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**In the Senate of the United States. Letter from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury transmitting a communication from the Secretary of the Interior recommending a specific appropriation for surveying and allotting Indian reservations for the fiscal year 1894.**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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L E T T E R

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

TRANSMITTING

*A communication from the Secretary of the Interior recommending a specific appropriation for surveying and allotting Indian reservations for the fiscal year 1894.*

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FEBRUARY 15, 1894.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
*February 15, 1894.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, a communication from the Secretary of the Interior of the 12th instant, requesting that an appropriation of \$4,785 be included in the urgent deficiency bill, now pending, for surveying and allotting Indian reservations for the fiscal year 1894, for survey work under contract in the Pine Ridge, Rosebud, and Lower Brule Indian reservations in South Dakota, and the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota.

Respectfully, yours,

W. E. CURTIS,  
*Acting Secretary.*

The PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, February 10, 1894.*

SIR: During the last fiscal year several contracts were made under direction of the General Land Office upon the recommendation of this office for surveys in the Pine Ridge, Rosebud and Lower Brule Indian reservations in South Dakota and the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota. In making recommendations for these surveys this office, with one exception, estimated for the total cost of the work, including the necessary examination and the preparation of the plats

and field notes. The fieldwork, however, was not completed until after the expiration of the last fiscal year.

The surveyors-general of these two States have requested that funds be placed to their credit for the payment of the services and expenses of examiners and for clerical work in preparing the plats and field notes, some of this work having been already performed.

This matter was submitted to you in office report of January 23, 1894, with the recommendation that the cost of field examination and office work in connection with the contracts for surveys in South Dakota be paid from the appropriation for surveying and allotting Indian reservations, 1893. On the 7th of February you transmitted the opinion of the Second Comptroller of the Treasury to the effect that as these expenses did not fall within the exceptions in section 3690 they must be paid, if at all, from the appropriation made for the fiscal year during which the services were rendered, 1894.

As you have already been advised, there is now left a balance of only some \$2,731 of the above appropriation which is available for the payment of these expenses. The amount required in connection with the contracts referred to in South Dakota is \$3,775 and for similar work in connection with the contract in North Dakota is \$1,100, a total of \$5,225. Two allotting agents are now in the field whose expenses and pay are defrayed from this appropriation. An estimate for a deficiency appropriation amounting to \$10,000 has already been submitted to the Department. If this is included in the general deficiency bill, however, it is clear that it will not become available before the 1st of July, and it seems to be important that these expenses at least should be paid at once.

I therefore have the honor to recommend that the proper committee of the House of Representatives be asked to insert in the urgent deficiency bill now pending in the House an item of \$4,875 on account of the deficiency in the appropriation for surveying and allotting Indian reservations, 1894.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. M. BROWNING,  
*Commissioner.*

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, *February 12, 1894.*

Respectfully forwarded through the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, with the recommendation that an item of \$4,875, for the purpose indicated, be inserted in the urgent deficiency bill now pending in House of Representatives.

HOKE SMITH,  
*Secretary.*