

It appears that this agreement was not satisfactory to the Senate; and as the people of Nevada desired further reduction of the Pyramid Lake Reservation and the restoration to the public domain of the entire Walker River Reservation in that State, this office, July 9, 1892, submitted to the Department draft of a bill, in lieu of the bill to ratify the said agreement, which was introduced in the Senate as bill No. 3459. It provided for vacating and restoring to the public domain the entire Walker River Reservation and a greater proportion of the Pyramid Lake Reservation than that ceded in the agreement. The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and reported back without amendment; but no further action appears to have been taken by the Senate. A bill containing similar provisions has been introduced in the present Congress (Senate 99).

*Puyallup Reservation, Wash.*—The report of the Puyallup commission, to which reference was made in office report of last year, was transmitted to the last Congress during the first session. The recommendations of that commission were not approved and ratified by Congress; but the following legislation with reference to the Puyallup Reservation, was incorporated in the Indian appropriation act of March 3, 1893 (27 Stats., 612).

That the President of the United States is hereby authorized immediately after the passage of this act to appoint a commission of three persons, and not more than one of whom shall be a resident of any one State, and it shall be the duty of said commission to select and appraise such portions of the allotted lands as are not required for homes for the Indian allottees; and also that part of the agency tract, exclusive of the burying ground, not needed for school purposes, in the Puyallup Reservation in the State of Washington. And if the Secretary of the Interior shall approve the selections and appraisements made by said commission, the allotted lands so selected shall be sold for the benefit of the allottees, and the agency tract for the benefit of all the Indians, after due notice at public auction at not less than the appraised value for cash, or one-third cash, and the remainder on such time as the Secretary of the Interior may determine, to be secured by vendor's lien on the property sold.

It shall be the duty of said commission, or a majority of them, to superintend the sale of certain lands, ascertain who are the true owners of the allotted lands, have guardians duly appointed for the minor heirs of any deceased allottees, make deeds of the lands to the purchasers thereof, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, which deeds shall operate as a complete conveyance of the land upon the full payment of the purchase money; and the whole amount received for allotted lands shall be placed in the Treasury to the credit of the Indian entitled thereto, and the same shall be paid to him in such sums and at such times as the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, shall direct: *Provided*, That the portion of the agency tract selected for sale shall be platted into streets and lots as an addition to the city of Tacoma, and sold in separate lots, in the same manner as the allotted lands, and the amount received therefor, less the amount necessary to pay the expenses of said commission, including salaries, shall be placed to the credit of the Puyallup band of Indians as a permanent school fund to be expended for their benefit: *And provided further*, That the Indian allottees shall not have power of alienation of the allotted lands not selected for sale by said commission for a period of ten years from the date of the passage of this act, and no part of the allotted land shall be offered for sale until the Indian or Indians entitled to the same shall have

signed a written agreement consenting to the sale thereof and appointing said commissioners, or a majority of them, trustees to sell said land and make a deed to the purchaser thereof; and no part of the agency tract shall be sold until a majority of said Indians shall consent thereto in a written agreement, which shall also constitute said commissioners, or a majority of them, trustees to sell said land, as directed in this act, and make deeds to the purchaser for the same. The deeds executed by said commission shall not be valid until approved by the Secretary of the Interior, who is hereby directed to make all necessary regulations to carry out the purposes of the foregoing provisions. The proceeds arising from the sale of the allotted lands shall be placed in the Treasury to the credit of the respective allottees, and the net proceeds of the agency tract, after paying the expenses of said commission in the appraisalment and sale of said lands, and reimbursing the United States for the amount advanced to said commission, shall be placed in the Treasury of the United States to the credit of all said Indians, and the said sums shall draw interest at the rate of four per cent per annum, and the income shall be annually expended for the benefit of said Indians, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided*: That an amount not exceeding one-tenth of the principal sum may be expended for their benefit during any fiscal year, if deemed necessary by the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided further*: That the entire expense herein incurred shall be apportioned by the Secretary of the Interior pro rata between the several allottees and the owners of the tribal tract; and the Secretary of the Interior may in his discretion designate one member of said commission to superintend the execution of any of the requirements of said commission herein provided for.

And the sum of twenty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purpose of defraying the expenses of said commission, to be reimbursed to the United States out of the proceeds of the sale of that portion of the agency tract, to be immediately available.

The Commissioners authorized thereunder have not yet been appointed.

*Siletz Reservation, Oregon.*—October 1, 1892, an agreement was concluded with the Indians of this reservation, whereby they ceded to the United States, for the sum of \$100,000, all their claim, right, title, and interest in and to all the unallotted lands of the reservation, except five sections of timber land, the amount ceded being about 178,840 acres. This agreement, accompanied by the draft of a bill to ratify and confirm the same, was transmitted to Congress at its last session, but failed to receive favorable consideration.

*Nez Percé Reservation, Idaho.*—May 1, 1893, an agreement was concluded with the Nez Percés in Idaho, by which they ceded to the United States all their unallotted lands (except some 30,000 acres of timber) for the sum of \$1,626,222 and certain other considerations. The agreement has not yet been submitted to you for transmittal to Congress. The lands ceded are estimated to contain about 542,074 acres.

*Yankton Reservation, S. Dak.*—The report of the Yankton Commission, dated March 31, 1893, and filed in the Department May 27, 1893, submitted an agreement concluded with the Yankton Sioux Indians December 31, 1892, by which they ceded to the United States all their surplus lands, some 168,000 acres, for the sum of \$600,000 plus \$20 for each male adult of the tribe. No action has yet been taken looking to the transmittal of the agreement to Congress.