MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

TRANSMITTING

A REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

IN COMPLIANCE

WITH A RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE,

RESPECTING

The Supplies of the Northwestern Army, within certain periods therein specified, by Contractors, Commissaries, and Agents, and the expense thereby incurred.

APRIL 10, 1818.

Printed by order of the Senate of the United States,

WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY E. DE KRAFFT. 1812.

To the Senute of the United States.

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, respecting the supplies of the northwestern army, within certain periods therein specified, by contractors, commissaries, and agents, and the expenses thereby incurred. I now transmit to them a report from the Secretary of War, which, with the documents accompanying it, will afford the information required.

JAMES MONROE.

April 10th, 1818.

Department of War,

31st March, 1818.

The Secretary of War, to whom was referred the resolution of the Senate, of the 10th of February, 1817, requesting the President of the United States to cause to be laid before them,

5

- 1st. The number of complete rations and parts of rations issued by the commissaries of the northwestern army, from the 1st of September, 1812, to the 31st of May, 1813:
- 4 2d. The number of rations and parts of rations issued by the contractors for the same period;
- " 3d. The number of rations and parts of rations issued by the commissaries to said army, from the 31st of May, 1813, to the 1st of June, 1814;
- "4 4th. The number of rations and parts of rations issued by the contractors for the same period;
- "5th. The amount of provisions bought by the commissaries and public agents for said army, for each of the periods aforesaid; the whole expense of such purchases, with the wages paid to commissaries and agents; the expense of transportation, and all incidental expenses incurred by this mode of supplying the army;
- 66th. The whole amount of money paid to the contractors for supplying the army for each of the periods aforesaid;
- "7th. The whole amount of provisions turned over by the contractors on the 1st of June, 1814, to the United States, and by the United States to other contractors within that year;
- 44 8th. The amount of money advanced in the winter of 1614, and 1815, by order of Gen. Macomb, at Detroit, to the commissary, for the purpose of purchasing provisions on the allegation of an anticipated failure by the contractors; the amount of money actually paid in the purchase of such provisions, with a detailed account, as far as practicable, of the price of the different articles;
- "9th. The amount of the last mentioned provisions delivered to the contractors, or issued to the army, particularizing in each case,"

has the honor to transmit documents A, B, and C, furnished by Richard Cutts, Esq. late superintendent general of military supplies, and by the 2d and 3d auditors of the Transmity.

J. C. CALHOUN.

The President of the United States.

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A.

Superintendent General's Office,

Washington, Feb. 22, 1817.

SIR,

I have the honor to transmit, in obedience to the resolution of the Senate, of the 11th inst. a general abstract of the provisions isaued to the northwestern army, from the 1st of September, 1812, to the 21st of May, 1813, and from the 31st of May, 1813, to the 1st of June, 1813, so far as the returns have been made to this office.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHARD CUTTS, S. G. M. S.

George Graham, Esq.
Acting Secretary of War.

		Flour, barrels of	Whiskey, barrels of	Soap, barrels of	Soap, boxes of	Soap, pounds of	Salt, bushels of	Bacon, pounds of	Candles, pounds of
February to May,	1813 do.	100				i	1		
Total issues to May 31st, 1813	u 0.	100					15		
Issues from May 31, 1813, to Ju	ne 1, 1814	.							
June 2d, July 1st,	1813 do.		56				8		
August,	do.	148	56	10	2	100			
August and September, September, do.	do. do. do.	112	41 5 2	13		6,831	5		1,400
November and December, October, November, and Decem	do. ber, do.	99 6 ²⁵ / ₁₉₆	21	21	50			5,246	2,440
April, Total issued to June 1st, 1814	1814	365 25	181	26 1	52	6,931	13	5,246	3,840

Abstract of Provisions issued by John H. Piatt, Deputy Commissary to the northwestern Army, from the 1st day of June, 1813, to the 1st day of June, 1814.

