

THE DUSTIN DISPATCH

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LETTER OF ALEX POSEY

Well, so while the locusts was singing in the
blackjack trees and the women folks was pounding
sofky corn, Hotgun and Tookpafka Micco and Wolf
Warrior and Kono Harjo they was held a powwow in
the shade.

And Hotgun he look down his long pipe stem
and smoke slow with his eyes put near shut and say,
"Well, so that Oklahoma convention was put me in mind
a the nigger preacher asking the blessing."

And Tookpafka Micco he say, "Well, so how the
colored brother ask the blessing?"

And Hotgun he go on and say, "Well so the
nigger preacher bow his head and say, 'O Lord, we
was mighty thankful for this feast. Please pass the
possum.' Same way Oklahoma was pray to Congress,
saying 'We be mighty thankful for statehood.' Please
pass the Injin Territory.'".

Tookpafka Micco and Wolf Warrior and Kono Harjo they was spit in the dog fennel and give a big grunt.

Then Hotgun he go on and say, "The prayer was short and sweet but the chairman was had to sit on the lid to keep the speeches for the occasion from slopping over on the second page of the People's Vindicator. Henry Be Lobbying he was among the ITS and he get up and shove his manly bosom to the front and entertained 'em with some extracts from his graduating oration. He say, 'This was a grand and glorious country. It was the land a the brave and the home a the brave. Everybody was created free and equal -- subject to later developments. Greece and Rome was the greatest countries of olden times, but the United States was the grandest domain the moon or sun ever shone upon. From the dashing waves a the Atlantic to the rolling billows a the Pacific -- from the icy mountains a the North Pole to the everglades a Flordia the Stars and Stripes was the emblem a liberty. I was glad to stand before you today in the short grass country. Injin Territory was clasp hands with Oklahoma. We was the cream a civilization -- if you don't mind the whey. But we was not in the

Union, so we better butt in."

And Tookpafka Micco he say, "Well, so that was the long and the short a the Oklahoma conventon."

(The women folks was keep on pounding sofky corn and the locusts was keep on singing in the blackjack trees and Wolf Warrior and Kono Harjo they was pay close attention.)

Then Hotgun he go on and say, "Well, it's a long lane that don't turn. The Chiefs was called a constitution convention and the boosters for single statehood was getting scarce as bald headed Injins. The politicians was crowding the band wagon like Muskogee society crowd the Hyde Park owl car."

And Tookpafka Micco he ask Hotgun, "Well, so was all the chiefs favor the big powwow to make medicine for statehood separated from Oklahoma?"

And Hottgun he say, "Well, so they all favored it but the chief a the Chickasaw Nation. He was had other fish to fry, like the hundred thousand dollar warrant scandal. The grand jury was meet pretty soon and he didn't had any enemies to make. He was had friends on both sides a the statehood fence. But all the same the Chickasaw nation be represented. One swallow don't make a summer."

"But so," Tookpafka Micco say, "Colonel Duglast and Deacon Marrs and Governor Makefire say single statehood was inevitable."

And Hotgun he say, "Well, so it was inevitable to die, but the doctors was had lots a practice. It's time to had a change and shift the scenery. All the Snake Injins was rounded up in the Creek nation; Dick Adams and Bob Owens was skimmed the cream in the Cherokee nation; they wasn't enough pine timber left in the Choctaw nation for a set a house logs; all the fine springs was gobbled up by the government for health resorts for retired carpet-baggers and they wasn't enough money left in the treasury to hail a bread wagon with. So the Five Civilized Tribes didn't had anything to live for but statehood and the removal a the restrictions."

And Tookpafka Micco he ask Hotgun, "Reckon so they be a big attendance at the constitution convention?"

And Hotgun he say, "Well, so bound to be. It was this way: If Okmulgee didn't want the county seat, Henryetta was take it off her hand like a duck catching a June bug; if Wagoneer did not seek after the county seat Coweta was willing to relieve he a the burden; if

South McAlester was indifferent, Haileyville was got busy; and if Eufaula didn't had her boundary lines on straight, maybe so Dustin was profit by it. When the Dawes commission was set in to wind up this country it was had to lay out section lines and township lines before it could allot the Injins. Same way the constitution convention was had to draw plans and specifications for statehood, and that was call for county lines and districts for congressmen and senators to run in. No one was opposed the move to have statehood separated from Oklahoma but railroad lawyers and well-meaning but misguided country editors and corn field statesmen with bee hives in they hats."

 Tookpafka Micco and Wolf Warrior and Kono Harfo give long grunt and help theyselves to a watermelon. -- ALEX POSEY in the Muskogee Phoenix.