

FORT ATKINSON.

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JUNE 23, 1854.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

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MR. FAULKNER, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred a memorial of the Legislative Council of New Mexico, asking for the re-establishment of Fort Atkinson, report:*

That, according to order, they have had the same under consideration, and, believing that the re-establishment of this post at this time, at the point indicated, is not demanded by the necessities of the public service, and is, besides, a proper subject of Executive action, they ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the same.

They append to this report a communication from the Secretary of War on the subject, and also refer to the annual report of General Winfield Scott to the Secretary of War, bearing date November 16, 1853, and contained in Executive Documents, 1853-'4, 2d vol., p. 95.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, May 20, 1854.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, enclosing a memorial of the Legislative Council of New Mexico for the re-establishment of Fort Atkinson, and asking to be informed of the considerations which prompted the discontinuance of the post.

In reply, I have to state that the fort was abandoned in September, 1853, it being no longer regarded as tenable, owing to the want of suitable buildings, and cannot be re-established without an adequate appropriation by Congress, which would be disproportionately large on account of the remoteness of fuel and timber for building. It may be that a better site can be found in the same section.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JEFF'N DAVIS,

Secretary of War.

HON. C. J. FAULKNER,

Ch'n Com. Military Affairs, House of Reps.

RENEGA BAGER, FORT ATKINSON.

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