

Sans Bois, I.T., August 17, 1903.

Honorable Tans Bixby, Chairman,  
Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Sir:-

I have the honor to herewith enclose communication just received from Wm H. McKinney, a Choctaw Indian by blood, which explains itself, and the same is forwarded to your Honorable Commission for your files, and such information as it may contain.

Dic-EM

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.M.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 17, 1903.

Mr R.S. Frazier,

Spencerville, I.T.

A holitopa na:

Chim anampa ut arala cha pisali kut sayukpa aialhi hakinli  
hokak osh chi bowa chi cha balit ish nohwa tuk o Joe Wesley ut chi  
lhakofiche tok achini ho hakioli kak osh sanukhanklo aialhi shke.  
Yohmi kia nukshopa hokuto yarak o yohmi kak o ulhpisa hakinli ahneli  
tok oke. Ore Dukes ailtapeha kut ulhti ilapa vote 627 o olbalaka  
isht takali tok oke.

Ish balinili kia iba aialhi ibi hoka ulhpisa hakinli shke.

Chi kana aialhi.

Prin.Chief C.H.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 17, 1903.

Mr Simon Morris,

Finley, I.T.

A holitopa ma:

Chir anurpa ha ishili tok osh afalamechili kut, ilappak o alishke. E.H. Wilson ut August 25th ash o illi hatuk mut yakni nana isha hekeyu hoke. Arba xxkx kana ut September 25th, 1902 ash antia hayo illi hatuk mut o yakni ya isha hinla mulhi tok. Yohri kia yakni ya okchayut ahanta mut nana ka yarra atahli tok ut asha hokrano. Yarrano court ut aiyali onachi ya atokeli ho aiyali ya onachi hokra yarra aiyali onotola yarak o aiyakachi hosh ish kancha hinla hoke.

Chi kana.

Prin. Chief C.N.



## GEO. P. EWING &amp; Co.

DEALERS IN  
GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

TUSKAHOMA, I. T.,

Aug<sup>17</sup> 1893Hon<sup>ble</sup> Gran McCurtain  
Kiulā 2<sup>d</sup>.

Dr Sir

I am desirous  
of taking one or two allotments on  
Coal land, I want land that will  
be valuable some day, and I believe  
the coal land will be the most valuable.  
Can you give me any information  
where I could find one or two good  
allotments on Coal land. I have been  
all over the Chickasaw Nation, and  
it seems that companies there have  
bought up all the land, and persons  
will have to take a lease under them  
to get any good land. If you can  
give me any information about the  
Coal land, I will appreciate it very  
much. Hoping to hear from  
you soon.

Dwain

Yours Truly  
W. H. Isherwood



# CHOCTAW DRUG CO.

-DEALER IN-

DRUGS, PATENT-MEDICINE, TOILET-ARTICLES & PERFUMERY.

QUINTON, I. T. .... 8/17 ..... 1903

Herb Green Mc Curtain  
Sams Boise

Dear Sir

As I have two Hay presses running. and have shipped no hay I have built a large hay barn putting up hay for my own use. You will please advise me if it is necessary for me to give bond.

If so have the Sheriff send me blank to fill as I want no trouble in the future.

Yours truly  
A C Bullard



Panama, I. P.

Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 1903

Gov. Green McEntairn

San Bois, I. P.

Dear Sir & friend: Your letter of recent date regarding the three allotments for Mrs. McEntairn received and replying will say. You do not state whether she wants bottom land or prairie.

The bottom land is all taken ~~but~~ I think the amount of land she wants might be had South and East of me on the prairie, but I doubt finding it all in one body.

The Coal signigations have disturbed so many in their former selections, that there has recently been a general land hunting and all lands of good quality will soon be taken here. If she wants prairie land she had better come or send a representative soon.

Sic

Your friend  
J. S. Forrest

P.S. I am thinking of coming over on next Thursday  
J. S. F.



Ruth S.

Aug. 17 A.D. 1903

John Grant McLintan Gannet of C.N.

Dear Sir

I will write you this morning  
our Election we were beat  
for Scott and Hudson our Wilson  
Binson we lost two votes

Mr Hudson did not I lose none  
if you know how much

money was sent to us to carry  
and the work in this county <sup>to us</sup> ~~stated~~  
me and S.B. N. and Judge

made the Election dinner

Paul Stephen he did not  
help us make the dinner he

may write you now that  
he was leading the county  
if he has he is

insisting write me soon

Yours Truly  
Isaac Winslip



Stringtown, T., Aug 18-1903.

Gov. McEntane

Dear Sir

I was atoka on the 15<sup>th</sup> to file on my Land  
and then claimed that they could not find  
my name I have registered in every Relation  
made both of The Choctaws and of The Commission  
as a Choctaw Freedmen. my former owner  
was Sam Golbert. The son of Susan Golbert  
and Susan Golbert was a full Blood Choctaw  
and as you are personally acquainted with  
I ask you to please write my status. That  
show it to The Commission so that I can  
file on my Land. please write as  
as practicable. I have wrote to The  
at Muscogee. I would feel more safe  
you identify me in letter to The. Commission  
I am Edmon Golbert a friend to The  
Tuskegee. party. please write me on  
return mail no. your friend

E. H. Golbert.



# The Bates Hotel

GEORGE M. EWING, Proprietor.

ATOKA, IND. TER., Aug. 18<sup>th</sup>, 1903.

Gov. McCurtain,

Saus Bois. Ind. Ter.

Dear Gov: If you have  
anything I can do and  
make anything at, I  
wish you would let me  
do it. The chief clerk Mr.  
Angell, of this Land office  
told me that you was  
to appoint three men  
to allot or look after  
these Mississippi Choctaws -  
and I think ~~that~~ I can  
do that by getting a little  
advise. And I want  
you to remember me  
during council for clerkship.

Yours very truly -

Ans.

E. M. Wilson.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

WASHINGTON.

EAF.

ITD.5838 &  
6134-1903.  
5122-1903.

August 18, 1903.

*LRS*

Honorable Green McCurtain,  
Principal Chief, Choctaw Nation,  
Tuskahoma, Indian Territory.

