

by the President, we quote the following official communications:

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 11, 1882.

*Hon. J. S. Kirkwood, Secretary of the Interior:*

SIR — In compliance with your instructions, we desire to bring before you a matter of considerable importance, calling for early action.

Your predecessor, under date of February 9, 1880, sent a communication to Congress containing the appraisement of certain lands belonging to us and lying west of the Arkansas river, being in all 6,514,576.05 acres. Of that amount 230,014.04 acres was appraised separately, and was to be paid for in a manner already prescribed by act of April 10, 1876; and the remainder, 6,344,562, were appraised by the Secretary and the President, as the law directed, in June, 1879, at 47.49 cents per acre, making an aggregate of \$3,013,032.

Upon this there is due us interest from July 1, 1879, to the present date, or date of payment, at the rate of five per cent. per annum. Upon that amount there has been paid, by an appropriation in the deficiency bill of 1880, the sum of \$300,000, and also an appropriation last year of \$50,000, passed to our credit last summer as sums paid on our lands thus appraised at an aggregate for the entire tract of 47.49 cents per acre. It will thus be seen that there has been a full recognition of the amount thus due us, by the President, the department, and Congress. We have so far been unable to secure full payment, and now ask that you send an estimate for the principal and interest due us. Of the amount due, we ask that the sum of five hundred thousand dollars be vested, under the act of April 1, 1880, as a perpetual school and seminary fund, and that the remainder be placed to the credit of the Cherokee Nation, subject to the action of the Cherokee Legislature or National Council.