

DISBURSEMENTS IN MEXICAN WAR.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1850.

Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. EVANS, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Military Affairs deemed it their duty to inquire into the manner in which the large appropriations for the war with Mexico were disbursed by the Pay department; and, with this purpose, addressed a communication to the head of that department. The report of this distinguished and venerable officer exhibits a degree of probity, fidelity, and accuracy, which is eminently creditable to its officers, and is likewise a source of just pride to the country. The sum of twenty-four million one hundred and sixteen thousand one hundred and thirty-eight dollars was received by the Pay department, and distributed amongst thirty-five officers. Of that sum not a dollar was lost by accident, robbery, theft, capture, transportation, or in any manner whatever. Regarding the accidents and perils incident to a state of war, and the hazards of the camp and the march, it is believed that this result finds no parallel in the history of disbursements so large. It is the result of the admirable system which the sagacity of the enlightened and experienced officer at the head of that department has introduced and perfected, no less than of the judicious selection of its officers. The entire sum above specified has been expended, except nine thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight dollars and forty-four cents, which consists, with the exception of two thousand one hundred dollars, of items suspended, disallowed, or rejected by the accounting officers of the treasury, in the settlement of the accounts of paymasters who died, resigned, or were disbanded. This latter amount is secured by ample bonds. The sum of two thousand one hundred dollars, which constitutes part of the nine thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight dollars and forty-four cents, is alleged to have been erroneously charged to one of the paymasters, who received, without counting, some boxes of specie from the Bank of St. Louis.

PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
September 7, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to submit the statement you requested me to furnish, for the information of the military committee, showing the amount of moneys received by the paymasters during the war with Mexico, and up to the 30th of June, 1849. It also shows the amount ex-

pending by each paymaster in the payment of the troops during the same period.

It will be seen that the total amount received by the Pay department from the treasury and other sources, exclusive of transfers from one disbursing officer to another, was - - - - \$24,116,138 14
The disbursements were - - - - 23,877,831 39

Leaving a balance due the United States of - - - - 238,306 75
Of this balance, the sum of - - - - 228,468 31
has since been expended in the payment of the troops.

The remainder - - - - 9,838 44
consists principally of items disallowed, suspended, or rejected by the accounting officers of the treasury, in the settlement of the accounts of paymasters who died, resigned, or left the service by disbandment during the period embraced in the statement.

In reply to the inquiry, whether any loss was sustained by the department by accident, robbery, theft, capture, transportation, or in any manner whatever, during the war, I have the satisfaction to state that not one dollar was so lost. It is proper to add that there was said to be a deficiency of \$2,100 in certain boxes of specie turned over to paymaster Singer, by the Bank of St. Louis, without being counted. The paymaster claims a credit for this sum, but the accounting officers do not think they possess the power to allow it. With the exception of this last sum, if allowed, the United States will not sustain the loss of a dollar by the transactions of the Pay department pending the war with Mexico, as the disallowed items amount to but \$9,838 44, divided among ten of the late paymasters, and secured by ample bonds.

The accounts for the disbursements embraced in the statement were examined in this office, and turned over to the accounting officers for final settlement generally by the 1st of October, 1849.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. TOWSON, *P. M. G.*

To the HON. ARMISTEAD BURT,

*Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs,
House of Representatives.*

PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
September 7, 1850

Sir: I have the honor herewith to submit the statement you requested me to furnish, for the information of the military committee, showing the amount of moneys received by the paymasters during the war with Mexico, and up to the 30th of June 1849. It also shows the amount ex-

Statement of the transactions of the Pay Department of the army, from the commencement of the war with Mexico to June 30, 1849, and its condition at the latter date; made by request of the Military Committee, House of Representatives, under date of June 13, 1850.