Dates of issues.		Where issued.	Complete ra-	Extra flour.	Extra meat.	Extra whis- key.	Extra salt.	Extra soap.	Extra candles	Extra vine
Month of June,	1813.	St. Mary's.	5,360	1,327‡	2281	767	3,221	227	221	16
lst to 28th July,	do.	do.	2,223	144	2133	279	18	33	18	18
8th July to 20th August,	do.	do.	1,504	3643	2894	290				
st to 30th June,	do.	Loramus.		873	767	921	767	767	767	767
st to 31st July,	do.	do.		530	528	551	528	528	528	
Ionth of June,	do.	Pequa.		1,3461	1,3461	1,3631	1,3461	1,3464	1,346 ½	
July,	do.	do.	1	2,3541	2,3541	2,8461	2,0061	1,7581	2,0061	
st to 20th August,	do.	do.	2,317	2,466	1,045	1,595	1,044	348	1,400	
I to 25th June,	do.	Dayton.	1,087	7	1	16	100			
8th June to 24th August,	do.	do.	4,365			12				
Oth to 27th July,	do.	Portage.	604							
l to 22d June,	do.	Fort M'Arthur.	1,5951	63	42	72				
2d June to 31st July,	do.	do.	3,2801	55	109	184	50			71
lonth of August,	do.	do,	2.9071	86	154	408	93			50
June,	do.	Fort Findley.	2,9511	1,323	8	1,128	5			
July,	do.	do.	2,110			2551				
August,	do.	do.	2,171			338		-(
oth June to 19th,	do.	Fort Winchester.	11,245	292	449	2,584	1,873	50	330	
t to 16th June,	do.	Menary B. Hour.	3171				THE RESERVE			
		Total,	44,0381	11,232	7,5351	13,610 ½	11,052	5,058	6,617	92

Abstract—Continued.

To whom issued.	Dates.	Barrels of flour.		Pounds of bacon, pork, and beef.		Pounds of candles.	Pounds of salt.	Hogs.	Barrels of biscuit.	Gallons of vinegar.	Beeves.	Pounds of flour and biscuit.
A. D. Orr, A. D. Q. M. Gen.		413 4160		791‡	2	3	1			1	7-1-	
Ditto, by I .Kerchival,	to a second seco	0. $156\frac{4}{198}$		22,400	230	637			163			
L. C. Kerchival, I. Cy.	August 21st, de		10,669	1,940	8,680	1,412	200		143	57.3		
Capt. D. E. Hendricks,	do. do											
John Preston, I. Cy.	do. de		1,518	2,800	75	48	300					
A. Brandon, do.	23d, de		980	800	100	600	900		27			
do. do.	30th, do		-	5,531		1						
Robt. Strain, jun. do.	Sept. 13th, do	5.5	500	15,027	1,089	2571	450			90		
Jas. M. Reid, A. D. Q. M. Gen.	August 20th, do				-			130				
Col. R. M. Johnson,	Sept. 4th, do			0540					82	1		
B. F. Stickney, Indian agent,	19th, do			2,513				1		1		
Squire Harrington, I. Cy.	August 31st, do		1,166	1,500	750		1,500					
Ames W. Bryson, A. D. Q. M. Gen. R. Curry, do.			3,616	00 000				-	37	1		
Almon Gillis, do.	Sept. 4th, do		2 540	36,397	000			1	1			
William Oliver,	August 24th, do		3,570		832	1,645	15,500	1		33		
William Oliver,	From August 20, 181		The last								to vere	1
Sundry companies, and at sundry	April 7, 1814,	2,464125						3,557			1,430	
places,	From 1st June to	28th	1		1							
Praces		2011	801	8,6511	731	274	41					
	Sept. 1813,		903	0,031;	735	214	14					6,038
	T	otal, 5,833 93	22,4271	98,3501	11,831 }	4,6273	18,865	3,687	452	4961	1.430	6,0334

^{*} Thrown away, being damaged.

† Mr. Oliver states, that these provisions were delivered by him to the contractors. His account in the superintendent general's office, not being yet settled, it is entered as it appears on the face of Mr. Piatt's return.

