

AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR THE PAYMENT OF STUART, LEWIS & GORDEN.

WHEREAS, a certain contract has been made and entered into between Green McCurtain, Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, and the law firm of Stuart, Lewis, & Gordon, whereby said firm agreed to specially appear before the United States Court for the Southern District at Ardmore, Indian Territory, and secure the elimination from the judgments of the Court of all persons whose names, subsequent to said judgment, had, through fraud or mistake or otherwise, been entered thereon as adjudged citizens or members of the Choctaw tribe of Indians, and

WHEREAS, It was agreed in said contract that the said Stuart, Lewis & Gordon, should be paid for each person whose name ~~was~~ stricken from said judgments, the sum of fifteen dollars, (\$15.00), and for the hotel expenses of said firm while actually engaged in such work, to be paid in Choctaw warrants, and

WHEREAS, A number of names have already been stricken from said judgments, and others in similar condition seem to be so eliminated from other judgments, THEREFORE,

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the General Council of the Choctaw Nation Assembled; That said contract be and the same is hereby approved, and the sum of Twenty-five hundred dollars is hereby appropriated out of any money in the the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to pay the obligations of said contract, said sum or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be paid to the said firm of Stuart, Lewis & Gordon for labor performed and expenses incurred under said contract, provided no warrant shall issue to said Stuart, Lewis & Gordon until their account has been approved by the Principal Chief.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, That the National Auditor is hereby authorized to issue his warrant upon the National Treasurer in favor of said firm upon the requisition of the Principal Chief, and this Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Proposed by,

AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY
FOR STUART, LEWIS & GORDON.

Approved this the
25th day of March
1899

Green McCurtain
Principal Chief
Choctaw Nation

Filed in my Office this March 24,
1899.

John W. Johnson
Notary Public
Ct.

copy

San Bois, I.T., Feby. 22, 1899

Whereas it appears that certain claimants for citizenship in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations have obtained either by fraud or mistake certain judgments in the United States Courts in the Indian Territory, giving them citizenship in said Nations, and whereas, it is desireable that some competent attorneys be employed to investigate the judgments rendered in these causes and to make application to the proper courts for eliminating from said judgments all persons who have acquired the same either through fraud or mistake;

Now Therefore, I, Green McCurtain, Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, do hereby employ the firm of Stuart, Lewis & Gordon of South McAlester, Indian Territory, to appear in said courts for and in behalf of the Choctaw Nation, and to do all things as the lawful attorneys of said Nation to protect said Nation in the premises. And I agree to pay said Stuart, Lewis & Gordon the sum of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) for each and every person who may be by them and through their efforts as attorneys excluded from citizenship in the Choctaw Nation, and also the actual expense incurred by the said Stuart, Lewis & Gordon in such work, as hotel bills, etc., this contract to be paid out of any appropriation which the Choctaw Council may make for the same.

(Signed) Green McCurtain

Principal Chief, Choctaw Nation.

Stuart, Lewis & Gordon,
Attorneys at Law,
SOUTH MALESTER, I. T.

Mar. 19th. 1899.

Hon. Green McCurtain, Principal Chief,
Tuskahoma, I. T.

My Dear Sir;

In reply will say, that the parties who were eliminated from the judgment records at Ardmore and whose names we furnished you, can never be heard to assert any rights of citizenship in any Court hereafter. It was not only lawful for the Court to strike them from the records but it was his bounden duty and his action in the matter can never be reviewed or set aside. It is absolutely final, and we guarantee the Nation against any future expense with reference to these parties who have been stricken out. The same thing will apply to those whom we shall strike out in May. You are right when you say in your letter that the Court's action in this matter has the legal effect of destroying the judgments obtained by these fraudulent claimants and, as said before, it is a finality. About this there can be no question whatever. No appeal was taken by these people from Judge Townsend's judgments striking them out and none can be or will be taken. Hoping this statement will prove satisfactory in every way, I am

Very Respectfully yours,

Chas. B. Stuart

Read Interpreted
and Pass The Senate
and Referred to
House this 24 day
March = 1899

Will Corbridge H. P. Wood
Recording Secretary President
of Senate

Read 16 and
Interpreted and
pass of the
House and
referred to the
Chief Clerk this 24th
day of day of
March 1899
J. H. Brady
Speaker
Pro. Tem.
W. H. Cooper
Recording
Secretary

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