

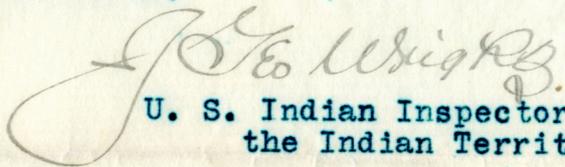
"to represent the Choctaw Nation before the Department at Washington, or before any committees of Congress wherein the affairs of the Choctaw Nation are concerned, and to furnish said Departments or committees any and all such information pertaining to the affairs of said nation and looking to the best interests thereof". If said act be approved, there would seem to be no necessity for making another agreement striking out said amendment in section 29, for said delegate will be empowered to present the views of the nation to the Department and to the committees of Congress.

Moreover, the Department has heretofore called attention to the fact that said agreement as amended was ratified by the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations on August 24, 1898, and expressed the opinion in a letter to the United States Indian Inspector for the Indian Territory, dated October 16th last, "that there is no good reason why other minerals in the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations than coal and asphalt should not be reserved for the benefit of the tribes in like manner as the coal and asphalt therein contained".

In any event, it does not seem necessary to burden the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes with the additional labor of concluding another agreement, since, if it be found desirable, legislative action may be had without the intervention of the commissions provided for in said act."

The said Act is herewith transmitted.

Very respectfully,



U. S. Indian Inspector, for  
the Indian Territory.

D.H.K.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF U. S. INDIAN INSPECTOR,  
FOR  
INDIAN TERRITORY,

Muscogee, Ind. T.,

January 6, 1900.

Mr. S. J. Homer,  
National Secretary, Choctaw Nation,  
Caddo, Indian Territory.

Sir:

You are respectfully advised that the Act of the National Council of the Choctaw Nation, approved by the Principal Chief on October 30, 1899, and entitled:

"An Act amending an Act authorizing the appointment of commissioners to negotiate with a like Commission from the Chickasaw Nation",

was submitted by the Honorable Secretary of the Interior to the President of the United States for executive action on December 16, 1899, and was returned disapproved on the 22nd ultimo.

The Honorable Secretary in submitting said Act to the President recommending its disapproval stated:

"Said act is recommended for approval by the United States Indian Inspector for the Indian Territory, in a letter accompanying Bill No. 41, whose recommendation is concurred in by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs in a letter and report accompanying Bill No. 41.

I am of the opinion that said act is unnecessary, for reason that the agreement made April 23, 1897, referred to in said act, did not contain the words "or other minerals", but was amended by Congress so as to declare that "all leases under this agreement shall include the coal or asphaltum, or other mineral as the case may be, in or under nine hundred and sixty acres, which shall be in a square as nearly as possible, and shall be for thirty years."

Besides, I have recommended the approval of "Bill No. 8, Choctaw Nation", entitled "An Act creating the office of delegate to attend the City of Washington, D. C., and prescribing his duties". Said Act prescribes the duty of said delegate