

MUSKOGEE PHOENIX (SUPPLEMENT)

Muskogee, Indian Territory  
October 6, 1894.  
Vol. 7. No. 36.  
I. W. Singleton, Manager.

EDITORIAL ON L. C. PERRYMAN

The Chief, in his message to council, shows to very well grasp the situation that confronts the Nation. He submits the matter of allotment without recommendation inferring that the action of the special session this spring was decisive, and gives the assurance that the other nations are in line in opposition to any change. He recommends economy and frugal appropriations in order to reduce the national debt and raise its warrants to a better standard of value. This is good enough, but it appears to us that it would be wise for the Creeks to pass an act appropriating sufficient money from their vested funds in Washington to pay all of their outstanding warrants. There is not a doubt that Congress would honor the draft. It doesn't require a financier to see that the Creeks are playing a losing game when they lend money at 6 per cent, and their warrants are discounted from 25 to 35 per cent.

There is a clear loss of about one-third on Creek paper. This means an annual loss of about \$50,000. It would require an \$80,000 draft on Washington to meet the indebtedness of the nation. Six per cent interest on this would be \$5,400. The policy now of the government loses this \$50,000 annually in order to retain the \$5,400 to the annual income, sustaining a loss of \$44-400 to the nation or its creditors. It would be best to reduce the funds in Washington sufficiently to place the warrants at par and by future economy or by increased internal revenue keep them there. It would be an easy matter to economize to the necessary extent or to raise the money by increased taxation.

He recommends that some legislation be passed looking to giving stability to the railroad towns, to supply needs that have arisen and to comply with the requirements stated by the senatorial commission in its report to congress.

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MESSAGE OF L. C. PERRYMAN

Gentlemen:

It gratifies me to know that I am again permitted to furnish your honorable body my annual message which will only contain the most important questions and will relate to you the condition of affairs within our nation. I will occupy only a short time in sketch-in out the facts, and trust you may complete whatever enactment may be necessary to cover same within a reasonable duration. This will perhaps create an early adjournment avoiding the enormous expenses heretofore incurred at our previous council. I will in the first instance call your attention the United States Commission sent out by the authority of an act of Congress to treat with the five civilized tribes. You are aware that this Commission was for the purpose of negotiating with our several tribes to induce them to consenting to the changes in our present mode of land holding

and to place this nation and our brother nations under a United States territorial form of government. You will remember that we met this commission last April in a general mass-meeting to hear such propositions as they had regarding their mission, which was responded to through an act of the national council in extra session. This commission has forwarded me written propositions which I find are similar to those offered at our mass-meeting. These last propositions will be presented to you through a special message. No doubt you are anxious to know the effect this commission has had with our brother nations. I have been informed through communication with the different chiefs of the several civilized tribes that their sentiments were in harmony with the actions pursued by the Creek people; thus you see we all feel alike in this great question.

Next, I will call your attention for one moment to the proposed new constitution. The votes cast by the citizens of the several towns for this constitution will be submitted to you in order to ascertain whether or not the same has been adopted or rejected. If you should find that the proposed constitution has been rejected, I would particularly

call your immediate attention to an act of the national council adopted in October, 1891, found on page 9 of the pamphlet law book and recommend that you cause such legislations as will modify the same so as to determine our chief in case a majority is not had next.

I would inform your honorable body that under laws regulating pastures, I have contracted with various companies but find just a portion of them have enclosed the lands granted for pasture use and have remitted no royalty to the treasurer. I would advise you make such regulations as will properly adjust these arrears.

In order that the revenue of this government may be increased and that industries may become more extensive, I would recommend that you enact such laws as will cause a reduction of royalty on coal, tie timber and stone, making a more reasonable tax, as outside capitalists claim such cannot be handled at a profit, unless this can be differently arranged; and also make such other provisions as will control the mining of all other minerals and public property found within our limits and belonging to this nation.

I will next call your attention to the railroad towns located within our limits. There seems to be more or less trouble existing over such property, and the way it is conducted. Therefore, in order to avoid any confusion or difficulties and to obviate the objection submitted to the congress of the United States by the senatorial commission regarding said towns, I would recommend that you make such legislation as will more properly regulate same and create offices that will protect our interests and the residents thereof.

Next, I will call your kind attention for a moment to the enormous expenses incurred at our several district courts caused by the mileage allowed jurors and witnesses in criminal cases, and would recommend that you enact such provisions as will make a more reasonable rate per mile.

I learn that the honorable treasurer paid only 41 cents on the dollar for general warrants and 75 cents on school warrants. You will readily observe the cause of this deficit arises from the omission of drafts wherein is based upon appropriation made at your different councils. Therefore, I would suggest and advise that you be more cautious and make

no appropriations only those to meet our existing annual requirements.

Any other questions arising which will require your attention will be submitted through special message.

All matters entrusted to our several offices will be reported to you for information and action. Trusting on your ability, patriotism and integrity, I hope your actions may be for the best interest of your constituents, and to our best judgment and economy in your legislation as will preserve the future welfare and prosperity of the Creek people.

L. C. PERRYMAN,  
Principal Chief.