

KICKAPOO MONEY AS A TRUST-FUND.

LETTER

FROM THE

ACTING SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

RELATIVE TO

The retention of Kickapoo money as a trust-fund.

JANUARY 7, 1873.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., January 6, 1873.

SIR: Fully agreeing with the views of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, as expressed in the accompanying copy of his report of the 21st ultimo, upon the request of the chiefs of the Kickapoo tribe of Indians for the Government to retain certain funds now to their credit as a permanent trust-fund, I have the honor to submit the inclosed copies of papers, that the subject may receive the favorable action of Congress.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. COWEN,
Acting Secretary.

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., December 21, 1872.

SIR: The fifth article of the treaty with the Kickapoo tribe of Indians, concluded June 28, 1862, and ratified May 28, 1863, (St., vol. 13, p. 625,) provides for the sale of certain lands to the Atchison and Pike's Peak Railroad Company, (now Central Branch of the Union Pacific,) and for the payment at the expiration of ten years from the date of the ratification of said treaty of the sum of \$10,000 to the Kickapoos from the proceeds of said sale, and a like sum each and every year thereafter until the whole amount shall have been paid.

The sale in question was effected on the 16th August, 1865, at six

years' time, with interest on deferred payments at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and the proceeds were brought on the books of this Office on the 23d September, 1871, in the amount of \$154,790.39, and converted into United States 5 per cent. bonds, loan of 1881, to the amount of \$137,400. Of these bonds there are now held in trust by the United States the par value of \$131,400, the balance of \$6,000 having recently been sold in order to pay twelve Kickapoo Indians, who had elected to become citizens of the United States, the share of the tribal funds to which they were entitled.

With the above statement of facts I have the honor to present herewith a copy of a communication from the chiefs and head-men of the Kickapoo tribe of Indians, dated November 28, 1872, and inclosed in a letter from the superintendent of Indian affairs for the central superintendency, in which they ask that the full amount of the principal realized from the sales of their lands under the terms of the treaty of May 28, 1863, be held in trust by the Government instead of being subject to an annual deduction of \$10,000, as stipulated by said treaty, and that the interest thereon be paid to the tribe annually as a perpetual annuity.

Fully convinced that it would be bad policy, with a view to the future welfare of these Indians, to use or reduce in any way the principal sum held in trust for them, I heartily concur in the recommendation of the superintendent that the subject of the petition of the chiefs and head-men of the tribe in this case be laid before Congress for favorable consideration.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. WALKER,
Commissioner.

The Honorable SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, CENTRAL SUPERINTENDENCY,
Lawrence, Kansas, Twelfthmonth 5, 1872.

Inclosed I transmit copy of letter of B. H. Miles, acting agent of Kickapoos, date Eleventhmonth 20, with copy of communication from chiefs and head-men of said tribe asking for a change of the fifth article of treaty of May 28, 1863, so that the purchase-money for lands sold under provisions of said article may be held in trust by the Government and the interest only be paid to said tribe as a perpetual annuity.

Very respectfully,

CYRUS BEEDE,
Chief Clerk.

Hon. F. A. WALKER,
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.

KICKAPOO INDIAN AGENCY,
Muscotah, Kansas, Eleventhmonth 28, 1872.

Inclosed I forward thee an extract of council with the chiefs of the Kickapoos in relation to a change of the fifth article of the treaty of May 28, 1863, so that they may not draw any portion of the principal of said sale, but that the Government so hold it in trust that they may draw the interest as a perpetual annuity.

Thy friend,

B. H. MILES,
Acting Agent.

ENOCH HOAG,
Superintendent, Lawrence, Kansas.

KICKAPOO INDIAN AGENCY,
Muscotah, Kansas, Eleventhmonth 28, 1872.

We, the chiefs and head-men of the Kickapoo tribe of Indians, would respectfully call the attention of the Indian Department to the fact that we are very desirous that the Government may hold in *trust* all of the *principal* of proceeds of sale of land under treaty of May 28, 1863, and not diminish said principal by the payment of "ten thousand dollars of it each and every year until it is all paid," but that it be so held in trust by the Government that we may draw the interest thereon as a perpetual annuity for our tribe.

KEAH-QUARK, his x mark.
MUS-QUA-QUA, his x mark.
NUS-QUAT, his x mark.
WAH-PE-KAH-SHEK, his x mark.
WAH-PUM-ESH-WAH, his x mark.

ENOCH HOAG,
Superintendent, Lawrence, Kansas.

Witness: JOHN C. ANDERSON,
United States Interpreter.

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