Sir:

With his letter of June 30, 1903, the Chairman of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes forwarded to the Department your communication of June 8, 1903, addressed to said Commission, in which you protest against the expenses of the sale of the coal and asphalt lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations being borne by the nations, and express the opinion that the United States should pay such expenses as may be incurred in the sale of said lands.

On July 7, 1903, the Department sent to you at Tuskahoma, I. T., a communication suggesting that you appoint commissioners to meet with said Commission, without waiting for legislative authority, for the purpose of securing a supplemental agreement between the Commission and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, covering certain matters therein referred to. The Department is now in receipt of a communication of August 1, 1903, from



-2-

the Commission, to the effect that it has received no intimation from officials of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations that they have acted or will act upon the suggestions of the Department, above referred to.

Your attention is invited to departmental letter of July 7th, and you are informed that the question as to who shall bear the expenses of the sale of the coal and asphalt lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, can be considered by the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes and the commissioners on the part of the nations, in the making of the proposed supplemental agreement referred to in said letter.

Respectfully,

*A. W. Miller*  
Acting Secretary.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 18, 1903.

Honorable E.A. Hitchcock,

Secretary of the Interior,

Washington, D.C.

(Through Hon. J. George Wright, U.S.  
Indian Inspector, Muskogee, Ind. Ter.)

In former letters to your Honorable Department, I took occasion to respectfully invite your attention to the necessity of formulating some definite and practical plan looking to a personal supervision in aiding the fullblood Choctaws to get the descriptions of the lands they desired to allot.

Bill No. 4, of the Acts of the Extraordinary session of the General Council of the Choctaw Nation, in December 1902, was designed to meet this situation, and is as follows:

"WHEREAS: The land office for the Choctaw Nation will be opened at Atoka, Indian Territory, on Feb. 1, 1903; and,

"Whereas: A great majority of the Choctaw people are totally unfamiliar with the subdivisions of land, as made by the United States Government surveyors in the Choctaw Nation; and,

Whereas: There is no provision by which the Choctaw people may acquaint themselves with the said subdivisions, and for that reason it is necessary for some method to be adopted whereby they may secure the proper data and be prepared to file upon their lands, before going to the land office. NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHOCTAW NATION IN EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSION ASSEMBLED:

"Sec. 1 That the office of Allotting Commissioner is hereby created.

Sec. 2 Be it further enacted: That the Principal Chief is hereby authorized to appoint three competent persons for the three districts composing the Choctaw Nation, who shall be under his special supervision. And that the said allotting Commissioners shall provide themselves with proper maps, plats and fieldnotes, in order that they be able to furnish the citizens with plats of the lands they wish to allot. They shall visit each and every township in the Choctaw



# Department of the Interior,

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

UNION AGENCY,

*Muskogee, Ind. T.,* Aug. 19, 1903

W. P. Hobbs,

Jackson, Indian Territory.

Sir:

I am in receipt of your communication of the 12th instant, stating that you are operating a ferry boat on the Red River near the mouth of Blue River, and that recently the high water forced you to change your landing place, and you desire to be advised whether or not you will have to pay rent for the landing you are now using.

I believe this information could more properly be given you by Hon. Green McCurtain, Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, and would suggest that you write said Chief.

Very respectfully,

*J. H. Shoyet.*

U. S. Indian Agent.

J.F.W. (RBE)



Sans Bois, I.T., August 19, 1903.

Mr Simon Taylor, Dist. Atty.

Garvin, I.T.

Dear sir:

I am just in receipt of a letter from your father to the effect that you have been soliciting among the fullbloods and attempting to induce them to select land in the Chickasaw Nation, under the land companies that are operating there. Your father feels very much hurt over your conduct in this matter, and feels that it is very detrimental to your future welfare to take such an active part against your own people, and he asked me to write you and give you my advice in relation thereto.

My opinion is that you are making a very great mistake in lending your aid and influence to these land companies. They do not intend, in the first place, to treat the fullbloods with any consideration after the tribal government expires and they can go into the U.S. courts to secure whatever title the fullblood may have left. The Secretary of the Interior has ordered an investigation of the illegal and outrageous contracts that have been entered into by these companies, and the matter will be thoroughly ventilated, and those who have taken an active part in this attempt to secure the Indian land for nothing will occupy a very unenviable position. Hoping that you will take what I say in good grace, as I write out of consideration for your father as well as yourself, and hoping that I may see you at Council, I am,  
Your friend,



Sans Bois, I.T., August 20, 1903.

Mr E.M.Wilson,

Atoka, I.T.

Dear sir:

I am just in receipt of your letter of recent date, and in  
I have to say that I had a letter from Lewis Battiest in  
in he said he was going to resign from his present place, and  
desired me to appoint Simon Woods to the place. You go and see  
Lewis Battiest and tell him I have appointed Simon Woods as Judge  
of Wade County, and if he is going to resign, I will appoint you in  
his stead, or rather I will recommend you to the Commission.

Attend to this at once and let me hear from you.

Your friend,

Prin. Chief C.N.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 20, 1903.

Mr John Neil,

Brooken, I.T.

Since I saw you I have looked up the law and find you have nine months in which to file a test. I would advise that you go at once to S. McAlester, and consult with D.C. McCurtain, and employ him to manage the matter for you.

Yours truly,



Sans Bois, I.T., August 20, 1903.

able D.C. McCurtain,

South McAlester, I.T.

son:

I herewith enclose letter, written in Choctaw, from Thos Wade, of Coalgate, I.T., wherein he states that he has a contest with G.W. Harkins. You can have Wm McKinney interpret or translate it for you. He desires to employ you to look after his contest for him and I have advised him how to proceed.

John Neil, of Brecken, I.T., also has a contest on hands and I have advised him to go and see you with reference to the matter. It seems that some persons filed on his river bottom farm on the first day the land office was opened, and when he went there to file the clerks would give him no satisfaction, and told him he could not file contest there. He will doubtless call on you in a few days.

Your father,



Sass Bois, I.T., August 20, 1903.

Mr W.H. Isherwood,

Tushkahoma, I.T.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of recent date, wherein you request me to inform you with reference to the locating of an allotment on coal land, I beg to advise that I have not as yet prospected for coal, and do not know anything about the location of any coal land, except what has been segregated.

