

4-1-1890

Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, in response to Senate resolution of March 25, 1890, relating to patents issued to Indians under the Severalty Act

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Recommended Citation

S. Exec. Doc. No. 92, 51st Cong., 1st Sess. (1890)

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

IN RESPONSE

To Senate resolution of March 25, 1890, relating to patents issued to Indians under the severalty act.

APRIL 1, 1890.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, March 31, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of resolution adopted by the United States Senate March 25, 1890, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to communicate to the Senate the number of patents issued up to date to Indians under the severalty act, and on what reservations in detail, and what number of allotments, if any, now await patents.

In response thereto I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a communication of 29th instant from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs which contains the information desired by the Senate.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. NOBLE,
Secretary.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, March 29, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by Department reference for report, of the following resolution adopted by the Senate March 25, 1890, viz:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to communicate to the Senate the number of patents issued up to date to Indians under the severalty act, and on what reservations in detail, and what number of allotments, if any, now await patents.

In reply I have the honor to state that 1,339 patents have been issued, under the act of February 8, 1887 (24 Stats., 388), all to Sisseton and Wahpeton Indians, for lands on the Lake Traverse Reservation, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Allotments in the field have been completed on the following reservations: Winnebago, Nebraska; Grande Ronde, Oregon; Yankton, South Dakota; Eastern Shawnee, Indian Territory,

Schedules of the Winnebago allotments, 954 in number, were submitted to the Department November 2, 1889, with recommendation that the Commissioner of the General Land Office be instructed to issue patents in the names of the allottees for the lands allotted them.

The allotments made on Grande Ronde number 264. Those on the Yankton Reservation number 1,484 and on the eastern Shawnee 72.

Allotments have also been made in the field on the following reservations :

Crow Reservation, Mont.	600
Seneca Reservation, Ind. T.	115
Wyandotte Reservation, Ind. T.	129
Absentee Shawnee and Pottawatomie, Ind. T.	383
Warm Springs, Oregon	302
Siletz, Oregon.....	59

Schedules of the foregoing allotments are in this office, but the work has not been completed on any of the six reservations.

On the Fond du Lac Reservation, in Minnesota, 500 allotments were made, the schedules of which were submitted to the Department February 13, 1889, with recommendation that the allotments be not approved. (See Senate Report No. 2710, 50th Cong., 2nd Sess., p. 1257.)

Special Agent Lamb reports that by the 1st of May next he will have completed the work of making 1,460 allotments on the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin.

The work of making allotments on the Nez Percé Reservation, Idaho, was commenced in May, 1889. One hundred and sixty-nine complete and 450 partial allotments were made in the field during that year.

It may be added that 153 allotments to the Confederated Peoria, etc., Indians and 65 to the Western Miamies have been made and approved under the act of March 2, 1889 (25 Stats., 1013).

The number of allotments remaining to be made on the reservations where the work has been commenced but not completed is estimated as follows :

Crow Reservation, Mont	600
Seneca Reservation, Ind. T.	108
Wyandotte Reservation, Ind. T.	120
Absentee Shawnee and Pottawatomie Reservation, Ind. T.	1,801
Warm Springs Reservation, Oregon	400
Siletz Reservation, Oregon	415
Nez Percé Reservation, Idaho	1,500

I return the resolution of the Senate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. V. BELT,
Acting Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.