

EXPENDITURES IN SUPPRESSING INDIAN HOSTILITIES IN
FLORIDA.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

The information required by the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 7th of July last, in relation to the amount of expenditure in suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida, &c.

DECEMBER 15, 1840.

Read, and laid upon the table.

WAR DEPARTMENT, December 9, 1840.

SIR: On the 7th of July last, the House of Representatives resolved "That the Secretary of War report to this House, on the first day of the next session of Congress, the amount of expenditure in suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida, showing distinctly the various items of expenditure; that he report the number of troops employed in that service, and the length of time employed, distinguishing the commissioned officers from the privates and non-commissioned officers, and the amount of pay to the officers and to the non-commissioned officers and privates; the amount paid for subsistence and transportation, and the items for such expenditure, separately; the other expenses under their appropriate heads, and the items of such expenditure."

The appropriations for the expenses of the Florida war, the war with the Creek Indians, and for those incident to the military operations that took place for the purpose of preventing hostilities on the part of the Cherokee Indians, from about the middle of the year 1836 till they were finally removed, in the latter part of 1838, were all under the same general head. From the scarcity of supplies in the different sections of the country in which the military operations were in progress, and the greatly enhanced prices, in consequence of the increased demand, it became necessary, and much more economical, to purchase a very large proportion at a distance from the scene of operations. The supplies purchased by the officers employed on this duty were frequently distributed among two, and sometimes all three of the different sections of military operations at the same time; and those which had been specially purchased for one section, or which had

been assigned to it from the general purchases, were sometimes sent from it to another by the commanding generals, either because not needed, or in consequence of some pressing exigency of the service. These purchases were all paid for from the same general appropriation, and no distinction was made by the officers, in their accounts, so as to designate the particular service to which the supplies were assigned. There is nothing to show, with any thing like accuracy, the quantity applied to each: no accounts were kept of what was assigned to each, or of the quantities afterwards transferred from one to the other. The duty of the department ceased with the taking of all the necessary measures for procuring the requisite quantities of the various kinds of supplies of the best qualities, and at the lowest prices, and with observing all possible precaution to preserve them from misapplication, waste, or damage, and for their being distributed to the troops in the authorized quantities: hence, of a large portion of the expenditures under the general head of "preventing and suppressing Indian hostilities," it is believed to be impossible to designate what part of them should be charged to the operations in Florida. The most accurate result that could be arrived at would probably be only an approximation to the true amount; but, to reach even such a result, would require an examination of so minute, laborious, and extended a character, into so immense a mass of accounts, vouchers, returns, abstracts of issues, and other documents, which, under no circumstances, could have been made within the time limited by the resolution; nor could it be done for years, without a considerable accession of force, for the whole time and labor of that now at the disposal of those bureaus of the department, by which the investigations would have principally to be made, are required to keep up the important and indispensable current business constantly pressing upon them.

With regard to the expenditures which it could readily be ascertained are properly chargeable to the operations in Florida, it has been impracticable, as will be seen from the accompanying reports of the Second and Third Auditors, to specify the different items, and to state the amount of each, because the time fixed by the resolution was too limited, and the force at their disposal entirely inadequate to perform the labor that would be necessary to accomplish the object. Such information respecting the expenditures, as could be furnished by the different bureaus of the department through which they were made will be found in the several reports, herewith, from the officers who have charge of them.

The required information respecting the number of troops that have been employed, and the period of their service, is given, with as much specification and accuracy as possible, in the accompanying report and documents, prepared by the Adjutant General of the army.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. R. POINSETT.

Hon. R. M. T. HUNTER,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 5, 1840.

SIR: In answer to so much of the resolution of the House of Representatives, dated 7th July, 1840, which requires to be reported "the number of

troops employed for suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida, and the length of time employed," I respectfully submit the following statements :

Table A exhibits the *regular* force at the end of every month, respectively, employed in the Florida service, from the commencement of hostilities, in December, 1835, inclusive of November, 1840.

Table B exhibits the *militia* and *volunteer* force, mounted and foot, received into the service from the Territory of Florida.