Abstract of Provisions issued, in rations, by John H. Piatt, Deputy Commissary, from August, 1812, to May 31st, 1813.

Dates.	Where issued.	Number of complete			E	extra rations.			
		rations.	Meat.	Flour.	Whiskey.	Salt.	Soap.	Candles.	Vinegar.
August, 1812, to April, 1813. May 1st to 31st, do. Dec. 17th, 1812, to May 15th, 1813. May 6th to 27th, do.		109,146 2,819 2,594 408	26,885 ¹ / ₃ 134 327	17,498 1133 1514	20,774 140 415 40	63,113 9	13,261	18,021 1 280	150
Feb. 20th to March 31st, do. April, do. May, do. April 20th to May 31st, 12th 17th, do.	Piqua. do. do. Dayton.	2,089 840	5,361½ 8,690½ 1,630½ 267 61¾	5,361 \\ 8,690 \\\ 1,630 \\\\ 484 55	5,361½ 8,690½ 1,630½ 270 6,478	5,361 ½ 8,690 ½ 1,630 ½ 50	3.55 8,69 1,63 1	5,361½ 8,690½ 1,630½	262
May 17th to June 1st, do. Feb. 4th to 22d, do. 23d to March 22d, do. March 25th to April 30th, do.	do. Fort Findley.	443 3,120 2,541 6,843	13 14 37 90	14 72 46	48 528 120 434	12 20	20	862	202
May, do. April 22d to May 31st, do. Teb. 27th to March 14th, do. May 14th to 31st,	do. Manary B. House.	5,583± 1,133 772	54 195 151	54 22 151	149 32 195 145	5± 138	104	104	138
	Total issued,	138,431½	44,4635	34,343 }	45,450 ±	79,078	27,4001	34,3124	550

Abstract of Provisions issued by John H. Piatt, Deputy Commissary, from August, 1812, to May 31st, 1813.

Dates.	Barrels of flour.	Pounds of salt.	Pounds of candles.	Pounds of soap.	Number of live hogs.	Pounds of meat,	Gallons of whiskey.	Pounds of flour and biscuit.	Bushels of corn meal.	Gallons of vinegar.	Number of beeves.
Sept. 15th, 1812, to May 7th, 1813. Forwarded to Defiance, Findley B. House, and Fort Meigs, Aug. 10th, 1812, to March 16th, do. To militia and Indians—16 barrels	7,9351	129,200	9,995	18,919	9,089		25,290		680 }	99	1,353
May 27th, do. of flour surrendered by General Hull, Delivered A. D. Orr, A. D. Q. M. Gen. for transportation to the Ra-	122	200					33				
Sept. 31st, 1812, to May 31st, do. Delivered sundry persons, for the use of troops,	1.444.35	2,400 10,419	42 700 j	1,507 8764		45,440 26,469	2,601 ±	59,372	12	8.5	15
Total,	9,50249	142,219	10,7371	21,302}	9,089	71,909	28,5811	59,372	6924	184	1,368

Abstract of issues made by Wm. Oliver, Acting Special Commissary, to the troops of the north-western army, from the 1st day of May, 1813, to the 18th day of May, 1814.

