REPORT OF THE INDIAN COMMISSION.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT UNITED STATES, 0F

TRANSMITTING

The report of the commission appointed to make certain negotiations with the Indians of Colorado.

FEBRUARY 8, 1879.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, the report of the commission appointed under the provisions of the act approved May 3, 1878, entitled "An act authorizing the President of the United States to make certain negotiations with the Ute Indians in the State of Colorado," with copies of letters from the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and accompanying documents.

R. B. HAYES.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, February 8, 1879.

Note.—Report of the commission, &c., accompany Senate copy of this. message.

> DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Washington, February 5, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of a letter, dated the 3d instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, presenting the report of the commission appointed under the provisions of the act of May 3, 1878, entitled "An act authorizing the President of the United States to make certain negotiations with the Ute Indians in the State of Colorado" (see pamph. ed. U. S. Stat., 2d session 45th Congress, p. 48), which is as follows: "That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized and empowered to enter into negotiations with the Ute Indians in the State of Colorado for the consolidation of all the bands into one agency, to be located on the White River, or near said river, and for the extinguishment of their right to the southern portion of their reservation in said State, and to report his proceedings under this act to Congress for its consideration and approval."

The Commissioner, after giving his views in relation to the negotiations effected by the commission, recommends that the same be ratified and confirmed, and presents a draft of proposed legislation to that end.

Concurring in the views and recommendation of the Indian Office, I have the honor to submit the report and accompanying papers for your consideration and such recommendation as may be deemed advisable in the premises.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant, C. SCHURZ, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, Washington, February 3, 1879.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 21st ultimo, transmitting the report, dated the 27th December last, of the Ute commission, for examination and recommendation by this office, with a view to its proper submission by the President to Congress.

By act of Congress approved May 3, 1878 (Pamphlet Laws, page 48), the President was directed to enter into negotiations with the Ute Indians of Colorado for the consolidation of all their bands at one agency, to be located on or near White River, and for the relinquishment of their right to the southern portion of their reservation in said State.

The President designated Maj. Gen. Edward Hatch, U. S. A., Hon. Wm. Stickney, of this city, and N. C. McFarland, esq., of Topeka, Kansas, as a commission to conduct said negotiations, and instructions were issued to them by this office on the 29th June, 1878. They subsequently assembled in Colorado, in pursuance of their duties, where Mr. Stickney, by reason of illness, tendered his resignation as a member of said commission, which was accepted by the President, and honorable Lot M. Morrill, of Maine, appointed to fill the vacancy.

As appears from said report, the commission were unable to accomplish the consolidation of the various bands of Ute Indians, but did succeed in obtaining from them a cession of the southern portion of their reservation in Colorado.

Among the papers submitted with said report is an agreement entered into at Pagosa Springs, Colorado, on the 9th November, 1878, between said commission, acting in behalf of the United States, and the chiefs and headmen of the Muache, Capote, and Weeminuchee bands of Ute Indians in said State, by which the latter release and relinquish all their right to and interest in the confederated Ute reservation in that State, and particularly that portion thereof lying south of the parallel of 38° 10′ north latitude, and agree to remove to a new reservation during the spring and summer of the present year, and as soon as the agency shall be located thereon and buildings erected therefor.

The agreement further provides that such new reservation shall be set apart by the government for the use and occupancy of said bands of Indians on the headwaters of the Piedra, San Juan, Blanco, Navajo, and Chama Rivers, in the State of Colorado, its precise boundaries defined by proclamation of the President, an agency established during the spring and summer of 1879, and suitable buildings for agency purposes erected thereon.

Said agreement further binds the Indians not to obstruct nor inter-

fere with travel upon any of the highways now open, or hereafter to be

opened by lawful authority, upon their new reservation.