I regret that I am unable to give you the desired information, but such is the case.

Yours truly,



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

UNITED STATES INDIAN INSPECTOR

FOR

INDIAN TERRITORY,

31996-1903

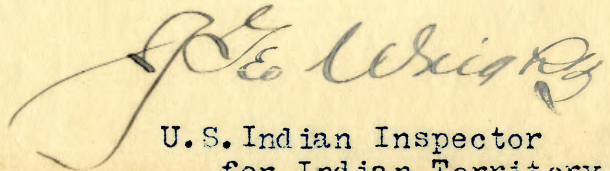
Muskogee, Ind. T., Aug. 20, 1903.

Honorable Green McCurtain,  
Principal, Chief, Choctaw Nation,  
Sans Bois, Indian Territory.

Sir:-

I have to respectfully acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 18, 1903, addressed to the Department, in the matter of devising some plan to assist full-blood Indians in selecting their allotments. I have today transmitted this letter to the Honorable Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully,

  
U.S. Indian Inspector  
for Indian Territory.

D.H.K. (C)



(1)

All oway, Ind. T.

Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> 1903.

Mr Green M<sup>r</sup> Curtain,

" " Esq.,  
Sambors

Ind. Terr.

Dear Sir:-

Governor M<sup>r</sup> Curtain,  
I would like to ask you two three  
question about the land, the first is  
this, is it necessary for us to sell our land,  
before we get our patent, - this is surplus  
land? or is it necessary for us to sell our  
land after we get our patent? I heard some  
people of several Counties consulted among  
themself that the should sell their land  
before they get their patent, but I do not  
know whether it is necessary or unnecessary  
or not and so I want hear from you on this  
account. And the second question is this,  
the second question is a very important thing,  
does a man have authority to make  
application to be appointed guardian for  
his own child, that is his father and mother  
both living? It being understood that the  
man have to make application to be



I've got a little child about little over one year old, her name is Ida moore that I want get an allotment for her surplus land, that is the reason I would like to know beforehand, I heard that the people consulted among themselves that when man and woman live together in one place, and if a man or woman should die, shall his family have authority to take his inheritance which was belongs to him? please advertise me very expressly so that I may understand, what you all going to do with those who do not file their land and oppose the Land Office? And how long will a Choctaws to draw their money, for this cause, I want to hear from <sup>you</sup> on this account.

In conclusion, I beseech you that I would like for you to give <sup>me</sup> officer, be not deprave your officer, the ~~Land~~ Lord will assist you,

I will close withing your success and good health at the country,

Yours brothers in  
P. D. I.



# Citizenship Commission,

CHOCTAW NATION.

S. E. LEWIS,  
A. J. HARKISS, } Commissioners  
JOHN TAYLOR, }  
HENRY ANSLEY, Clerk.

Chocta Ind. Ter., Aug 21 1903  
Hon. Green McCurtain  
Sawabois Ar.

Dear friend  
Upon your instruction in  
your message I reported to the  
15 inst. at the land office for instructions  
and Mr. Henry Sifton & myself went  
immediately put in charge of the camp  
where the Dawns Com- Camped the  
Mississippi Choctaws dont know yet  
what will be our next instruction the  
Com- has finished Enrolling them and  
I surpose will begin filing them  
soon. we have some where about  
265 or 275 Counting all of them.  
Now I would be very glad if  
you could come to Chocta and  
out to the camp they would be very  
glad to meet you. They all look  
to be a very quite intelligent lot  
of Choctaws I would have written  
you sooner but have been in camp



# Citizenship Commission,

CHOCTAW NATION.

S. E. LEWIS,  
A. J. HARKINS,  
JOHN TAYLOR, } Commissioners.  
HENRY ANSLEY, Clerk.

Ind. Ter., 190

Since the 15th. I assure you I appreciate  
the appointment and will comply with  
your instruction and do every thing in  
my power to assist the Coms in locating  
those people as speedily as possible  
Now I have just recd the Message  
you sent Mr Telford and he requested  
me to ask you to write us at an  
early date as possible with full explanation  
and instruction as to the matter as we  
dont know what our next orders  
will be from the Coms - the Message  
I refer to is the one in which you say  
take no step in locating on pine land  
as either of us dont just understand  
the matter thoroly and would be very  
glad to hear from you in regards to  
the matter the Commission has surveyors  
out now locating lands but dont  
know just where. I will write you  
soon again hope you and family are  
well  
Yours truly  
A. J. Harkins



Sans Bois, I.T., August 21, 1903.

Mr Johnson Frazier, Sheriff,

Calvin, I.T.

Dear sir:

In the matter of the removal of intruders for failure to pay their permits, and in the collection of Hay royalties, you are advised that it is y our duty to pay the expenses of the United States Indian Policeman sent there for that purpose, out of the funds collected from these sources.

Yours truly,

prin.Chief C.N.



Sans Bo9s, I.T., August 21, 1903.

Dr A.C. Bullard,  
Quinton, I.T.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of the 17th inst, you are advised that the Secretary of the Interior holds that the royalty on all hay must be paid until the citizen has secured from the Dawes Commission a certificate of allotment. This certificate can only be obtained after nine months from the date of the filing on the land for allotment. As it has not been nine months since the land office opened, there are no such certificates yet issued. The Choctaw law is therefore still in force with reference to the royalty on hay and it will be necessary for you to make bond for the same.

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.N.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 21, 1903.

Mrs J.W. McCurtain,

Tushkahoma, I.T.

Dear sister:

I am just in receipt of a letter from J.S. Forrest in which he says he thinks he can find you some prairie land near him. He says he thinks he can find three allotments for you over there, but not all together. He advises that it would be well for you to come up there at once, as the people who have had their land segregated are taking land very fast. I would suggest that you go up there at once, writing him a few days in advance, so that he will be at home and look at the land and see if you can get what you want. I would go to Ft. Smith, thence to Vian, and over to Taraha that way then you can have Smedley bring you over here when you get through and I will tell you about the land near Amos Henry's.

This leaves all well,

Your brother,



Sans Bois, I.T., August 22, 1903.

