

Copies

Choctaw Agency

Feb 14th 1854

Dear friend

I received your most interesting favor of the 30th ulto by last Monday's mail. Col McCurtain was here when I got it and he read it. He seem to think that Territorial Government will not suit the present condition of the Choctaws yet. If all thing could go on smoothly and let them remained as they are for while, time would not be far off when they would gradually come into it. But to extend the Territorial Government with out the knowledge or desire of the Choctaws it would most assuredly create disturbance in the Nation. I thought if the Government would simply admit our delegate on the floor of Congress to watch the interest of the Choctaws. and in course of time when they become prepared for such change of Government would ask for it. However white people never want to take time, but they wish to push the matter right through. Information has been received here that there are some prospect of Shawnee and Delaware tribes of Indians to visit the Choctaws with a view of making a proposition to settle in the Choctaw Nation - It is a subject of much important and demand the attention of every thinking man. But question would naturally rise can we live a great together when we cannot with the Chickabaws - However it might be avoided as we have good schooling

from the Chickasaws. This can be attributed to the
Several reasons, 1st An Agent separate and distinct
from the Choctaws, 2nd The officers of the District
are not paid by the Nation, 3rd They have too
much money paid to them as annuity, which
has the a tendency to make them restless people.
If their annuity could be paid to them
at once, retain sufficient funds for the
Educational purpose, and throw them upon
their own resources would make them happy
and let their Agent be Sub-Agent and all
business pass through Choctaw Agent. My
opinion this ought to be attend to, ^{by} the delegation

Well I will go back to the first subject, as
far as I have any conversation with the people
in this District seem to be favorable to hear
the proposition of Shawnee and Delaware -
And if ^{it} meet their views to settle them beyond
the Chickasaw settlement, at this time large
scope of country west of the settlement which
is intirely unoccupied by any of our people ex-
cept ~~only~~ by wild tribe, who are not permitted
by the Nation and of course no advantage
to the Choctaws. It appear that it would
be protection to the frontier settlement to
settle them there under such arrangement
and restriction as the Nation may see fit

to entered into with them. It would be strengthening
the Nation, and the funds which is paid for
the privilege granted them could be applied
to the general improvement of the Nation.

However I have no disposition to urge or
discuss this Subject, but I have no hesitation
in saying that I see no impropriety to hear
their talk, and admit them if it meet the
approbation of our people. — Our chief
System as far as I have heard on your
side will go against it. The truth is they
dont understand the Subject. Col Cooper
will stand to day or tomorrow, we are all
well — let us hear from you often.

Your friend
Thomson McKeaney

Col P. P. Pitcher

Full & bearing

letter.