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Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, in response to Senate resolution of February 1, 1886, an account of the transactions of A. B. Meacham

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING,

In response to Senate resolution of February 1, 1886, an account of the transactions of A. B. Meacham.

FEBRUARY 9, 1886.—Referred to the Committee on Claims and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
_____, 188-.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Senate resolution of the 1st instant, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish certain information relative to the accounts of Alfred B. Meacham, late superintendent of Indian affairs for the State of Oregon, and to inclose herewith the report of the Second Comptroller upon the subject-matter of the resolution.

Respectfully, yours,

D. MANNING.
Secretary.

HON. JOHN SHERMAN,
President pro tempore United States Senate.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
SECOND COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., February 6, 1886.

SIR: By your reference of the 3d instant, I am in the receipt of a resolution of the United States Senate, calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for information relative to the settlement of the accounts of Alfred B. Meacham, superintendent of Indian affairs, and the amount subsequently paid said Meacham for salary, &c.

In reply to your request for a report, I have to say that the accounts of A. B. Meacham, superintendent of Indian affairs of the State of Oregon, were settled April 28, 1879, and on that date he was found to be in default on said accounts in the sum of \$7,676.96, under his bond of April 1, 1869.

On or about September 25, 1878, Mr. Meacham was appointed special agent of the Interior Department to make certain payments to Indians, and gave an official bond as security for the faithful disbursement of the money placed in his hands.

Among other disbursements made by Mr. Meacham under this bond is found one dated November 1, 1879, as follows :

Salary as special agent, for 107 days, at \$8.....	\$856 00
Traveling expenses	607 30
Total.....	1,463 30

Under the authority of the act of June 15, 1880 (21 St., 199), Mr. Meacham was appointed a member of the Ute Commission, on or about June 20, 1880, and he appears to have been paid by the disbursing officer of said Commission for compensation and expenses as follows :

June 22, 1880, salary.....	\$100 00
July 2, 1880, expenses	25 00
February 16, 1881, expenses.....	722 27
February 17, 1881, salary.....	1,860 00
April 5, 1881, expenses.....	46 00
April 5, 1881, salary.....	140 00
January 24, 1882, salary.....	1,880 00
January 24, 1882, expenses.....	260 23
Total.....	5,053 50

Mr. Meacham became entitled, as a member of the Ute Commission, to salary and traveling expenses in the sum of \$5,373.34, and the unpaid balance of \$319.84 due him has been applied, in part, to extinguish his indebtedness to the United States of \$220, as disbursing officer of the Modoc Commission of 1873 and 1874.

RECAPITULATION.

Default as Superintendent of Indian Affairs, bond of April 1, 1869.....	\$7,676 96
Salary and expenses as special agent, retained.....	1,463 30
Salary and expenses as Ute Commissioner, paid.....	5,053 50
Total.....	6,516 80

So far as I am aware, no payments have been made to Mr. Meacham direct from the Treasury since April 28, 1879, the date his default was discovered.

The foregoing is believed to be a compliance with the resolution of the Senate so far as the records of this office furnish any information.

The resolution is herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

J. H. MAYNARD,
Comptroller.

Hon. DANIEL MANNING,
Secretary of the Treasury.