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EDITORIAL ON HULBUTTA MICCO

Secretary Bliss has received and transmitted to congress a protest adopted by a convention of members of the Seminole tribe of Indians against the ratification of the treaty concluded in December last between a commission representing the Seminole Nation and the Dawes commission. It was sent to the secretary through Second Chief Hulbutta. The protest asserts that a request was made to the council of the nation to submit the question of the ratification of the treaty to a popular vote, but this was ignored; that the laws of the Indians require that a two-thirds vote of all the members of the council (numbering 42) shall be required to legalize a treaty, but that the instrument was agreed to by a vote of only 23 in favor of it, while 10 were opposed and 6 were absent. Then the treaty was hurried off to Washington.

As agreed upon, it is alleged the nation would be the sufferer instead of the beneficiary, as in some parts the treaty is detrimental to the prosperity and enlightenment of the tribe. The statement is made that the national fund of the Seminoles has been absorbed by only a few of its citizens who have grown rich at the public expenses.

It is alleged that the sum of \$191,294, part of the money received by the nation for the cessation of their lands in Oklahoma, never entered the treasury of the government or that of the Seminoles, but that, according to the Indian authorities, it was paid to an attorney whose name the protestants have never ascertained.