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Chippewa Indians, Lake Superior.

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Recommended Citation

H.R. Rep. No. 15, 51st Cong., 1st Sess. (1890)

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CHIPPEWA INDIANS, LAKE SUPERIOR.

JANUARY 21, 1890.—Recommended to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

Mr. PERKINS, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. Res. 79.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred a letter from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting with accompanying papers a "Letter from the Secretary of the Interior relative to an immediate appropriation for the relief of the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior," copies of which, together with other communications bearing upon the same subject, are herewith submitted as follows:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *January 10, 1890.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith, for the consideration of Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Interior of the 9th instant, and accompanying papers, in relation to an appropriation of \$75,000 for the immediate relief of the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior.

Respectfully yours,

GEO. S. BATCHELLER,
Acting Secretary.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 9, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a communication received from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 9th instant, in which he incloses for the action of the Congress a form of a joint resolution providing an appropriation in the sum of \$75,000 for the immediate relief of the Chippewas of Lake Superior, located at the La Pointe Agency, in Wisconsin.

The recommendation of the Commissioner meets the approval of this Department, and would respectfully request that the subject may receive the favorable action of the Congress.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

GEO. CHANDLER,
Acting Secretary.

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 9, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a communication from M. A. Leahy, Indian agent at La Pointe Agency, Wis., dated the 4th instant, submitting estimates of appropriations required for subsisting and clothing the Chippewas of Lake Superior for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

Owing to the fact that all timber sales have been suspended at the said agency, these Indians are left without the means of support. Heretofore they have supported themselves by contracting for cutting and selling the timber on the several reservations, but owing to the irregularities of last year, in the cutting or contracting for cutting, no contracts were authorized to be made this winter. They have no other means to support themselves. During the winter of 1887-'88 the Indians of the La Pointe Agency received \$428,000 for timber cut upon their reservations, and during the winter of 1888-'89, \$143,000.

In the opinion of this office, an appropriation of \$75,000 will be sufficient to relieve their necessities and keep them from suffering, and with this end in view, I recommend that the Congress be requested to provide an appropriation in the sum named, by joint resolution, with the proviso that authority be granted to expend said sum in the discretion of the Department, either in open market or by contract, and with a further proviso that the said sum shall be re-imbursed to the United States out of any future receipts from sale of land or of timber cut upon their reservations.

I inclose herewith a draught of the proposed joint resolution, together with copies of the estimates submitted by Agent Leahy.

Very respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
La Pointe Agency, Ashland, Wis., January 4, 1890.

SIR: In reply to Department letter "F" of the 5th ultimo, I have the honor to transmit herewith estimates for the subsistence and clothing of the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior for the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1890.

The estimate for rations is made from the 8th of January to the 30th of June, inclusive, one hundred and seventy-four days, and the prices attached are the lowest I have been able to secure for goods delivered on the several reservations.

The rations are estimated for all the bands of the agency except the Bois Forte and the Grand Portage Indians, which are already partly supplied.

Blankets are estimated for all the Indians of the agency, less two hundred and fifty already provided for the Bois Fortes.

I also submit an estimate for thirty days' rations for the Red Cliff, Bad River, Lac Court Orielles, and Fond du Lac Indians, numbering three thousand one hundred and eighty-eight persons.

The immediate wants of the other bands of this agency are supplied.

The thirty days' rations referred to should be provided at once, as many of these Indians are in a starving condition, especially the women and children, the aged and otherwise feeble.

There is a pressing need of the blankets and clothing to protect them from the rigors of the severe winter weather which is already upon them, and they should be provided with as little delay as practicable.

Very respectfully,

M. A. LEAHY,
U. S. Indian Agent.

Hon. T. J. MORGAN,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Beg leave to report that they have had the same under consideration and report the following joint resolution and recommend its passage:

[H. Res. 79.]

Joint resolution providing for an appropriation for the relief of certain Chippewa Indians of the La Pointe Agency, Wis.

Whereas it has been the practice of the Chippewa Indians of the La Pointe Agency, for a number of years, to contract for cutting and selling timber on their reservation to provide food and other necessaries of life; and

Whereas permission to do so has been denied them by the Interior Department during the present winter, until proper legislation can be had on the subject; and

Whereas the failure to contract for cutting timber has already resulted in suffering, and some means must be provided for immediate relief: Therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of \$75,000 be, and hereby is, appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be immediately available, for the purpose of purchasing food and clothing for the Indians of the La Pointe Agency, and that in expending said money the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make the purchases, in his discretion, either under contract or in open market: *Provided, however,* That the amount hereby appropriated shall be re-imbursed to the United States out of the moneys hereafter realized from the sale of land, or timber, of such of the bands of Indians as have received the benefit of this appropriation.

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