

WAGONER RECORD

Wagoner, Ind. Ter.
Friday, Aug. 9, 1895
Vol. 3, No. 45
Phillippe & Hatfield, Editors

LETTER OF L. C. PERRYMAN

TO HON. EDWARD BULLETT

The Creek trouble is still without any show of settlement, for the present, and it looks very much like nothing can be done until the regular Council meets. There has been a number of rumors current, about the resignation of Chief Perryman, we herewith give a copy of certain letters, bearing on the subject.

THE LETTER

Tulsa, Ind. Ter.
July 15, '95

Hon. Edward Bullett,
Second Chief, Muskogee Nat.

Dear Sir:

I have just received your letter and a copy

of the decision of the Supreme Court determining the constitutionality of certain actions regarding suspending officers from their duties. I have no desire to be in your way or in the way of any one. If this matter did not appear in our politics we would have already made our payment.

I am not interfering at all with the payment or any of the functions of our government. I wish to remain in peace and quietude. The decision you sent me is hard for me to understand. It reads as follows: "That the mere arraignment of an officer by council to answer bills of impeachment does not suspend him from office. From the reading of the quotation of your letter to the court, this is in answer to your letter.

But if you are aware that the court intended to agree with the action of the council I am willing at any time to send you the things asked for in your letter. You must bear in mind that not sending you the seal and keys, etc., does not mean that I am trying to keep them back from you for my own political benefit or in any way to keep you from acting at all. I want to be right as the nation is

depending on all matters on the action of the Supreme Court. The seal is only necessary on Commissions. I never have used it in calling council or making messages or any other business except foreign matters and giving officers commissions.

As you have called the council I will act as it directs.

I will write you again in a day or two.

Understand me fully that I have nothing to do with the headright payment, only by way of expediting same. The treasurer of the nation was authorized by law to make the payment, and if Grayson is now suspended constitutionally new appointments should have been made at once to act in this payment.

Yours truly,

L. C. PERRYMAN

Prin. Chief

Muskogee Nation

P. S. -- The seal is here. You can have it at any time, also the keys -- if council so decides.

Acting upon the second chief's suggestion his council appointed Thos. Canard and Wm. Sapulpa to wait on the chief and demand the seal, books,

keys, etc. The committee state that no force was used or threatened in securing the things but the chief, after consultation with his brother, surrendered the seal, keys, draft book, etc., but tore the stubs from the draft book, saying he would need them in his defense. While the chief has surrendered these things and is now locked from the executive desk, seal and books, he still claims to be the lawful chief, recognized by the United States, and has issued the following proclamation:

Executive Office, M. N.
Tulsa, Indian Territory
July 25, 1895

Whereas, Certain citizens of the nation have lately attempted to impress the public with the idea that the chief and certain other officers of the nation are no longer in authority; and

Therefore, know ye, that I, L. C. Perryman, principal chief of the Muskogee nation, by authority in me vested by that provision of the constitution making it the duty of the chief "to see that all the laws of the nation are faithfully executed and enforced," do hereby issue this, my proclamation.

All citizens are advised that the extra session of the national council, which met May 14, 1895, passed an act suspending the chief from office, and that the question was raised as to the constitutional authority of the council to suspend a chief. In order to quiet the matter, Edward Bullette, second and acting principal chief, submitted the question to the supreme court in a written communication dated June 10, 1895, in answer to which the court rendered the following opinion:

"That the arraignment of an official by council to answer bills of impeachment does not suspend such official." My authority is fully recognized by the United States Indian agent and the Department of the Interior.

L. C. Perryman,
Principal Chief.