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Indian agent at Green Bay. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, recommending an increase of the salary of the Indian agent at Green Bay, Wisconsin.

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INDIAN AGENT AT GREEN BAY.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

RECOMMENDING

An increase of the salary of the Indian agent at Green Bay, Wisconsin.

APRIL 19, 1864.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Washington, D. C., April 18, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated 27th February last, representing the justice involved in the recommendation for an increase of the salary of the United States agent for the Indians in the vicinity of Green Bay, Wisconsin, from \$1,000 per annum to \$1,500, which is the rate of compensation received by most other agents.

The duties of this agent have been increased since the agency has been separated from the northern superintendency, and I concur with the Commissioner that his salary should be increased as recommended by that officer, and that the requisite appropriation be made for that purpose.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. P. USHER. *Secretary.*

Hon. HANNIBAL HAMLIN,

President of the Senate.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

Office of Indian Affairs, February 27, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to call your attention to the fact that M. M. Davis, esq., United States agent for the Indians in the vicinity of Green Bay, Wisconsin, while charged with duties as onerous and responsible as those of other agents, the most of whom receive a compensation of \$1,500 per annum, is receiving a salary of but \$1,000 for his services.

The history of the inequality in the compensation of Agent Davis, compared with that of others, arises from the fact that during the incumbency of the agents having charge of the Indians, now within the Green Bay agency, previous to that of A. D. Bonesteel, esq., the immediate predecessor of Mr. Davis, those Indians were under the control of the northern superintendency, and since then

they have been separated therefrom and now form an independent agency, imposing upon the agent in charge all the duties formerly performed by the superintendent pertaining to those Indians, the present salary of \$1,000 being fixed at the time the duties of the office were comparatively light.

As evidence of the responsibility and the large amount of funds required by the Indians under the care of Agent Davis, (the Oneidas, Menomonees, Stockbridges, and Munsees, situated on different reservations,) he is placed under a bond, the penalty of which is in the sum of \$50,000, an amount largely over the security given by most of the other agents.

With the foregoing facts before me, I am of the opinion that the salary of Agent Davis should be increased to \$1,500 per annum; therefore I would respectfully suggest that you will lay the facts, as detailed, before the proper committee in Congress, in order that it may deliberate upon and act in the premises with a view of giving the agent relief, by increasing his salary and making an appropriation out of which to pay such increase.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. P. DOLE, *Commissioner.*

Hon. J. P. USHER,
Secretary of the Interior.