

Bill No. 6 Continued

and deposits at this time for the following reasons, to wit: - 1. We favor the carrying out of the policy first inaugurated by the Government, that of "equal division of common property" of the tribes among the individual members of the tribes (judges' exception). We submit that a sale of the coal and asphalt lands and deposits and a distribution of the proceeds affords the only way in which these interests can be equally divided.

2. The tribal relations are now about dissolved, or soon will be, and it is not desirable that there should be left remaining any tribal interests undivided.

3. The individual members of the tribes will soon become merged in the citizenship of the State, and will be entitled to all the rights and benefits of such citizenship, which will render the continuance of tribal interests unnecessary, and the further holding of tribal property in common undesirable.

Your memorialist would further represent that the Choctaw people are opposed to the sale of the coal lands separate from the mineral, for the reason that we believe a division of these properties and a separate sale thereof would depreciate the value of each in the market; besides we fear that much sacrifice would be demanded and required of the tribes in the matter of grants of ways, privileges, and easements to coal operators and purchasers in the operation of the coal in order to avoid a conflict of rights between the owners of the surface and the purchasers of the mineral.

We are opposed to the separate sale of the surface and mineral for the further reason that we believe a sale of the surface apart from or in advance of the disposition of the mineral would postpone the sale of the coal indefinitely and thereby delay the final settlement of tribal affairs to the damage and detriment of the individual members, who are entitled to an equal division of all the common property at the time of the dissolution of the tribal relations,

Bill No. 6 Continued

or within one year thereafter.

Proposed by Daniel Webster
Chairman, Chief Message Committee,

Approved this the 15th day of October 1907,

Green McCurtain P. C. C. N.

An Act for the Relief of
M. V. Everidge

Bill No. 5

We, your Finance Committee, to whom was referred the claim of M. V. Everidge for services rendered as National Attorney from September 30th, 1906 to January 31st, 1907, do find, after investigation, that the amount due him for services between said dates was, by an oversight, left out of the act-making an appropriation for the District and County officers of the Choctaw Nation, approved April 27, 1907, by the President.

We, therefore, recommend that Council appropriate the sum of one hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents in full payment for said services.

Therefore; Be it enacted by the General Council of the Choctaw Nation assembled;

That the sum of one hundred and thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents is hereby appropriated out of the funds of the Choctaw Nation, and shall be paid as provided in Sec. 11. of the Act of Congress approved April 26th, 1906, entitled "An Act to provide for the final disposition of the affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes, and for other purposes," said sum being in full payment to the then National Attorney for services rendered from September 30th, 1906, to January 31st, 1907.

That this Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the President.

Proposed by Frank Folsom

Approved this the 15th day of October 1907,

Green McCurtain
P. C. C. N.