

CHICKASAW FUND.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A statement of the funds of the Chickasaw Indians, as required by the act of 20th April, 1836.

DECEMBER 21, 1840.

Read, and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *December 15, 1840.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit a statement of the funds of the Chickasaw Indians, as required by the act for carrying into effect the treaties with them, approved the 20th of April, 1836.

The last annual report from this department furnished the account of sales of their lands to the 1st of November, 1839. On that day, the receiver at Pontotoc returned, as in his hands, the sum of \$64,198 17. His subsequent accounts show that, in the twelve months anterior to the 1st ultimo, he received for lands sold the further sum of \$90,575 02—making, together, \$154,773 19; which amount, it appears, he had accounted for, except \$4,998 16 then in his hands.

Within the last year there has been brought on the books of the Treasury, for Chickasaw lands sold, \$156,074 09, including \$3,835 86 paid to the receiver at Pontotoc for the lands of orphans sold by him, and for interest \$106,032 06 collected by this department on State bonds held in trust for those Indians; which sums, with the balance in the Treasury at the date of my last annual report, of \$133,840 37, make altogether \$395,946 52. This amount has been drawn out on requisitions from the Secretary of War, except a balance of \$34,315 70 on Chickasaw account, and \$4,514 21 on orphan account, now in the Treasury, and soon to be applied in discharging outstanding claims.

The receiver at Pontotoc reports the sale of 430,906.25 acres of Chickasaw land, and 638.33 of those belonging to orphans, within the twelve months ending the 1st ultimo. The prices for the former varied, as provided for in the 11th article of the treaty of May, 1834, from \$1 to 12½ cents the acre.

The claims to reserves, preferred at a late date by some western Indians, not having been disposed of in the War Department, a few fractions of townships on the southern boundary of the Chickasaw cession remain in the same situation they were at my last annual report.

That portion of the special deposit made by the receiver at Pontotoc in the Planters' Bank at Natchez, which was in bank notes, (\$12,000 received by him before the suspension of specie payments,) has not been available as yet; but hopes are entertained that the amount will be realized in the collections now in progress from that institution.

The stocks held in trust for the Chickasaws are nearly the same as reported at the last session, (doc. 145;) the only alteration being the exchange of one certificate of Maryland stock for another of the same State, occasioned by the commissioner of loans (not having funds that could be received by this department, to take up a certificate due) substituting, for one bearing 5 per cent. interest, another yielding 6 per cent. This exchange increases the annual interest to the Chickasaws \$90 78.

An arrangement between the Chickasaws and Choctaws provided for the payment by the first to the latter of half a million of dollars for their western home. It not being likely that the future sales of their lands will produce sufficient money to pay this debt, it is expected that a transfer of that amount of their stocks in the trust of this department will be necessary to cancel the demand. After doing this, they will still be wealthy, as they have an abundance of land of the best quality to furnish a home for every individual for many generations to come, and a fund, well secured, which yields an annual interest amounting to more than eighty thousand dollars. For these means the Chickasaws have much occasion to praise the wise policy which prompted the sale of their old home, and removal from scenes of constant broils with their white neighbors, to a new one comparatively quiet, and it is believed, in every respect, much better suited to their wants.

Respectfully submitted:

LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.

HON. R. M. T. HUNTER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Doc. No. 19.

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A.

Statement from the 1st December, 1839, to the 1st December, 1840, carrying into effect the Chickasaw treaty of the 20th October, 1832, per act of 20th April, 1836.

1839.	Dr.		1839.	Cr.	
D. Kurtz	-	-	Dec. 1. Balance	-	\$133,840 37
Balance	-	-	Appropriation warrant No. 53	-	24,470 34
		\$316 68			
		157,994 03			
		158,310 71			158,310 71
1840.			1840.		
D. Kurtz	-	-	Balance	-	157,994 03
William Fischer	-	-	Appropriation warrant No. 54	-	70,510 00
Haliday & Besançon	-	-	Do. do. No. 55	-	6,646 45
R. D. C. Collins	-	-	Do. do. No. 56	-	23,968 33
P. H. Fontaine	-	-	Do. do. No. 57	-	77,731 23
D. Kurtz	-	-	Do. do. No. 58	-	17,510 00
Wm. Carroll	-	-	Do. do. No. 59	-	2,119 55
Worthington & Lester	-	-	Do. do. No. 60	-	32,314 39
J. M. Smith	-	-	Do. do. No. 61	-	3,000 00
Penn & Elliott	-	-			
Glasgow & Harrison	-	-			
Simeon Buekner	-	-			
D. Kurtz	-	-			
Balance	-	-			
		3,000 00			
		4 28			
		26 80			
		225,862 83			
		1,523 47			
		3,000 00			
		181 00			
		13 20			
		15 60			
		15 10			
		103,000 00			
		19,836 00			
		1,000 00			
		34,315 70			
		391,793 98			391,793 98

Chickasaw orphans, under 8th article of treaty of July 1, 1834.

1839.	Dr.		1839.	Cr.	
Balance	-	-	Dec. 1st. Balance	-	\$678 35
		\$3,560 66	Appropriation warrant No. 53	-	2,882 31
		3,560 66			3,560 66
1840.			1840.		
Richard Smith	-	-	Balance	-	3,560 66
Balance	-	-	Appropriation warrant No. 55	-	953 55
		7,881 79	Secretary of War, trustee	-	8,154 11
		4,786 53			
		12,668 32			12,668 32

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Register's Office, December 2, 1840.

T. L. SMITH, Register.