Texas
1859

Wichita Agency L.O.
Nov 1859

Sir

After mature reflection upon the affairs of this Agency. I beg leave to submit the following suggestions as a plan for future operations. Not only because I know it to be the desire of the Department to reduce the Expenditures of this Service, but because I wish to affect the greatest possible good for these Indians at the least possible Expense to the government

You will perceive that I have suggested what I think necessary to be done with its actual Cost annexed. and at the same time submit the Items of Expenditure which I have hitherto alluded their maintainence

I have said nothing about the feeding of these people because I do not believe that I could offer any improvement on the present plan. I therefore confine myself to the matters incidental in placing them in a condition to support themselves

I ask them. That the following list of Employes. be allowed at this agency. with the salaries annexed

Viz

2 Black Smiths	Salaries 600 $	1200.00
1 Mill Millwright	700 $	700.00
1 Clerk for my office	500 $	500.00
1 Caddo. 1 Wichita and 1 Comanche Interpreter with a salary of 450 $ each		1350.00

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10	Common Laborers	@ 25 pr mo is	3000.00
1	Superintendent of Labor		500.00
	Total		$3050.00

From this you perceive that the Entire Cost of our Gens Eforce will be Seven Thousand fifty Dollars. In Contrast with which I Submit the following to show what They have Costs for Cost pr Annum

1	Superintendent	Salary —	2000.00
2	Agents ——	1500 pr Each	3000.00
1	Wood Workman		500.00
2	School Masters	500 pr Each	1000.00
1	Black Smith	600 pr ——	600.00
1	Asst Farmer	500 pr	500.00
12	Laborers for Both Agencys	25 pr pr Mo	3600.00
3	Interpreters	500 pr Each	1500.00
	Total		$12.700.00

This shows a difference in the plan & purpose of Five Thousand Six Hundred and fifty Dollars

It will be found by reference to Superintendent Neighbors Annual Estimate for the year 1860 that he has Estimated for the breaking of five Hundred acres of Land for the use of the Texas Indians at S & Peace. and I also Estimated for four Hundred acres to be broken in my annual estimate for the Indians under my Care. before these Texas Indians were brought into this Agency - this would make an additional item of four Thousand five Hundred Dollars

which I will save by the proposed plan. which item add to the $1,500.00 makes a saving of Ten Thousand One Hundred and Fifty Dollars — and instead of breaking the Lands by Contra-Ct as has heretofore been done. I propose to Buy for the use of the Nickatus & Caddoes (who have none) Two Waggons and Eight Yoke of Cattle and Six good work Mules or Horses the Entire Cost of which will not Exceed Six hundred Dollars. and then make the public Employees break the Lands plant the Crop and assist in its Cultivation

Deduct this Sum however from the above amount and there will still be found due a saving of Eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars

You will perceive by reference to the Invoices of Indian Property — which Superintendent Neighbors turned over (Copies of which are in your office) That the Tribes Have Waggons and Oxen sufficient for their use. furnished them by the Government and I am only asking. what it is Common to give the Indians and without which they would be ill prepared to make the first Step towards Cultivating the Ground

Up to the present time I have been Endeavoring to place matters in train for the raising of good

Corps the Coming Year. I have an Excellent Black Smiths Shop and Wood Shop Completed and in full operation and if the views I have suggested meets your approval and prompt action of the Department I hope at the End of the present is Coming Year to take the burthen of feeding these people in a great measure from the shoulders of the Government

But in order that this may be done Completely and relieve the Government of that Expense, ~~Enabledge~~ enlarge I purpose that the Sum which I have endeavored to suggest a plan to save may be set apart and placed in the hands of the Agent or Such other person as you may think best fitted for the service to be Expended in the purchase of Cattle and Hogs ~~too~~ to distribute to them. for they must be learned to Raise their Meat as well as bread stuff before they will Cease to be dependant on the Country

I have said nothing about Schools. because I think that the lessons of the Corn field and Potatoe patch should first be learned, and the Country Certainly would gain but little by Educating. Majors who had not learned to work or might refuse to labor after the Education had been bestowed Yours Obt Servt

E Rector Capt
Fort Smith
Ark

S A Blair
Ind Agent
Ark

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