

Memorandum on Jack Cochrane.

Mr. Jack Cochrane on all occasions defends his championship as watchdog of the Treasury in opposing all Indian claims. In the debate on the Cherokee jurisdictional bill, S. J. Res. 64, on the 10th instant, he pointed out with great emphasis that there had been three billion dollars of claims made by the Indians against the United States, which would have bankrupted the Treasury if allowed. But, it appeared in the evidence which immediately followed what he said that the real watchdogs of the United States against Indian bills had been the Court of Claims and the Supreme Court of the United States, which had only allowed twenty million dollars on Indian claims in all time. In other words, the judicial watchdogs of the Treasury had a record of only allowing 2/3 of 1% of the claims Mr. Cochrane referred to.

It thus appears that Jack's championship really belongs to the judicial department and that the interests of the American people are entirely safe in the courts. It appears with equal certainty not only that Jack is claiming credit not due to himself, or his allies, but that as a watchdog of the Treasury Jack's services are superfluous in protecting the Treasury, however useful his speeches may be with the voters of St. Louis who recognize in him the watchdog of the Treasury.

Jack charges the rapacious Indians and their attorneys with threatening to steal from the Treasury, but Jack, himself, steals the credit from the Court of Claims and puts it on his

Robert L. Owen
sent to the
Senate
for the
Civil
War

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own shoulders in St. Louis as a reason for his continuance in Congress. While Jack has been extremely economical and most diligent in defending all Indian claims, at one fell swoop he grabbed for his district of St. Louis twenty million dollars for a vainglorious memorial to Thomas Jefferson. Jack grabbed as much in one season as all the Indians of the United States have ever recovered in a century from the Court of Claims. Jack grabbed from the taxpayers of the United States twenty million dollars for the Jefferson memorial while the national capital only invested three million dollars in a memorial to Abraham Lincoln. As an economist and friend of the taxpayer, Jack is not as good a watchdog as he is in fighting the unprotected Indian claimant.

Jack's importance as a watchdog of the Treasury is highly fictitious and political. He barks loudly when an Indian claim appears, he licks the hands of Congress when it comes to a twenty million dollar appropriation for St. Louis.

"Tis sweet to hear the honest watchdog bark,
Bay deep mouthed welcome as we draw near home."

The honest watchdog got for his own home district about seven times as much for a monument as the national capital got for the monument to Lincoln. Lincoln's memorial cost three million dollars, the Jefferson memorial in St. Louis, twenty million dollars.