

Elias Rector Esqr.

Superintendent Indian Affairs

Fort Smith Ark.

General Council Ground

January 19th 1860.

Col Wm H. Garrett

Sir your communication of the 16th inst accompanying the communication from the commissioner of Indian affairs of date 17th November 1859 has been received and the subject matter therein contained duly considered by the general council of the tribe. In reply we beg leave most respectfully but positively to dissent from the proposition therein contained. It is affirmed by the department that great benefit will result to the tribes by the adoption of such a policy. We conceived that the adoption of such a plan may be beneficial to many tribes, while it may not be to us. The best test of a good thing is the practical working thereof. We have some experience in sectionization, under the treaty of 1832. A portion of our people were located in lands in the old Creek nation, in the sense now proposed. The results were evils and evil continually, the misery and punishment endured by our people growing out of sectionization as above stated is fresh open our minds. Hence there is no consideration that can induce us to try the experiment again.

(Last two lines misplaced in original (photostat) copy)

Very Respectfully,
Your Obed servant

Motty Carnard X his mark

Echo Harjo X his mark