

INDIANS OF THE NORTHERN SUPERINTENDENCY.

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

A copy of a bill to amend the act of June 10, 1872, for the relief of certain Indian tribes in the Northern Superintendency.

JANUARY 13, 1875.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., January 8, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication, dated the 6th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, together with the printed copy of the bill therein mentioned, entitled "An act to amend an act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the Northern Superintendency," approved June 10, 1872.

The attention of Congress is respectfully invited to the recommendation of the Commissioner, with the request that the subject receive its favorable consideration.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. COWEN,
Acting Secretary.

The SPEAKER of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., January 6, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, herewith inclosed, a printed copy of a bill to amend the act of June 10, 1872, for the relief of certain Indians in the Northern Superintendency, which has been amended to accomplish the end in view by striking therefrom the Pawnees, and appropriating for the Omahas \$40,000, and for the Otoes and Missourias \$25,000.

I respectfully recommend that the same be sent to Congress for favorable action.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD P. SMITH,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

AN ACT to amend an act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the Northern Superintendency approved June 10, 1872.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That, after the Secretary of the Interior shall have caused an appraisement to be made of any of the lands embraced within the act before referred to, and after he shall have caused the same to be offered for sale under the provisions of said act, if it shall appear that any of said lands remain unsold for the want of bids in accordance with the terms and provisions of said act, the Secretary of the Interior shall have power to sell any tract which has been so appraised and offered for sale, belonging either to the Omahas, Otoes and Missourias, or the Sac and Fox Indians, at not less than the appraised value thereof, on the following terms and conditions: One-fourth cash in hand; the balance in three equal annual payments, drawing interest at six per cent. per annum from the day of sale. The patent for lands so sold not to be delivered until the last and final payment has been made. In all such cases the purchaser shall be required, on making his first payment, to give bond with adequate security, to be approved by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior, to commit no waste or damage, by the sale or destruction of timber, or otherwise, upon the lands so purchased, until the last and final payment is made. And the Secretary of the Interior is further authorized, when, in his opinion, the appraisement of the lands or any part of them, embraced in the act herein referred to, is so high as to prevent the same from being sold, to set aside such appraisement, and to order a new appraisement under the terms and conditions of the aforesaid act.

SEC. 2. That the fourth section of the act approved June 10, 1872, before referred to, be so amended as to include the lands of the Sac and Fox Indians lying in Kansas, as well as that portion of their lands lying in the State of Nebraska.

SEC. 3. That all the moneys placed to the credit of either of the tribes of Indians, mentioned in the act approved June 10, 1872, on the books of the Treasury of the United States, shall bear interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, except such portions thereof as the Secretary of the Interior may, with the approval of the President of the United States, deem necessary to be expended for their immediate use. And such moneys, and the interest accruing thereon, shall be regarded as a fund for the civilization of the Indians belonging to the tribe entitled to said money, and shall be used only for the purpose of advancing such civilization, under the direction of the President of the United States.

SEC. 4. That the ninth clause of the second article of a treaty made at the city of Washington, between Carey A. Harris, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, authorized by the President of the United States, and the confederated tribes of Sac and Foxes, by their chiefs and delegates, proclaimed February 21, 1838, be amended as follows: Hereafter the interest accruing on the two hundred thousand dollars, or such portions thereof as remain unexpended, invested in stocks under said ninth clause of said second section, shall not be paid to said Indians each year, in the manner annuities are paid at such time and place and in money or goods as the tribe may direct, but shall be held in trust by the Government for the use and benefit of said Indians, to be expended by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs under the direction of the President of the United States for their civilization. The President of the United States, nevertheless, shall have power to direct such portion of said funds to be paid in annuities at any time, as, in his discretion, he may deem most beneficial to said Indians.

SEC. 5. Out of any of the lands not appraised and offered for sale, in either of the reservations embraced in the act approved June 10, 1872, after the same have been legally surveyed and subdivided, any head of a family, belonging to the tribe owning such reservation, shall be entitled to an allotment of eighty acres of land, and any single person, who is a member of such tribe, above the age of twenty-one years, shall be entitled to an allotment of forty acres, for which such persons shall receive a patent entitling such person and his, or her, heirs to the use and occupation of such land. But such allotment of land shall not be alienable without the consent and approbation of the President of the United States, provided such allotments shall be made and patents issued under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

The provisions of this section may be applied to the Iowa Indians in Nebraska, and of such portion of their lands as remain undisposed of.

SEC. 6. That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, under the direction of the President of the United States, for the civilization of the Omahas and the Otoes and Missourias in Nebraska: For the Omahas, \$40,000; for the Otoes and Missourias, \$25,000; which several sums shall be reimbursed out of the first proceeds arising from the sale of the lands of said Indians, respectively, as hereinbefore provided, and as provided for by the act of June 10, 1872, entitled "An act for the relief of certain tribes of Indians in the Northern Superintendency." The sums hereby appropriated to be available on the passage of this act.