Table C exhibits the *militia* and *volunteer* force received into the service from the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, New York, Missouri, Tennessee, and the District of Columbia, and also the friendly Indians of various tribes.

It may be proper to remark, in relation to the tables reporting the *militia* and *volunteer* force, that, owing to the irregularity and sometimes failure of the returns, the *whole* force borne on the pay-rolls may not be herein exhibited. In several cases, it is impossible to state the period for which some of the companies were mustered. The tables, for convenience and easy reference, have been condensed as far as the specification of the *various* terms of service and the object of the inquiry would admit.

Respectfully submitted :

R. JONES,
Adjutant General of the Army.

Hon. J. R. POINSETT,
Secretary of War.

A.

4

Statement exhibiting the regular force at the end of every month, respectively, employed in the Florida service from the commencement of the hostilities in December, 1835, inclusive of November, 1840; being the answer, in part, of the resolution of the House of Representatives of July 7th, 1840.

MONTHS.	1835.				1836.				1837.				1838.				1839.				1840.			
	General, field, and staff officers.	Company officers.	Non commiss'd officers and privates.	Aggregate.	General, field, and staff officers.	Company officers.	Non-commiss'd officers and privates.	Aggregate.	General, field, and staff officers.	Company officers.	Non-commiss'd officers and privates.	Aggregate.	General, field, and staff officers.	Company officers.	Non-commiss'd officers and privates.	Aggregate.	General, field, and staff officers.	Company officers.	Non-commiss'd officers and privates.	Aggregate.	General, field, and staff officers.	Company officers.	Non-commiss'd officers and privates.	Aggregate.
January	-	-	-	-	10	26	586	622	42	124	3,390	2,556	55	115	3,585	3,755	44	98	2,530	2,722	45	134	3,130	3,309
February	-	-	-	-	30	42	950	1,022	47	93	1,842	1,982	23	106	3,555	3,684	46	104	2,587	2,737	44	135	3,061	3,240
March	-	-	-	-	31	69	1,074	1,174	50	94	2,241	2,385	29	153	3,530	3,712	51	115	3,019	3,185	44	142	2,999	3,185
April	-	-	-	-	28	54	1,138	1,220	39	110	2,302	2,451	22	146	3,612	3,780	47	94	2,445	2,586	49	131	2,930	3,110
May	-	-	-	-	25	45	1,007	1,077	38	78	2,257	2,373	32	109	3,715	3,856	42	116	2,612	2,770	39	131	2,801	2,971
June	-	-	-	-	14	39	954	1,007	42	63	2,232	2,337	25	23	1,775	1,833	49	77	2,150	2,276	48	111	2,672	2,831
July	-	-	-	-	13	44	1,061	1,118	18	65	2,083	2,166	28	28	1,695	1,751	36	104	2,415	2,555	43	98	2,525	2,666
August	-	-	-	-	18	43	988	1,049	34	55	1,979	2,068	29	27	1,641	1,697	34	105	2,266	2,405	43	92	2,391	2,526
September	-	-	-	-	21	47	979	1,047	19	53	1,663	1,735	28	25	1,568	1,621	33	103	2,267	2,403	43	88	2,201	2,332
October	-	-	-	-	32	80	1,534	1,646	33	90	2,945	3,068	31	55	2,075	2,161	36	105	2,219	2,360	61	105	3,026	3,192
November	7	25	474	506	36	82	1,344	1,462	42	112	3,590	3,744	44	87	2,634	2,765	46	121	2,714	2,881	73	165	4,523	4,761
December	12	19	471	502	37	92	1,761	1,890	55	102	3,615	3,772	44	91	2,466	2,601	44	128	2,699	3,071				

R. JONES, Adjutant General United States army.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, Washington, December 5, 1840,

B.

Statement exhibiting the Florida militia and volunteer force, mounted and foot, mustered into the service of the United States for the suppression of Indian hostilities in the Territory, from the commencement in 1835, till the present time, December 5, 1840; being the answer, in part, of the resolution of the House of Representatives of July 7th, 1840.

