

Ward Coachman
Prin. Chief

Wm. Harrison
Private Secy.



R. D. Patterson & Co. Lith. St. Louis, Mo.

Okmulgee, C. N. Sept 18 1879.

Hon. Charles Thompson
Principal Chief, Cherokee Nation

Sir: Your communication of the 12th, enclosing a letter from Mrs Elizabeth P. Vann to yourself in regard to the killing of her son, John Vann, in the town of Muskogee, Creek Nation, on the 24th day of Aug, last, by armed freedmen, consisting of Wm Peter, Ben Barnett & others, is received, and in reply I will state that, this government is well aware of the case, and it was the earnest desire of the same to have the parties indicted and prosecuted in the Courts of this Nation, and according to its laws - And as it is the utmost desire of this government to maintain the friendly relations existing between it and the Cherokee Nation unimpaired, and to observe and conform strictly to the International laws between the Nations, respecting crimes committed by a citizen against the citizen of another, it will be the duty of this Nation to cause the parties to be arrested and arraigned before the Court having jurisdiction of the case - A fair and impartial trial will be had to the entire satisfaction of all parties concerned - For the convenience of all, the trial will be held in the town of Muskogee, or

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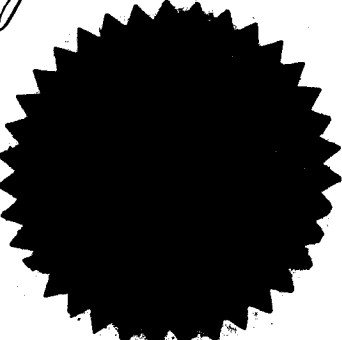
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its vicinity— As soon as I can ascertain what time would be most convenient for such a trial, I will designate the time, which will be at as early a day as circumstances will admit, and inform you of the same— You will please communicate to Mrs Vann the intention of this government in regard to the subject matter—

I have the honor to be
most respectfully
Your obedt Servt
Ward Coachman
Principal Chief
Muskogee Nation



John Island
Executive Secretary