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**Letter of the Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, communicating copies of memorials and resolutions of the legislative assembly of that territory, in relation to the payment of certain militiamen and volunteers, called into service against the Indians in said territory.**

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L E T T E R

OF THE

SECRETARY OF THE TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO,

COMMUNICATING

*Copies of memorials and resolutions of the legislative assembly of that Territory, in relation to the payment of certain militiamen and volunteers, called into service against the Indians in said Territory.*

MARCH 28, 1860.—Read, and ordered to be printed.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO,  
*Santa Fé, February 13, 1860.*

SIR: In compliance with a duty imposed on me, I have the honor to forward you, under joint cover, certain memorials and joint resolutions of the legislative assembly of this Territory, to wit:

1st. Memorial for payment of certain militiamen, called into service against the Apache Indians by Acting Governor William S. Messervey, anno Domini 1854, passed 1857-58.

2d. Memorial for the payment of volunteers under Major Ramon Luna, organized under the orders No. 22, Colonel E. W. B. Newby's, 1850-51, and passed 1857-58.

3d. Preamble and joint resolutions, asking for the payment of militiamen and volunteers aforesaid, passed 1858-59.

4th. Memorial asking for the payment of militiamen and volunteers aforesaid, passed 1859-60.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. M. JACKSON,  
*Secretary of Territory of New Mexico.*

HON. PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE,  
*Congress of the United States.*

MEMORIAL of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico.

*To the honorable Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled:*

Your memorialists, the council and house of representatives of the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, would respectfully represent to your honorable bodies that, in the year A. D. 1854, the honorable William S. Messervey, acting governor of this Territory, was urged and compelled, by the continual hostilities of the wild

Apache Indians, then at war with the United States within this Territory, to call into actual service in the field, (for six months, unless sooner discharged,) a portion of the militia of Rio Arriba county, to be organized in four companies, as per officers commissioned, and assigned for their respective companies by the said acting Governor, William S. Messervey; and that said companies being drafted and organized, composed some fifty commissioned, non-commissioned officers, buglers, and blacksmiths, and two hundred privates of the first brigade second division of Rio Arriba county, and nearly an equal number of the second brigade, second division, of San Miguel county, as appears by the regular muster rolls of the two brigades, now on file in the honorable secretary's office of this Territory, who were kept in the said service under arms, and subject to military orders from the date of entering the service to the date of final disbandment, the entire term of enrollment, six months, and three months or more of which term of service they were engaged in actual service in the field against the enemy, in injury to their peculiar agricultural labors, as said service was rendered between the months of May and November of said year; therefore, all those thus engaged, having to abandon their proper agricultural pursuits, from which they would have received and secured the necessary support for themselves and families for that year, the season above referred to being the most important for the attention and cultivation of their crops, the result was, that they lost entirely the products arising therefrom, and their families were reduced to the greatest possible indigence. These sacrifices being made with a spirit of patriotism and free will, for the defense of their country and the protection of their families and herds, as well as a prompt desire to comply with the laws and orders of the executive department of this Territory and their superior officers, they arming and equipping themselves, at their own responsibility, with everything requisite for mounted military service and duty in the field, at great personal sacrifices. Your memorialists would further represent to your honorable bodies that, at the time the memorials were heretofore passed by the Legislative Assembly of this Territory for an appropriation for the payment of these militiamen, there had not then been made a full and correct return of the men who rendered service, as there is at the executive department of this Territory at present, there being then only an incorrect list on file in the secretary's office of this Territory, of the Rio Arriba county brigade, (and none whatever from the brigade in San Miguel county,) of those who first took the field against the Indians, as will appear from accompanying affidavits, herewith inclosed, of the commanding general, and each captain of the four companies of the first brigade, so that then a correct estimate could not have been made for the amount required for the pay and emoluments of the said militia.

Therefore, your memorialists pray that the last rolls (in English) be approved by your honorable bodies, excepting that six months' service be allowed in place of three, as appears on the rolls of the first brigade, knowing, as we do, of the justice of the same; and that the long delay in making up the proper returns to our executive department, from each brigade, was owing to the officers not having been

furnished with the proper forms for so to do, and they not knowing the necessity thereof.

And, therefore, your memorialists beseech your honorable bodies that, in addition to the appropriation heretofore made by last session of Congress of \$25,000, for actual necessary expenses of the said militia, that an early appropriation of at least \$140,000 be made for the pay proper, commutation, and emoluments for the services rendered by the said militia, from the counties referred to in this memorial; and that they also be allowed the benefits of the donation acts of Congress for bounty land, &c., believing, as we do, that they are justly entitled to the said compensation, (the same as mounted volunteers,) for the term of six months.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

M. ASHURST,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

DONACIANO VIGIL,

*Presidente del Consejo Legislativo.*

[SEAL.] A true copy of the original, passed session of 1857-58.  
Witness my hand and seal of office, January 14, 1860.

A. M. JACKSON,

*Secretary Territory of New Mexico.*

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MEMORIAL of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico.

