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Expenses of Militia in New Mexico. Memorial of the Legislature of New Mexico, asking for an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the militia called out to repel invasion.

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EXPENSES OF MILITIA IN NEW MEXICO.

MEMORIAL

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW MEXICO,

ASKING

For an appropriation for defraying the expenses of the militia called out to repel invasion.

APRIL 11, 1864.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

To the honorable Congress of the United States :

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, would most respectfully represent that our Territory embraces an area of nearly three hundred thousand square miles, and is greater in extent than all the New England States and New York combined, and that we are infested on all sides by hostile Indians; that the Navajoes are daily committing murders and robberies to such an extent that the honorable secretary of this Territory has received official reports that, during fifteen months past, the following number of persons were killed, wounded, and taken captive, to wit: 99 killed, 47 wounded, 18 taken captive by the Indians; and that the following property was stolen: 821 horses, 4,809 cattle, 98,448 sheep, 641 mules, 3,437 goats, and 83 donkeys. This is according to our knowledge from the few reports received up to the present time from the various officers. The value of the property stolen amounts to \$448,683 92, and from satisfactory information we are convinced that not one-third of the murders and robberies have been reported; it is now of daily occurrence almost to hear of murders and of robberies of property belonging to the government of the United States, or of the citizens of their Territory.

Your memorialists would further represent that this vast Territory is traversed throughout its entire area with numerous mountain ranges, in which are vast deposits of gold, silver, and other valuable minerals, which are not developed in consequence of their being in possession of the savages, who are living on the flocks and herds of our people, coming frequently within a few miles of our capital to commit their depredations, and retreating with their booty into the mountains, which offer at all times convenient and accessible hiding places to these marauding bands of Indians, requiring the most thorough knowledge of the country and of the habits of the Indians, as well as habits of endurance on the part of those who are required to hunt them out and punish them; and inasmuch as these qualities are to be met in so high a degree in no people as the inhabitants of this Territory; and inasmuch as no other portion of the inhabitants of these United States is so much and so directly interested in the subjugation of these Indians, by reason of their flocks and herds being the daily and

constant prey of these savages, and as they have already made several expeditions at their own expense, and under difficulties arising from the want of the means of subsistence, and have claims upon the government of the United States, who should have protected our lives and property, as promised to our citizens when this country was acquired by the United States—

Your memorialists would further represent that we, as a people, are loyal to the government of the United States, and are willing to peril our lives and property in the maintenance of the Constitution and the Union, and that in the struggle against the wicked rebellion we will, to the full extent of our ability, support the government that has adopted us; and if we can get rid of our savage enemies, our Territory can and will furnish gold and silver to aid in defraying the expenses of the government in putting down and punishing the rebels. In our present condition, however, without your aid, we cannot do much; and as your memorialists learn that, by an act of Congress, two millions of dollars were appropriated to aid in paying the militia of the States, we would hereby implore you to listen to our prayer in behalf of the people of this Territory and aid us in the protection of ourselves from our savage enemies.

Your memorialists pray that the honorable Congress of the United States will speedily pass a law making an appropriation of three hundred thousand dollars to pay the expenses incurred in the last three years by the expeditions of the militia called out by his excellency the governor of this Territory, to resist the rebels who invaded our soil, and punish the savages who are in our midst, and also to defray the expenses of the militia now being organized for the protection of our lives and property—said appropriation to be expended under such law of Congress as may make it fully available for the object intended.

Your memorialists would further represent that the appropriation asked for has become important from the facts already stated; and the additional one, that new discoveries are daily being made in the mineral wealth of this Territory and the country bordering upon it.

All of which your memorialists most respectfully submit for your favorable consideration.

VICENTE GARCIA,

Presidente de la Camara de Representantes.

D. ARCHULETA,

Presidente del Consejo.

Approved January 23, 1864.

HENRY CONNELLY,

Governor of New Mexico.