

MESSAGE.

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

COMMUNICATING

A report of the Secretary of the Interior, asking for certain appropriations under the treaty with the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior.

FEBRUARY 7, 1855.—Read, referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

I communicate to Congress the following letter from the Secretary of the Interior, with its enclosure, on the subject of a treaty between the United States and the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior, and recommend that the appropriations therein asked for may be made.

FRANLIN PEIRCE.

WASHINGTON, February 7, 1855.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, February 6, 1855.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you, herewith, a copy of a communication from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, dated the 5th instant, calling my attention to the subject of a treaty made at La Pointe, Wisconsin, by Henry C. Gilbert and Daniel B. Herriman, commissioners on the part of the United States, and the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior; and, to enable this department to carry the treaty into effect, recommend that Congress be requested to make the appropriations specified in the letter of the Commissioner, and which will be immediately required for that purpose.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. McCLELLAND,

Secretary.

To the PRESIDENT.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Office Indian Affairs, February 5, 1855.

SIR: Having received the official information on the 24th ultimo of the approval and ratification, by the President and Senate, of the articles

of agreement and convention made and entered into at La Pointe, in the State of Wisconsin, by Henry C. Gilbert and Daniel B. Herriman, commissioners on the part of the United States, and the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior and Mississippi, I have the honor now to call your attention to the appropriations that will be required immediately to enable the department to carry the treaty into effect, viz:

For fulfilling treaties with the Chippewas of Lake Superior.

For expenses (in part) of selecting reservations, and surveying and marking the boundaries thereof, per 2d, 3d, and 12th articles of the treaty of September 30, 1854.....	\$3,000
For the payment of the first of twenty instalments in coin, goods, &c., agricultural implements, &c., and education, &c., per 4th article of the treaty of September 30, 1854.....	19,000
For the purchase of clothing and other articles to be given to the young men at the next annuity payment, as per 4th article of the treaty of September 30, 1854.....	4,800
For the purchase of agricultural implements and other articles, as presents for the mixed bloods, per 4th article of the treaty of September 30, 1854.....	6,000
For the payment of such debts as may be directed by the chiefs in open council, and found to be just and correct by the Secretary of the Interior, per 4th article of the treaty of September 30, 1854.....	90,000
For the payment of such debts of the Bois Forte bands as may be directed by their chiefs, and found to be just and correct by the Secretary of the Interior, per 12th article of the treaty of September 30, 1844.....	10,000
For the payment of the first of five instalments in blankets, cloth, &c., to the Bois Forte band, per 12th article of the treaty of September 30, 1854.....	2,000
For the first of twenty instalments for the pay of six smiths and assistants, per 5th and 2d articles of the treaty of September 30, 1854.....	5,040
For the first of twenty instalments for the support of six smith shops, per 5th and 2d articles of the treaty of September 30, 1854.....	1,320

It will be observed that the treaty of September 30, 1854, recognized the Chippewas of Lake Superior as a branch of the nation, and that the pecuniary and beneficiary stipulations therein are for their exclusive use.

By the fifth article of the treaty the Lake Superior Chippewas are to have six blacksmiths and assistants, and they relinquish, by the same article, all other employes to which they might otherwise have been entitled under former treaties.

The Chippewas of the Mississippi are, by the eighth article of the treaty, entitled to one-third of the benefits of treaties prior to 1847; and, by consequence, retain an interest of one-third in the stipulations for smith shops, &c., and farmers, &c., per second article of the treaty

of July 29, 1837; and in the farmers, and carpenters, and smiths, &c., mentioned in the fourth article of the treaty of October 4, 1842.

On an examination of the condition of existing appropriations to fulfil the stipulations just mentioned, it is found that the balances in the treasury are sufficient to sustain these employés and otherwise meet the requirements of the stipulations referred to, so far as the Chippewas of the Mississippi are interested, during the next fiscal year.

In case appropriations are made by Congress, in pursuance of the foregoing estimates, it will be perceived that the following items of the Indian appropriation bill now before Congress might, with propriety, be stricken out, viz :

House bill 555, reported, with amendments, January 16, 1855:

Page 4, lines 68, 69, 70, and 71, "three thousand dollars," (\$3,000.)

Page 4, lines 72, 73, 74, 75, and 76, "one thousand dollars," (\$1,000.)

Page 5, lines 89, 90, 91, 92, and 93, "two thousand dollars," (\$2,000.)

Page 5, lines 94, 95, and 96, "one thousand dollars," (\$1,000.)

Page 5, lines 97, 98, and 99, "one thousand two hundred dollars," (\$1,200.)

As it is not deemed necessary, I do not therefore submit, at present an estimate for appropriations to pay employés for the Bois Forte band, as per twelfth article of the treaty of September 30, 1854, or to liquidate a balance, should any be found due to these Indians by the investigation, which it is provided by the ninth article of the same treaty shall be made.

Should the foregoing estimates and suggestions be approved by you, I respectfully recommend that they be laid before Congress as early as practicable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. MANYPENNY,
Commissioner.

Hon. R. McCLELLAND,
Secretary of the Interior.