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Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of the Interior, with draft of a bill to appropriate money to meet deficiency in the Indian service for the year ending June 30, 1882

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MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A communication from the Secretary of the Interior, with draft of a bill to appropriate money to meet deficiency in the Indian service for the year ending June 30, 1882.

JANUARY 18, 1882.—Read, referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith a communication from the Secretary of the Interior, with draft of a bill to appropriate money to meet deficiency in the Indian service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882.

A copy of report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated 13th instant, in regard to the bill, is also inclosed.

The subject is commended to the attention of Congress.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
January 18, 1882.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 16, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a communication, dated 13th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and accompanying draft of a bill to appropriate money to meet deficiency in the Indian service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882.

The several amounts asked to be appropriated in the within bill are included in the general deficiency bill for this department, which has been sent to the honorable the Secretary of the Treasury for transmission to Congress, but as the funds are required at once, the subject is presented in this form, with request for early action of Congress.

Very respectfully,

S. J. KIRKWOOD,
Secretary.

The PRESIDENT.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 13, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a bill to appropriate money to meet deficiencies in the Indian service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1882, amounting to \$636,000, and respectfully request that the same be transmitted to Congress without delay, as the funds are immediately required.

You are well aware that the amount originally appropriated by Congress for the service of the Indian Bureau for the current fiscal year, owing to the reductions made by last Congress, as well as to other circumstances not within the control of this office, has proved entirely inadequate, and for the information of Congress I explain herewith, as far as possible, in detail, the reasons why the different amounts are required.

Support of Apaches in Arizona and New Mexico, \$25,000. The amount appropriated for 1881 was \$320,000, and for 1882, \$310,000. The additional amount of \$25,000, is required on account of the increased price of beef-cattle for San Carlos Agency; 3,500,000 pounds gross were purchased for that agency, at an increase in the price over last year of 96 cents per 100 pounds, or \$33,600.

Support of Arapahoes, Cheyennes, Apaches, Kiowas, &c., \$100,000. The amount appropriated for 1881, including deficiency, was \$335,000; supplies were furnished by War Department during April, May, and June, 1881, after appropriation was exhausted, amounting to \$59,000; total amount expended for 1881, \$394,000.

The amount appropriated for 1882 is \$350,000. The increase in the cost price of beef over last year is at an average of 84.12 cents per 100 pounds, which, on the amount of cattle purchased, is \$69,675.

Support of Blackfeet, Bloods and Piegans, \$15,000. Amount appropriated for 1881, \$40,000, and for 1882, \$35,000; additional amount required \$15,000. The necessity for this appropriation is fully shown in my report for the year 1881, pages 14 and 15.

Support of Indians in Central Superintendency, \$7,500. Amount appropriated in 1881, \$18,000, and in 1882 same amount. The additional amount of \$7,500, is required on account of the general failure of crops in the Indian Territory, and higher prices for beef. Petitions for relief from Indians belonging to the superintendency are on file in this office.

Support of Modocs in Indian Territory, \$5,000; amount appropriated in 1881, \$5,000; same amount for 1882. Additional amount of \$5,000 required for reasons stated in case of Indians in central superintendency.

Support of Nez Percés of Joseph's band, \$7,500; amount appropriated in 1881, \$15,000, and in 1882, \$20,000. Additional amount required \$7,500. On account of the general failure of crops and destitute condition of those Indians, who were removed a few years ago from Idaho, and are in almost destitute condition, this amount is needed.

Support of Navajoes, \$5,000; amount appropriated in 1881, \$28,000; deficiency required, \$5,000. This additional amount is required on account of the severe winter of 1880-'81, and the heavy loss in stock belonging to these Indians.

Support of Sioux of different tribes, including Santee Sioux of Nebraska.....	\$350,000
Appropriation of 1881.....	1,382,300
Appropriation of 1882.....	1,397,300
Additional amount required.....	350,000

Over 2,800 Indians belonging to Sitting Bull's band were turned over by the War Department in July last, and have been fed and clothed by the Indian Office, although no appropriation for their support was made; 200,000 were required for that purpose alone. The increased cost of beef in 1882, over that in 1881, on 17,000,000 pounds is over \$170,000. Sufficient appropriations have never been made by Congress to give these Indians what they are entitled to under treaty. This office was obliged on the 1st instant, to notify all agents in charge of Sioux agencies that after the 1st of the month, employes remaining in service do so with the understanding that they can only be paid in case Congress furnishes additional funds. At one agency the herders refused to remain, and 2,800 head of cattle belonging to the government remain without any person to take care of them. Unless additional funds are furnished without delay, serious loss to the government will result.

Telegraphing and purchase of Indian supplies.....	\$10,000
Appropriation for 1881, \$30,000, and same for 1882.....	
Additional amount required.....	10,000

The law requiring all advertisements for the purchase of goods and supplies to be published at least three weeks, in addition, the improved and more thorough inspection of the articles purchased requires a larger expenditure. A large part of the business of this office must be done by telegraph; the increased rent of warehouse, hire of employes in connection with the shipping of goods, and a multitude of other

things, which, under a ruling of the accounting officers of the Treasury, must be paid from this appropriation, require that the additional amount asked for be furnished.