	Number of			Compon	ent parts of	rations.					Ext	ra component	S.		
	tions.	Meat.	Flour.	Whiskey.	Salt.	Soap.	Candles.	Vinegar.	Meat.	Flour.	Whiskey.	Salt.	Soap.	Candles.	Vinegar.
1813.									-						
May, June, July, Aug. and Sept. October, Nov. and Dec.	7,639 37,384± 377,286 120,938± 14±,620±	58,448 66,997 87,807 102,994 8,900 67,839½	58,558 67,502 93,125½ 110,050 8,699½ 82,937	18,040 41,558± 34,080 105,650± 7,16±± 46,79±±	58,492 69,301 98,354 153,9931 36,080 74,911	2,534 42,0901 22,810 93,044 2,779 6,8401	\$9,338\frac{2}{3}\$ 45,09\tau 78,981 94,580\tau 12,570 78,610\tau 3	2,194 1,±22 9,690 90,098 774 7,827±	10,473 1,142 3,232 47,227 15,401	$ \begin{array}{c} 27,496\frac{1}{2} \\ 1,049 \\ 2,187 \\ 19,156\frac{1}{2} \end{array} $ $ 10,458$	$\begin{array}{c} 7,178\frac{1}{2} \\ 4,150\frac{1}{2} \\ 12,162\frac{1}{2} \\ 28,117 \\ 4,706 \end{array}$	12,303 12,285 5,339± 50,546 126,789	486 571 806 8,007	2,331 596 2,309 ² / ₃ 22,559 ² / ₃ 5,598	2,174
anuary, February, Jarch, April,	17,310½ 10,308 11,701 12,36½ 5,495½	1,575 6,924 <u>1</u> 1,380 <u>1</u> 4,131 <u>1</u> 4,390	8,308 } 23,859 } 7,338 } 3,068 1.795	1,782 1,632 671 1,000 § 1,132	4,860½ 6,518 851 569 1,080	108 343 526 819	240 409 ² / ₃ 526 569 40	48 243 526							
Total issued,	745,018	411,386 }	465,243	259,5051	505,026	171,894	350,9591	$112,822\frac{1}{2}$	77,475	60,327‡	56,3144	207,262	9,982	33,394 %	2,34

General Abstract of Provisions issued to the northwestern Army, by the undermentioned Agents, during the periods from the 1st day of September, 1812, to the 31st day of May, 1813, and from the 31st May, 1813, to 1st day of June, 1814.

	arrels of	y, galions of	Jo spuno	and biscuit, unds of	barrels of	Jo spunod	irrels of	y bounds of	Jo spunod	shels of	meal, bushels	, gallons of			Number			E	xtra ration	s.		
	Flour, b	Whiskey	Meat, p	Flour a	Biscuit,	Soap, po	Soap, ba	Candles	Salt, pou	Salt, bus	Corn me	Vinegar,	Beeves.	Hogs.	complete rations.	Meat.	Flour.	Whiskey.	Salt.	Soap.	Candles.	Vinegar
From the 1st Sept. 1812, to the 31st May, 1813.																						
James H. Piatt, Depy. Comy. do. Wm. Oliver, Special Cy. James R. Curry, A. D. Q. M. Gen.	9,502 49	28,5811	71,909	59,372		21,3021		10,7371	142,219	15	6921	184	1,386	9,089	138,4314	44,463 68,921	34,343 <u>1</u> 86,054 <u>1</u>		79,078½ 70,795	27,400 } 3,020	34.312± 41,6693	
Total to 31st May, 1813,	$9,602_{106}^{40}$	28.5811	71,909	59,372		21 302½		10,7371	142,219	15	$692\frac{1}{2}$	184	1,368	9,089	138,131	113.3845	120 398	70 669	149,873	30,420	75,982	2,916
From the 31st May, 1813, to the 1st June, 1814.																						
John H. Piatt, Depy. Com. do. William Oliver, Special Cy. James R. Curry, A. D. Q. M. Gen.	$5,833\frac{93}{196}$ $365\frac{25}{196}$		98,3501 5,246	$6,083\frac{1}{2}$	452	11,831½ 9.531	26 ½	4,627 ³ 3,840	18,865	13		4961	1,430	3,687	44 038 ½ 745,018		11,232 439,515 §	13,610 ½ 290,601 ½	11,052 641,493	5,058 178.856	6,617 342.6835	926 112,802
Total to 1st June, 1814,	6,198118	28,219‡	103,596 1	6,0331	452	21,3621	26½	8,4673	18,865	13		4961	1,430	3,687	789,056	427,476	450,747 [304,212	652.545	183,914	349.8005	113 798

В.

Treasury Department,

2d Auditor's Office, March 28, 1818.