Mr E.D.Colbert,

Stringtown, I.T.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of the 18th inst, I have to say that it is possible that your name is on the Chickasaw Freedman roll instead of the Choctaw roll. I think it would be well for you to go back to Atoka and have the Commission search all the rolls for your name, as I think there must be some mistake, or they have overlooked the matter. You have always been recognized as a freedman and should be on the roll. In the event your name is not on the roll then you will have to prove, by persons who know, the facts of your case. The only thing I know is that you have always been recognized as a freedman.

Dictated.

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.N.



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
UNITED STATES INDIAN INSPECTOR  
FOR  
INDIAN TERRITORY,

D 7122-1903.

Muskogee, Ind. T., Aug. 24, 1903.

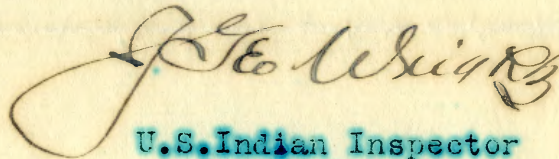
Hon. Green McCurtain,  
Principal Chief, Choctaw Nation,  
Sans Bois, Indian Territory.

Sir:-

There is enclosed herewith a communication under date of the 8th instant, from Mr. G. W. Dodd, of Grant, I.T., in the matter of the holding of stock in the Choctaw Nation, which is raised within the nation.

I have written Mr. Dodd that this letter has been referred to you for appropriate answer.

Very respectfully,



U.S. Indian Inspector  
for Indian Territory.

DEK(J)  
Encl.156

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Sans Bois, I.T., August 25, 1903.

Mr A.J. Harkins,

Atoka, I.T.

Dear sir:

I am just in receipt of your letter of recent date, and note what you say with reference to Leflore and yourself being put in charge of the camp of Mississippi Choctaws. You are informed that I do not care to meddle with any arrangements that the Commission may make with reference to the location of these people in the two Nations. You are therefore instructed to obey implicitly what ever instructions the Commission may see proper to give you in this matter.

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.N.



Morris J. J.

Aug 25

Mr J. B. Shoeneft

Sir

I want Permission  
and a written pass if it  
is necessary so that  
I will not be stoped  
I want to drive 75  
head of cattle from  
south west arkansas  
through the Choctaw  
Nation to my place in  
the Creek Nation  
I am willing to pay for  
my pass and I want to  
drive through unse-  
molested  
W. C. Gallaway



No. 55456

RECEIVED

AUG 26 1903

OFFICE OF U. S. INDIAN AGENT,  
OSCOKEE, IND. TER.

8/25

W. C. Galloway

Morris I.T.

-----

Wants a permit to drive  
his cattle through the  
Choctaw nation to his lease  
in the Creek Nation.

Go on Me



Sans Bois, I.T., August 25, 1903.

Rev. W. M. Moore,

Calloway, I.T.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th inst, relative to the sale of the surplus lands, you are advised that under the treaty the allottees will be permitted to sell one fourth of their surplus land in one year from the date of patent, one fourth in three years and the balance in five years. From the tone of your inquiry it occurs to me that you are under the impression that you have to sell this land; this is not true. You are not compelled to sell any of your land, and it would be appropriate not to do so. Further replying, I desire to say that children who have parents living do not necessarily have to have guardian appointed, as the father and mother are the natural guardian, and they have the right to select the land for the minor child. You are also informed that you will not be permitted to dispose of land belonging to a minor child.

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.N.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 25, 1903.

Honorable E.A. Hitchcock,  
Secretary of the Interior,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:--

I have the honor to herewith acknowledge receipt of your communication of August 18, 1903, conveying the intelligence that my communication of June 8, 1903, addressed to the Chairman of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, protesting against the expenses of the sale of the coal and asphalt lands being charged to the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, had been duly received by the Department.

I desire to respectfully suggest that on August 18, 1903, I addressed a reply to the Chairman of the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, in answer to the communication from the Department dated July 7, 1903, in which I briefly stated my reasons for opposing a supplementary agreement at that time.

Subsequent events have strengthened the belief that any agreement that comprehended the segregation of the pine lands would be very unpopular among the great mass of Indians, and could not be ratified by a majority vote. The fullblood Indian lives in the pine region; they are contented there; and do not want to be disturbed. I promised them, preceeding the last August election, after a personal visit to that section of the country, that I would use every effort at my command to protect them in their homes. I thought then, and I feel now, that it would be a grave mistake to segregate these lands



(EAM-2-8/25/'03.)

Should they be forced to select homes elsewhere, they would be confronted at once by land companies and shrewd speculators who seem to have entrenched themselves between the Indian and his right to allot the Indian domain.

I most respectfully suggest that the Choctaw Indian, including myself, have the most implicit faith in your high purpose to protect the Indian in his property rights. Any distrust they may feel with reference to another treaty is entirely foreign to the sincere regard they entertain for your integrity of purpose.

In the former letter I took occasion to suggest that as to the other matters referred to in your communication of July 7, 1903, that Congress would doubtless, upon your recommendation, confer any additional discretionary power needed to carry out the purposes of the present treaties.

Assuring you, in conclusion, of my highest esteem, I am,  
Distated.

Very respectfully,

Prin. Chief C.H.



(BAH-2-3/18/'03)

Nation, and make and deliver plats to all citizens who will allot land for themselves, or are legally authorized to select allotments for others.

Sec. 3, Said Allotting Commissioners shall be appointed for two years, or until such time as their services are no longer required, and shall receive, as compensation for their actual services, the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) per day, each, and two dollars (\$2.00) per day, each, in lieu of subsistence.

Sec. 4 And upon the failure of any Commissioner appointed under this Act to perform the duties outlined herein, without a lawful excuse, he shall, by the Principal Chief, be removed, and his successor appointed.

Sec. 5, And the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the salaries and expenses of said Commissioners, is hereby appropriated out of any money in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated; and the National Auditor shall issue warrants quarterly to pay said Commissioners, and the National Treasurer shall pay the same. And this Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Approved Dec. 12, 1902.

