

July 29, 1867

Whereas by the first section of an act entitled "an act to establish peace with certain hostile Indian Tribes" approved July 20, 1867, it is provided "That the President of the United States, be and he is hereby authorized to appoint a Commission to consist of three officers of the army, not below the rank of brigadier general, who, together with H. G. Taylor Commissioner of Indian Affairs, John B. Henderson Chairman of the Committee of Indian Affairs of the Senate, J. A. Tappan and John P. Sanborn, shall have power and authority to call together the chiefs and headmen of such bands or tribes of Indians as are now waging war against the United States, or committing depredations upon the people thereof, to ascertain the alleged reasons for their acts of hostility, and in their discretion, under the direction of the President, to make and conclude with said bands or tribes such treaty stipulations, subject to the action of the Senate, as may remove all just causes of complaint on their part and at the same time establish security for person or property along the lines of railroad now being constructed to the Pacific, and other thoroughfares of travel to the Western Territories, and such as will most likely insure civilization for the Indians and peace and safety for the whites."

Now therefore the said H. G. Taylor Commissioner of Indian Affairs, John B. Henderson, Chairman of the Committee of Indian Affairs of the Senate, J. A. Tappan and John P. Sanborn, having been designated and appointed by said act;

J. Andrew Johnson President of the United States in pursuance of said act do hereby appoint Lieutenant General William D. Sherman, Brigadier General William S. Harney and Brigadier General Alfred A. Perry, Commissioners to act in conjunction with the said Taylor, Henderson, Tappan and Sanborn under said act and in execution of its provisions. Said commissioners appointed by said act and hereby appointed shall call together the chiefs and headmen of such bands or tribes of Indians as are now waging war against the United States, or committing depredations upon the people thereof, to ascertain the alleged reasons for their acts of hostility, and in their discretion, under the direction of the President, shall make and conclude with said bands or tribes, such treaty stipulations, subject to the action of the Senate, as may remove all just causes of complaint on their part, and at the same time establish security for person and property along the lines of railroad now being constructed to the Pacific, and other thoroughfares of travel to the Western Territories, and such as will most likely insure civilization for the Indians, and peace and safety for the whites, and shall also examine and select a district or districts of country having sufficient area to enclose all the Indian Tribes now occupying territory east of the Rocky Mountains, not now peacefully residing on permanent reservations under treaty stipulations, to which the Government has the right of occupation, or to which said Commissioners can obtain the right of occupation, and in which district or districts there shall be sufficient tillable or grazing land to enable the said Tribes, respectively, to support themselves by agricultural and pastoral pursuits.

When said Commissioners shall have performed the duties hereby, and by the act of Congress aforesaid - devolved upon them, they will report their doings to the President of the United States, including any such treaties as they may have concluded with said Indians, and all correspondence and evidence taken by them.

In testimony whereof I have caused these letters to be made Patent and the seal of the Department of the Interior to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Washington, the twenty-ninth day of July, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and sixty seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the ninety second.

By the President.

C Andrew Johnson

J. M. Brown
Secretary of the Interior.

1795 At. 15 Aug. 16. Am. John P. Sanborn. 9.