Year.	General officers.	General staff officers.	Field officers.	Company officers.	TOTAL.			TERM OF SERVICE.		Description of force.	
					Commissioned officers.	Non-commiss'd officers, &c.	Aggregate.	Months.	Days.		
1835	-	-	-	24	24	297	321	3	25	Nearly all mounted militia.	
	-	-	-	24	24	159	183	2	10	Nearly all mounted militia.	
	1	3	1	12	13	188	201	2	-	Part mounted militia.	
	-	-	-	4	4	-	4	5	10	Mounted militia.	
	-	-	9	4	13	54	67	3	-	Mounted and part mounted militia.	
1836	-	-	-	4	4	36	40	3	16	Mounted militia.	
	-	-	5	9	14	150	164	6	-	Part mounted militia and volunteers.	
	1	3	-	2	6	22	28	5	-	Part mounted militia.	
	-	-	-	4	4	4	52	56	1	-	
	-	-	4	-	4	2	6	1	18		
1837	1	4	1	66	72	1,390	1,462	4	-	Part mounted militia.	
	-	-	-	6	6	63	69	-	42		
	1	1	3	18	21	341	362	3	-	Chiefly mounted militia.	
	1	3	13	112	129	2,427	2,556	6	-		
	-	-	-	23	23	460	483	4	-		
	-	-	-	4	4	116	120	12	-		
	-	-	6	19	25	333	358	3	-		
	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	8	17	Mounted militia, with few exceptions.	
	-	-	5	-	5	1	6	8	24		
	-	-	-	3	3	62	65	8	-		
-	-	-	3	3	47	50	5	-			
-	-	-	14	14	250	264	1	-			
1838	-	-	2	12	14	222	236	2	-	Nearly all mounted militia.	
	-	1	36	37	845	882	6	-			
	-	-	9	9	234	243	4	-			
	-	-	4	10	14	183	197	1	-		
	-	-	-	5	5	123	128	-	11		
1839	-	-	8	8	158	166	-	21	Mounted militia and volunteers.		
	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	20			
	-	-	-	9	9	216	225	4		-	
	-	-	-	9	9	171	180	3		-	
	-	-	3	3	65	68	12	-			
1840	-	8	70	78	1,587	1,665	6	-	Mounted militia.		
	1	1	42	47	1,039	*1,086	3	-			

* NOTE 1. In addition to this force, on the 8th September, 1840, 200 mounted men were authorized to be raised, and it is believed they are now in the service, although the muster-rolls have not been received: making, in the aggregate, about 1,300 men.

2. Instructions have been issued to remuster these 1,300 mounted militia (who were originally mustered for three months) into the service when their respective terms shall have expired. Although the rolls have not been received, it is not doubted that the whole are now in service.

R. JONES,
Adjutant General U. S. army.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 5, 1840.

C.—Statement exhibiting the militia and volunteer force in the service of the United States for the suppression of Indian hostilities in Florida, from the commencement, in December, 1835, till the present time, December 5th; and the States from whence drawn; being the answer, in part, of the resolution of the House of Representatives of July 7th, 1840.

Year.	State, &c. from whence drawn.	General officers.	General staff.	Field officers.	Comp'y officers.	TOTAL.		Aggregate.	PERIOD OF SERVICE.		Description of troops.
						Commis'd officers.	Non-comm'd officers, &c.		Months.	Days.	
1836	Washington, D.C.	-	-	-	3	3	64	67	12	-	Volunteers (foot.)
1837		-	-	-	3	3	69	72	6	-	Volunteers (foot.)
1837		-	-	-	-	20	20	522	542	6	-
1838	Pennsylvania	-	-	5	-	5	2	7	8	-	Volunteers (foot.)
1837	Louisiana	-	-	8	41	49	793	842	3	-	Volunteers (foot.)
1838		-	-	3	15	18	319	337	6	-	Volunteers (foot.)
1837-8	New York	-	-	-	3	3	86	89	6	-	Volunteers (foot.)
1836-7	Alabama	-	-	10	45	55	1,110	1,165	-	-	Volunteers (foot.)
1837		-	-	8	36	44	906	950	6	-	Mounted volunteers.
1836-7		-	-	2	12	14	228	242	3	-	Volunteers (foot.)
1836-7	Tennessee	-	-	-	4	4	48	52	5	10	Mounted volunteers.
36-7-8		-	1	4	21	108	134	1,997	2,131	6	-
1836-7	Georgia	-	-	14	84	98	1,255	1,353	-	-	Mounted volunteers.
1838		-	-	4	-	4	-	4	12	-	Mounted volunteers.
1838-9		-	-	1	8	29	7	136	143	4	-
1837-8	Missouri	1	5	21	67	37	530	567	3	-	Mounted militia.
1840		-	-	-	12	12	284	296	3	-	Mounted militia.
1837-8		-	-	-	9	29	38	436	474	6	-
1836-7	South Carolina	1	3	18	116	138	2,121	2,259	3	-	Militia (foot.)
1836-7		-	-	-	12	12	761	773	12	-	Creeks.
1837-8	Friendly Indians	-	-	-	-	-	23	23	-	15	Florida.
1837		-	-	-	-	-	199	199	6	-	Delawares, Shawnees, Appalachicolas.
1837		-	-	-	-	-	-	485	485	6	-