Green McCurtain, P. C. C. N.:"

The object of this act of council, was to get competent persons to go on the land and get the descriptions for the fullbloods who know absolutely nothing about the sections and various subdivisions thereof; by means of this assistance the fullblood would be enabled to go to the land office with plats of his desired allotment and thus greatly facilitate the work of the Dawes Commission in disposing of this part of their work.

Under the present arrangement the Indians are approached by designing whitemen, and are induced, by these persons, to enter into a contract permitting these whitemen to select their lands for them. The lack of aid and friendly advice leaves the Indian helpless in the hands of these men, and he knows not where to turn for succor or relief. In many instances the Indian knows nothing of the character of the soil, and is wholly unfamiliar with the surroundings of



(EAH-3-8/18/'03)

the lands selected for him.

This office is in receipt of hundreds of letters from the various parts of the Choctaw Nation, requesting information as to how to proceed to procure definite descriptions of the lands these people desire to allot. There have been many complaints with reference to enormous charges made by surveyors. I quote a part of a letter just received, dated at Tamaha, I.T., August 10, 1903, as follows:

"There is a company of surveyors camped in this neighborhood who are soliciting surveys, and charging ten cents per acre, and are robbing those whom they can persuade into a contract. I think something should be done to rid the country of these frauds, if it is possible to do so. They got Albert Deshan into a contract and charged him, as I am credibly informed, (\$80.00) eighty dollars for his survey. The citizens here want their lands, and are at a loss as to how to manage to get their numbers, and they are an easy prey to these designing parties."

The above letter is signed by J.S. Forrest, a prominent citizen, by blood, of the Choctaw Nation, and is one among the many complaints made to this office.

Mindful of the fact that the United States Government, acting through the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, has exclusive jurisdiction in all matters relating to the allotment of land, I am prepared to say that it is not and was not the purpose of the Choctaw Council, in passing this bill, to in any manner interfere with the full jurisdiction of the Government or any of its plans for the allotment of land, but the provisions of the bill are rather in aid of the purposes of the Government to allot the lands fairly, equally and so far as possible, satisfactorily to the allottees. While it is true the



(EAH-4-8/18/'03)

Government has done everything necessary to the proper classification and appraisement of the lands to be allotted, has made maps showing the location of the lands by sections and such other subdivisions as are allottable, and is prepared to furnish information as to the appraised value of any particular section of sub-division of land, yet no provision has been made to assist the Indians in the actual selection of their allotments beyond giving the information afforded by the maps, and of these many of the Indians know nothing.

The Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations are over-run with a vast number of speculators who employ some more or less prominent Native Indian to aid them in securing these leases. The consideration advanced to the allottee is wholly inadequate. It occurs to me that the law quoted above is a measure calculated to relieve the evils complained of. My acquaintance with the Indian Character leads me to the conclusion that in the selection of allotting Commissioners great care should be exercised in the appointment of reliable, trustworthy men for these places.

I fully appreciate the fact that no law, however wisely conceived, would prevent the ultimate purpose of the speculators to secure the Indian lands, but I think that this measure would have a tendency to delay the final consummation of their purpose in this direction, and it might happen that the Indian will learn, in this interval, that it would be a good thing to keep his property.

Hoping that you may see proper to adopt the views herein presented, or suggest some other plan that will meet the exigencies



(EAH-5-8/18/'03)

of the situation, and that I may have a favorable reply along these lines; I am, with much respect,

Dic-GM

Yours truly,

Prin Chief C.N.



# Citizenship Commission,

CHOCTAW NATION.

S. E. LEWIS,  
A. J. HARKINS,  
JOHN TAYLOR, } Commissioners.  
HENRY ANSLEY, Clerk.

Mississippi Choctaw Camp  
3 Miles South Toka, Aug 26, 1903  
Gov Green McCurtain  
Kiuta, St.

Dear Gov,

we are still here  
in Camps. Mr Angell (Chief Clerk  
in Charge Land Office) says they  
will be ready to start us out in  
a few days. These people seem to  
be very well satisfied with the  
country so far as they have seen.  
They are anxious to get out on  
their lands. And I believe the Major-  
ity of them are going to succeed.  
For they seem to understand and  
realize the danger of dealing  
with these grafters and land  
grabbers. I don't believe they are  
going to be worked by them.  
We have instructions from  
Mr Angell to keep these grafters  
off the Camp grounds. which  
we are doing. Though sometimes



# Citizenship Commission,

CHOCTAW NATION.

S. E. LEWIS,  
A. J. HARKINS,  
JOHN TAYLOR, } Commissioners.  
HENRY ANSLEY, Clerk.

3

Ind. Ter.,

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we have to keep close after them  
there seems to be a great many of  
our people working for these  
Land Grabbers, and for a while  
they slipped in and talked to  
a part of these people - but did  
not accomplish anything - we  
were put onto the Scheming Rite  
at once, and now we don't  
allow any one in, unless we  
know them to be all right -  
Davis Hanner came down with a  
Hock load of these white fellows  
and he said he was not looking  
after any Land deals - but want-  
ed to Hock to all these old  
people and see if he could not  
use some of them as witnesses  
in some Citizenship Cases.  
Well you know that was enough  
for me - I told him he could  
not stop on the Camp grounds



# Citizenship Commission,

CHOCTAW NATION.

S. E. LEWIS,  
A. J. HARKINS, } Commissioners.  
JOHN TAYLOR, }  
HENRY ANSLEY, Clerk.

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Ind. Ter., 190

And He said He would get an  
Order from Mr Angell. And  
Lou Harkins told him all  
right if Mr Angell would give  
him permission He could  
come - but Mr Angell would  
not do it. So it made him  
and his outfit very mad -  
Gov. I would be glad to have  
some of our good friends to  
come and visit these people  
and talk to them and warn them  
against these land grabbers. Of  
course we talk to them and I  
think it does good, but more  
talk from outside might do  
more. They all seem to take a  
liking to Amos Henry. And I  
think He has influence with  
them. I will write you  
again soon as I find out  
what we are going to do.



# Citizenship Commission,

CHOCTAW NATION.

