

Bill No 18-

We, your Committee, to whom has been referred the itemized accounts of Mansfield, M. Murray and Cornish, for expenses incurred and legal services rendered, under the direction of the Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, in protecting its interests in the various matters that have arisen from October 1, 1903 to September 30, 1904. Have had the same under consideration, and after a careful investigation thereof, find the same to be true and correct. We have also had under consideration the matter of the necessity for making further provision for the defense of Mississippi Choctaw Citizenship Cases and for handling patents. We therefore recommend the passage of the following Bill:

Act for payment of regular expenses necessary to protect the interests of the Choctaw Nation;

Whereas regular and necessary expenses have been incurred and legal services have been rendered by Mansfield, M. Murray and Cornish, under the direction of the Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation in protecting its interests in various matters that have arisen from October 1, 1903, to September 3, 1904. And it is just and proper that provision be made for the payment thereof, and also for the protection of the Choctaw Nation in various like matters that may hereafter arise from time to time;

And whereas, it is deemed of the highest importance that provision be made for the further defense of Mississippi Choctaw Citizenship Cases, pending before the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes and the Department of the Interior until the same shall <sup>have</sup> been finally disposed of; and also that facilities be provided for the thorough and systematic conduct of the matter of the execution of patents and the delivery of the same to allottees in the Choctaw and Chickasaw

Nation: Therefore, Be it enacted by the General Council of the Choctaw Nation Assembled:

Sec 1

That the Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation be, and he is hereby authorized to direct the payment of such expenses as may have been incurred, not to exceed the sum of five thousand two hundred and eighty two dollars and forty six cents, and such legal services as may have been rendered, not to exceed the sum of five thousand two hundred and fifty dollars by Mansfield, M. Murray and Cornish, and under his direction, in protecting the interests of the Choctaw Nation in various matters that have arisen from October 1, 1903, to September 30, 1904. Payment therefore to be made in the following manner:

Itemized accounts thereof shall be presented to the Principal Chief and upon his approval the National Auditor shall issue his warrants therefor, and the National Treasurer shall pay the same.

Sec III

The Principal Chief is further authorized to direct that such expenses be incurred and such legal services rendered as in his judgment may be necessary to adequately protect the interests of the Choctaw Nation in the various matters that may hereafter arise from time to time. He is also authorized to direct the payment of such expenses as may be necessary to adequately defend Mississippi Choctaw Citizenship Cases, pending before the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes and the Department of the Interior, and also to handle, in a thorough and systematic manner the matter of the execution of patents and the delivery of the same to allottees in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nation; Itemized accounts of such expenses as may be so incurred shall be presented to the Principal Chief and upon his approval thereof.