R. JONES, Adjutant General United States army.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, Washington, December 5, 1840.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, WASHINGTON,
December 9, 1840.

SIR: Referring to the resolution of the House of Representatives, passed 7th July, 1840, on motion of the honorable Mr. Triplett, in relation to "the amount of expenditures in suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida," in obedience to your instructions, I have the honor to submit such statements as the records of this office furnish, of expenditures made through this department, and which do not appear on the books of the Treasury.

Statement A shows the value of ammunition expended	-	\$25,322 45
Statement B shows the damages to arms and accoutrements		103,808 69
		<hr/>
		\$129,131 14

The expenditures of money, under the several heads of appropriation for the Florida war, have all been settled in the Treasury Department, where the proper vouchers are lodged, and are therefore not embraced in any statement from this office.

Very respectfully, I am, sir, your obedient servant,

G. TALCOTT,

Lieutenant Colonel of Ordnance.

Hon. J. R. POINSETT,
Secretary of War.

A.

Statement exhibiting the quantity of ammunition, and its value, expended by the troops in Florida, (so far as returns have been received,) from the commencement of the Seminole war to the 1st of July, 1840.

172	6-pounder cannon ball, at 30 cents each	-	-	\$51 60
38	6-pounder strap shot, at 50 cents each	-	-	19 00
39	24-pounder howitzer shells, at \$1 each	-	-	39 00
7	12-pounder howitzer shells, at 80 cents each	-	-	5 60
21	24-pounder howitzer shells, (strapped,) at \$1 10 each	-	-	23 10
173	6-pounder grape shot, (unfixed,) at 55 cents each	-	-	95 15
18	12-pounder canister shot, at \$1 each	-	-	18 00
299	6-pounder canister shot, at 60 cents each	-	-	179 40
165	12-pounder spherical case shot, at 80 cents each	-	-	132 00
485	6-pounder strap shot, (fixed,) at 80 cents each	-	-	388 00
49	12-pounder grape shot, (fixed,) at \$1 50 each	-	-	73 50
180	6-pounder grape shot, (fixed,) at 85 cents each	-	-	153 00
194	12-pounder canister shot, (fixed,) at \$1 50 each	-	-	291 00
217	6-pounder canister shot, (fixed,) at \$1 each	-	-	217 00
6,771	pounds powder, at 18 cents per pound	-	-	1,218 78
5,142	pounds lead, at 5 cents per pound	-	-	257 10
1,548	rockets, at \$1 each	-	-	1,548 00
20	blue lights, at 75 cents each	-	-	15 00
1,882,772	cartridges for small arms, at 1 cent each	-	-	18,827 72
2,780	pounds bullets and buck shot, at 8 cents per pound	-	-	222 40
4,500	priming tubes, at 1 cent each	-	-	45 00
1,615	portfires, at 6 cents each	-	-	96 90
390	fuses, at 6 cents each	-	-	23 40
607,120	percussion caps, at \$1 per thousand	-	-	607 01
66,814	flints, assorted, at \$3 50 per thousand	-	-	233 84
719	pounds slow match, at 15 cents per pound	-	-	107 85
				24,888 35
2,567	rounds of ammunition, of various kinds and calibers, damaged; damage estimated at	-	-	434 10
	Total	-	-	25,322 45

ORDNANCE OFFICE,
Washington, December 7, 1840.

