

ANNUITIES TO MIAMI TRIBE OF INDIANS.

LETTER
FROM THE
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,
IN ANSWER TO

Resolution of the House of the 15th instant, relative to payment of annuities to the Miami tribe of Indians.

DECEMBER 22, 1862.—Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
December 20, 1862.

SIR: On the 15th instant the House of Representatives adopted a resolution in the following words:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior inform the House whether the permanent annuity for the years 1854 and 1855, payable to the Miami tribe of Indians, in accordance with the fifth article of the treaty with said tribe, made June 5, 1854, has been paid to said tribe."

In answer to said resolution, I now have the honor to transmit a report from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, of the 19th instant, and accompanying paper, from which it appears that \$36,100 20 of the annuity of the Miami Indians, due in 1854 and 1855, was carried to the surplus fund; that the amount has not been reappropriated, and consequently it has never been paid to the Miami Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CALEB B. SMITH, *Secretary.*

Hon. GALUSHA A. GROW,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, December 19, 1862.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by reference from you, of the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 15th instant, calling for information "whether the permanent annuity for the years 1854 and 1855, payable to the Miami tribe of Indians, in accordance with the fifth article of the treaty with the said tribe, made June 5, 1854, has been paid to said tribe," and to transmit herewith an extract from the report of this office to the Secretary of the Interior, made on the 7th of July, 1855, from which it will be seen that the sum of \$36,100 20 of Miami annuity for these years was reported as available

for the surplus fund, and was returned to the treasury of the United States by surplus warrant No. 29, (less \$20, error in addition,) and that the said sum has never been reappropriated, and, of course, has not been paid to the Miamies.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. DOLES, *Commissioner.*

HON. CALEB B. SMITH,

Secretary of the Interior.

Extract of a letter from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the honorable the Secretary of the Interior, dated July 7, 1855, Recorded Book No. 8, pages 515 and 516.

The treaty of June 5, 1854, with the Miami Indians made full provision for adjusting all financial matters with them, and thereby new payments were substituted for some of the annuities previously existing, whilst others were confirmed and continued.

The Indians thereby released the United States from all payments and claims that are not expressly provided for in that treaty.—(See articles 4, 5, and 6 of the treaty.)

On examination I find the following amounts standing now to the credit of and making part of the head of account "for fulfilling treaties with the Miamies," which, according to the views of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, will not be needed for payment, having so been relinquished by the Indians:

Fulfilling treaties with the Miamies, \$44,668 16, in items as follows:

Miscellaneous	\$3,654 07
Removal, &c., 8th article treaty 1840, appropriated by act July 17, 1842.....	70 00
Agricultural assistance, 5th article treaty 1818.....	200 00
Annuities. This amount due the United States, being 1st, 2d, and 3d of 8 instalments to reimburse the United States, &c., as per act August 30, 1852, and 6th article of the treaty of June 5, 1854.....	4,663 89
Remainder of the balance in the treasury on June 30, 1855, for "annuity" after deducting certain sums necessary to be retained.....	36,100 20
	\$44,668 16

NOTE 1. The balance of "annuity" on the books June 30, 1855, is \$58,394 38, out of which it is necessary, after the reduction of \$4,663 89, as per last item above, to retain 14th of 20 instalments of \$12,500, per 2d article treaty 1840, after deducting the 3d of 8 to reimburse the United States as above.....

10,945 37

Part of \$31,739 11, per treaty 1854, (see act August 5, 1854,) payable to Miamies west, being so much retained September, 1854, (see article 13 of the treaty).

6,500 00

One individual share due Miami Indians of Indiana, according to Mr. Beard's pay-roll of 1854, which was not paid, the enrolled individual being dead.....

154 92

Amount set apart by Indians for "mills," lately refunded by A. Cumming

30 00

17,630 29

Recapitulation.—\$58,394 38 less \$22,294 18 is \$36,100 20.