Other papers filed with said report, signed by the chiefs and headmen of the Tabequache, Yampa, and Grand River Utes of Colorado, and of the Uintah band of Utes in the Territory of Utah, concur in said cession of the lands immediately south and west of the San Juan mining district, which are those described in the agreement aforesaid. It will thus be seen that said cession is concurred in by all the different organized bands of Ute Indians.

I have the honor to recommend that said agreement, with the papers showing the assent thereto of the other bands of Utes, be submitted to the President for transmission to Congress, with a recommendation for

early confirmation thereof by that body.

I have prepared, afterfull consultation with General Hatch, chairman of said commission, a diagram representing the location and boundaries of the new reservation provided for in said agreement, and submit the same herewith. It is estimated to contain an area of about 728,320 acres, and in physical features and convenience of access is believed to be well adapted to the purpose for which it is designed. It has a healthful climate, abounds in game and fish, and embraces a number of valleys of considerable extent and great fertility. Its area is sufficient to provide homes for all the bands of Ute Indians of Colorado and Utah, should subsequent negotiations succeed in accomplishing the much-desired result of uniting them upon one diminished reservation. From the most reliable data at the command of this office, it is believed that the members of all said bands do not exceed four thousand persons, and the reservation so provided is therefore evidently ample for their wants.

The area ceded as aforesaid is estimated to amount to about 1,894,400 acres, being an excess over the 728,320 acres embraced in the new reservation of 1,166,080 acres. For this excess the Indians should receive a fair compensation; and although no provision therefor is found in the agreement of cession, the justice thereof is so evident as to admit of no

question.

That they expected compensation for the lands so ceded by them is fully apparent from an examination of the report of the commission, with its accompanying documents. It is shown thereby that at first they declined to entertain any proposition looking to a further cession of any portion of their territory. Afterward, however, by a paper signed on the 28th August, 1878, herewith, they consented to remove from their present reservation, and agreed to sell the same at a price to be fixed by the commission and the Utes. While this was not carried into the agreement subsequently made, it shows the views and feelings of the Indians upon the subject.

I have, therefore, the honor to recommend that Congress be asked to provide for the survey and sale, through the United States land office for the proper district, as part of the public domain, of the lands ceded as aforesaid, and for the statement of an account showing the net proceeds of the sale of the excess aforesaid, after deducting the expenses of such survey and sale, and for the investment of such net proceeds in 4 per cent. bonds of the United States, for the common benefit of all the Ute Indians who may settle upon the new reservation provided for in

said agreement.

I have the honor to recommend, further, that Congress be asked for an appropriation of \$25,000 for the erection of agency buildings, including residence of agent, and for the removal thereto of the Muache, Capote, and Weeminuchee bands of Ute Indians.

I have prepared and submit herewith, in triplicate, a bill for the confirmation of said agreement, and for carrying into effect the survey, sale, investment, and appropriation aforesaid, and respectfully recommend that all the foregoing papers be laid before Congress by the President as a part of his report, in compliance with the provisions of the act.

I also respectfully submit herewith duplicate copies of this report, and return the papers transmitted by the department to this office with said

communication of the 21st ultimo.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. A. HAYT, Commissioner.

The Hon, the Secretary of the Interior.

A BILL to ratify an agreement with certain Ute Indians in Colorado and Utah, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a certain agreement made by Edward Hatch, N. C. McFarland, and Lot M. Morrill, commissioners on the part of the United States, and certain Ute Indians in Colorado and Utah, be, and the same is hereby, ratified and confirmed. Said agreement is in the words and figures following, to wit:

Articles of convention and agreement entered into at Pagosa Springs, in the State of Colorado, this 9th day of November, A. D. 1878, between the United States of America and the Muache, Capote, and Weeminuchee band of the Ute Indians, witnesseth, that whereas Edward Hatch, Lot M. Morril, and N. C. McFarland, under the authority of an act of Congress approved May 3rd, 1878, appointed by the President to negotiate with the said Indians for the relinquishment of their right to the southern portion of their reservation in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes: Now, this may show that the said United States of America, by its said commissioners, and the said Muache, Capote, and Weeminuche bands of Ute Indians have agreed as follows:

