

By the deficiency act of March 3, 1881, (21 Stat. 422), \$50,000 was appropriated for the purchase of the lands occupied by the Poncas.

As before stated, there was assigned to the Poncas 101,894.31 acres, which at 47.49 cents per acre, the price fixed by the President June 23, 1879, amounts to \$48,389.46, which amount has been carried to the credit of the Cherokees.

The Cherokee Nation has therefore received, on account of their lands west of the Arkansas river, "sold and occupied," the sum of \$348,389.46.

I will add that the President fixed the price of the Pawnee lands at 70 cents per acre, and the remainder of the lands west of the Arkansas river at 47.49 cents per acre.

The papers referred by you are herewith returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. PRICE, *Commissioner.*

The Honorable the Secretary of the Interior.

The sum of \$300,000 referred to in the foregoing letters was appropriated by act of Congress, approved June 16, 1880, in words as follows:

"That the sum of three hundred thousand dollars is hereby appropriated, to be paid into the treasury of the Cherokee Nation for its lands in the Indian Territory west of the Arkansas river, as per estimate of the Secretary of the Interior, and which sum shall be expended, as the acts of the Cherokee Legislature direct, to relieve the destitution of the Cherokee people, caused by the failure of crops during the past season, by reason of the drought; this amount to be immediately available." (21 Stat. 248.)

In 1881 the further sum of \$50,000 was appropriated by Congress and paid to the Cherokee Nation, under the ap-