

CATTLE FOR NORTHERN CHEYENNE INDIANS.

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LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

TRANSMITTING

*An estimate from the Secretary of the Interior of an appropriation to purchase stock cattle for the Northern Cheyenne Indians located at the Tongue River Agency, Mont.*

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JANUARY 9, 1888.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
January 5, 1888.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Interior of the 24th ultimo, submitting an estimate for an appropriation of \$25,000 for the purchase of stock cattle for the Northern Cheyenne Indians, located at Tongue River Agency, Mont.

Respectfully yours,

C. S. FAIRCHILD,  
*Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, December 24, 1887.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith, for presentation to Congress, in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of the act of July 7, 1884 (23 Stats., 254), copy of a letter, of 23d instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the estimate of appropriation noted therein, in the sum of \$25,000, which he desires may be inserted in the Indian appropriation bill when framed, said amount to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior in the purchase of stock cattle for the Northern Cheyenne Indians, located at Tongue River Indian Agency, Mont.

The matter has the approval of this Department.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

H. L. MULDROW,  
*Acting Secretary.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, D. C., December 23, 1887.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a communication from the United States Indian agent in charge of a portion of the Northern Cheyenne Indians, located at the Tongue River Agency, Mont., dated the 25th ultimo, in which he states that "in order that the annual appropriations for the subsistence of the Indians at said agency may at the earliest practical period be reduced to a minimum; and at any rate that the item of annual beef supply be wiped out at some definite time," he recommends that Congress be requested to make an appropriation to purchase a sufficient number of stock cattle (say 1,000 cows, with a proportionate number of bulls), the male increase of which, when available, to be used as a beef supply for these Indians, and that the stock cattle be issued to heads of families in lieu of any further meat supply by the Government.

Concurring in the views and recommendations of the agent as expressed in the said letter, I submit herewith an estimate of appropriation in the sum of \$25,000, with the recommendation that the same be forwarded to Congress for its action and consideration, as an amendment to the bill making appropriation for the Indian service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889.

Very respectfully,

J. D. C. ATKINS,  
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

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*Proposed amendment to the bill making appropriation for the Indian service for fiscal year ending June 30, 1889.*

This amount, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior in the purchase of stock cattle for the Northern Cheyenne Indians, located at the Tongue River Indian Agency, Mont., \$25,000.

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ASHLAND, MONT., November 25, 1887.

SIR: In order that the annual appropriations for the subsistence of the Indians of this agency may at the earliest practical period be reduced to a minimum, and at any rate that the item of annual beef supply be wiped out at some definite time, I respectfully suggest that Congress be induced to make an appropriation to purchase a sufficient number of stock cattle—say 1,000 cows, with proportionate number of bulls—the male increase of which, when available, to be used as a beef supply for these Indians, and the stock cattle to be issued at such time as the Department may determine to the heads of families in lieu of any further meat supply by the Government.

Stock cattle can now be purchased at a lower price than they have commanded for several years and at a lower price than it is probable they will sell in a year or two. The expense of herding and caring for them, in addition to that incident to the beef herd proper, would not be very great, and Indians could be, in a measure, employed in it. I earnestly request that this suggestion be considered by the Department, and if the idea is approved that I may be informed, when I shall make further suggestions in regard to details.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. L. UPSHAW,  
United States Indian Agent.

Hon. J. D. C. ATKINS,  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.