First. The said Muache, Capote, and Weeminuchee bands of Ute Indians agree to release and relinquish to the said United States of America all their right to and interest in the Confederate Ute Reservation in the State of Colorado, and especially to the southern portion thereof, to wit, that part lying south of the parallel of thirty-eight degrees and ten minutes (38° 10′), of which they are now in occupancy; and they agree to remove to the territory hereinafter mentioned in the second article of agreement, during

the spring and summer of the year A. D. 1879, and as soon as an agency shall be located and buildings erected on the said last-named territory.

Second. In consideration of the release and relinquishment aforesaid by said bands, the United States of America, by its said commissioners, agrees to set apart for the use and occupancy of said bands of Ute Indians a reservation on the headwaters of the Preciae, San Juan, Blanco, Navajo, and Chama Rivers, in the State of Colorado, the precise boundaries of which reservation to be hereafter defined by proclamation of the President. And the said United States of America further agrees to establish on said last-named territory, during the spring and summer of the year A. D. 1879, an Indian agency, and to erect proper and suitable buildings therefor.

Third. And the said bands of Ute Indians also agree that they will not obstruct or

in any wise interfere with travel upon any of the highways now open or hereafter to

be opened by lawful authority in or upon said last-named reservation.

Fourth. This agreement shall not be binding until confirmed by Congress and the President of the United States.

Witness the signatures of said commissioners on behalf of the United States of America, and also the signatures of the several members of said bands of Ute Iudians.

Edward Hatch, Col. 9th Cav'y, Bt. Maj. General, Chairman Commission.

N. C. McFarland. Lot M. Morrill.

Muache Utes.

George Bent, his x mark. Le Mora, his x mark. Pawache, his x mark. Nanise, his x mark. Friday, his x mark. Chereche, his x mark. Achiaco, his x mark. Damano, his x mark. Gurochampe, his x mark. Augustina, his x mark. Ananotonia, his x mark. Mose, his x mark. Tesaught, his x mark. Pinariché, his x mark. Quavo, his x mark. Chreitch, his x mark. Antonia Colloron, his x mark Augarmeiche, his x mark. Gie Eua Blanco, his x mark Nacero, his x mark. Oho Blanco, his x mark. Jangardo, his x mark. Cassador, his x mark. Coneoche, his x mark. Cucharat, his x mark. Aucotoche, his x mark. Panonse, his x mark. Ucanea, his x mark. Panconie, his x mark. Ouchopajauao Och, his x mark. Parbador, his x mark. Chanlas, his x mark. Conhoconancho, his x mark. Canarugto, his x mark. Balone, his x mark. Cawoway, his x mark. Cachocha, his x mark. Tomaceta, his x mark. Quajaoguche, his x mark. Pechroats, his x mark. Wanchino, his x mark. Migual, his x mark. Egulla Colla, his x mark. Poocegar, his x mark. Francisco, his x mark. Losoon, his x mark.

Tapaciche, his x mark.
Mokja, his x mark.
Savara, his x mark.
Chavas, his x mark.
Chavas, son of 1st, his x mark.
Pelone, his x mark.
Coreneo, his x mark.
Coreneo, son of, his x mark.
Antonio, his x mark.
Jose, his x mark.
Juanauchi, his x mark.
Prisente, his x mark.
Prisente, his x mark.
Chayonia, his x mark.
Chaineo, his x mark.
Tabawatche, his x mark.
Conejo, his x mark.
Sarappa, his x mark.
Padra, his x mark.
Ubbique, his x mark.

