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Letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs relative to compensation for the Indians of the Crow Creek reservation.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 23, 1895.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. PETTIGREW presented the following

LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS RELATIVE TO COMPENSATION FOR THE INDIANS OF THE CROW CREEK RESERVATION.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, February 16, 1895.

SIR: I have received by your informal reference an amendment proposed to be introduced by you to the pending Indian appropriation bill as follows:

For compensating the Indians of the Crow Creek Reservation for loss sustained by those Indians in receiving less land per capita in their diminished reservation than is received by the Indians occupying other diminished reservations, the amount to be added to the share of the permanent fund of the said Crow Creek Indians and to draw interest at the rate of five per centum per annum, one hundred and eighty-seven thousand and thirty-nine dollars. The Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion, pay to said Indians fifty thousand dollars of said sum in cash.

You desire to know whether this office recommends the legislation proposed.

In reply I have to state that this office has repeatedly urged the payment of the Crow Creek Reservation Indians for loss sustained by them in receiving less land per capita in their diminished reservation, etc., as provided in the proposed amendment.

The only new feature is the proposition authorizing the Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, to pay fifty thousand dollars of said sum in cash to said Indians.

I see no objection to the proposed cash payment, and I recommend the adoption of the amendment as above quoted.

Very respectfully,

D. M. BROWNING, *Commissioner.*

Hon. R. F. PETTIGREW,
United States Senate.

(Through the Secretary of the Interior.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, *February 16, 1895.*

Respectfully forwarded to Hon. R. F. Pettigrew, United States Senate.

HOKE SMITH, *Secretary.*