

State of Iowa

Committee on Reduction of Governmental Expenditures

Des Moines



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Mr. W. B. Jordan is dead and W.A.Jordan still owns some lots in Willow Bunch (?) which he got from LeGare's estate. The claim first went to the War Department which reported that it was a valid claim but "No funds" Then to the Interior Dep't whence the same answer. Then a bill was introduced and committees appointed but the years rolled by and the interest rolled up. Jordan finally got Sen. Davis to become interested in LeGare and his claim and the bill was finally passed. Of course Mr. Jordan talked many times with his son about the matter and W.A.Jordan made several trips to count horses etc. On one of these trips LeGare was taking the giant boy to the Buffalo exposition. LeGare was almost uneducated but was a man of natural parts and a wonderful personality. He told about an Indian who wanted to run him out of Sitting Bull's camp and fired several times into a corn sack on which LeGare was sitting.

The whole tribe were fed by LeGare for months on Jordan's goods. At last LeGare said he would not feed those who would not go with him and started and as first one and then another of the tepees was pulled down and loaded on the travois the old chief saw the end. He sent word to Legare to wait. Legare stopped and finally after another long delay the chief joined him. When the government finally paid, they figured the time of the wagons and men but nothing for the supplies and nothing for the fact that LeGare did what no other man could have done. Brotherton unfortunately died and all his official report said was "One Pierre Jean Legare was of great assistance in the matter" It was a time when a man's bare word was taken at its face and men like Jordan and Legare held their word sacred. Everyone around the post knew how the thing was