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Senecas and other Indians. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, relative to an appropriation to aid the Senecas, Mixed Senecas, and other confederated bands of Indians in the Indian Territory.

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SENECAS AND OTHER INDIANS.

LETTER

FROM THE

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

RELATIVE TO

An appropriation to aid the Senecas, Mixed Senecas, and other confederated bands of Indians in the Indian Territory.

MARCH 8, 1872.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., March 7, 1872.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a report from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 5th instant, together with the accompanying papers, including an estimate of \$20,000, required to aid the Senecas, Mixed Senecas, Shawnees, and Quapaws, and the confederated bands of Peorias, Kaskaskias, &c., in carrying on their industrial pursuits in the Indian Territory; this amount to be taken from their invested fund and paid to them in accordance with treaty stipulations. (See St. at L., vol. 15, p. 519.)

The Commissioner states fully the reasons why this appropriation is requested, and the accompanying papers give evidence of the industry of the Indians referred to. I therefore respectfully recommend that the matter receive the favorable consideration of Congress.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. DELANO,
Secretary of the Interior.

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., March 5, 1872.

STR: The twenty-fourth article of the treaty of February 23, 1867, 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. (St., vol. 15, p. 519,) in its relation to the interests of the Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, provides that there shall be taken from the invested funds of these Indians, and paid to them, *per capita*, on the 1st of July, 1868, the sum of \$30,000, to assist them in establishing themselves upon their new homes; and that at any time thereafter, when the chiefs shall represent to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Interior that an additional sum is necessary, such sum may also be taken from the invested fund of the tribe.

I now have the honor to present copies, in duplicate, of a petition from the chiefs of the tribe concerned in this matter, asking that, in accordance with the above provisions of the treaty, the additional sum of \$20,000 be appropriated, to enable their people further to improve and enlarge their farms, and surround themselves, generally, with the conditions of civilized life.

I also inclose copies of letters from Superintendent Hoag and Agent Gibson on the same subject, recommending that the prayer of the petitioners be favorably considered.

These Indians, numbering about two hundred persons, were removed from Kansas, in 1868, to their present homes in the Indian Territory, and have since been actively engaged in building houses, providing schools for their children, opening farms, and otherwise preparing for their future comfort and prosperity, so far as the means at their disposal would permit. To carry on this work they now ask that the sum of \$20,000 be taken from their invested fund and paid to them in accordance with treaty stipulations; and I am not aware of any reason why their petition should not be complied with.

I inclose herewith an estimate for the amount required, and respectfully ask that the same be laid before Congress, with the request that an appropriation be made in accordance therewith.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,
Commissioner.

Hon. C. DELANO,
Secretary of the Interior.

QUAPAW SPECIAL AGENCY,
Indian Territory, Secondmonth 20, 1872.

Inclosed herewith I transmit petition of Wea, Peoria, Kaskaskia, and Piankeshaw Indians, asking that \$20,000 be taken from their invested funds and paid them, in order to enable them to further improve in agriculture, horticulture, &c., in which they have made commendable progress, not only equally, but going ahead of many in the adjoining States of Kansas and Missouri.

I would therefore respectfully ask the favorable consideration of their petition, believing it would not only be a benefit to them, but would enable them to set a good example to less thrifty tribes.

Very respectfully,

H. W. JONES,
United States Indian Agent.

ENOCH HOAG,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY,
Lawrence, Kansas, Secondmonth 23, 1872.

Herewith I transmit copy of a letter from Special Agent Jones, (20th instant,) inclosing petition of the confederated Peorias, &c., for the withdrawal and payment to said tribe \$20,000 of their invested funds, for reasons set forth in the petition and corroborated by their agent. They have made a truthful and encouraging exhibit of their progress in industrial labor and general improvement. Their request has the approval of this office, with the suggestion, however, that it would be well to inquire if \$15,000, with their regular spring annuity, paid at an early day, would not afford the necessary relief.

Respectfully,

ENOCH HOAG,
Superintendent.

Hon. F. A. WALKER,
Commissioner.

SIR: Your petitioners, the chiefs of the confederated Wea, Peoria, Kaskaskia, and Piankeshaw Indians, respectfully state that all the moneys received by our people since our removal from Kansas have been paid out in the building of houses and farms, and other expenses unavoidable in the settlement of a new country.

As to the progress of our people in civilization, particularly in the improvement and cultivation of our lands, we beg to refer you to our agent and superintendent; we believe, however, the truth will warrant us in saying that considering the number of our people and the short time since our removal to our new home, our settlement will compare well with any white settlement near us, either in Missouri or Kansas, whether viewed in reference to our houses or our farms; yet our houses require further work and money to make them as comfortable as we desire; and further improvement in barns and sheds for our grain and stock is needed, as well as additional fencing and plowing to enlarge our farms. Referring therefore to the 24th article of our last treaty, (with the United States,) dated 23d of February, 1867, we have to ask, on behalf of our people, that the sum of \$20,000 be taken from our invested funds and paid to our people, according to and by authority of said 24th article, and that the same be paid without the delay attending

an appropriation by Congress, we respectfully ask that the necessary amount of our State or other stock be sold to raise said sum of \$20,000.

Signed this 20th day of February, A. D. 1872.

BAPTISTE ^{his} + PEORIA,
mark. *Head Chief.*

JAMES ^{his} + CHARLEY,
mark. *Chief.*

E. H. BLACK,
Chief.

KISH-E-KON-ZAH, ^{his} +
mark.

THOMAS ^{his} + PECKHAM,
mark.

KILL-SON-ZAH, ^{his} +
mark. *Head-Men.*

Witness :

JOHN ^{his} + FINLEY,
mark. *United States Interpreter.*

I certify that the above was signed in my presence, this 20th day of Secondmonth, 1872.

H. W. JONES,
United States Indian Agent.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington City, D. C.

Estimate of appropriation required for the confederated Peorias, Kaskaskias, Weas, and Piankeshaws, to assist them in establishing themselves in their new homes in the Indian Territory.

For this amount, to assist the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Wea, and Piankeshaw Indians to establish themselves in their new homes, the said amount to be taken from the invested fund of said confederated tribe in accordance with the stipulations contained in the 24th article of the treaty with these and other tribes of Indians of February 23, 1867, (St., vol. 15, p. 519)..... \$20,000