The Cherokee Commission charged with negotiating for the sale of the Cherokee Outlet acquiesced in the bureaucratic extortion by the federal government to sell at $1.30 per acre but managed to secure a important provision. That provision, in 1893, was for the federal government to fulfill its treaty covenant in the Treaty of 1866 to remove non-Indian intruders from the Cherokee Nation. This provision was very important to protect the governmental integrity and survival of the Cherokee people in the Cherokee Nation. But it also should be noted that five (5) years later in the Curtis Act of 1898 not only did the federal government revoke its commitment to remove 50,000 non-Indian intruders from Indian territory but it actually gave those same intruders property rights for their squatting.

To rub salt in the wound, the federal government rather than paying the price of the Cherokee Outlet to the Cherokee Nation, in 1893, paid directly to the Cherokee people a pro rata share of the money, i.e. per capita. This per capita distribution of the proceeds of the Cherokee Outlet sale deprived the Cherokee Nation of the funds necessary to operate its government, schools and hospital and critically deprived the Cherokee Nation of the funds necessary to continue lobby efforts against hostile federal laws.

Immediately after Congress approved the sale of the Cherokee Outlet, the Cherokee Strip Land Run was set:

> The President of the United States is hereby authorized, at any time within six months after the approval of this act and the acceptance of the same by the Cherokee Nation as herein provided, by proclamation, to open to settlement any or all of the lands not allotted or reserved...[9]

On September 16, 1893, 100,000 white people lined up on the Kansas border and at the signal of a shotgun blast ran on foot and raced on horse and in wagon through the Cherokee Outlet claiming 160 tracts for themselves and their children.

The Cherokee Outlet run was the beginning of the apparent end for the Cherokee Nation. The same federal statute authorizing the Cherokee Strip Land Run, the Dawes Act of 1893, established a commission to negotiate the allotment of the remaining land of the Cherokee Nation.[10] The agenda of the Dawes Commission was set and clearly presented in its report to the U.S. Senate in 1895.

> It is apparent to all who are conversant with the present condition in the Indian Territory that their system of government can not continue. <u>It is not only non-American, but it is radically wrong</u>, and a change is imperatively demanded in the interest of the Indian and whites alike, and such change can not be much longer delayed.