Disbursing officers.	Am't disbursed.	Remarks.
B. F. Larned, deputy p. m. g. .	\$319,582 73	Superintending the payment of the army.
D. Randall.do.do.	170,920 99do.do.do.
T. J. Leslie.paymaster.	1,138,065 65	
D. S. Townsend.do.	525,165 21	
T. P. Andrews.do.	278,313 01	
A. D. Stewart.do.	798,994 23	
B. Walker.do.	574,995 12	
E. Van Ness.do.	1,174,302 99	
S. Denny.do.	845,496 33	
D. Hunter.do.	559,405 76	
L. J. Beall.do.	821,488 62	
A. J. Coffee.do.	1,155,287 27	
A. Van Buren.do.	442,140 66	
G. H. Ringgold.do.	572,448 80	
Henry Hill.do.	93,437 85	
J. Y. Dashiell.do.	904,469 12	
S. Maclin.do.	283,491 10	
A. W. Gaines.do.	825,288 02	
A. G. Bennett.do.	396,796 99	
H. Leonard.do.	474,606 20	
R. B. Reynolds.do.	639,991 12	
F. A. Cunningham.do.	287,987 35	
G. C. Hutter.do.	136,275 59	
C. H. Smith.do.	243,789 66	Resigned.
E. Kirby.do.	1,425,909 30	Dead.
R. A. Forsyth.do.	358,952 66	Dead.
C. Andrews.do.	374,756 28	Resigned.
R. S. Dix.do.	575,327 61	Dead.
R. H. Hammond.do.	123,678 52	Dead.
D. Spalding.do.	524,786 40	Dead.
J. H. Cloud.do.	130,659 56	Dead.
S. Mitchell.do.	995 00	Resigned.
W. A. Spark.do.	161,571 83	Dead.
F. G. Bosworth.do.	4,320 13	Dead.
A. H. Colquitt.do.	452,997 64	Resigned.
N. Weston, jr.do.	48,179 15	Resigned.
J. B. Butler.do.	352,493 96	Resigned.
M. C. M. Hammond.do.	68,699 69	Resigned.
A. W. Burns.do.	779,232 59	Disbanded.
W. Rich.do.	235,313 05	Disbanded.
T. S. Bryant.do.	1,054,565 34	Disbanded.
B. W. Brice.do.	351,564 51	Disbanded.
C. Bodine.do.	437,054 98	Disbanded.
W. Singer.do.	419,916 12	Disbanded.
S. S. Stacey.do.	189,875 12	Disbanded.
J. C. Pattridge.do.	605,333 80	Disbanded.
P. T. Crutchfield.do.	179,597 72	Resigned.
N. Johnston.do.	210,764 64	Disbanded.
G. H. Wilder.do.	345,696 42	Disbanded.
V. E. Piolett.do.	157,020 03	Disbanded.
J. C. Bergh.do.	247,630 01	Disbanded.
R. Strange, jr.do.	159,583 15	Disbanded.
A. B. Ragan.do.	174,690 62	Disbanded.

STATEMENT—Continued.

Disbursing officers.	Am't disbursed.	Remarks.
R. H. Weightman, paymaster.	\$58,864 24	Disbanded.
J. W. Spratleydo....	5,050 95	Disbanded.
Total amount disbursed.....	23,877,831 39	
Amount of funds received during the above period from the treasury and other sources, exclusive of transfers from one paymaster to another.....	24,116,138 14	
Balance due the U. States by disbursing officers, June 30, 1849.....	238,306 75	

Of this balance \$228,468 31 was subsequently applied to the payment of the troops; and the remainder, \$9,838 44, consists of balances due the United States by paymasters who have left the service since the commencement of the war, by death, disbandment, or resignation, principally arising from disallowed items and imperfect vouchers suspended in the settlement of their accounts, viz :

Disbursing officers.	Amount.	Remarks.
Edmund Kirby	\$1,046 96	Dead. His executor requests to be allowed further time, to realize from the effects of the estate the amount necessary to pay the balance.
R. S. Dix.....	2,476 41	Dead. His surety requests suspension of the collection of the balance until he can procure some congressional action in the case.
William Singer.....	3,822 86	Disbanded. Of this balance the sum of \$2,100 is alleged to be a deficiency in a sealed box of specie received from the Bank of St. Louis without counting. The paymaster is reported for suit.
V. E. Piolett.....	376 74	Disbanded.
R. A. Forsyth.....	250 66	Dead.
F. G. Bosworth.....	1,672 19	Dead. Reported for suit.
S. L. Mitchell.....	57 55	Resigned.
M. C. M. Hammond.....	40 12	Resigned.
R. H. Weightman.....	66 95	Disbanded.
D. Spalding.....	28 00	
Total balance due the U. S..	9,838 44	

N. TOWSON, *Paymaster General.*

PAYMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,
September 7, 1850.

MAY 6-1948

