

FOR MOUNTAIN GUNS, CARRIAGES, ETC.

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LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

*An estimate from the Secretary of War of appropriation for mountain guns, carriages, etc.*

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JANUARY 27, 1890.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
*January 25, 1890.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the consideration of Congress, copy of a communication from the Secretary of War of the 23d instant, submitting an estimate of appropriation in the sum of \$14,920, for mountain guns, carriages, etc.

Respectfully yours,

W. WINDOM,  
*Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington City, January 23, 1890.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward for transmission to Congress, estimate of appropriation required for procuring mountain guns, carriages etc., amounting to \$14,920.

Respectfully,

REDFIELD PROCTOR,  
*Secretary of War.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

*Estimates of appropriations required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1891, by the Ordnance Department, U. S. Army.*

## Mountain guns:

Four 3-inch mountain guns, at \$500.....	submitted..	\$2, 000
Four carriages and limbers, at \$600 .....	do.....	2, 400
Accessories for four guns, at \$100 .....	do.....	400
1,200 rounds common shell, at \$410 per 100 .....	do.....	4, 920
800 rounds shrapnel, at \$650 per 100.....	do.....	5, 200

Total ..... 14, 920

NOTE.—This estimate is explained in the following letter of the Chief of Ordnance.

ORDNANCE OFFICE,  
WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, D. C., January 22, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to submit a special estimate for a battery of 3-inch Hotchkiss Mountain Guns, and to recommend that it be embodied in the forthcoming fortification bill. The only mountain gun at present in the United States service is the Hotchkiss 1.65'' first issued in 1877, which has given satisfaction as far as workmanship and ease of manipulation is concerned, but which is now inferior in caliber and power to the guns used for like service by the principal European powers, and should, it is deemed, be replaced by a more powerful weapon. The 3-inch gun estimated for is thought to be superior to the French 80<sup>mm</sup>, which is the most powerful mountain gun in Europe, while the well-known reputation of the Hotchkiss Company and their satisfactory execution of former contracts promise a prompt delivery of the material ordered.

The estimate is as follows:

Four 3-inch mountain guns, at \$500.....	\$2, 000
Four carriages and limbers, at \$600 .....	2, 400
Accessories for four guns, at \$100 .....	400
1,200 rounds common shell, at \$410 per 100 .....	4, 920
800 rounds shrapnel, at \$650, per 100.....	5, 200

Total ..... 14, 920

The following table gives a comparison of the present 1.65'' mountain gun, the proposed 3-inch gun, and the French 80<sup>mm</sup> mountain gun:

Gun.	Caliber.	Weight.	Powder charge.	Weight of projectile.	Initial velocity	Muzzle energy.
	<i>Inches.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Ounces.</i>	<i>Pounds.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>	<i>Ft. tons.</i>
1.65'' United States.....	1.65	116	5.5	2.6	1, 275	29.2
80 <sup>mm</sup> (French) .....	3.14	231	14.1	12.6	843	62.0
3-inch (Proposed).....	3.00	218	13.6	12.0	870	62.9

Very respectfully,

S. V. BENÉT,  
Brig. Gen. Chief of Ordnance.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.