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Relief of the State of Minnesota.

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RELIEF OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

JULY 12, 1894.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. KIEFER, from the Committee on Claims, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 5261.]

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 5261) for relief of the State of Minnesota, after carefully considering the same report it back to the House with the recommendation that it do pass.

The facts in this case are fully stated in a paper prepared by Hon. Charles E. Flandrau, of St. Paul, Minn., and published in the Minnesota Historical Collection, vol. 3, covering 1870–1880, pages 286 to 407, both inclusive. An affidavit, covering the salient points of this narrative, which shows these facts, is hereto appended and made a part of this report.

Judge Flandrau's narrative in a condensed form, as stated in a letter to the secretary of state of Minnesota, under date of October 4, 1893, is as follows:

ST. PAUL, MINN., *October 4, 1893.*

DEAR SIR: To aid you in your reply to the letter of the Hon. Robert G. Cousins, member of Congress from Iowa, having reference to expenditures in Indian matters by the Territory and State of Minnesota, I have to say that in the year 1857 I was the U. S. Indian agent for the Siouxs of the Mississippi. In March of that year there occurred a serious massacre in the neighborhood of Spirit Lake, in the southwest corner of the then Territory, now State, of Minnesota. After killing some 42 people they carried into captivity 4 white women—Mrs. Noble, Mrs. Thatcher, Mrs. Marble, and Miss Abbie Gardner.

I was instrumental in the rescue of Mrs. Marble and Miss Gardner, and I paid out \$1,000 to the two Indians who rescued and brought in Mrs. Marble. I then expended \$889.12 in an outfit for an expedition composed of Indians to endeavor to rescue the balance of the women. They succeeded in rescuing Miss Gardner, and for their services I paid them \$1,200. I also expended in various presents to sympathizing Indians \$100, making a total of \$3,189.12. This was all reimbursed by the Territory of Minnesota out of an appropriation of \$10,000 that was made by the Territory for that purpose. I know of no other expenditure out of that appropriation for the above purpose except what I have stated; and I know of no adjustment of the same between the Territory or State of Minnesota and the United States by which the money so expended has ever been repaid by the United States.

I refer you to the Minnesota Historical Collection, vol. 3, covering 1870–1880, pp. 286–407, both inclusive, where you will find a detailed history of the whole matter in a paper prepared by myself, and read before the historical society.

Any further or other information in my possession that I can furnish you I shall be pleased to give you.

Yours respectfully,

CHAS. E. FLANDRAU.

Hon. F. P. BROWN,
Secretary of State of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn.

In evidence that this claim or no part of it has ever been paid by the United States to the State of Minnesota, or to any person claiming to have made the expenditure, are appended the accompanying letters of the Secretary of the Treasury, under date of April 3, 1894; of the Third Auditor of the Treasury, under date of April 2, 1894, and of the Second Auditor of the Treasury, under date of March 29, 1894.

The committee also recommends that in line 6 the first "nine" be stricken out and "one" inserted; that in lines 6 and 7 "twenty one" be stricken out and "twelve" inserted, and that in line 14 the word "twenty-one" be stricken out and the word "twelve" inserted, so as to make the amount in each case to read "three thousand one hundred and eighty-nine dollars and twelve cents."

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., April 3, 1894.

SIR: In reply to your inquiries of March 12 and March 25, 1894, as to whether reimbursement has been made for the expenditures incurred by Hon. Charles E. Flandrau, of St. Paul, in the year 1857, and paid by Minnesota, in rescuing white persons from the Ink-padukah band of Indians and bringing them from Iowa to Minnesota, I have the honor to inclose copy of the report made by the Second Auditor March 29, 1894, and copy of the report made by the Third Auditor April 2, 1894, giving all the information the records show, but containing no information upon the subject of the expenditures named.

Respectfully, yours,

S. WIKE,
Assistant Secretary.

Hon. A. R. KIEFER,
House of Representatives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE SECOND AUDITOR,
Washington, D. C., March 29, 1894.