S. E. LEWIS,  
A. J. HARKINS, } Commissioners.  
JOHN TAYLOR, }  
HENRY ANSLEY, Clerk.

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Ind. Ter., 190

And I shall be glad at anytime  
to hear from you, And if any  
instructions. Command me

Your friend  
L. C. Leflon



Sans Bois, I.T., August 26, 1903.

Honorable J. Blair Shoenfelt,  
United States Indian Agent,  
Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Sir:--

The verbal report of Mr W.D. Lester, representing your Department, is perfectly satisfactory. I feel sure you are doing every thing in your power to protect the Indian. I realize that your efforts in that direction are largely hampered by the attitude of an unfriendly court, that takes occasion, on and off the bench, to harass the Department, as well as the Indian Government in the administration of the laws.

Wishing you much success and assuring you of my hearty co-operation in all things looking to the rigid enforcement of the law, I am,

Very respectfully,

Prin. Chief C.H.



Hallenman P. F.

August 26/1905

To The Honorable Gov. Green

Mc Curtin Kinta J. J.

Kind Sir I would  
appreciate some advice  
in regard to the way  
Royalty does a citizen  
kept to pay Royalty on  
way cut from land he  
has filed on Please  
give me your advice  
on the matter at once

Respectfully Yours

John L. Self



Ft. Towson. . I. T. . Aug. 27th. . 1903. .

His Excellency Green. McCurtain.  
Govener Choctaw Nation.  
Tuskahoma. . I. T. .

Respected Sir:--

North. Hill a Choctaw Freedman of this place begs  
the privelege of asking you a couple of questions  
concerning his vested rights. .

Who must he look to for payment of  
of the land that the U. S. Government surveyed, and taken from him  
to complete a Town-Site at this point, said land consisting of  
aabout ten acres, and which he settled upon thirty seven years ago?

Whoever is to pay him, should they not allow him  
something to show that he is entitled to compensation therefor?

What steps, and with whom, can he himself take to  
place this matter in a safe ~~and correct~~ position where he will  
receive that which is just due him. . ?..

Will you be so kind as to spare the writer, for  
him, a copy of the Atoka agreement. ?..

Now Mr. McCurtain, this old land mark is being  
treated shamefully by some people who are trying to not only take  
that which is rightfully his own, but also trying to scare him  
off of his property. . I am a young Attorney, not familiar with all  
the laws applicable to the Choctaw Citizens, but for the sake of  
my respect of humanity, and that which belongs to this old Freed-  
man, I am trying to defend him against the hand of imposition and  
and land grabbing tyrants. .

I realize your many duties do not  
permit of lengthy corospondence, and I respectfully beg your par-  
don for this explanation, but be as it may, I feel that you and  
your good office will assist me in defending the rights of this  
worthy old soul, and for the compliance thereto I respectfully  
extend you the many thanks of North. Hill and myself in advance. .

I am sir, with much respect,

Greatfully yours,

*J. O. Nelson*

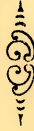
Atty' For . North. Hill. .

Ft. Towson. . I. T. . Aug. 27. 1903. .



**DEPUTY CLERK**

WADE COUNTY, CHOCTAW NATION

Tahina, J. J. Aug 28<sup>th</sup> 1903

Hon Green Mountain  
 Sand Bois Esq.  
 Dear Sir There is a  
 man Bay the name  
 of R. W. Stowe asking  
 that Down here he is  
 not under Bond and  
 he Dont pay any  
 Rorally in the way he  
 Carlo he claims to be  
 a citizen but yten  
 know that is Kyan  
 pretty near all the  
 citizens of the Choctaw  
 nation the Sheriff and  
 Deputies are not paying  
 any attention to him so  
 have Ben Reporting a  
 man Bay the name of John  
 A. Carlee and Stowe's



~~DEPUTY SHERIFF~~

WADE COUNTY, CHOCTAW NATION



(2)

Talikhina, J. J.,

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on the same list of  
Citizens and he is  
claiming his Citizen  
ship under same  
as John C. Curtice  
you will please  
have something done  
as soon as possible  
Yours as ever  
Sidney Sage



Department of the Interior,

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

UNION AGENCY,

~~Muskogee~~  
Muskogee, Ind. T., 8/28, 1903

Hon. Gen. M. C. C. V.  
Saw. Bayo I. T.

Dear Sir

I Seized a bar Load of Hay at  
Barnet on <sup>Aug</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> and Turned same  
over to W. G. Holliman Dpty Sheriff  
about 2 or 3 Days afterwards the  
Sheriff Johnson Traeger Taken  
the Royalty on this same  
Hay and give the Partic from  
Whome the Hay had<sup>ly</sup> Seized an  
order to Holliman to Release the  
Hay But Holliman Did Not Release  
the Hay so the Hay Was to be  
Sold yesterday But We Was  
not V By a Replevin and a  
Damage For \$14<sup>00</sup> We aim to give  
Bond this a.m. and Fight the  
case to a Finish

Respectfully

Alf McLeay  
Indian Police



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. FHE.

Washington.

I.T.D.6402-1903.

L.R.S.

August 28, 1903.

United States Indian Inspector,  
for the Indian Territory,  
Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Sir:

The Department is in receipt of your report dated August 14, 1903, transmitting a communication dated July 20, same year, from the Hon. Green McCurtain, Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, addressed to the Secretary, in the matter of the sale of pine timber, in which he suggests that the National Council pass an act creating the office of Inspector, whose duty it shall be to carefully scrutinize and approve all contracts, deeds, leases, etc., and that in addition thereto there should be some officer of the United States government, whose duty it is to inspect and approve such contracts, leases, etc, before the same shall be effective.

You call attention to departmental letter of August 10, 1903 (I.T.D.4528,5050,5412-1903), transmitting copies of the opinions of the Assistant Attorney General for the



Interior Department, dated August 8, 1903, holding that Indian citizens may dispose of their timber after they have received certificates of allotment from the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes.

You report that there is no authority for the action contemplated by the Principal Chief, and you recommend that he be advised that in view of the provisions of the law it will not be practicable to carry out his suggestions.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs forwarded your said report on August 22, 1903, and states that the measures suggested by the Principal Chief would have been very pertinent for consideration at the time the supplemental agreement was made with the representatives of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations; that under existing law there is no authority in the Department to take the steps suggested, and he recommends that the Principal Chief be advised accordingly.