Monchus, his x mark. Chicepa, his x mark. Wetor, his x mark. Walapa, his x mark. Mattachew, his x mark. Pistake, his x mark. Parblo John, his x mark. Cimmiron, his x mark. Drocha, his x mark. Peah, his x mark. Cawammiova, his x mark. Tous, his x mark. Oho Blanco, his x mark. Uncopuche, his x mark. Joseph Holt, his x mark. Juan, his x mark. Josa, his x mark. Topach, his x mark. Tiena, his x mark. Jack, his x mark. Pincha, his x mark. Chevala, his x mark. Pachaeca, his x mark. Aiguilla, his x mark. Buckskin Charlie, his x mark. Tomiceta, his x mark. Catanaw, his x mark. Antonia Marcia, his x mark Manwell, his x mark. Quelieno, his x mark. Jose Agnes, his x mark. Canopa, his x mark. Casemarao, his x mark Longehin, his x mark. Apache, his x mark. Coho, his x mark. Cathemora, his x mark Meyodona, his x mark. Pewee, his x mark. Lewus, his x mark. Piwase, his x mark. Atala, his x mark. Carawatch, his x mark Tagawich, his x mark. Ancocha, his x mark.

Capote Utes,

Carriver, his x mark.
Washington, his x mark.
Quinca, his x mark.
Stalian, his x mark.
Stalian, his x mark.
Tenientie, his x mark.
Moreno, his x mark.
Borego, his x mark.
Antonia Jose, his x mark.
Diago Martini, his x mark.
Juan Annochow, his x mark.
Juan Annochow, his x mark.
Martin, his x mark.
Tapachie, his x mark.
Tapachie, his x mark.
Joseph, his x mark.
Taciachoco, his x mark.
Taciachoco, his x mark.
Tancia, his x mark.
Souich, his x mark.
Padro Pagio, his x mark.

Mokacha, his x mark.
Pocheka, his x mark.
Tienna, his x mark.
Phillupia Martino, his x mark.
Sabata, his x mark.
Annas, his x mark.
Topiache, his x mark.
Tanciarchie, his x mark.
Carnico, his x mark.
Tupra, his x mark.
Martini, his x mark.
Chatta, his x mark.

Soglo, his x mark. ¬
Quartrao, his x mark.
Ulegandra, his x mark.
Coho, his x mark.
Porache, his x mark.
Cunaecha, his x mark.
Chavanugh, his x mark.
Tarawitch, his x mark.
Francisco, his x mark.
Manwell, his x mark.
Outichuche, his x mark.

Weeminuchee Utes.

Quatrao, his x mark. Alegandriao, his x mark. Colorado, his x mark. Careeto, his x mark.
Navies, 1st, his x mark.
Navies, 2d, his x mark. Baaquacha, his x mark. Seinaah, his x mark. Necaroa, his x mark. Uqaita, his x mark. Ternapia, his x mark. Quape, his x mark. Panjuasa, his x mark. Petago, his x mark. Antonio Josa, his x mark. Jose Lalos, his x mark. Necachae, his x mark., Poah, his x mark. Posequhe, his x mark.
Marucha, his x mark.
Pajuache, his x mark.
Chevato, his x mark. Cheeno, his x mark. Cunapancho, his x mark. Quachits, his x mark. Mucheguoto, his x mark. Nativedava, his x mark. Muthea, his x mark. Veneo, his x mark. Tepujueche, his x mark. Caravase, his x mark. Nucauch, his x mark.

Pano, his x mark. Jose Antonia, his x mark. Beago Curva, his x mark. Ancategaube, his x mark. Naturach, his x mark. Sequine, his x mark. Jero, his x mark. Ignacia, his x mark. Ciego, his x mark. Tavanie, his x mark. Quajue, his x mark. Cavason, his x mark. Saparigo, his x mark. Juarra, his x mark.
Tavanah, his x mark.
Ecediao, his x mark.
Marinna, his x mark. Mucheguote, his x mark. Pinneeh, his x mark. Jose, his x mark. Meahea, his x mark. Pinenehe, his x mark. Ancateguapa, his x mark. Cavason, his x mark. Charlie, his x mark. Jose, his x mark. Concupacha, his x mark. Gevato, his x mark. Jose, son of Gevato, his x mark. Charlie, son of Goveta, his x mark. Aparich, his x mark. Chapo, his x mark.

