

FUNDS OF THE MIAMI INDIANS IN KANSAS.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A communication from the Secretary of the Interior relative to certain funds belonging to the Miami Indians of Kansas.

JANUARY 26, 1882.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit herewith a communication from the Secretary of the Interior, with draft of amendment to be inserted in the Indian appropriation bill, to carry into effect the provisions of the fifth section of the act of March 3, 1873, providing for the consolidation of funds belonging to the Miami Indians of Kansas.

The matter is presented for the consideration of Congress.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
January 26, 1882.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, January 19, 1882.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith for your consideration a draft of an amendment prepared in the Office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to be inserted in the annual Indian appropriation bill now pending, to carry into effect the provisions of the fifth section of the act of March 3, 1873 (17 Stats., 633), providing for the consolidation of funds belonging to the Miami Indians of Kansas.

Agreeably to the recommendation of the Commissioner, I respectfully request that the proposed amendment and accompanying papers may be transmitted to Congress for its consideration.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. J. KIRKWOOD,

Secretary.

The PRESIDENT.

FUNDS OF THE MIAMI INDIANS IN KANSAS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, November 28, 1881.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

SIR: The fifth section of the act of March 3, 1873 (17 Stats., p. 636), entitled "An act to abolish the tribal relations of the Miami Indians, and for other purposes," provides for a consolidation of all moneys belonging to the Miami Indians of Kansas, to be known as their "consolidated fund."

On the 13th of January last a communication was addressed to you by this office (copy herewith), setting forth the condition of the funds of the Indians named, with the recommendation that the honorable Secretary of the Treasury be requested to consolidate the funds, as provided for by the act of March 3, 1873.

Under date of February 5, the honorable Secretary of the Treasury informed the Indian Department (copy herewith) that the consolidation would be made as requested, and on the 17th of same month, referring to above letter of the 5th, the honorable Secretary of the Treasury (copy herewith) invited the attention of the department to the necessity of an appropriation by Congress to place to the credit of the Miamis of Kansas their capitalized annuities, before the consolidation required by the fifth section of the act of March 3, 1873, could be effected.

In order to carry into effect the fifth section of the act cited, and the recommendation of the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, I have the honor to inclose herewith a draft of an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, with the request that the same, together with the copies of correspondence herewith, be transmitted to Congress for consideration.

Very respectfully,

H. PRICE,
Commissioner.

Amendment to the Indian appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883.

This amount, to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to carry into effect the provisions of the fifth section of the act of March 3, 1873 (17 Stats., 633), providing for the consolidation of funds belonging to the Miami Indians of Kansas, being the aggregate of their capitalized annuities, for smith and assistant, for miller and education fund, under their treaties of October 6, 1818, October 23, 1834, and June 5, 1854, \$35,365.85.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 13, 1881.

To the honorable SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR:

SIR: By the third article of the treaty with the Miami Indians of June 5, 1854 (10 Stats., 1094), the United States agree to pay to the Miami tribe of Indians, in consideration of the cession made by the first article of said treaty, the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, in twenty annual installments of seven thousand five hundred dollars each, the first payable October 1, 1860, and the remaining installments to be paid respectively on the first day of October of each succeeding year, until the whole shall have been paid, "and the remaining fifty thousand dollars shall be invested by the President in safe and profitable stocks, the interest thereon to be applied, under his direction, for educational purposes, or such objects of a beneficial character for the good of the tribe as may be considered necessary or expedient, and hereafter, when the President shall think proper, the sum thus provided to be invested may be converted into money, and the same paid to the tribe in such manner as he may judge to be for their best interest."

The fifth section of the act of March 3, 1873 (17 Stats., 631), entitled "An act to abolish the tribal relations of the Miami Indians, and for other purposes," provides: "And the proceeds of the sales of the said unallotted lands, including said school section, and all moneys, securities, annuities, and effects held by the United States for said Miami Indians of Kansas, after making the foregoing deductions for citizen Indians and their minor children, shall belong to and be the exclusive property of the last-named Indians, to be known as their consolidated funds."

