds have since been sold, and the proceeds from the sale absorbed in paying to certain individuals of the tribe who, under the provisions of the twenty-eighth article of the treaty, became citizens of the United States, the proportionate share of the tribal funds to which they were entitled.

The amount due from the Peorias, &c., for lands ceded by the Quapaws, amounting to \$21,300.87, must therefore be paid out of other moneys in the hands of the United States belonging to the said Peorias, &c.

Of the sum of \$169,686.75 appropriated for these Indians by the act of July 12, 1862, (12 Stat., pp. 539, 540,) there is now a balance in their favor of \$85,884.14 held in trust by the United States.

Besides the above the United States hold in trust for the Peorias, &c., various bonds of the States of Florida, Louisiana, and North and South Carolina, to a large nominal amount. These bonds are depreciated in value and below par, but interest on the same at the rate of six per cent. per annum is from year to year appropriated by Congress.

With the above statement of facts I respectfully submit for your consideration whether the amount due the Quapaws in this case shall be paid from the above balance of funds held in trust for the Peorias, &c., or by transfer to the Quapaws of an equivalent in State stocks belonging to the former tribe.

Should the latter course not be deemed advisable, I respectfully request that Congress be asked to appropriate from any funds in the Treasury of the United States belonging to the confederated bands of Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, the sum of \$21,300.87, to make good to the Quapaws the value of the land south of the boundary-line of the State of Kansas, ceded by them under the stipulations of the fourth article of the treaty of February 23, 1867.

I have the honor herewith to inclose estimates, in duplicate, for the above amount of \$21,300.87, and also for the sum of \$4,500.40, this being the balance due the Quapaws on account of lands in the State of Kansas ceded to the United States by the same article of the treaty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,
Commissioner.

Hon. C. DELANO,
Secretary of the Interior.

Estimate of appropriation required to make good to the Quapaw tribe of Indians the estimated value, at the rate of \$1.25 per acre, of certain lands in the State of Kansas, ceded by them to the United States.

For this amount, being the balance on account due the Quapaw tribe of Indians for a certain tract of land in the State of Kansas, containing 7,600.32 acres, ceded by said tribe to the United States in accordance with the terms of the fourth article of the treaty with Senecas, Mixed Senecas and Shawnees, Quapaws, Confederated Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, Ottawas of Blachard's Fork and Roche de Bœuf, and certain Wyandotts, concluded February 23, 1867, (15 Stat., p. 513)..... \$4,500 40

Estimate of appropriation required to make good to the Quapaw tribe of Indians the estimated value, at \$1.15 per acre, of certain land lying south of Kansas, ceded by them to the United States.

For this amount, to be taken from any funds in the Treasury of the United States belonging to the confederated bands of Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, to make good to the Quapaw tribe of Indians the estimated value of 18,522.50 acres of land lying south of Kansas, ceded by them to the United States, under the terms of the fourth article of the treaty with the Senecas, Mixed Senecas and Shawnees, Quapaws, Confederated Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, Piankeshaws, Ottawas of Blanchard's Fork and Roche de Bœuf, and certain Wyandotts, concluded February 23, 1867, (15 Stat., p. 513,) which lands were, by the twenty-second article of said treaty, granted and sold to the confederated bands of Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, and Piankeshaws at the same rate as paid by the Government. \$21,300 87

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
GENERAL LAND-OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., April 18, 1872.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, requesting information in regard to the area of the tract ceded by the Quapaws to the United States by the fourth article of the treaty with Senecas and Quapaws of February 23, 1867, I have to state that according to the actual survey of said tract the area thereof is 7,600.32 acres, exclusive of one-half section to be patented, under the treaty, to Samuel G. Vallier.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WILLIS DRUMMOND,
Commissioner.

Hon. F. A. WALKER,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.