

namely, \$500 each ; also, they receive, in the way of fees and commissions, whatever sums they are entitled to under the various provisions of section 2238, R. S., not in excess of \$3,000 each, per annum, from appropriations made by Congress for that purpose. We called attention to the fact in the former part of our brief that moneys collected by Receivers of Land Offices were required to be deposited without abatement. (Section 3617, R. S.) There is this exception to that rule: under the act of August 5th, 1882, (22 Stats., 267,) Receivers of Public Moneys pay direct from the Osage funds the expenses of selling those lands. A disbursing account is rendered, which is incorporated as a credit in the Receiver's account. Your predecessor very properly decided that certain expenses which were paid under the Lawrence decision were not chargeable to the Indians. Prior to the passage of the act of August 5th, 1882, the Indian moneys had been covered in without rebate, except for allowances for clerk hire. The Government, in the account rendered up to June 30th, 1884, claimed expenses amounting to \$132,676.45; but the Second Auditor scaled that amount down to \$87,003.38, in accordance with the decision of the Second Comptroller dated December 6th, 1886.

The filing fees for the same period amounted to \$92,700. The Second Comptroller decided that the filing fees must be taken as a set-off to the expenses, which was done, leaving a balance of \$5,696.62 unappropriated. Since that settlement the Receivers have paid out direct from the Osage trust moneys \$55,781.30, as salaries and expenses of Registers and Receivers, and the Treasury has received and covered in to the credit of the U. S. \$38,238 in filing fees. We have asked that this amount, and the former balance of \$5,696.62—in all, \$43,934.62, be recovered to the credit of the Osages.

The mere fact that the accounts which are for one and the same class of debits and credits were rendered at differ-