G. TALCOTT,
Lt. Col. Ordnance.

STATEMENT B,

Exhibiting the number of arms, accoutrements, &c., which have been irreparably and otherwise damaged while in the hands of troops in the service of the United States, in Florida, from the commencement of the Seminole war to the first day of July, 1840, so far as the returns have been received at the Ordnance Office; together with the cost of replacing and repairing the same.

Designation of arms, &c.	Cost of each item.	Cost of repairing each item.	Total.
Muskets { Irreparable - - - 86	\$12 50	-	\$1,075 00
{ Extensively damaged - - - 1,053	-	\$8 00	8,416 00
{ Damaged - - - 6,762	-	6 00	40,572 00
Rifles { Irreparable - - - 3	18 00	-	54 00
{ Extensively damaged - - - 441	-	10 00	4,410 00
{ Damaged - - - 884	-	6 00	5,304 00
Hall rifles { Extensively damaged - - - 292	-	12 00	3,504 00
{ Damaged - - - 664	-	8 00	5,312 00
Carbines { Irreparable - - - 1	17 50	-	17 50
{ Extensively damaged - - - 398	-	12 00	4,776 00
{ Damaged - - - 669	-	8 00	5,352 00
Double-bar- { Irreparable - - - 3	30 00	-	90 00
relled guns { Extensively damaged - - - 22	-	15 00	330 00
{ Damaged - - - 69	-	10 00	690 60
Pistols { Extensively damaged - - - 269	-	4 00	1,076 00
{ Damaged - - - 579	-	2 50	1,447 50
Cavalry sabres extensively damaged - - - 167	-	5 00	835 00
Artillery swords extensively damaged - - - 94	-	3 00	282 00
Bayonets damaged - - - 1,758	-	50	879 00
Musket cartridge boxes damaged - - - 9,357	-	80	7,485 50
Musket cartridge-box belts damaged - - - 5,338	-	40	2,135 20
Bayonet scabbards damaged - - - 7,811	-	35	2,733 85
Bayonet scabbard belts damaged - - - 3,480	-	45	1,560 00
Waist belts damaged - - - 156	-	20	31 20
Gun slings damaged - - - 2,837	8	-	228 96
Brushes and picks damaged - - - 478	12	-	57 36
Screw-drivers damaged - - - 552	7	-	38 64
Wipers damaged - - - 346	13	-	44 98
Ball screws damaged - - - 158	15	-	23 70
Spring yices damaged - - - 49	25	-	12 25
Hall's rifle flasks damaged - - - 686	1 00	-	686 00
Powder flasks (copper) damaged - - - 246	-	1 00	246 00
Punches and belts damaged - - - 1,075	-	60	645 00
Carbine priming boxes damaged - - - 176	-	1 00	176 00
Carbine buckets damaged - - - 322	50	-	161 00
Carbine swivels damaged - - - 88	-	1 00	88 00
Carbine slings damaged - - - 87	25	-	21 75
Dragoon cartridge boxes damaged - - - 1,259	-	80	1,031 20
Holders (belts) damaged - - - 524	-	2 00	1,048 00
Sword belts damaged - - - 40	-	1 00	40 00
Sabre belts damaged - - - 723	-	80	578 40
Belt plates, infantry, damaged - - - 1,736	-	6	104 16
Belt plates, rifle, damaged - - - 1,684	-	6	101 04
Belt plates, cavalry, damaged - - - 801	-	10	80 10
Bullet moulds damaged - - - 112	-	20	22 40
			103,808 69

Note.—The amount exhibited above is not an expenditure in money for the suppression of Indian hostilities in Florida, but an expense to be incurred for replacing and repairing the arms, accoutrements, &c., lost and damaged, and is properly chargeable to that account.

