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Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting an estimate of appropriations required to fulfill treaty obligations with the Winnebago Indians of Nebraska

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WINNEBAGO INDIANS OF NEBRASKA.

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

*An estimate of appropriations required to fulfill treaty obligations with the
Winnebago Indians of Nebraska.*

JANUARY 7, 1874. --Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., January 5, 1874.

SIR: I have the honor to present herewith an estimate of appropriation for \$3,400, to defray the expenses of breaking and fencing eight hundred acres of land for the Winnebago Indians, on their reservation in the State of Nebraska, in accordance with the provisions of the third article of the treaty with said tribe, concluded March 8, 1865. (Stat at L., vol. 14, p. 671.)

A copy of a report, dated the 31st ultimo, of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and a copy of a letter dated the 18th ultimo, from Samuel M. Janney, on behalf of the executive committee of Friends having the care of the Indians of the Northern Superintendency, contain a statement of facts in the case and explain the necessity of the appropriation asked for in fulfillment of the treaty stipulations with the Winnebago Indians.

The attention of Congress is respectfully invited to the subject, which is commended to the favorable consideration of that body.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. DELANO, *Secretary.*

The SPEAKER of the House of Representatives.

*Estimate of appropriation required in fulfillment of treaty stipulations with the Winnebago
tribe of Indians in the State of Nebraska.*

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to defray the expenses of breaking and fencing eight hundred acres of land for the Winnebago Indians, on their reservation in the State of Nebraska, in accordance with the provisions of the third article of the treaty with said tribe, concluded March 8, 1865..... \$3, 400 00

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., December 31, 1873.

SIR: By the terms of the third article of the treaty with the Winnebago tribe of Indians concluded March 8, 1865, (Stat. at L., vol. 14, p. 671,) the United States agreed to break and fence one hundred acres of land for each band, and supply them with seed to sow and plant the same, in order that said Indians should be as well situated in their new homes in Nebraska as they were when they were moved from Minnesota.

To fulfill the above agreement the amount of \$14,837.60 was appropriated by the act of July 26, 1868, (Stat. at L., vol. 14, p. 265,) of which the sum of \$14,287.60 was placed in the hands of the then superintendent of Indian affairs for the Northern superintendency, and by him transferred to the agent having immediate charge of the Winnebago agency, Mr. Charles Mathewson, with instructions for its disbursement for the purposes prescribed by the treaty.

By the accounts of said agent it appears that, of the funds placed in his hands, the sum of \$11,440.24 was expended by him in breaking and fencing and sowing and planting six hundred acres, at the cost of about \$19 per acre, leaving a balance of \$2,847.36 in his hands, which has not, up to this date, been accounted for.

This balance, together with the amount disbursed as above, and the sum of \$550 on the books of this office, but not now available, make up the total of \$14,837.60, as originally appropriated.

As the Winnebago Indians are divided into fourteen different bands, and only six hundred acres of their land have been put in cultivation under the above provision of the treaty, there remain eight hundred acres to be cultivated, for the expenses of which there are no funds available.

With this statement of facts, I have the honor to present herewith a copy of a letter from Samuel M. Janney, dated the 18th instant, in which he asks, on behalf of the executive committee of Friends having the charge of the Indians in the Northern superintendency, that the sum of \$3,400 be appropriated for breaking and fencing the remaining eight hundred acres, in accordance with treaty stipulations.

Recommending the above to the favorable consideration of the Department and of Congress, I respectfully submit herewith an estimate for the amount required.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. P. SMITH,
Commissioner.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

OFFICE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Twelfthmonth 18, 1873.

RESPECTED FRIEND: On behalf of the executive committee of six yearly meetings of Friends having care of the Indians in the Northern superintendency, I respectfully request that the following appropriation may be inserted in the appropriation bill for the present year, to wit:

Two thousand four hundred dollars for breaking eight hundred acres of land for the Winnebagoes of Nebraska, and \$1,000 for fencing the same, in accordance with treaty made March 8, 1865, with the Winnebagoes, \$3,400.

By reference to Agent White's report for the year 1872, it appears that instead of breaking and fencing one hundred acres for each of the fourteen bands, as stipulated in the treaty, only six hundred acres have been broken.

Very respectfully, thy friend,

SAML. M. JANNEY.

Hon. E. P. SMITH,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington.

