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Memorial of the Legislature of Oregon, asking compensation for spoliations committed by the Modoc Indians.

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MEMORIAL
OF
THE LEGISLATURE OF OREGON,

ASKING

Compensation for spoliations committed by the Modoc Indians.

JANUARY 14, 1875.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

To the honorable the Congress of the United States :

Your memorialists would most respectfully represent that, during the fall and winter of the year 1872, the tribe of Indians known as the Modocs, and their wandering allies from other tribes belonging to the Klamath Indian agency, in Southeastern Oregon, took up arms in open hostility to the unsuspecting and unprotected settlers in Southern Oregon, more especially in Southeastern Oregon, and destroyed the lives of many families indiscriminately, and the property, as well as the lives, of all with whom they came in contact.

The property destroyed by these fiendish Indians consisted of houses, barns, fences, household-furniture, family apparel, farming implements and utensils, horses, sheep, cattle—in short, domestic animals of every description; all of which were of great value. These Indians were the wards of the Government, and their attacks were unprovoked and unjustifiable. Those who suffered this loss at the hands of these Indians were in moderate circumstances, and unable to bear the loss. This remark applies also to the survivors of the massacre referred to. All those who were murdered, as well as the surviving settlers, settled upon the frontier at the instance of the Government, whose support and care for the Indians, under treaties with them, promised safety to all who should avail themselves of the offers and inducements of the United States to settle upon lands in that portion of the State. This destruction and loss of property not only affects those who have suffered it, but also the interests of the State at large.

Therefore your memorialists would respectfully recommend that an appropriation be made by the Congress of the United States for the payment of these spoliation claims, in such manner as may be just to the sufferers and to the State; and the Senators and members of the House of Representatives from Oregon are hereby requested to use their earnest efforts to have said appropriation made, and the spoliation claims of our citizens, growing out of the depredations mentioned, adjusted and paid at the earliest possible moment.

Adopted by the house September 30, 1874, and concurred in by the senate September 30, 1874.

JOHN C. DRAIN,
Speaker of the House.
R. B. COCHRAN,
President of the Senate.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
State of Oregon :

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Salem, December 26, 1874.

I, S. F. Chadwick, secretary of the State of Oregon, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the great seal of the State of Oregon; that the foregoing copy of a memorial entitled "House Joint Memorial No. 4" has been by me compared with the original memorial entitled "House Joint Memorial No. 4" on file in this office, and said copy is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original memorial.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and affixed the great seal of the State of Oregon the day and year above written.

[SEAL.]

S. F. CHADWICK,
Secretary of the State of Oregon.

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