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August 27, 1915.

To the Honorable Members of the House
of Kings and the House of Warriors of
the Muskogee (Creek) Nation:

Honored Sirs:

The day is approaching when the Creek tribe of Indians, a tribe which has had its existence since before the establishment by the white man of a form of government in America, will pass into history. Before this is done, and while we still have some voice in the management of our affairs, there are some matters I desire to call to your attention.

The National Council of the Creek Nation of September 1st, 1914, instructed the officers of the Nation to insist upon our National Attorney assisting in the trial of the cases involving the title of the beds of the Arkansas and Cimarron Rivers, and gave to the officers many other instructions. We have tried in every way possible to carry out the instructions of the Council, and have accomplished many of these purposes.

The Joint Resolution adopted by the Council requesting our attorney to assist in the River Bed cases was forwarded to the Department of the Interior, and soon thereafter he was specifically instructed to assist in these cases, since which time he has been aiding the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Oklahoma in the preparation for trial, and will assist in the trial, of these cases. It is hoped that we will be able by this litigation to recover for the tribe these river beds.

Up to this time there has been received by the Federal Receiver appointed in these cases the sum of \$160,000.00, which will go to the Creek Nation if we win this litigation. This property is estimated to be worth several million dollars.

There are now pending in the United States Court for the Eastern District of Oklahoma cases involving the allotments of Barney Thlocco, Thomas Atkins and Emma Coker. These allotments are estimated to be worth more than a million dollars each, and there are now large sums of money in each case, accumulated from oil runs, and will be paid to the Creek Nation if we finally succeed in cancelling these patents. The Barney Thlocco case has been decided against the Creek Nation, but has been appealed. The officers of the Government and our attorney believe they will be able finally to recover this allotment. The Atkins and Emma Coker cases have not yet been tried, but probably will be tried within a short time.

In addition to these cases there are about seventy-five others under investigation by Mr. Allen. In a number of these, recommendation

that suit be brought has already gone forward.

The case of C. W. Turner vs. the Creek Nation, involving \$109,000.00, has been briefed and argued. Recently the Court of Claims has granted a re-hearing in this case, and it is expected that same will come up for final hearing sometime in October.

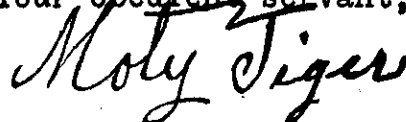
We now have on hand to the credit of the Creek Nation about two million dollars, which sum will be available for the purpose of further equalizing allotments at such time as Congress may deem it proper to appropriate same.

The matter I desire especially to call your attention to, and on account of which I am writing you, is the tremendous importance to the Creek Nation of winning the suits now pending, and which are being brought by the United States, represented by the United States Attorney and our National Attorney, to recover allotments fraudulently made to alleged citizens of the tribe. As Principal Chief of the Creek Nation, I would not countenance an effort to recover any allotment lawfully made to any citizen of the Creek Nation, or his heirs, but in cases such as those being brought, where people have, without right, secured allotments, we should, before the final extinguishment of our tribal government, make every effort to recover same for our people.

In this work I am actively aiding and assisting our Attorney. If these suits are won the proceeds which will be derived from the sale of these valuable allotments will go into the treasury of the Creek Nation, and these funds will be distributed among all members of the tribe.

I regard it as the patriotic duty of every citizen of the Creek Nation to assist our Attorney in every way possible in these cases, and especially do I consider it your solemn duty, as an officer of the tribe, and one you owe to those who have entrusted you with the office you now hold, to assist him in this work. If you know of any case where an allotment has been made to any citizen of the tribe who died before April 1, 1899, or who has received more than one allotment, or of the fraudulent enrollment of any citizen of the tribe, I trust that you will communicate this information to your attorney, Mr. R. C. Allen, Muskogee, Oklahoma, together with such information concerning same as you may have in your possession, in order that he may intelligently institute proper proceedings for their recovery for the Nation.

Your obedient servant,



Principal Chief of the Muskogee
Nation.