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:*

Your memorialists represent, and have the honor to lay before your honorable bodies, that during the year A. D. 1850, Hon. Ramon Luna, prefect of the county of Valencia, and Territory of New Mexico, under orders No. 22, from Colonel E. W. Newby, commanding ninth military department, dated Santa Fé, New Mexico, March 27, 1847, and with permission from Colonel John Monroe, United States army, civil and military governor of New Mexico, organized, and called out for the defense of New Mexico, a battalion of mounted volunteers to repel the continual hostilities of the Navajo Indians, then at war with the United States within this Territory; that said battalion was composed of four companies, consisting of about three hundred and forty-two men, and served from the 15th day of November, 1850, to the 20th day of January, A. D. 1851, in actual service in the field in pursuit of the hostile Navajo Indians; and during said period they were in several engagements with the enemy, in which engagements several men and horses were killed, and a large amount of property recaptured from the Indians, (see Major Luna's report, published in House Documents, part 3, 1851-52;) and further, all the persons that rendered service as above-mentioned, furnished themselves with everything during the two months and five days they were in service; and further, they would respectfully refer to the muster rolls of nearly all of said volunteers, on file in the adjutant general's office, Washington, D. C., copies of which are now on file in the secretary's office of this Territory; they would also respectfully refer to Annual Messages and accompanying Documents, first session Thirty-second Congress, 1851-52,

from page 447 to 467, for proof, and the necessity of their service, and the hostilities of the Indians, and particularly Ramon Luna's report, on pages 450 and 451 of said Documents.

Therefore your memorialists pray and beseech your honorable bodies to make an early and liberal appropriation of at least \$75,000 to indemnify those volunteers, who, with permission, voluntarily entered the service, and who served faithfully and patriotically as aforesaid; and that they also be allowed the benefits of donation acts for bounty land, &c., believing, as we do, that the above-mentioned sum is required as compensation for pay, subsistence, forage, transportation, lost horses, &c.

And your memorialists will ever pray.

M. ASHURST,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*  
DONACIANO VIGIL,  
*Presidente del Consejo Legislativo.*

A true copy of the original, passed session 1857-58. Witness my hand and seal of office, January 14, 1860.

[SEAL.]

A. M. JACKSON,  
*Secretary Territory of New Mexico.*

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#### PREAMBLE AND JOINT RESOLUTION.

Whereas the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, at the session of the years 1857-58, passed a memorial, memorializing the Congress of the United States in relation to, and asking for, an appropriation for the payment of two brigades of militia, for their military services, (one from the county of San Miguel and the other from the county of Rio Arriba,) who rendered services against the Indians in this Territory in the year 1854, in conformity with a proclamation and orders of his excellency William S. Meservey, acting governor of New Mexico in 1854; and whereas, during the same session, another memorial was passed in relation to, and asking for, an appropriation for the payment of a battalion of volunteers from the county of Valencia, for services which they rendered to the United States, having been organized for the protection of the frontiers of New Mexico, and who made a campaign against the Navajo Indians in the year 1850-51, under the orders of Major Ramon Luna, commanding the battalion: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico,* That our delegate, Don Miguel Antonio Otero, be, and he is hereby, respectfully requested and directed to call the attention of Congress to the aforementioned subject during the present session of said Congress.

*Be it further resolved,* That the honorable secretary of the Territory be requested to transmit a copy of this preamble and resolutions to the

Hon. Miguel Antonio Otero, our delegate to the Congress of the United States, at Washington, D. C., as soon as practicable.

JOSE GUADALUPE GALLEGOS,  
*Speaker of House of Representatives.*  
LAFAYETTE HEAD,  
*President of the Legislative Council.*

A true copy of the original, passed session 1858-59. Witness my hand and seal of office, January 14, 1860.

[SEAL.]

A. M. JACKSON,  
*Secretary Territory of New Mexico.*

Hon. MIGUEL ANTONIO OTERO,  
*Delegate to the Congress of the United States  
from the Territory of New Mexico.*

MEMORIAL of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of New Mexico.

*To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled :*

Your memorialists, the council and house of representatives of the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, in session assembled, would respectfully represent to your honorable bodies that the legislative assembly of this Territory, during its session in the years anno Domini 1857 and 1858, passed a memorial, memorializing the Congress of the United States in relation to, and asking and praying for an appropriation for, the payment of two brigades of militia (one from the county of San Miguel and the other from Rio Arriba) organized and called into actual service in the field in the military service of the United States by his excellency William S. Messervey, acting governor of New Mexico, in anno Domini 1854, and also that the legislative assembly aforesaid during its session passed another memorial, memorializing the aforementioned Congress, asking and praying for an appropriation for the payment of a battalion of New Mexican mounted volunteers, organized in the county of Valencia, Territory aforesaid, and commanded by Major Ramon Luna, during a campaign against the Navajo Indians, in anno Domini 1850 and 1851; and further, that during the years anno Domini 1858 and 1859, the legislative assembly of New Mexico, in session assembled, passed a preamble and joint resolution, directed to the Hon. Miguel A. Otero, delegate in Congress of the United States for this Territory, calling on and respectfully requesting him to call the attention of Congress to the aforesaid memorials and subject during the last session of the said Congress; therefore, your memorialists most respectfully call the attention of your honorable bodies to the aforementioned memorials and subject, asking and praying that you will give the same a favorable consideration, in order that the wishes of your memorialists may be carried out, and an early and liberal appropriation (of at least the amount asked for in the aforesaid memorials) be made for the payment of the patriotic service rendered by the aforementioned militia and volunteers, and your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

And whereas, it is the earnest desire of this legislative assembly that

the aforesaid memorials, preamble, and joint resolution be placed in the hands of proper persons, in order that the subject may be properly placed before Congress: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico in session assembled, That the Hon. A. M. Jackson, secretary of the Territory, be, and hereby is, respectfully requested to forward to Hon. Miguel A. Otero, our delegate in Congress, to the honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives and President of the Senate, to the honorable Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives, and to the Hon. John S. Phelps, member of Congress from Missouri, one copy each of the above-mentioned memorials and preamble and joint resolution, and also to each of said persons one copy of this memorial, at as early a date as practicable.*

JOSE GUADALUPE GALLEGOS,  
*President of the Senate.*  
LEVI J. KEITHLY,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

A true copy of the original passed session of 1859-60. Witness my  
[L. s] and seal of office January 14, 1860.

A. M. JACKSON,  
*Secretary Territory of New Mexico.*