

EXPENDITURES OF BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS.

M E S S A G E

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING,

In answer to House resolution of the 6th of January, a supplemental report from the Secretary of the Interior, explaining a clerical error in that portion of the statement of the Indian Office relating to expenditures of the Board of Indian Commissioners.

MARCH 27, 1876.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

To the House of Representatives :

In further answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 6th of January last, with regard to certain expenditures and employés in the Indian service, except those on duty in the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, &c., I have the honor to transmit herewith a supplemental report received from the Secretary of the Interior, respecting and explaining a clerical error to be found in that portion of the statement of the Indian Office which relates to expenditures of the Board of Indian Commissioners, and to ask its consideration in connection with the papers which accompanied my message of the 3d of February last.

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, *March 27, 1876.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, March 24, 1876.

SIR: On the 8th of January last, a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 6th of January, calling for certain information in relation to employés and expenditures in the Indian service, was referred by you to this Department. On the 1st ultimo I had the honor to transmit to you, in answer to said resolution, a report from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, to whom the matter was referred.

I now have the honor to respectfully present a copy of a communication of the 17th instant, from the Commissioner, in relation to the same

subject, in which attention is called to a clerical error in that portion of the statement of the Indian Office which relates to expenditures of the Board of Indian Commissioners, giving an explanation of the matter, and respectfully request that the same may be transmitted to Congress for its consideration in connection with the previous papers herein referred to.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 Z. CHANDLER,
Secretary.

The PRESIDENT.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
 OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
 Washington D. C., March 17, 1876.

SIR: Upon the 31st of January last I had the honor to forward to you, for transmission to Congress through the proper channel, certain statements showing the number of agents and their employés in the Indian service, in compliance with resolution of the House of Representatives of the 6th of that month. This letter now appears as Executive Document, House Representatives, No. 128.

In statement No. 2, accompanying that communication, the expenses of the Board of Indian Commissioners for the first six months of the present fiscal year were reported as \$22,941.88. These expenditures were in fact only \$5,979.22, which amount, as stated by the secretary of the board, was expended for the purposes named below :

Salaries for secretary, assistant secretary, clerk, and messenger.....	\$3,100 00
Traveling-expenses of members of the board on official business.....	1,551 01
Expenses of purchasing-committee, including hire of clerk, rent of rooms for storage, &c.....	331 98
Office-rent.....	300 00
Phonographic reporter at joint conference.....	68 48
Traveling-expenses of members on official business on subsidized railroads not included above, estimated.....	500 00
Incidentals, telegrams, heating office, stationery, &c.....	127 75
	5,979 22

In this connection I desire to say that the figures given as the compensation of employés in the statements accompanying that letter, Nos. I, II, VI, VII, show the *annual* compensation of such employés.

I regret exceedingly the clerical error which is here disclosed, and ask that this correction thereof may be laid by you before the House of Representatives.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 J. Q. SMITH,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.