

INDIAN SERVICE IN NEW MEXICO.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

An estimate of appropriation for the Indian service in New Mexico.

JANUARY 19, 1875.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., January 19, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a report, dated the 18th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, together with an estimate of appropriation required for the Indian service in New Mexico, in the sum of \$17,364.71, or so much thereof as may be necessary to meet certain liabilities incurred during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, in providing subsistence supplies for the Navajo Indians in New Mexico.

A copy of the letter of Agent Army, dated 14th instant, mentioned in the report of the Commissioner, is also herewith transmitted.

The attention of Congress is respectfully invited to this subject with a view to its favorable consideration by that body.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. DELANO,
Secretary.

The SPEAKER of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., January 18, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith a copy of a communication from Agent W. F. M. Army, dated the 14th instant, recommending that Congress be requested to appropriate the sum of \$17,364.71 to pay vouchers issued by him for subsistence purchased for the Navajo Indians in New Mexico.

It will be observed that the agent states that the purchase had to be made at a time when he could not communicate with this Office soon

enough to prevent a war on the Mormons and Mexicans, which would, in his opinion, certainly have resulted from the Indians supplying themselves from their flocks, as they had determined to do.

There is no provision made by treaty or act of Congress for the subsistence of the Navajoes, and but the sum of \$5 per head is appropriated annually for clothing, and \$10 per head for beneficial objects, under the treaty of June 1, 1868, (Stats., vol. 15, p. 667.)

These appropriations for the present fiscal year are almost exhausted, and there are no funds out of which the liabilities incurred for subsistence can be paid.

In view of these facts, I respectfully recommend that Congress be requested to make the necessary appropriation, an estimate of which is herewith submitted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. P. SMITH,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Estimate of appropriation required for the Indian service in New Mexico.

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary to meet certain liabilities incurred during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875, in providing subsistence supplies for the Navajo Indians in New Mexico.... \$17,364 71

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 14, 1875.*

SIR: Being about to leave here with my Indians for their Rocky Mountain home, I most respectfully ask your attention to the following-named vouchers for subsistence to the Navajo Indians at Fort Defiance Agency, viz:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| William Rosenthal, for beef..... | \$11,794 90 |
| Juan Salazar, for wheat..... | 4,345 40 |
| D. Provincher, for beef..... | 723 06 |
| Roman A. Baca, for wheat..... | 501 35 |

17,364 71

The purchase of the above-named subsistence was required at a time when I could not communicate with your Office soon enough to save a war with the Mormons, and if I had not taken the responsibility, I am confident that a war would have resulted which would have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars; and as the Indians gave me the alternative to feed them, or they would feed themselves from the flocks and herds of the Mormons and Mexicans, I concluded to feed them to the extent of the above amount. I can also confidently say that the subsistence was purchased at as low prices as it could be obtained. I hope, therefore, that you will recommend an appropriation for its payment.

W. F. M. ARNY,
United States Indian Agent, Navajo Indians.

Hon. E. P. SMITH,
Commissioner Indian Affairs.