We, the undersigned, certify that we were present and are witnesses to the signatures by mark of the Muache, Gapote, and Weeminuchee bands of Indians to the foregoing agreements, and that they were twice read in their presence and understood by them.

(Signed)

THOMAS M. F. WHYTE, Interpreter Southern Ute Agency. ALB. W. PFEIFFER, Interpreter Commission.

We, the undersigned, certify that we were present when this agreement was read to the Muache, Capote, and Weeminuchee Indians and witnessed their assent to the same.

FREDERICK KASTEN.
WILLIAM JACKSON.
JOHN GEARY.
A. R. PAXTON.
W S. PEABODY.
JOHN PEABODY.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO, September 18, 1878.

We, the undersigned chiefs and headmen of the Yampa aud Grand River Utes of the Ute Indians, do hereby consent to whatever disposition the Capotes, Muaches, and Weeminuchees, and their representative bands may make of that part of the Ute Reservation immediately south and west of the San Juan mining district.

- Jack, his x mark.
 Douglas, his x mark.
 Lomerick, his x mark.
 Colorado, his x mark.
 Washington, his x mark.
- 6. Ebenezer, his x mark. 7. Judge, his x mark.
- 8. Gramina, his x mark.
 9. Uncachief, his x mark. 10. Jim, his x mark.
 11. Tsaquivech, his x mark.
- 12. Charvis, his x mark.
- 13. Arapahoe Joe, his x mark. 14. Tsausauricket, his x mark.
- 15. Ooruvich, his x mark.
- 16. Papita, his x mark.17. Sowpatch, his x mark.

- 18. Tagowoch, his x mark.19. Johnson, his x mark.20. Unceepis, his x mark. 21. Dana, his x mark.
- 22. Cotunip, his x mark. 23. Soriets, his x mark. 24. Guero, his x mark.
- 25. Ranitou, his x mark. 26. Ike, his x mark.
- 27. Tomozo, his x mark.
 28. Patchuniaskip, his x mark.
 29. Yurgo, his x mark.
- 30. Bill Hunt, his x mark.
- 31. Apah, his x mark. 32. Ahwitz, his x mark.
- 33. Uncapashet, his x mark. 34. Quinkent, his x mark.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO, September 18, 1878.

I hereby certify that I interpreted the above agreement to the Indians before signing and that they understood it just as it is written.

U. M. CURTIS. 'Interpreter for the Ute Special Commission.

WHITE RIVER AGENCY, COLORADO; September 18, 1878.

We, the undersigned, were present at the signing of the above document by the Yampa and Grand River Indians, and are hereby witnesses to their marks.

WM. S. STICKNEY,

Secretary Ute Special Commission.
C. A. H. McCAULEY,
Second Lieutenant, Third Artillery,
Acting Engineer, U. S. A., on duty with Ute Commission.

The above interlineation, viz, "Yampa and Grand," was made before signing.

W. S. S. C. A. H. M.

UINTAH . VALLEY AGENCY, UTAH, October 31, 1878.

We, the undersigned, chiefs and headmen of the Uintah band of Ute Indians, do hereby consent to whatever disposition the Capotes, Muaches, and Weeminuches, and their representative bands, may make of that part of the Ute Reservation immediately south and west of the San Juan mining district.

- Talby, chief, his x mark.
 Tuckawana, subchief, his x mark.
 Antero, subchief, his x mark.

- Yank, his x mark.
 David, his x mark.
 Wanrodes, interpreter, his x mark.
- 7. Cutlip Jim, his x mark 8. Bob Ridley, his x mark.
- 9. Mountain, his x mark.
- 10. Robinson, his x mark.11. Mountain Sheep, his x mark.12. Sours, his x mark.
- 13. Jim Duncan, his x mark. 14. Louey, his x mark.
- 15. Atriner, his x mark.

