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Letter from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of War, submitting an estimate of deficiency in the appropriation for horses for cavalry and artillery.

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APPROPRIATION FOR HORSES FOR CAVALRY AND
ARTILLERY.

LETTER

FROM

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

*A communication from the Secretary of War, submitting an estimate of
deficiency in the appropriation for horses for cavalry and artillery.*

JANUARY 28, 1896.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to
be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
January 27, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of
Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of War, of the
25th instant, submitting an estimate of deficiency in the appropriation
for "horses for cavalry and artillery" for the current fiscal year, \$49,000.

Respectfully, yours,

S. WIKE, *Acting Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, January 25, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith for transmission to Con-
gress an estimate (\$49,000) of a deficiency in the appropriation for
"horses for cavalry and artillery" required for the use of the War
Department for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896.

Very respectfully,

DANIEL S. LAMONT,
Secretary of War.

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, D. C., January 4, 1896.

SIR: I have the honor to report that of the \$80,000 appropriated for
the purchase of cavalry and artillery horses for the Army during this
fiscal year \$61,564.89 have already been expended, leaving but \$18,435.11
available with six months of the fiscal year yet to run.

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Thus far the purchase of 518 horses has been authorized, and the balance in hand will supply about 130 additional horses at existing prices, making a total of about 650 horses which can be supplied from the entire amount appropriated.

No horses have as yet been supplied this fiscal year for the Eighth and Tenth Cavalry, while many troops of the other cavalry regiments and several light batteries of artillery have not as yet made requisition for remounts.

The records of this office show that during the past three fiscal years an average of about 1,000 horses have been required to supply the cavalry and artillery service, so that it is fair to assume that about 350 horses will yet be needed to remount the troops.

To supply these horses at present prices will require about \$49,000, and it is respectfully recommended that the attention of Congress be invited to the inclosed deficiency estimate, with request that the necessary funds be appropriated to keep the cavalry and artillery service equipped for efficient service.

Most respectfully,

R. N. BATCHELDER,
Quartermaster-General, United States Army.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

Estimates of appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1896, by the Quartermaster's Department, United States Army.

Horses for cavalry and artillery:

Purchase of horses for the cavalry and artillery and for the Indian scouts and for such infantry and members of the Hospital Corps in field campaigns as may be required to be mounted, and the expenses incident thereto: *Provided*, That the number of horses purchased under this appropriation, added to the number on hand, shall not at any time exceed the number of enlisted men and Indian scouts in the mounted service, and that no part of this appropriation shall be paid out for horses not purchased by contract after competition duly invited by the Quartermaster's Department and an inspection by such Department, all under the direction and authority of the Secretary of War (R. S., p. 206, sec. 1133; R. S., p. 221, secs. 1270, 1271; Revised Army Regulations 1895, p. 135, par. 972; Feb. 12, 1895, vol. 28, p. 661, sec. 1)..... \$49,000

Amount appropriated for the fiscal year for which the appropriation is required 80,000