

APPROPRIATIONS—DELEGATIONS OF INDIANS TO WASHINGTON.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

ESTIMATING FOR

An appropriation to defray the expenses of delegations of Indians visiting Washington City and for the purchase of presents.

JUNE 11, 1870.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., June 4, 1870.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication, dated the 3d instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and accompanying estimate of appropriation required to defray the expenses of delegations of Indians visiting Washington City, and to purchase presents for the members thereof, in 1870.

The attention of Congress is respectfully invited to the statement of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in relation to the estimate submitted, and I recommend that an appropriation of fifty thousand dollars be made for the purposes indicated in his communication.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. D. COX,
Secretary.

Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., June 3, 1870.

SIR: I have the honor to state that there are now in this city two delegations of Sioux Indians, numbering, with the agents and interpreters in charge of them, thirty-two persons. These Indians, or most of them, are hostile to the United States government, and are here by direction of the President, that they may be able to state their complaints and grievances in person, and with a view of having the peace preserved on the

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frontier. A delegation of Pawnees is expected here in a few days, for the purpose of settling some difficulties between them and the Sioux; and also one of the Osages, to arrange certain matters concerning the interests and welfare of that tribe.

When the Sioux return to their homes it is desired to send them by the way of Philadelphia and New York, stopping a few days in each of those cities to see the principal things to be seen there. It is believed this course will have a good influence upon them by impressing them with the power of the government, and convincing them of the great number of whites, and of the uselessness of warring with them. They will also expect to receive presents to take to their friends and relatives, and they should certainly be indulged in this particular.

To defray the expenses of these delegations, and to purchase presents for the Sioux, it is believed that \$50,000 will be required; and in order that the funds may be at the disposal of the department when needed, I respectfully recommend that the matter be laid before Congress, with the request that an appropriation may be made for the objects herein stated at the earliest day practicable.

I herewith inclose an estimate of appropriation required for the purposes above named.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. S. PARKER,
Commissioner.

Hon. J. D. Cox,
Secretary of the Interior.

Estimate of appropriation required to defray the expenses of delegations of Indians visiting Washington City, and to purchase presents for the members thereof, in 1870:

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary to defray the expenses of delegations of Indians visiting Washington City, by authority of the President and the Secretary of the Interior, and to purchase presents for the members of such delegations..... \$50,000 00