

University of Oklahoma College of Law

University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons

American Indian and Alaskan Native Documents in the Congressional Serial Set: 1817-1899

12-17-1891

In the Senate of the United States. Letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, transmitting a copy of a memorial adopted by the constitutional convention of Arizona, requesting the survey of the lands in the limits of the grant in Arizona to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company; also a copy of a report on the memorial by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.law.ou.edu/indianserialset>



Part of the [Indigenous, Indian, and Aboriginal Law Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

S. Exec. Doc. No. 10, 52nd Cong., 1st Sess. (1891)

This Senate Executive Document is brought to you for free and open access by University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in American Indian and Alaskan Native Documents in the Congressional Serial Set: 1817-1899 by an authorized administrator of University of Oklahoma College of Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact Law-LibraryDigitalCommons@ou.edu.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

LETTER

FROM

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

A copy of a memorial adopted by the constitutional convention of Arizona, requesting the survey of the lands in the limits of the grant in Arizona to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company; also a copy of a report on the memorial by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

DECEMBER 22, 1891.—Referred to the Committee on Public Lands and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 17, 1891.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for appropriate Congressional action, a copy of a memorial adopted by the constitutional convention of Arizona in October last, addressed to the President, requesting the survey of the lands in the limits of the grant in Arizona to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company; also a copy of a report on the memorial by the Commissioner of the General Land Office dated the 11th instant.

Very respectfully,

GEO. CHANDLER,
Acting Secretary.

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., December 11, 1891.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by reference from the President through the Department, of a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted by the constitutional convention of Arizona, urging that the lands within the limits of the grant to the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company in Arizona be speedily surveyed.

In reply I have the honor to submit the accompanying statements, which show the status of the lands within the limits of the grant to that company in Arizona and New Mexico, estimated approximately, with reference to the surveys.

The estimates of the costs, transmitted to the Department with office letter of February 27, 1890, by my predecessor, are respectfully referred to, as no material progress has been made in the surveys in those Territories since that report.

The same necessity exists in other Territories for the immediate survey of public lands within the limits of railroad grants, and the interests of the Government will be best subserved by adequate appropriations.

Public policy, the development of the resources of the country, private rights, and equitable taxation all seem to unite in the demand for appropriate Congressional action.

I therefore recommend liberal appropriations for surveys in all of the public-land States and Territories, and see no reason for making special appropriations for certain Territories and omitting others.

The resolution referred by you is returned herewith.

Very respectfully,

THOS. H. CARTER.
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[W. A. Rowe, president. A. C. Bernard, secretary.]

HALL OF CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF ARIZONA,
Phoenix, Ariz., October —, 1891.

To the President of the United States:

Whereas the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company is the owner of a land grant consisting of every alternate section of public land, not mineral, designated by odd numbers to the amount of twenty alternate sections per mile on each side of said railroad (and where said land should be mineral, or otherwise appropriated, to lieu lands in place thereof) within this Territory, the said railroad passing through the counties of Apache, Coconino, Yavapai, and Mohave, and extending from the New Mexico line on the east to the State of California on the west, a distance of some 400 miles; and

Whereas by act of Congress unsurveyed railroad grant lands are not subject to taxation; and

Whereas both the people and the railroad company are agreed that public policy requires, and justice to private rights demands, that said land be speedily surveyed: Therefore,

You are respectfully, but urgently, requested to make an order for the survey of said lands, that thereby the growth and development of the section of our Territory in which these lands are situate may be promoted and advanced and a just and reasonable tax may be imposed on said lands; thereby securing to the Territory and the various counties through which said railroad passes a fixed and certain revenue to be derived therefrom.

The foregoing was adopted unanimously by the constitutional convention as the sense of said convention, and we, the president and secretary of said convention, have been directed to sign same and forward to the President of the United States.

W. A. ROWE,
President.

A. C. BARNARD,
Secretary.

The approximate area in square miles of the lands within the 50-mile limits of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad in New Mexico west from Isleta is—

	Surveyed.	Unsurveyed.
	<i>Sq. miles.</i>	<i>Sq. miles.</i>
Within the Navajo Reservation	378	1,540
Fort Wingate Reservation		120
Zuni Indian Reservation	126	288
Public land (including grants)	10,704	864

Of the above there are 1,980 square miles surveyed lying between the 40 and 50 miles limit, and 460 square miles unsurveyed lying between the 40 and 50 miles limit.

A. F. DINSMORE,
Chief of Division L.

Approximated area of the lands within the 40 and 50 mile limits of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad in Arizona, November, 1891.

	Surveyed.			Unsurveyed.		
	40-mile limits.	50-mile limits.	Total.	40-mile limits.	50-mile limits.	Total.
	<i>Sq. miles.</i>	<i>Sq. miles.</i>	<i>Sq. miles.</i>	<i>Sq. miles.</i>	<i>Sq. miles.</i>	<i>Sq. miles.</i>
Navajo Reservation.....	328	162	490	648	498	1,146
Moqui Reservation.....				1,148	525	1,673
Hualpai Reservation.....				2,039		2,039
Public land.....	10,486	1,332	11,818	15,597	4,102	19,699
Total	10,814	1,494	12,308	19,432	5,125	24,557

Approximate area surveyed..... *Acres.* 7,877,120
 Approximate area unsurveyed..... 16,716,480

A. F. DINSMORE,
Chief Division L.

