

CLAIMS OF THE UMATILLA COMMISSION.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Interior submitting an estimate of an appropriation of \$5,000 to settle the claims of the Umatilla Commission.

JANUARY 27, 1891.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
January 26, 1891.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of the Interior of the 23d instant, submitting an estimate of deficiency in the appropriation for "Sale and allotment of Umatilla Reservation (reimbursable)," \$5,000, to settle the claims of the Umatilla Commission, appointed under the act of March 3, 1885, section 1. (23 Stat., page, 341.)

Respectfully yours,

W. WINDOM,
Secretary.

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, January 22, 1891.

SIR: By section 4 of "An act providing for allotment of lands in severalty to the Indians residing upon the Umatilla Reservation in the State of Oregon, and granting patents therefor and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1885, (23 Stats. 343) the sum of \$20,000 is appropriated for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of said act, to be reimbursed to the United States out of the proceeds of the lands sold.

Up to the present date the expenses incident to the taking of the census of the Indians, the establishment of the diminished reservation by proper survey, and pay and expenses of commissioners, aggregate the sum of \$19,388.92, leaving a balance of \$611.08 to meet any outstanding indebtedness.

Under section 2 of said act the President, last July, appointed, as commissioners, James P. Bushee, James B. Eddy, and Edgar J. Somerville, to appraise and classify the residue of lands of the Umatilla Reservation, in the State of Oregon, and included in the diminished reservation established and defined by order of the Secretary of the Interior, dated December 4, 1888.

The claims of said commission for services rendered and expenses incurred have been presented to this office for payment, aggregating the sum of \$3,886, which amount exceeds the balance on hand by \$3,274.92.

The cost of the examination of the surveys by the General Land Office and the length of time—4 months this Commission was in the field—accounts largely for this deficiency.

In order to meet these claims I have to recommend that Congress be requested to incorporate an item in the general deficiency bill, under the title of "Sale and allotment of Umatilla Reservation, reimbursable," providing an appropriation of the sum of \$5,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary to carry into effect section 2 of "An act providing for allotment of lands in severalty to the Indians residing upon the Umatilla Reservation in the State of Oregon and grant patents therefor, and for other purposes" approved March 3, 1885.

Very respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Indorsement.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
January 23, 1890.

Respectfully forwarded to the honorable Secretary of the Treasury, with the recommendation that the within item be incorporated in the "general deficiency bill" for the current fiscal year.

J. W. NOBLE.
Secretary.