The Department has heretofore ruled that no legislative act of either of the Five Civilized Tribes would be effective, even if approved by the President, should the same be in conflict with existing United States statutes. This being so, the only effective remedy for the conditions mentioned



by the Principal Chief is in legislation on the part of Congress, authorizing the Department of the Interior to supervise all contracts for the leasing or sale of lands by members of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.

Principal Chief McCurtain was requested by the Department on July 7th last, to appoint Commissioners to meet with the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes for the purpose of securing a supplemental agreement with said Nation, in accordance with the recommendations of said Commission. The Department has not received a reply from the Principal Chief and you are requested to advise him of the views of the Department as herein expressed, and also to request that he will inform the Department what action he proposes to take with reference to the appointment of Commissioners as requested by said departmental letter of July 7th.

On the same day, viz: July 7, 1903, the Governor of the Chickasaw Nation was requested to take like action for the appointment of Commissioners to meet with the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes, for the purpose of making a supplemental agreement with said Nation, and no response has been received by the Department to said request. You are



also directed to call Principal Chief Moseley's attention to the matter and to ask him what action he proposes to take in the premises.

A copy of the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs is inclosed herewith.

Respectfully,

E.A.HITCHCOCK,  
Secretary.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 29, 1903.

Mr L.C. LeFlore,

Atoka, I.T.

Dear sir:

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 26th inst and have read the same with great interest. I am glad to note that you are keeping the grafters off the ground. You will get your instructions from Mr Angell, and you will also get your salary from the same source. Tell Amos that I heard from his family yesterday and that they were all well; and that the protracted meeting broke up on the 24th. I am at all times glad to hear from you.

Yours truly,



Sans Bois, I.T., August 29, 1903.

Mr Will G. Moore,  
Carthage, Mo.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of the 24th inst, you are advised that you are at liberty to use this letter as a permit for yourself and friends to take an outing in the Choctaw Nation, at any time during the year 1903, provided that there be no game shipped from the Nation, and that there be no death-dealing agencies used to destroy fish or game.

I trust you may have a pleasant trip.

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.W.



that contests may be instituted  
Under these rulings of the Department, it will be readily seen that

Sans Bois, I.T., August 29, 1903.

Mr G.W.Dodd,

Grant, I.T.

Dear sir:

I am just in receipt of a letter written by you to the Secretary of the Interior, wherein you inquire whether or not you will be violating any law to breed and raise stock in an enclosure which you have rented from a citizen, which has been referred to me for appropriate answer. In reply to the same you are advised that until certificate of allotment has been issued to the citizen from whom you have rented, the land is held, by the Department, to be public domain. These certificates of allotment can not be issued for nine months from the date of filing, by reason of the provision that contests may be instituted within nine months after filing. Under these rulings of the Department, it will be readily seen that the pasture you would have would be public domain, and any stock you might have thereon would be on the public domain, which would be a violation of law.

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.N.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 29, 1903.

Mr John L. Self,

Hollenman, I.T.

Dear sir:

Replying to your letter of the 26th inst, wherein you inquire whether or not a person has to pay hay royalty on land he has filed on, you are advised that the Interior Department holds that all hay royalties must be paid for hay cut until certificate of allotment has been issued to the citizen. These certificates of allotment can not be issued for nine months after the date of filing, and you will therefore have to pay the hay royalty.

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.N.



Gillham Ark.

Aug. the 29<sup>th</sup> 1903

To the Hon. Green M<sup>c</sup> Curtain

Dear Sir

I have been thinking for months of writing to you but have refrained from doing so knowing that you were busy & that your time was valuable I disliked to bother you But have decided that I would have to do so as I can not hear from the Daws Commission I may be wrong but my opinion is they are waiting for a bid from me but I have no intention of doing such a thing I went before them at Alikchi & left a certified copy of my marriage certificate with one of the Commissioners Capt. McKinnon I think was his name I was notified by the Commission in Febr. 1903 to appear before them at once which I did a young man asked me for my papers and when I told him that I had left them my papers at Alikchi he denied it and said that I had left no such evidence with the Commission and that I had wilfully deserted my family without any cause I then got the Affidavits of four respectable men who knew me and knew all the circumstances under which I left the Territory who swore that I had to leave the Territory to save my life I sent the Affidavit with Notary's seal together with a certified copy of my marriage certificate between myself & Kizzie Hampton to the Commission & got their acknowledgement of the Receipt of the same Dated Apr. the 21<sup>st</sup> 1903 Stating



2  
that they had been duly filed with the records  
of the Commission<sup>rs</sup>. I have not heard from them  
since I went to Kulli Tuklo in Mar I was told  
that several of the intermarried citizens in that section  
of the Territory had to pay considerable sums of  
money to get their claims allowed but I never asked  
to whom it was paid. Recently I saw several of their  
names published in the Indian Citizen as intermarried  
citizens whose claims were allowed by the Commission.  
I can not see why my claim is not as valid as theirs  
I was recommended by ten male citizens by blood  
Paid \$100.00 for my Licence and paid the County Judge  
\$5.00 to perform the ceremony & have it recorded I never  
but once if at all violated the Laws of the Choctaw Nation  
although I was arrested three times for the same  
offence & convicted of cow stealing although I proved  
by three witnesses that the cow was in my mark & Brand  
and that I had raised the cow and she had no other brand  
on her we threw the cow and shaved the hair off and  
examined closely for the brand where the party said  
the brand was & no trace of a brand could be found  
the party who claimed the cow was present and I told  
him that I had a cow that I could not keep in my range  
that I would make him a present of her & he got the  
cow in a few days and sold her to Ch. Dowdy for  
\$8.00 I think the origin of my trouble in the  
Territory was that I protected a lady (my Wifes cousin)  
from brutal treatment by her Drunken Husband  
Then he and his followers and admirers could  
not get me to join in with them in



