

Department of the Interior.

Washington D. C. June 25 1867

Sir:

I return herewith the papers submitted with your report of the 18th instant, including petitions to Congress from settlers upon the "Absentee Shawnee Lands" in Kansas, and from the Shawnee Council, praying that provision be made for the sale of said lands - which papers were enclosed to this Department by Senators Pomeroy and Ross and Rep. Clarke, and referred to you on the 2nd ultimo.

As the plan suggested by the Shawnee Council for the disposal of the lands referred to, is stated

by you to be similar to that embodied in the treaty with that tribe, now awaiting the constitutional action of the Senate, and as the the treaty with the Shawnees of 1854, provides no mode of sale for the "Absentee Shawnee Lands," I do not perceive the propriety of submitting the subject for any action by the President which the treaty does not authorize. The disposal of said lands will therefore await the consideration of the Senate at its approaching session.

Very respectfully

Your obt. servant

W. J. Otto

Actg Secretary.

Hon A. G. Taylor }
Commi Union Affairs }