

(Copy.)

PEABODY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY,  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

June 16, 1896.

To the Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:-

I respectfully ask your kind consideration of the following appeal in behalf of Science.

The Peabody Museum, in its investigations of American Ethnology, has received substantial and faithful assistance from two old Omaha Indians. These Indians have given to the agents of the Museum detailed descriptions of important ceremonies which in the past were observed by their tribe. They have also helped in securing objects connected with these ceremonies, and have given us important information concerning the history of the tribe.

These men have thus rendered, and are still rendering, such valuable aid to Science that I feel they should be encouraged and rewarded. I have learned that there is nothing they prize so highly as the Indian Peace Medals in silver, and I therefore respectfully request that two of these silver medals be struck (at the expense of the Museum) for the purpose of bestowing on these Indians a reward for their contributions to Science.

I am, sir, respectfully yours,

F. W. Putnam,

Curator of the Peabody Museum

Refer in reply to the following:

Finance.

23185, '96.

2 enclosures.

## Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

WASHINGTON, June 25, 1896.

The Honorable,  
The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by Department reference for report, of a communication dated the 16th instant from Professor F. W. Putnam, Curator of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, setting forth that the Peabody Museum, in its investigations of American Ethnology, has received substantial and faithful assistance from two old Omaha Indians, they having given to the agents of the Museum detailed descriptions of important ceremonies in the past observed by their tribe, and have also helped in securing objects connected with these ceremonies, &c. Professor Putnam adds:

"These men have thus rendered, and are still rendering, such valuable aid to science, that I feel they should be encouraged and rewarded. I have learned that there is nothing they prize so highly as the Indian Peace Medals in silver, and I therefore respectfully request that two of these silver medals be struck (at the expense of the Museum) for the purpose of bestowing on these Indians a reward for their contributions to science."

In reply I would respectfully state that so far as this Office

Secretary.

is concerned, there is no objection to the medals being struck at the expense of the Museum for issue to the Indians, it being inferred from the statements of Professor Putnam, that they are worthy to be made the recipients of the same.

The die of the medal in question is in the custody of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and that official will no doubt cause the medals to be struck therefrom upon receipt of instructions from the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury through the Director of the Mint.

It is deemed a propos in this connection to respectfully suggest that the Department request the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury to comply with Professor Putnam's request by issuing the necessary instructions to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia to strike the medals and deliver them to Professor Putnam upon receipt of the value thereof.

The communication above referred to is herewith respectfully returned.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) D. M. Browning,

Commissioner.

E.B.F.(S)

127229

*4006*

DEPT OF THE INTERIOR  
RECEIVED  
JUN  
26  
1896  
INDIAN DIV.

THOMAS BAKER  
UNITED STATES  
MINT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

No.	Bureau of the Mint.
127229	REC. JUN 29 1896

*10442 9/71*

*gao*

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

WASHINGTON, June 26, 1896.

G. C. Mc

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:-

I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a communication of 16th instant, from Professor Putnam of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, relative to furnishing the Museum with two Indian Peace Medals in silver, for two old Omaha Indians who have furnished important information concerning the history of the tribe, and have rendered, and are still rendering, valuable aid to Science.

I also transmit copy of a communication of 25th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, relative to this matter.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Commissioner, I have the honor to recommend that Professor Putnam's request be complied with.

Very respectfully,

*W. S. Smith*  
Secretary.

4006 Ind.Div., '96.

Two enclosures.

127229

RG104 E-1 Box 194

11442	MAIL DIVISION, Treasury Department, RECEIVED
B/71	JUN 27 1896

127229

June 26/96

Secty Interior

As to furnishing Peabody Museum  
Harvard University - with two Indian  
Peace Medals

Mint Bureau

Respectfully referred to  
Supt. U.S. Mint  
aliquis who will please  
advise the medal  
within referred to to be  
struck advising Prof.  
Putnam Curator of the  
Peabody Museum

No. 127229	Bureau of the Mint, REC. JUN 29 1896
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of 3 to ext. Dept.  
R. E. Putnam  
Supt.  
JUN 27 1896

R. E. Putnam  
Cambridge Mass  
2 Indian Indian Peace  
medals  
shipped July 28 1896

10 1/2 US Mint  
Rec'd July 7 '96

Office of Director Mint -  
R. E. Putnam  
Enclosed referring to Indian Peace  
medals for Peabody Museum  
Harvard University recommended  
to Supt. of Mint -

1000 Ind. Div. '96

Secretary

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 194

[Letter One:]

(Copy.)

Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology,  
Harvard University,  
Cambridge, Mass.  
June 16, 1896

To the Honorable,  
The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir: -

I respectfully ask your kind consideration of the following appeal in behalf of Science.

The Peabody Museum, in its investigations of American Ethnology, has received substantial and faithful assistance from two old Omaha Indians. These Indians have given to the agents of the Museum detailed descriptions of important ceremonies which in the past were observed by their tribe. They have also helped in securing objects connected with these ceremonies, and have given us important information concerning the history of the tribe.

These men have thus rendered, and are still rendering, such valuable aid to Science that I feel they should be encouraged and rewarded. I have learned that there is nothing they prize so highly as the Indian Peace Medals in silver, and I therefore respectfully request that two of these silver medals be struck (at the expense of the Museum) for the purpose of bestowing on these Indians a reward for their contributions to Science.

I am, sir, respectfully yours,  
F.W. Putnam,  
Curator of the Peabody Museum

[Letter Two:]

Refer in reply to the following:

Finance.

23185, '96.

2 enclosures.

Department of the Interior,

Office of Indian Affairs.

Washington,

June 25, 1896

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, by Department reference for report, of a communication dated the 16th instant from Professor F.W. Putnam, Curator of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, setting forth that the Peabody Museum, in its investigations of American Ethnology, has received substantial and faithful assistance from two old Omaha Indians, they having given to the agents of the Museum detailed descriptions of important ceremonies in the past observed by their tribe, and have also helped in securing objects connected with these ceremonies, &c. Professor Putnam adds:

“These men have thus rendered, and are still rendering, such valuable aid to science, that I feel they should be encouraged and rewarded. I have learned that there is nothing they prize so highly as the Indian Peach Medals in silver, and I therefore respectfully request that two of these silver medals be struck (at the expense of the Museum) for the purpose of bestowing on these Indians a reward for their contributions to science.”

In reply I would respectfully state that so far as this Office is concerned, there is no objection to the medals being struck at the expense of the Museum for issue to the Indians, it being inferred from the statements of Professor Putnam, that they are worthy to be made the recipients of the same.

The die of the medal in question is in the custody of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and that official will no doubt cause the medals to be struck therefrom upon receipt of instructions from the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury through the Director of the Mint.

It is deemed a propos in this connection to respectfully suggest that the Department request the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury to comply with Professor Putnam's request by issuing the necessary instructions to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia to strike the medals and deliver them to Professor Putnam upon receipt of the value thereof.



The communication above referred to is herewith respectfully returned.

Very respectfully,  
(Signed) D.M. Browning,  
Commissioner.

E.B.F. (S)

[Letter Three:]

E.E.W.  
J.C.A.

Department of the Interior,  
Washington,  
June 26, 1896

The Honorable  
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir: -

I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of a communication of 16th instant, from Professor Putnam of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University, relative to furnishing the Museum with two Indian Peace Medals in silver, for two old Omaha Indians who have furnished important information concerning the history of the tribe, and have rendered, and are still rendering, valuable aid to Science.

I also transmit copy of a communication of 25th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, relative to this matter.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Commissioner, I have the honor to recommend that Professor Putnam's request be complied with.

Very respectfully,  
Hoke Smith  
Secretary.

4006 Ind. Div., '96  
Two enclosures.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 194

[Written on back of Letter Three:]

Mint Bureau  
July 6, 1896

Respectfully referred to Supt. U.S. Mint Philadelphia who will please cause its medal within referred to be struck advising Prof. Putnam, Curator to Peabody Museum of its cost thereof.

R.E. Preston  
Director

F.W. Putnam  
Cambridge, Mass.

2 silver Indian Peace Medals shipped July 28, 1896.

U.S. Mint  
Rec'd July 7, 1896

Office of Director Mint  
R.E. Preston

Enclosed referring to Indian Peace Medals for Peabody Museum, Harvard University, recommended favorably to Supt. of Mint.