

Washington, D.C. Jan'y 13, 1908.

Hon. J.R. Garfield,
Secretary of the Interior.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

It has been intimated to the undersigned representatives of the Creek Nation that your Department has under advisement the question of discontinuing the regular annual meetings of the Creek National Council; and knowing such action on the part of the Government would be a disadvantage and most unsatisfactory to the Creeks, we respectfully ask your attention to a few considerations why that body should be permitted to remain intact until the final close of all our national business. The Creeks desire through this council always to exercise some sort of official authority or cognizance of all transactions pertaining to the work of closing up their national affairs.

Again unfortunately for our people we have no native press through which intelligence of the actions of Congress and the rules, regulations and requirements of your Department relating to their affairs may be disseminated among them for their information and they have always looked to their representatives in the annual sessions of the council, who come from every part of the Nation, as supplying the medium for such information, which thus far has worked to their advantage. To the extent therefore of its character as a bureau of education and information, the national council is of signal benefit and usefulness to the adult portion of our citizenship and we earnestly request that its life be continued so long as any business between the Creeks and the United States remains to be adjusted. In this connection we call attention to another subject which is of the deepest concern to our people which calls for adjustment

We refer to the subject of the equalization of allotments provided for in our agreements with the Government.

These agreements contemplate the equalization of all allotments in land or money as the allottee may elect, but the undersigned are informed that the assets of the Creek Nation are inadequate to accomplish equalization as intended, and in view of the disbursements

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being made annually by the Government of Creek funds, the longer equalization is delayed the less able will we be to effect it, and thus the matter becomes one of gravest importance to our people, and they have instructed us to call for a settlement as soon as possible of this matter. And now since the equalization in the manner stipulated in agreements appears to be impracticable, we suggest the abandonment of that plan entirely, and the payment per capita of all the funds of the nation to its citizens whose names appear on the approved rolls of citizenship of the Creek Nation and their descendents. While it is clear enough that this plan does not accord strict justice to all concerned, the demand by our people for an early settlement is so pressing that we are justified in the belief that it will meet with the approval of a large majority of them. If, however, it shall appear that this is not a proper method of settlement, then we ask that some other and better course be adopted which shall result in an early settlement, and a cessation of further drainage on Creek funds.

E. W. Grayson

Johnson E. ...
Creek Delegates.