

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

Communication from the Secretary of the Interior relative to an appropriation for the Miami Indians.

DECEMBER 13, 1886.—Read and referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

I transmit herewith a communication of the 8th instant, from the Secretary of the Interior, submitting, with accompanying papers, an estimate of appropriation in the sum of \$22,000, prepared in the Office of Indian Affairs, to provide for the payment to the Eel River band of Miami Indians of a principal sum in lieu of all annuities now received by them under existing treaty stipulations.

The matter is presented for the consideration of Congress.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
December 13, 1886.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, December 8, 1886.

The PRESIDENT :

I have the honor to submit herewith copy of a communication of 4th instant from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, addressed to this Department, presenting copy of petition received from the Eel River band of Miami Indians, in the States of Indiana and Missouri, praying for the payment to them of their principal or capitalized annuities accruing to said band under their treaties, viz : Article 4 of treaty of August 3, 1795 (7 Stat., p. 51) ; Article 3 of treaty of August 21, 1805 (7 Stat., p. 91), and 3d and separate article, treaty of September 30, 1809 (7 Stat., pp. 114 and 116).

The Commissioner states that the band numbered by last census twenty-seven souls, the majority of whom reside near the towns of Rich Valley, Peru, and La Fontaine, in Indiana ; that the heads of families are engaged in agricultural pursuits, and are not under charge of an agent of the Department ; that the annuity, amounting to \$1,100 per annum, about \$40.80 per capita, is of little benefit to them, and a source of trouble to the Department in making the payment ; that the annuity capitalized amounts to the principal sum of \$22,000 ; and, approving the request in their petition, he has caused to be prepared an estimate of appropriation required to close the treaty relations existing between the United States and the said Eel River Miami Indians, amounting to \$22,000 ,

which he recommends may be incorporated in the act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, &c., for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888.

The matter has my approval, and I respectfully request that it may be laid before Congress for the action of that body.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. Q. C. LAMAR,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, December 4, 1886.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith, in duplicate, a copy of a petition of the "Miamies of Eel River," praying for the payment to them of their principal or capitalized annuities accruing to said band under treaties dated August 3, 1795 (7 Stats., p. 51), August 21, 1805 (7 Stats., p. 91), and September 30, 1809 (7 Stats., pp. 114 and 116).

This small band of Indians numbered by the last census twenty-seven souls, and reside in the States of Indiana and Missouri, the majority near Rich Valley, Peru, and La Fontaine, Indiana. The heads of families are engaged in agricultural pursuits, and are not under charge of an agent of this Department. The annuity paid to them, amounting to \$1,100 per annum, about \$40.80 per capita, is of little benefit to them, and a source of a great deal of trouble to the Department to effect the payment.

In consideration of the cession of land, the United States guaranteed to said band of Indians, under the treaties above named, the following permanent annuities, namely:

Permanent annuity, in goods or otherwise, per fourth article of treaty August 3, 1795.....	\$500 00
Permanent annuity, in goods or otherwise, per third article of treaty of August 21, 1805.....	250 00
Permanent annuity, in goods or otherwise, per third and separate article of treaty of September 30, 1809.....	350 00
Total	1,100 00

This annuity capitalized is equal to the sum of \$22,000, which, invested at 5 per cent. per annum, rate of interest allowed by law on Indian moneys, would produce the annuity paid to them under the said treaties.

The request of this band, as set forth in their petition, meets the approval of this office, and I have caused to be prepared an estimate of appropriation required to close the treaty relations existing between the United States and the said Eel River band, amounting to the sum of \$22,000, and respectfully recommend that the same be transmitted to Congress through the proper channel, in order that said item may be incorporated in the bill making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, &c., for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888.

Very respectfully,

J. D. C. ATKINS,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Proposed amendment to be inserted in the bill making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, &c., for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888.

This amount to be paid per capita to the band of Indians known as the Miamies of Eel River, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, which sum shall be in full of all annuities and benefits guaranteed to be paid to said Indians under their treaties of August 3, 1795, August 21, 1805, and September 30, 1809, \$22,000.

Hon. J. D. C. ATKINS,
*Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
 Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. :*

The undersigned, heads of families and members of the Eel River band of Miami Indians over fourteen years of age, would respectfully petition you to take such steps as may be necessary to procure the payment to us of the principal sum due by virtue of the provisions contained in Article 4 of the treaty of August 3, 1795; Article 3 of the treaty of August 21, 1805; Article 3 of the treaty of September 30, 1809; and Article 1 of the treaty of September 30, 1809, believing such action upon your part to be for our best interest in the matter.

We are, respectfully yours,

Mary Ann Dixon, ^{her} x wife of Moses Sizer.

John Sash-a-quash, ^{mark.} x alias Noh-nah-ching-nah, for himself and all ^{his} h's children, namely, Alice Sash-a-quash, Tah-k-quah, Suan Sash-a-quash, Wah-saw-co-nice, an infant also.

Elizabeth Godfroy, ^{her} x alias Sa-co-tum-quah, for herself and all her ^{mark.} children.

Livinia Godfroy, alias No-acque-sequah.
 Ofner Godfroy, alias Nah-pe-mun-wah.

Mrs. Jane Walters, ^{her} x alias Sack-a-to-quah.

John Walter, ^{mark.} alias Wah-pop-e-tah, son of Sack-a-to-quah.

Frank Aveline, ^{his} x alias Pe-con-ge-aw.

John B. Aveline, ^{mark.}

Show-pin-e-maw, alias Louis Aveline, father of Shingo-quah, alias Caharin and Oson-di-ah, alias James

Me-shak-ka-to-quah, ^{her} x alias Martha, wife of Louis ^{mark.}

Aveline.

Witness:

ANDREW PEARSON.
 ANDREW PEARSON.
 JOS. A. HEMMEYER.