The sixth section of the act authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Interior to examine into and approve the contract of January 5, 1872, entered into between the Western Miami Indians and the confederated Wea, Peoria, Kaskasia, and Piankeshaw Indians and for the purpose of carrying into effect the said arrangement he was authorized to withdraw from said consolidated fund, and pay to the confederated Wea, &c., Indians a sum sufficient to pay said Wea, &c., Indians according to said

contract for an interest in the lands of the last-named confederated tribe, for all of said Miamies electing to unite with the Weas, &c.; and after making the payment there was to be set apart and capitalized with the funds of the Wea, &c., Indians a sum sufficient to warrant and justify all said Miamies so electing to unite with the said Wea, &c., Indians, in drawing thereafter like annuities with the said Wea, &c., Indians, without prejudice to the rights and interests of said last-named Indians, and the remainder of such consolidated fund was to be paid per capita to all those entitled and electing to unite with the Wea, &c., Indians, to aid them in moving to and improving their new homes in the territory, and after their union with the Wea, &c., tribes they were all to draw annuities alike.

The act of March 3, 1877, (19 Stats., 271), making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes for the year ending June 30, 1878, and for other purposes, provides (Id. 292) that "to enable the Secretary of the Interior to carry out in part the provisions of the act entitled 'An act to abolish the Miami tribes of Indians, and for other purposes,' approved March third, eighteen hundred and seventy-three, the following sums, are hereby appropriated to be charged to the Miami tribal fund, and to be immediately available, namely: for payment for such Miamis as elected to become citizens under said tribal act, their proportion of the tribal moneys, thirty-three thousand one hundred and thirty-three dollars and ninety-six cents; and for payment to confederated Kaskaskia, Peoria, Piankeshaw, and Wea Indians, twenty-four thousand nine hundred and fifty-two dollars and three cents; in all fifty-eight thousand eighty-five dollars and ninety-nine cents."

The following amounts now stand to the credit of the Miami Indians, viz:

Permanent provision for blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel for shop, per fifth article of treaty of October 6, 1818 (7 Stats., 191,) to and fourth article of treaty of June 5, 1854 (10 Stats., 1095,) \$8,228.60, which draws interest at the rate of five per centum per annum.

Permanent provision for miller, in lieu of gunsmith, per same articles and treaties, and per fifth article of treaty of October 23, 1834 (7 Stats., 464), \$5,252.46, bearing interest at five per cent. per annum.

For educational purposes, per third article of treaty of June 5, 1854, \$21,884.81, interest at five per cent. per annum.

Proceeds of sales of land, act of March 3, 1873, \$9,518.68, making a total of \$44,884.49.

As these several funds have never been consolidated, I have the honor to recommend that the honorable Secretary of the Treasury be requested to consolidate the same as provided for by the fifth section of the act of March 3, 1873, and that he cause to be issued a warrant appropriating the principal thus consolidated to the credit of the Miami Indians.

The funds of the Miami Indians cannot be capitalized with those of the Wea, Peoria, Kaskaskia, and Piankeshaw Indians, as provided for by the sixth section of the act of March 3, 1873, until the remainder of the lands of the Miamies in Kansas shall have been disposed of and paid for, as provided by the act of 1873, and the first section of the act of June 23, 1874 (18 Stats., 273.)

Very respectfully,

E. M. MARBLE,
Acting Commissioner.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
February 5, 1881.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,

Secretary of the Interior:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 15, 1881, inclosing a copy of a communication from the Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and asking that the funds belonging to the Miami Indians of Kansas be consolidated under the provisions of the fifth section of the act of March, 3, 1873 (17 Stat., 633,) and in reply to state that the funds of the Miamies of Kansas, as shown by the records of this department, are as follows:

Permanent annuity for smith and assistant.....	\$8,228 69
Permanent annuity for miller.....	5,252 35
Education fund.....	21,884 81
Proceeds of lands.....	9,215 98
Total.....	44,581 83

The funds will be consolidated as you request.

Very respectfully,

H. F. FRENCH,
Acting Secretary.

FUNDS OF THE MIAMI INDIANS IN KANSAS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
February 17, 1881.

Hon. C. SCHURZ,
Secretary of the Interior:

SIR: Referring to my letter of February 5, 1881, stating that the funds of the Miami Indians of Kansas would be consolidated, as requested in your favor of January 15, 1881, I have the honor to call your attention to the necessity of an appropriation to place to the credit of the Miamies of Kansas their capitalized annuities before the consolidation required by the fifth section of the act of March 3, 1873 (17 Stats., 633,) can be made.

Very respectfully,

JOHN SHERMAN,
Secretary.