SIR,

I have the honor to present you a statement called for by a resolution of the Senate, of the 10th February, 1817, showing the amount of money advanced, in the winters of 1815-16, by order of 6 to WComb, a. Detroit, to the commissary, for the purpose of purchable growing provisions, on the allegation of an anticipated failure of the contractors; exhibiting the cost of the provisions, and the distribution thereof.

I beg leave to observe, that I have not been called on for this stateme sunfil within these few days, it having been sent, by mistake, to the 3d Auditor; which will account for the apparent delay in furnishing it.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. LEE,

The hon. J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War. Statement showing the amount of Money advanced in the winter of 1815, and 1816, by order of Gen. M'Comb, at Detroit, to the Commissary, for the purpose of purchasing provisions, on the allegation of an anticipated failure by the contractors; the amount of money actually paid in the purchase of such provisions, and for the expenses incidental thereto; and the amount of such provisions delivered to the contractor or issued to the army; prepared in obedience to a resolution of the Senate, of 10th February, 1817.

This amount advanced James M'Closkey, A. D. Q. M. Gen. upon his drafts, in virtue of the orders of Gen. M'Comb, dated 18th, 23d, and 24th November, 1815, to purchase provisions, on the allegation of an anticipated failure by the contractor,

\$ 61,490 50

The following sums have been actually paid in the purchase of, and for the incidental expenses on, the provisions bought by virtue of the aforesaid orders of Gen. M'Comb, viz.

Date of purchase.	Names of the persons of whom purchased.	Barrels of flour.	Barrels of whiskey.	Head of beef cattle.	Head of hogs.	Gallons of whiskey.	Barrels of salt.	Pounds of candles.	Pounds of soap.	Prices paid.	dolls. cts.
1815. Nov. 20.	H. Vanmetre,			187						50 dollars per head, (Flour, 30 dollars per barrel,	9,350 00 12,930 00
24.	D. G. Jones,	431	118	equal to		4,109	119	43		Whiskey, 2 dollars per gallon, Salt, 20 dollars per barrel, Candles, 50 cents per pound,	8,218 00 2,380 00 21 50
	G I W Freek	10		NEW 2007031	CHASH SHOW						

Statement showing the manner in which the Provisions embraced in the above statement have been disposed of.

When disposed of	How disposed of.	Barrels of flour.	Barrels of whiskey.	Head of beef cattle.	Gallons of whiskey.	Barrels of salt.	Pounds of candles.	Pounds of soap.	Barrels of pork.	Pounds of pork.	Pounds of beef.
1815.											
	Sent to Michilimackinac, per brig Hun- ter, for the use of the troops, Sent to Grosse Isle, for the use of Capt.	191				21			52		
	Grovenor's command, stationed there, Shipped for Michilimackinac, on board	50	10	equal to	3654	1	183	339		5,817	
	the Alexander Jackson, for the use of the troops there, Furnished the brigs Hunter and the Ni-	132	40	equal to	1,439					45,738	
	agara, and the hospital, This amount damaged for want of salt to repack the meat in,						40		4	5,500	10,663
		373			1,8043	22	223	339	56	57,055	10,663
June, July, August.	This amount turned over to Col. James Thomas, the contractor who succeeded the contractors Messrs. Pentland, Higgins, & Steele,				1,859‡		540	581		49,335	\$1,884

For such of the provisions, purchased as aforesaid, and not accounted for, Capt. M'Closkey is held chargeable to, upon the adjustment of his accounts.