Transportation of Indian supplies.....	\$25,000
Appropriation for 1881	225,000
Deficiency for 1881	30,000
Appropriation for 1882.....	250,000
Deficiency for 1882	25,000

That the appropriation for transportation is insufficient has been shown for the last three or four years, and this office was obliged to incur deficiencies on that account or leave the goods where they were purchased. In this connection, I desire to call attention to my remarks made on that subject in my report for this year, pages 16 and 17.

Incidental expenses of Indian service in Oregon, \$5,000. Appropriation for 1881, \$24,000, and same amount in 1882. Additional amount required, \$5,000.

Higher prices of goods and supplies purchased for the several agencies in Oregon, and other indispensable expenses incurred for the best interests of the service, have nearly exhausted the appropriation, and the failure to obtain the additional amount will greatly embarrass this office.

Support of Hualapai Apaches in Arizona, \$20,000. Appropriation for 1881, \$1,5000, and amount required for 1882, \$20,000. These Indians are not on any reservation, but were fed by the War Department last year on condition that the amount expended be reimbursed; the same is done this year. For additional information, I respectfully refer to page 45 of my report for the present year.

Vaccination of Indians, \$1,000. Appropriation for 1881 and 1882, \$500 each year. The additional amount of \$1,000 is required on account of the prevalence of small-pox at many agencies, and large quantities of vaccine virus must be purchased.

Support of schools not otherwise provided for, \$50,000. Appropriated for 1881, \$75,000, and for 1882, \$85,000. Additional amount required, \$50,000.

The amount appropriated was never sufficient for the support of the schools, but until recently this office had at its command funds arising from the sale of certain Osage lands, and credited to the "Civilization Fund," for the purposes of education. This money has now all been expended, and unless the above additional appropriation is made for the support of schools, they must be closed.

Rebuilding school-house at Kiowa, Comanche and Wichita Agency, Indian Territory, \$10,000. This school was burnt on the 15th ultimo, with all its contents, and there are no funds at the disposal of this office to rebuild the same.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

A BILL to appropriate money to meet deficiency in the Indian service for the fiscal year ending Jun 30, 1882.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums of money be, and the same are hereby, appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the objects hereinafter stated, namely:

SUPPORT OF APACHES OF ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for collecting and subsisting Apaches and other Indians of Arizona and New Mexico, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

SUPPORT OF ARAPAHOES, CHEYENNES, APACHES, KIOWAS, COMANCHES, AND WICHITAS, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the support and civilization of the Arapahoes, Cheyennes, Apaches, Kiowas, Comanches, and Wichitas, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

SUPPORT OF BLACKFEET, BLOODS, AND PIEGANS, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the support, civilization, and education of the Blackfeet, Bloods, and Piegans, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

SUPPORT OF INDIANS IN CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the subsistence, education, and civilization of the Indians within the limits of the late Central Superintendency, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500).

SUPPORT OF MODOCS, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the support and civilization of the Modoc Indians now residing within the Indian Territory, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

SUPPORT OF NAVAJOES, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the support and civilization of the Navajoes, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

SUPPORT OF NEZ PERCES OF JOSEPH'S BAND, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the support and civilization of Joseph's band of Nez Perces Indians in the Indian Territory, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500).

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the support of industrial schools, and for other educational purposes for the Indian tribes and for the freedmen in the Indian Territory, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).

SUPPORT OF SIOUX OF DIFFERENT TRIBES, INCLUDING SANTEE SIOUX OF NEBRASKA, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for subsistence of the Sioux, for purposes of their civilization, and for additional employes, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, three hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000).

TELEGRAPH AND PURCHASE OF INDIAN SUPPLIES, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to contract for the Indian service, advertising at rates not exceeding regular commercial rates, inspection and all other expenses connected therewith, including telegraphing, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

TRANSPORTATION OF INDIAN SUPPLIES, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the expenses of transportation of goods, provisions, and other articles for the various tribes of Indians, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES INDIAN SERVICE IN OREGON, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for general incidental expenses of the Indian service, support and civilization of Indians at Grand Ronde and Siletz Agencies, and for pay of employes at the same agencies, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

SUPPORT OF HUALAPAI APACHES IN ARIZONA, 1882.—This amount, necessary to reimburse the War Department for money expended and to be expended for the support of the Hualapai Apaches in Arizona, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000).

VACCINATION OF INDIANS, 1882.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary to purchase vaccine matter, and for the vaccination of Indians, for the balance of the fiscal year, being a deficiency for the fiscal year 1882, one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

REBUILDING SCHOOL-HOUSES AT KIOWA, COMANCHE, AND WICHITA AGENCY, INDIAN TERRITORY.—This amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to build and furnish an industrial boarding-school at Kiowa, Comanche, and Wichita Agency, Indian Territory, in place of the one destroyed by fire on the 15th of December, 1881, ten thousand dollars.