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Claim of A. T. Dickerman. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting a copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs inclosing certain affidavits relating to a depredation claim of A. T. Dickerman, which was transmitted to Congress January 5, 1887

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CLAIM OF A. T. DICKERMAN.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

*A copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs inclosing certain affidavits relating to a depredation claim of A. T. Dickerman, which was transmitted to Congress January 5, 1887.*

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MAY 9, 1890.—Referred to the Select Committee on Indian Depredation Claims.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Washington, May 8, 1890.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the communication of the 7th instant from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, inclosing copy of affidavits of A. T. Dickerman and Jabez Zink, relative to a depredation claim of A. T. Dickerman, which was transmitted to Congress January 5 1887.

In compliance with the request of the Commissioner, I have the honor to forward the said affidavits for filing with said claim.

Very respectfully,

J. W. NOBLE,  
*Secretary.*

To the SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, D. C., May 7, 1890.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of affidavits of Jabez Zink and A. T. Tickerman, forwarded to this office by Special Agent Piggott, April 19, 1890, and recommend that the same be transmitted to Congress for filing with the claim of A. T. Dickerman, No. 3401, which was sent to Congress January 5, 1887 (Ex. Doc. 77, Forty-ninth Congress, second session).

Very respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

In the matter of Depredation Claim No. 3398. Samuel Collins vs. The Osage Indians.

STATE OF KANSAS, *Labette County, ss :*

A. T. Dickerman, being duly sworn, deposes and says, that his age is fifty-three years, and that he resides in the city of Oswego, in said county and State, and has so resided or in its vicinity since the fall of 1865, and that he is now engaged in the real estate and loan business in said city; that he is a brother-in-law of Samuel Collins, the claimant herein, and came with him from Leavenworth, Kans., to Confield's trading post in Neosho County, Kans., in October, 1863, where the claimant had a store and traded with the Osage Indians, and remained there until the winter of 1863-4, at which time they moved to Erie, in the same county, and remained there till the spring of 1865, when they moved to Osage Mission in same county, and in July, 1865, they moved to Labette County.

When the affiant came to Neosho County he was informed by the claimant that he had suffered greatly from the depredations of said Indians, but the affiant has no personal knowledge of said depredations, as they occurred before he came to Neosho County.

The said Collins is now living in Calistoga, Cal. The affiant was personally acquainted with Frank Revlett and Frances Trumbly; they were half-breed Osage Indians, and good reliable men and considered truthful; they had been in the employ of said Collins; when last heard from they were living in Osage Country; Revlett was a few miles south of Elgen, Kans., and Trumbly was at the agency. The said Collins has a son now living in Labette County, a few miles from Oswego, who may know about said depredations, as he was there with his father, and affiant knows no other persons who knew the facts in this claim than the said Revlett and Trumbly, and the claimant and his said son. After coming to Labette County, in the fall of 1865, the affiant was connected with the said Collins for several years trading with Indians, and as employés with the firm of Car, Elsbree & Bridgeman, who conducted a trading store at the claimant's house on Labette Creek, about 4 miles southwest from Oswego, and afterwards on the Verdigris and Big Caney Rivers, in the Indian country, but they were not partners and only connected as employés of the said firm but before coming to Labette County, affiant and said Collins were partners while in said Neosho County, and as partners they suffered from the depredations of the Osage Indians, and during that time they lost by the said depredations a large number of both horses and cattle, but does not now remember the number of horses or the number of the cattle, but believes the claim amounts to about \$2,500, and a claim has been filed and still pending unsettled for that amount, in the name of Collins & Dickerman, as that was the style of the firm.

Affiant says that he remembers some of the horses; one was a large black mare, a fine pacer, and fully worth \$150. They took at the same time two ponies worth \$50 each. A few nights afterwards they stole a bay mare pony worth \$50; these were taken in the summer and fall of 1864, but were not the first losses. During the previous spring they lost several ponies which he is now unable to describe, but was able when he filed his bill. They lost about twenty-five head of cattle in the winter of 1864-'65; does not know how said Indians disposed of said cattle, but supposes they eat them. Afterwards they lost some, but he is not able to state the number; said cattle were worth fully \$25 per head, as they were then quite high. They never recovered any of said cattle or horses nor pay or compensation therefor, and never sought private satisfaction or revenge for said losses. Said property was properly guarded at the time of said depredations, and was on the said Indians' lands by virtue of a permit both from the said Osage Indians and the Government. Collins was at that time and place a regular licensed Indian trader, and affiant was taken into partnership with him upon the knowledge and consent of the said Indians and their agent.

The affiant says that said firm lost horses by the depredations of said Indians after the summer and fall of 1864. They lost a number during the spring of 1865, and all of their said losses are stated in their said claim and a description of the horses given.

A. T. DICKERMAN.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of April, A. D. 1890.

MICHAEL PIGGOTT,  
*Special Agent.*

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, D. C., May 6, 1890.*

The foregoing is a true copy of the affidavit of A. T. Dickerman, as the same appears on file in this office, in the depredation claim, No. 3398, of Samuel Collins.

T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner.*

In the matter of depredation claim, Collins & Dickerman v. the Osage Indians.

STATE OF KANSAS, *County of Labette, ss :*

Jabez Zink, being duly sworn, deposes and says: That he was in Neosho County, Kansas, in the fall of 1865, and was then and there personally acquainted with Samuel Collins and with A. T. Dickerman, who were then living at the Osage Indian mission in said Neosho County; that said Collins and Dickerman had been that summer acting as sutlers of an Illinois cavalry regiment that was stationed at said mission; that said regiment for some reason became dissatisfied and were disbanded there, but just before the members of said regiment drove in off the range twenty-five or thirty head of cattle and sold them to said Collins and Dickerman, and after the soldiers left Father John Schonamaker, the head of said mission, took possession of said cattle and claimed them as having been stolen by said soldiers from the said mission. Affiant was not at the mission when said cattle were taken from said Collins and Dickerman, but came there shortly afterwards and said cattle were pointed out to him by said Collins and Dickerman and told him the particulars of how said cattle had been purchased by them from said soldiers and then taken by the said John Schonamaker. The soldiers went west before affiant got to said mission; the dissatisfied soldiers went home.

Affiant went to Leavenworth with said Collins from said mission for the purpose of collecting the money due them from the said soldiers as sutlers of said regiment. The affiant thinks it was the Seventh Illinois Cavalry, but is not certain; and the cattle herein mentioned are the only cattle he ever heard said Collins and Dickerman speak of as having been taken or captured by Indians from them in said county or in any other place.

JABEZ ZINK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of April, A. D. 1890.

MICHAEL PIGGOTT,  
*Special Agent.*

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, D. C., May 7, 1890.*

The foregoing is a true copy of the affidavit of Jabez Zink, as the same appears on file in this office, in the depredation claim, No. 3398, of Samuel Collins.

T. J. MORGAN,  
*Commissioner.*