The great amount of damage is to be attributed to the large proportion of volunteers, militia, and Indians who have been in service in Florida—most of them having been armed and equipped with new arms and equipments, which, when returned into store, were generally much damaged.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, Washington, December 7, 1840.

G. TALCOTT, Lieut. Col. of Ordnance.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, December 5, 1840.

SIR: Under a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 7th of July last, calling for information in relation to the expenditures on account of the war in Florida, I submit a statement (marked A) showing the amount disbursed through this department, in each year, during the five years ending the 30th of September last, on account of the wars against the southern Indians.

The appropriations having been made for the Creek and Cherokee wars, as well as for that against the Seminoles, and the force in this office not being sufficient to enable either of the officers who had charge of the office during those wars to keep individual accounts, a single general account only has been kept, comprehending the expenditures growing out of the operations against all those tribes; and supplies and means purchased for one service, having, to a considerable amount, been transferred during the war to the others, this office affords no data by which the amount expended on account of each can be accurately ascertained. All accounts of the department are received at this office, but they are retained no longer than the time necessary to give them a thorough examination; they are then sent to the offices of the Second and Third Auditors for settlement. The officers having the custody of the accounts can alone furnish the detailed statement of expenditures required.

With high consideration and respect, I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

THOS. S. JESUP.

The Hon. J. R. POINSETT,
Secretary of War.

A.

Disbursements made by the Quartermaster's Department on account of Indian hostilities.

For the Seminole, Creek, and Cherokee wars, in the year ending the 30th September, 1836	- - -	\$1,680,470 28
For the Seminole, Creek, and Cherokee wars, in the year ending the 30th September, 1837	- - -	3,362,306 46
For the Seminole and Cherokee wars, in the year ending the 30th September, 1838	- - -	3,967,774 04
For the Seminoles, in the year ending the 30th September, 1839	- - -	1,455,998 81
For the Seminoles, in the year ending the 30th September, 1840	- - -	1,107,927 63
		Total amount \$11,574,477 23

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington City, December 8, 1840.

TH. S. JESUP.

PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
November 23, 1840.

SIR: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 7th July, 1840, I have the honor herewith to submit a report of the amount expended by this department, in paying the troops employed in suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida, from the commencement of the war to the 1st of October, 1840.

I am not certain that the resolution was intended to embrace the *regular troops*, as they would have received precisely the same amount from the Pay Department if there had been no war. I have, however, thought proper to state the payments made to them in Florida, keeping the statement distinct from that of the militia.

To obtain the results given in the tabular statement, it was necessary to examine minutely the accounts of a majority of the paymasters that have been in service since the commencement of the war, the greater part of which had passed from this to the Second Auditor's office.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. TOWSON, *Paymaster General.*

Hon. J. R. POINSETT,
Secretary of War.

Statement of the amount paid through the Pay Department to the troops employed in suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida, from the commencement of hostilities to the 1st of October, 1840; made in compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 7th July, 1840.

REGULAR TROOPS.	Pay,	Subsistence of officers.	Forage of officers.	Servants' clothing.	Soldiers' clothing.	Amount.
Paid to commissioned officers - - - - -	\$354,603 72	\$266,210 80	\$52,073 79	\$19,187 89	-	\$692,076 20
Paid to rank and file - - - - -	1,046,392 67	-	-	-	\$89,066 42	1,135,459 09
Total paid to regular troops - - - - -	1,400,996 39	266,210 80	52,073 79	19,187 89	89,066 42	1,827,535 29
MILITIA.						Amount.
Paid to commissioned officers, on account of pay, subsistence, forage, use of horses, and servants' allowances - - - - -						\$743,360 88
Paid to rank and file, on account of pay, clothing, and use of horses, and for forage and subsistence when not drawn in kind - - - - -						2,332,663 41
Total paid to militia - - - - -						3,076,024 29

The appropriations for the army are made under the several heads as stated above; those for the militia under one head, and the accounts kept accordingly. The payments to militia cannot, therefore, be stated as much in detail as those to the army.

PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE, *November 23, 1840.*

N. TOWSON, *Paymaster General.*

Statement of expenditure by Callender Irvine, Commissary General of Purchases, on account of the appropriation for preventing and suppressing Indian hostilities during the period commencing with the fourth quarter of 1836, and ending with the third quarter of 1840.

Amount expended during the 4th quarter of 1836	-	\$15,195 25
Amount expended during the 1st quarter of 1837	-	4,839 37
Amount expended during the 2d quarter of 1837	-	4,656 88
Amount expended during the 4th quarter of 1837	-	56,122 34
Amount expended during the 1st quarter of 1838	-	12,280 21
Amount expended during the 2d quarter of 1838	-	23,848 67
Amount expended during the 1st quarter of 1839	-	1,188 97
Amount expended during the 1st quarter of 1840	-	37,252 23
Amount expended during the 3d quarter of 1840	-	17,745 75
		\$173,129 67

COMMISSARY GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Philadelphia, December 2, 1840.

C. IRVINE,
Commissary General of Purchases.

OFFICE OF COMMISSARY GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
Washington, December 7, 1840.

SIR: I have the honor to report, in compliance with the Hon. Mr. Triplett's resolution of the 7th of July, 1840, so far as the records of this office will show, that there has been expended by agents of this office, in purchasing army subsistence, for shipment to Florida, since the commencement of the Seminole hostilities, the sum of \$1,549,726 86. And also that funds have been remitted to agents of the office in Florida, since the commencement of said hostilities, amounting to 93,757 00

Making a total of 1,643,483 86

I feel it my duty to state here, that it was impracticable for me to ascertain the precise amount expended in purchasing subsistence stores for Florida, as the agents purchasing on account of Florida, purchased at the same time for the Creek and Cherokee disturbances; and some of them purchased on account of disturbances on the northern frontier; and the bills of purchase did not, in all cases, express upon their face the object of purchase, they being merged. Great pains have been taken, however, to arrive at correctness in the amounts of the two items now reported; but I greatly fear the whole amount of purchases has not been reached. It cannot, however, differ materially from the foregoing amount.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
GEO. GIBSON,
Commissary General of Subsistence.

HON. J. R. POINSETT, Secretary of War.

SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE,
December 9, 1840.

SIR: In obedience to the resolution of Congress of the 7th of July, 1840, I have the honor to state, that, upon an examination of the books of this office, there appears to have been drawn out of the Treasury of the United States, from the appropriation for the prevention and suppression of Indian hostilities, and expended in the hire of private physicians and in the purchase of extraordinary supplies of medicines, hospital stores, instruments, bedding, &c., for the volunteers, militia, &c., operating in Florida, from the commencement of hostilities in 1835 to the 30th of September, 1840, the sum of \$40,860 83, as per statement herewith annexed:

Surgeon General Joseph Lovell.

1836.		
Jan. 21,	Special requisition in favor of Surgeon T. G. Mower, for extra supplies	-\$5,000 00
29,	Special requisition in favor of Major I. Clark, for extra supplies	2,000 00
Feb. 3,	Special requisition in favor of Lieut. J. L. Locke, for extra supplies	542 22
		\$7,542 22

Acting Surgeon General B. King.

1836.		
Oct. 21,	Special requisition in favor of Surgeon T. G. Mower, for extra supplies	-\$6,000 00
1837.		
Jan. 10,	Special requisition in favor of Major T. F. Hunt, for extra supplies	1,221 26
Feb. 18,	Special requisition in favor of Major T. F. Hunt, for extra supplies	800 98
Dec. 16,	Special requisition in favor of Major T. F. Hunt, for extra supplies	600 00
1838.		
Jan. 5,	Special requisition in favor of Major T. F. Hunt, for extra supplies	1,200 00
Feb. 2,	Special requisition in favor of Major T. F. Hunt, for extra supplies	1,500 00
Aug. 6,	Special requisition in favor of Major T. F. Hunt, for extra supplies	1,000 00
	Payment of accounts of hired physicians, &c. at the Treasury	6,320 64
		18,642 88

Surgeon General Thomas Lawson.