SIR: The accompanying letter of the Hon. A. R. Kiefer, dated March 12, 1894, referred by you to this office on the 14th instant, is returned with the information that the only expenditure incurred by Charles H. Flandrau in connection with the Sioux outbreaks in Minnesota in the year 1857, as shown by the records of this office, are for the expenses of a trip toward Spirit Lake, on the Iowa State line, in March, 1857, to see about murders committed at that point by Sioux Indians, and for which Agent Flandrau has taken credit in his account, voucher 10, first quarter 1857, amounting to \$16.40.

It appears from this voucher that Agent Flandrau went to Spirit Lake, in advance of a company of the Tenth U. S. Infantry, from Fort Ridgely; and from the tenor of Mr. Kiefer's second letter, dated the 25th instant, also returned herewith, it is suggested that the office of the Third Auditor may be able to furnish the information desired.

Respectfully, yours,

T. STOBO FARROW,
Auditor.

Hon. S. WIKE,
Assistant Secretary.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE THIRD AUDITOR,
Washington, D. C., April 2, 1894.

SIR: I have the honor to return the two communications of Hon. A. R. Kiefer, House of Representatives, of the 12th and 25th ultimo, which you referred to me for report.

In reply I have the honor to state that the records of this office do not appear to show any reimbursement by the United States to Minnesota on account of expenditures incurred by Hon. Charles E. Flandrau, of St. Paul, in rescuing white prisoners from the Ink pa du Kah Indians in 1857.

Under the acts of March 3, 1863, July 2, 1864, and April 10, 1890, Minnesota was paid by the United States for the costs, charges, and expenses properly incurred in suppressing Sioux Indian hostilities; but these acts provided only for expenses by the State in the years 1862 and 1863 and, therefore, did not authorize any reimbursement of expenses of earlier date.

Respectfully, yours,

SAM'L BLACKWELL,
Auditor.

Hon. JOHN G. CARLISLE,
Secretary of the Treasury.

STATE OF MINNESOTA, *County of Ramsey, ss:*

Charles E. Flandrau, being duly sworn, deposes and says: That the annexed printed paper, called "The Ink pa du ta Massacre of 1857, a paper read before the Minnesota Historical Society, December 8, 1879, by Hon. Charles E. Flandrau," was written by deponent at the request of said historical society for the purpose of perpetuating the facts therein contained as a matter of history. That said paper is published in a book called Minnesota Historical Collections, vol. 3, 1870-'80 and is found in said book upon pages 386 to 407 of said book, both inclusive.

That deponent in the year 1857, when the massacre narrated in said paper occurred, was U. S. Indian agent for the Sioux of the Mississippi, with his agencies located at Redwood and Yellow Medicine on the head waters of the Minnesota River. That deponent has a distinct recollection of all the facts stated in said paper, and that when the same was written deponent had before him the original vouchers and other papers upon which the said narration is based, and that deponent actually paid out all the sums of money that are therein stated to have been paid out to various Indians for their services in the rescue of Mrs. Marble and Miss Gardner, and that deponent was reimbursed for all moneys so advanced and paid out by him by the State of Minnesota out of an appropriation made by said State for the purpose of rescuing said captive women, and that the paragraph at the head of page 401 of said narrative, contained in the following words, to wit, "My advances were refunded from the appropriation, and the balance 'covered into the treasury,' to use a modern expression," is strictly true; and further deponent saith not, except that he makes this affidavit at the request of the governor of the State of Minnesota in support of a claim made by the State of Minnesota upon the U. S. Government for reimbursement for the said moneys so paid, laid out, and expended as aforesaid.

CHAS. E. FLANDRAU.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of March, A. D. 1894.

[SEAL.]

JOHN E. HEARN,

Notary Public, Ramsey County, Minn.

H. Rep. 4—20