Treasury Department,

2d Auditor's Office, 25th March, 1818,

General Statement, showing the amount of Provisions purchased by the Commissaries and Public Agents, for the Northwestern Army, from the 1st September, 1812, to the 31st May, 1813, and from the 1st June, 1813, to the 31st May, 1814. Also, the expense of such purchases, with the wages paid to the Commissaries and Agents, transportation, and all expenses incident to said purchases.

ohn H. Piatt. Deputy Commissary		Rations.				1						
hn H. Piatt. Deputy Commissary		Rations.	Meat.	Flour.	Whiskey.	Soap.	Candles.	Salt.	Vinegar.		1812, to the 31st May, 1814.	and expense incident thereto
Thomas Buford, do.	1st Sept. 1812, to 31st May, 1813. 24 Aug. do. to 15 March, do. 12 Dec. do. to 31 May, do. 1 Sept. do. to 31 May, do.	113,966½ 391 237,774	1,675,542 772,642 18,163± 1,754,624	2,233,516 32,053 6,682 1,098,297	1,363,516 226,632 56,759 1,048,424	16,497 \(\frac{1}{3}\) 548 80\(\frac{1}{2}\) 36,122	10,201 § 375 20 § 14,448	111,413½ 23,087½ 264 105,784	7 barrels 84 quarts		232,689 53 55,229 96 56,520 93 186,842 9	
		352,1311	4,220,971	3,370,548	2,695,331	53,247 4	25,0551	240,549	70 b. 84 qts.		531,282 51	
Do. by John C. Barlett Do. by Ebenezer Deni	d, deputy commissary, for services t, field commissary, for services and my, agent, for transportation, loss of provision, discounts paid in banks	s and expens expenses, as of cattle and	es, as aforesa aforesaid, whiskey, in o	aid, -				: :	3:	25,705 6 4,868 13 74,783 17	167.039 34	
John H. Piatt, Deputy Commissary William Oliver, Special do.	1 June, 1813, to 31 May, 1814. 1 Sept. 1813, to 31 May, 1814.	120	158,995 72,825	145,214 ¹ 41,986	187,624 29,808	23,785	6,984 191	101,280 676	33 quarts 3 barrels		31,999 95 9,232 6	698,321
		120	231,820	187,2001	217,432	24,090	7,175	101,956	3 bls. 33 qts.		41,232 1	
xpenses incurred by John H. Piatt, of Bo. by William Oliver,	deputy commissary, for services of , special commissary, for transporta	himself, ass	istants and cl	lerks, pack h	norses, proven	ider, bags, r	opes, &c.			\$9,557 39 15,499 10		

In making the foregoing statement, reference has been had to all the accounts which it was in the recollection of the office, had any bearing on the inquiry. There may, nevertheless, have been other purchases made, and expenses incurred, by quartermasters and other disbursing agents, which, from the nature of their accounts, are not to be identified with the north western army, or with the provisions purchased. In the item of transportation, the account and receipt of the hire of the teams, boats, pack horses, &c. does not designate what they were loaded with; and in regard to other expenses, a like difficulty presents itself, there being no designation which could lead to a knowledge of the particular services the payment was made for. So, on the other side, purchases and expenses may be included, not connected with the supply for the north western army, so called. The purchases, though made by the agents in the section of country, may not have taken that direction, and expenses may be included in the accounts of purchasing agents, and charged in the above statement, which do not belong to the purchases charged. Hence, though the statement is predicated upon the best data under all circumstances within the reach of this office, it cannot be taken as conclusively correct in all its parts.

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Treasury Department,

3d Auditor's Office, March 30, 1818.

SIR,

I have the honor to hand you enclosed statements, prepared in obedience to the resolution of the Senate of the United States, of the 14th February, 1817.

Statement A. showing the number of rations, and parts of rations, issued by contractors to the northwestern army, from 1st September, 1812, to 31st May, 1813; also from 31st May, 1813, to 1st June, 1814: the whole amount of moneys paid to the contractors for supplying the army for each of the periods aforesaid.

Statement B, showing the amount of provisions bought by the commissaries and public agents for the said army, for each of the periods aforesaid, the whole expense of such purchases, with the wages paid to commissaries and agents, the expense of transportation, and all incidental expenses incurred by this mode of supplying the army.

The other items called for by the said resolution, referring themselves to other offices of the Department, the necessary statements will be furnished by them.

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

PETER HAGNER, Auditor.

The hon. J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War.