

AGENCY BUILDINGS IN CREEK AND SEMINOLE COUNTRY.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

REQUESTING

An appropriation for erection of agency buildings in the Creek and Seminole country.

FEBRUARY 21, 1871.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., February 18, 1871.

SIR: By the accompanying copy of a letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, of the 15th instant, it appears that certain funds, amounting to \$20,000, were appropriated for the erection of agency buildings in the Creek and Seminole country during the year 1866.

It further appears by the letter of the Commissioner that he considers it doubtful, in view of the fifth and sixth sections of the act of July 12, 1870, whether the fund is any longer subject to the requisitions of this Department.

I therefore have the honor to suggest, in order that all doubt on the subject may be removed, that the sum of \$20,000 be appropriated for the erection of the buildings mentioned.

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

C. DELANO,
Secretary.

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., February 15, 1871.

SIR: Under the provisions of the sixth article of the treaty with Seminoles of March 31, 1866, and ninth article treaty with Creeks of June 14, 1866, (U. S. Stats., vol. 14, pages 758 and 788,) the sum of \$20,000 was, by the act of July 28, 1866, (U. S. Stats., vol. 14, pages 319, 320,) appropriated for the erection of suitable agency buildings on the reservations of said tribes.

On the 7th of September, 1867, these funds were placed in the hands of James Wortham, late superintendent Indian affairs, and on his removal from office on the 15th of July, 1868, transferred to his successor, Mr. L. N. Robinson.

At the time of the rendition of his final accounts up to September 30, 1869, the office of the southern superintendency having in the mean time been abolished, the funds referred to still remained in Mr. Robinson's hands, and were not restored to the Government until after the passage of the appropriation act of July 12, 1870, by the 5th and 6th sections of which (U. S. Stats., Forty-first Congress, second session, page 251) these funds appear to be placed beyond the control of your Department.

In order to enable this office to fulfill treaty stipulations with the Creeks and Seminoles, as herein referred to, I respectfully suggest that this matter be laid before Congress with the request that such action be taken in the premises as will replace at the disposal of your Department the sum of \$20,000, originally appropriated for the erection of agency buildings on their reservations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. S. PARKER,
Commissioner.

Hon. C. DELANO,
Secretary of the Interior.