

FUND FOR SUBSISTENCE AND CIVILIZATION OF CERTAIN
INDIAN TRIBES.

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

A report by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs of the application of funds appropriated for the subsistence and civilization of Arapahoes, Cheyennes, Apaches, Kiowas, Comanches, Wichitas, and affiliated bands of Indians to the purchase of subsistence for Northern Cheyenne Indians at Tongue River Agency, Mont.

DECEMBER 16, 1889.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 13, 1889.

SIR: As required by the fourth section of the act of June 29, 1888, making appropriations for the expenses of the Indian Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889 (25 Stats., 238), I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a communication of 7th instant from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, reporting the use, under Executive authority, of \$5,000 of the \$275,000 appropriated for the subsistence and civilization of the Arapahoes, Cheyennes, Kiowas, Comanches, Wichitas, and affiliated bands, in the purchase of subsistence for the Northern Cheyenne Indians at Tongue River Agency, Mont., with the reasons therefor.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

JOHN W. NOBLE,
Secretary.

The SPEAKER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., December 7, 1889.

SIR: In section 4 of the act approved June 29, 1888, making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, it is provided (25 Stats., 238), that—

The Secretary of the Interior, under direction of the President, may use any surplus that may remain in any of the said appropriations herein made for the purchase of

subsistence for the several Indian tribes, to an amount not exceeding \$25,000 in the aggregate, to supply any subsistence deficiency that may occur: *Provided however*, That funds appropriated to fulfill treaty obligations shall not be so used: *And provided further*, That any diversions that shall be made under authority of this section shall be reported in detail, and the reasons therefor, to Congress at the session of Congress next succeeding such diversion.

I have the honor to report that under authority thus conferred upon him the President, on the 12th of November, 1888, authorized the use of \$5,500 of the \$275,000 appropriated for the subsistence and civilization of the Arapahoes, Cheyennes, Apaches, Kiowas, Comanches, Wichitas, and affiliated bands (25 Stats., 230), for the purchase of subsistence or the Northern Cheyenne Indians at the Tongue River Agency, Mont.

This diversion was recommended by this office because of a report received from the commanding officer at Fort Keogh to the effect that the Northern Cheyenne Indians were suffering from a scarcity of food. This scarcity was occasioned by the arrival at that agency, in spite of the efforts of this office to prevent it, of about two hundred Indians from the Pine Ridge Agency, Dak., thus necessitating a reduction in the quantity of the ration issued to each Indian, as there was no corresponding increase in the amount appropriated for their support.

Very respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.