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Indian appropriation bill

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INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

FEBRUARY 13, 1892.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

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

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 5974.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred estimates of the Secretary of the Treasury for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the year ending June 30, 1893, and for other purposes, having had the same under consideration, beg leave to submit the following report:

The total carried in the bill herewith submitted is \$7,236,787, as follows:

For current and contingent expenses of the Indian service.....	\$205, 400
For fulfilling treaty stipulations.....	3, 151, 981
For miscellaneous support.....	678, 000
For general incidental expenses Indian service.....	128, 000
For miscellaneous.....	1, 015, 086
For support of schools.....	2, 183, 330
For interest on trust funds.....	80, 390

This bill, compared with a like bill for the fiscal years of 1891 and 1892, is as follows:

Total carried in the appropriation bill for the Indian service for 1891 was \$7,480,954.47, which run as follows:

For current and contingent expenses of the Indian service.....	\$217, 913. 73
For fulfilling treaty stipulations.....	2, 506, 279. 92
For miscellaneous support.....	723, 229. 09
For interest on trust fund stock (nonpaying State stock).....	101, 470. 00
For general miscellaneous expenses of the Indian service.....	2, 074, 148. 45
For support of schools.....	1, 857, 903. 28

Total.....	7, 480, 954. 47
Present bill being.....	7, 236, 787. 00

244, 167. 47

Showing an excess over present bill of \$244,167.47.

The appropriations made in Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year of 1892, which was made at second session, Fifty-first Congress, carried on its face \$17,651,842.41, but it is just and fair to say that \$9,614,898.37 was to pay for lands purchased from various Indian tribes, the contracts for which were ratified in the said appropriation bill which was put on by unanimous consent. This amount is not chargeable properly to the Indian appropriation bill for the Indian service for that year.

INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

This amount being deducted from the face of the bill (\$17,651,842.41) would leave in the bill for Indian service or for the same purpose of the one now reported for next year (\$8,036,944.04), which was as follows:

For current and contingent expenses of the Indian service.....	\$241,935.64
For fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various tribes.....	3,048,954.35
For miscellaneous support	750,500.00
For interest on trust-fund stock (nonpaying State stock)	86,300.00
For general miscellaneous expenses of the Indian service.....	1,535,542.30
For support of schools	2,291,711.75
For principal of trust funds.....	82,000.00

So the difference between the last appropriation bill for the Indian service, which was passed at second session of the Fifty-first Congress, would be as follows:

Face of last bill passed at second session, Fifty-first Congress.....	\$17,651,842.41
Face of present bill	7,236,787.00
Difference	10,415,055.41
Amount of last bill for the Indian service proper, passed at second session, Fifty-first Congress, less the amount paid for lands.....	8,036,944.04
Amount of present bill.....	7,236,787.00
Less than last year.....	800,157.04

This table shows that the present bill, appropriating for the fiscal year of 1893, is \$10,415,055.41 less than the face of the same bill for 1892, passed at second session last Congress, and \$800,157.04 less than the real amount appropriated for Indian service at second session of the last Congress.

The real amount carried in last bill for the different purposes of the Indian service, and the amount carried in present bill for like purposes and like service is as follows:

LAST BILL.

For current and contingent expenses.....	\$241,935.64
For fulfilling treaty stipulations.....	3,048,954.35
For miscellaneous support	750,500.00
For interest on trust funds stock.....	86,300.00
For general and miscellaneous expenses Indian service	1,535,542.30
For support of schools.....	2,291,711.75
For trust funds principal	82,000.00
Total.....	8,036,944.04

PRESENT BILL.

For current and contingent expenses.....	205,400.00
For fulfilling treaty stipulations	3,151,981.05
For miscellaneous support	678,000.00
For general incidental and miscellaneous expenses	1,143,086.00
For support of schools	2,183,330.00
For interest on trust funds.....	80,390.00
Total.....	7,236,787.00

From a comparison of the two tables it will be seen that the present bill for current and contingent expenses is \$36,535 less than for same service last year; it will be seen that the item of fulfilling treaty stipulations is \$103,027.65 more than the same item for last year; the reason for this is, that under the contract with the Cœur d'Alenes, the Crows and Sissetons and Wahpetons made last year and ratified by the last Congress, large installments had to be paid this year.

The largest deduction in the present bill over the last bill is in the general incidental and miscellaneous expenses of the service, which amounts to \$320,356.30. It will be seen that the sum for schools is not quite so large as last year. The deduction in the present bill does not curtail the support for Indian pupils; perhaps for that purpose there is a slight increase. We have cut down the amount for buildings. As a large amount was expended last year for buildings and repairs, your committee thought it prudent to fill up the schools already erected before building further.

Your committee, having given the subject very careful consideration, recommend that the accompanying bill do pass.

