

THE INDIAN CITIZEN

Atoka, I. T.  
Thursday, August 23, 1906  
Volume 21, No. 15  
Paul B. Smith, Editor

REPLY OF A FULLBLOOD TO GREEN MCCURTAIN

Lewis, August 21.

Editor Indian Citizen:

In reply to Governor McCurtain advising the Indians to vote the Democratic ticket because the Republicans forced the Indians to adopt the freedmen they once held as slaves, I would ask the governor why the Choctaws did not do as the Chickasaws who positively refused to adopt their freedmen and finally fought it out in the Federal courts and got a judgement so that the Chickasaw tribe received pay for every foot of soil that the Chickasaw freedmen were allotted. The Chickasaws did not pay any attention to those "threats" that he speaks of.

And again, why did not the Choctaws pay the freedmen the \$100 each that the United States government gave them for that purpose, removing the negroes from the nation? But instead the Indian officials decided to adopt the negroes, give them forty acres of land and keep the \$100 per capita for the nation. It is wrong to blame the Republicans for what the Choctaw officials did in 1865.

And why did not Governor McCurtain help to put a clause in the Atoka Agreement whereby we would have been compensated for public highways that must come out of our allotments, and which will amount to nearly as much as the freedmen allotments.

As to the net proceeds claim, we should be glad that we are under a Republican administration for the Democrats would have issued bonds to get the money like Grover Cleveland did.

President Harrison did not refuse to pay the lease district money. The appropriation was not made until two or three days before Harrison went out of office and he had no time to prepare the details of the matter. He left President Cleveland to execute what the Republicans had already provided for. I would also like for Governor McCurtain to explain what was done with the balance of the lease district money that was held back for the intermarried citizens and was never paid. May be this is some of the Democratic robbery. Oh, consistency, thou art a jewel!

Now as to that seven million acres: The government paid for that land once and if the price was small, what did the smart Democratic officials of this nation deed it back to Uncle Sam again for. This thing was done with their eyes open.

Now as to the court judgments admitting citizens I will say that the officials of this nation could have employed good council and have kept out those fraudulent claimants with less than half what those Democratic lawyers got -- and they

had to be paid by Republicans, too, and under Republican protest.

There were no negro babies enrolled the last time the roll was opened for new-borns. The names of the negro babies were only taken so that it would save confusion hereafter in case the suit to admit them should be brought. Tell it straight, Governor, so all our people can understand. We do not all have wool on our heads for you to pull over our eyes.

As to the coal lands, no one can tell just what will be done with that but you can rest assured the Republican party does not do things half way.

Why does not the Governor make public those dishonest Republican officials of whom he speaks? It is his duty as governor to do so.

Now, fellow citizens, I am not expecting any office under the new state but I want prosperity and happiness and not poverty, low wages, Coxey's armies and soup houses for the unemployed. If you want these good things and do not want these bad things, why just vote the Republican ticket like men.

A CHOCTAW BY BLOOD

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