I hereby certify on honor that I have explained to the Indians the meaning of the foregoing paper, which they have signed, and that I have witnessed said signatures. WANRODES, Interpreter, his x mark.

OCTOBER 31, 1878.

We hereby certify on honor that we were present and witnessed the signatures of the Indiaus from No. 1 to No. 15 to the foregoing agreement.

HENRY FITZHUGH. EDWARD T. AYER,

OCTOBER 31, 1878.

Los Pinos Indian Agency, Colorado, November 11, 1878.

We, the undersigned, chiefs and headmen of the Tabequache tribe of the Ute Nation, do hereby consent to whatever disposition the Capotes, Muaches, and Weeminuches and their representative bands may make of that part of the Ute Reservation immediately south and west of the San Juan mining district.

Sapavaneri, his x mark.
Billy.
Shavano.
Wass.
Tom.
Sam.
Colorado Chiquito, his x mark.
Colorado Grande, his x mark.
Tomasarka, his x mark.
Sagebush, his x mark.
Johnson, his x mark.
Mah-va-is, his x mark.

Me-poo-seis, his x mark.
Ah-cah-poor-kevetch, his x mark.
Cajo Chequito, his x mark.
Mah-ootch, his x mark.
See-up, his x mark.
Ai-as-ket, his x mark.
Sang-toos, his x mark.
Too-goo-rutch, his x mark.
Wah-up-weict, his x mark.
Pan-till-on, his x mark.
Ki-oots, his x mark.

Los Pinos Indian Agency, Colorado, November 11, 1878.

I hereby certify that I interpreted the above agreement to the Indians before signing, and that they understood it just as it is written.

JESUS MERENO, Interpreter for the Agency.

Los Pinos Indian Agency, Colorado, November 11, 1878.

We, the undersigned, were present at the signing of the above document by the Tabequeche tribe of the Ute Indians, and are hereby witnesses to their marks.

WM. S. STICKNEY, Secretary Ute Special Commission. JOSEPH B. ABBOTT, U. S. Indian Agent.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to have the lines of the public surveys extended over the lands ceded as aforesaid, and to offer the same, through the United States land-office for the proper district, at public sale after proclamation by the President, as in other cases of sales of the public lands; and the lands remaining unsold at the close of said public sale shall thereafter be subject to entry at private sale, at one dollar and twentyfive cents per acre, in tracts not to exceed one hundred and sixty acres At the expiration of each year from the commencement of said sales an account shall be stated and the net proceeds thereof determined, after deducting from the gross amount received the expenses of said survey and sales to date, and such net proceeds shall be invested in bonds of the United States bearing interest at the rate of four per centum per annum, as a permanent fund for the common benefit of all the Ute Indians who may settle upon the new reservation to be set apart under the provisions of the foregoing agreement, and the interest arising therefrom shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior in such manner as he may deem best for the welfare and advancement of said Indians: Provided, That after the sale, as aforesaid, of one million eight hundred and ninety-four thousand and four hundred acres of the lands ceded by the foregoing agreement, and the investment of the net proceeds thereof, as hereinbefore directed, further investments of such net proceeds shall cease, and the residue of said lands shall be treated, and disposed of, in all respects, as other portions of the public domain: And provided further, That the register and receiver of the land-office through which said lands shall be sold shall be allowed the same fees as in other sales of public lands, the same to be

paid out of the proceeds of such sales.

SEC. 3. That the sum of sixty-three thousand six hundred and eighteen dollars is hereby appropriated, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the survey and preliminary expenses of the sales hereinbefore directed, to be reimbursed as aforesaid out of the proceeds of such sales; and twenty-five thousand dollars for the removal of the Muache, Capote, and Weeminuchee bands of Ute Indians to the new reservation provided for them in the foregoing agreement, and for the erection of suitable agency buildings, including residence for agent, upon said new reservation.

H. Ex. 84—2