

MESSAGE OF SAMUEL CHECOTE

Okmulgee, I. T. October 30, 1882.

Hon. Members of National Council,

Gentlemen,

Since the transmission of my last annual message, the Muskogee People have passed through a year of more than ordinary vicissitudes; but by the Providence of God, you are, as representatives of the people, again permitted to take your places in the National Council. The afflictions visited upon us have been great, but in every adversity can be seen tracings from the finger of a Divine and All-Wise-Father, and none can affirm, that we have not been benefited by those visitations, Which at the time, appeared to be but dire calamities. It is to be hoped, that the numerous deaths, which have occurred in our midst, have taught us to lead purer lives upon this earth, and caused us to meditate more earnestly upon the great problem of future existence. Now, that we have emerged from our troubles, we find that our people are more prosperous, and our National affairs are in better condition than has been known since the civil war. We have the gratifying realization that our people can be favorably compared in all that constitutes a higher civilization, with many communities in adjoining States, and we are proud to discover that each succeeding stride forward adds an increasing desire for