appropriating stray and unmarked stock I frequently rode up on them and saw so much that they got afraid I might tell something on them they had already found out that they could not scare me so they began swearing lies they swore that my wife had introduced whiskey which cost \$20.00 then that I had carried my gun to a public meeting when there was no meeting; there was to have been speaking there that day but the speaker did not come & the crowd had dispersed and I passed the place late in the evening on my way home that cost me a lawyers fee \$5.00 then the Cow case already referred to then some one Branded one of my Neighbors horses in my Brand but anybody could tell at a glance that it was not done with my Iron the Sheriff sent the horse to me by a Negro I sent the horse back to him & told the Negro to tell him that he would make money by letting me & my business strictly alone

one morning a few days after he sent me the horse he and three or four Deputies rode up to my gate and came in and instead of coming in the house when I invited them in they began filing by the door where I stood as if they were going to surround me two of them had passed the steps I picked up my winchester & halted them & told them not to move except as I told them I did not ask them their business but presented my gun at the Sheriff & told him if he wanted to live to take his men away instantly that I had stood last bangaroo court that I ever intoned to One of the Deputies spoke up and said I would not blame you Mr. Heflin if you were to kill the last one of us for they have not treated you right



my house had been watched 4 nights for weeks before this happened & continued until I left two or three weeks later if I ever violated the Choctaw law it was when I drove the sheriff off and I considered it acting in self defence on previous occasions I had tried to have warrants issued for the parties who had swore lies and was laughed at so I knew that if I did not help myself there was no help for me. I have lived in Ark. since Dec., 1867 except about 14 years that I spent in the Territory and there is men here that have known & had dealings with me all along ever since I first came here & I have never been arrested in this county I have always been a peaceable law-abiding citizen as any of the following men will tell you & that I am good for all my contracts W. S. Johnson Post Master J. J. Robertson The Reector Store Co. Smith & Allen Goff & Gamble have all had dealings with me for the past four years or longer Wm Campbell and W. R. Hughes have known me for more than thirty year all of Gillham Ark. John H. Lommerville U. S. Commissioner at Tyarkana & I could give you a hundred more I was made a Master Mason in 1884 and have been a member in good standing ever since I am at present a member of Silver Hill Lodge No 485 O. F. M.

I have been patiently awaiting the action of the Davis Commission until I have about lost confidence in them Please advise me what to do if there is any other way to do except continue to wait as I have been doing.

Respectfully Yours

W. B. Befflin



J. N. LEARD.  
LAND AND IMMIGRATION AGENT  
FOR THE



# Leard & Griggs, REAL ESTATE AGENTS.

Property Bought, Sold, Leased and Rented.

FARMING LANDS  
A SPECIALTY.

NOTARY IN OFFICE.

OFFICE IN STEYER BUILDING  
WINNIE STREET.

Hugo, Ind. Ter. Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> 1903

Hon. Gen. McCutari

Kin to

Ludham Tenn.

Dear Sir:

Yours of week date received and in reference to the  
statement I am indeed proud to say that it is false  
in full. which the following statement will prove to you.  
The parties Johnson and Davis, were reported to me and I made  
and investigation my self and then after word sent my deputy  
twice and we exacted a promise from Mr. Johnson to  
the effect that he would in the dispose of the cattle or  
place them in an enclosure - although he only had 18 head  
in all and as to the other man Mr. Davis. he has two  
brothers and the three of them own the 21 head of cattle  
which as you will see is not the 10 head each.  
however, I will furnish you affidavits of the Messrs.  
Johnson and Davis as well as sworn affidavits of  
some of the citizens. Trusting this to be entirely  
satisfactory. I am, Yours very respectfully,  
H. M. Russell.



Shawnee O.T. 8/29/03

Gov. Green McBurtain  
Sau Bois I.T.  
Dear Sir

I am located here working  
for the Choctaw Railroad  
Co in the Shops I am trying  
to improve me a shade  
near McAlester and have  
not been here very long  
and I am now in a posi-  
tion. Guess that I am forced  
to ask a favor from some  
one and as we have known  
each other from boyhood I  
will ask you as I may  
be able some day to return  
you the favor



I am forced to raise Fifty <sup>\$</sup>50.00  
Dollars right-away. And if you  
can loan me that amount  
I will pay it back to you  
just as soon as I can  
and Green. I will further  
say as the affairs of our  
country is fast coming to  
a close and if you can  
place me in any posi-  
tion that will justify me  
in staying at home  
I will certainly appre-  
ciate the favor. Trusting a  
favorable return

I am Resply yours  
Brad Golsom  
over



If you can possibly spare  
the money it will be  
the means of keeping  
Mrs Looms brotherly services  
trouble I can pay it  
back inside of 3 or 4  
months if you send the  
money sent to  
John Folsom

124 N. Dearg Street  
Shawnee O.T.



Kintah, I.T., August 31, 1903.

Mr Alfred McKay, U.S.I.P.

McAlester, I.T.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of the 28th inst, I think the best thing for youboys to do is to just go ahead and comply with the law and pay no attention to Johnson Frazier. He clearly had no right to do what he did do in this matter, and you are advised to fight the case to a finish. It would ofcourse be well to consult D.C. McCurtain and Mansfield, McMurray & Cornish with reference to all such matters.

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.N.



Sans Bois, I.T., August 31, 1903.

Mr T.O.Nelson,

Ft.Towson, I.T.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of the 27th inst, you are advised that North Hill, your client, is entitled to have any part, or lots located in any townsite surveyed by the Government, upon which he has improvements, scheduled to him by the Townsite Commission, thereby enabling him to buy the same for half its appraised value, or in the event he does not care to buy the same, then the person who does buy this particular lot or lots must pay him for his improvements.

The better course to pursue is for him to apply to the Townsite Commission, at Atoka, requesting them to schedule to him that part upon which he has improvements: then when they sell the townlots he can buy this property, as provided in the Atoka Agreement.

I herewith enclose copy of the Atoka Agreement, as requested

Yours truly,

Prin. Chief C.N.



Kintah, I.T., August 31, 1903.

Mr Brad Polson,

Shawnee, O.T.

Dear sir:

In reply to your letter of the 29th inst, I am sorry to advise that I am very much pressed for money at this time, and am unable to accommodate you as you desire. Money matters are very close here, and expenses are very high and I just have not the money to spare.

Yours truly,