1837.		
April 22,	Special requisition in favor of Surgeon T. G. Mower, for extra supplies, &c.	\$1,000 00
Aug. 7,	Special requisition in favor of Major T. F. Hunt, for extra supplies, &c.	1,500 00

Payment of accounts of hired physicians, &c. at the Treasury, the claims accruing in the years 1836, 1837, 1838, 1839, and 1840	-	\$12,175 73	
		<u> </u>	\$14,675 73
			<u> </u>
			<u>40,860 83</u>

All which is respectfully submitted:

THOMAS LAWSON,
Surgeon General.

Hon. J. R. POINSETT,
Secretary of War.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Second Auditor's Office, November 30, 1840.

SIR: In answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 7th July, 1840, directing the Secretary of War to report, "on the first day of the next session of Congress, the amount of expenditure in suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida, showing distinctly the various items of expenditure," I have the honor to state, that, exclusive of the amount disbursed for the pay and allowances of the troops, and reported by the Paymaster General, there was expended, during the years 1836, 1837, 1838, 1839, and to the 30th of September, 1840, the sum of \$489,539 53, for medical and hospital stores, instruments, medicines, medical services, arms, accoutrements, ammunition, printing of blanks, payment of expresses and Indian spies, apprehending deserters, prison expenses, &c., as exhibited in the accounts of quartermasters on file in this office.

To furnish in detail the various items of all these expenditures, as required by the resolution, would have occupied more time and more force than could have been spared from the indispensable current business of the office.

Very respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

W. B. LEWIS.

Hon. J. R. POINSETT,
Secretary of War.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Third Auditor's Office, November 16, 1840.

SIR: I had the honor to receive from you, in July last, a resolution passed on the 7th of that month, by the House of Representatives, requiring the Secretary of War to report thereto, on the first day of the next session of Congress, the amount of expenditure in suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida, showing distinctly the various items of expenditure; also, the number of troops employed in that service, and the length of time employed, distinguishing the commissioned officers from the privates and non-commissioned officers, and the amount of pay to the officers and to the non-commissioned officers and privates; the amount paid for

subsistence and transportation, and the items of such expenditure, separately; the other expenses under their appropriate heads, and the items of such expenditure. An endorsement on the resolution indicates it to have been referred by you, not only to this office, but to various others, for a report from each; and the reference thereof to me is presumed to be for the purpose of obtaining such information, under its different branches, as it may be in the power of this office to furnish.

The report sought by the resolution seems obviously to be, not any of a general character, but one exhibiting in detail every item of expenditure in suppressing Indian hostilities in Florida, during a period of nearly five years, and without any limit as to the nature of the expenditure or the kind of troops employed. To comply, therefore, so far as regards this office, with a resolution so comprehensive in its scope, would require minute searches in all the accounts and vouchers on file therein, which, during that time, have been rendered by the various disbursing officers in the subsistence and quartermaster departments, on duty, not only in Florida, but in the many other sections of the Union in which supplies for use there have been purchased, or payments for the same, or for the transportation thereof, or of the troops, &c., to Florida, have been made; also, in the accounts and vouchers of numerous other officers employed in the receipt and distribution of the property; and, likewise, in those of an immense number of individual claimants. Every item applicable to the subject, which might be met with in these searches, would have to be extracted, involving the necessity of dissecting the vouchers wherever the same (as they frequently do) contain charges under different heads, and the appending thereto notes, which would be wanted to render them intelligible, when thus separated from each other. The materials thus collected would then, in conformity with the resolution, need to be set forth in a report, under their appropriate heads; and of the magnitude of such a report, or of the preliminary labor and time necessary to its completion, it would be difficult to form any just idea. Fully satisfied, however, from my own reflections on the subject, and the opinions of others conversant therewith, that if all the clerks in the office, to the utter neglect of their other duties, could have been employed on the work from the time the resolution was received, it would have been beyond their ability to accomplish the same by the first, or even the last day of the next session of Congress, I considered it unjustifiable to take any of them from their current duties, pressing as they are, to make an attempt at a compliance with the resolution, which must inevitably have proved in vain.

With great respect, your most obedient servant,
PETER HAGNER, *Auditor.*

Hon. J. R. POINSETT,
Secretary of War.