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W. P. Ross, Editor

MESSAGE OF LARCHER HARJO

Ex. Dept., Muskogee Nation,
Okmulgee, Nov. 6, 1876

Kings and Warriors
in Council Assembled:

As Chief Executive of the Muskogee Nation, I feel that I but echo the thoughts and feelings of my people, when I say that we as a Nation have great reason to give thanks to Almighty God, that He has granted to us peace, unity and prosperity during the year that has passed. And may we not hope for and expect, in the years to come, the blessings of a more advanced civilization.

There is but one way by which we can expect to promote so desirable an end, and that is through the channels of education and Christianization. Hence I shall endeavor during the present Council to recommend

such measures as will tend to advance a more liberal and impartial education, and better morals among the people of this Muskoke Nation.

While an abundant harvest of corn has just been garnered, and no one, even among the poorest of the people, need suffer for bread enough and to spare; yet the want of money is felt to be a pressing need among our people. Whatever have been the causes of the present state of affairs, it is not my place as Principâl Chief, to enumerate them. But the fact is a self-evident one -- the finances of the Nation are at a low ebb. It is my desire that the people have relief, and I would earnestly recommend that the Honorable members of the Council, seriously consider the question, and adopt some measures whereby this may be effected.

The man or the Nation, oppressed by any great burden of debt, lives under a dark cloud, and except it be lifted, will eventually be crushed beneath its weight. While I sincerely regret the necessity of speaking of unpleasant things, I feel it to be my duty to call to the minds of the Honorable Counselors the fact that this Muskoke Nation is deeply in debt. -- Nor can we as a people expect to prosper, until we do justice to all; that is render to every man that which

is his due.

I furthermore recommend that the committee on the Seminole land questions report at an early period of this Council.

I would also recommend that the Council take the necessary steps on all intruders along the line of the railroad, to enable the U. S. Agent to remove them from within the limits of the Muskoke Nation.

I furthermore recommend that the Honorable Counselors take the necessary steps to oppose all territorial matters which may come up during the coming session of Congress.

I also recommend that the Honorable bodies in Council, or committee appointed by the same, be instructed to regulate all mill tolls in this Muskoke Nation.

I further recommend that all unsettled citizenships be settled by this Council.

I also recommend that the Council expedite business as rapidly as possible, for the sake of economy, that we may not go beyond our means.

I furthermore recommend that all citizens, regardless of race or color, have equal school privileges within the Muskoke Nation, and that the adopted colored, have a mission school.

I also recommend that a manual labor school be established at some central point in the upper towns, for the better education of our full blooded Muskokee, and that all day schools be suppressed in said towns.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

LOCHER HARJO,

Principal Chief Muskokee Nation

Wm. HARVISON

Private Secretary