

THE DAILY CHIEFTAIN

Vinita, Cherokee Nation, I. T.
Saturday, November 26, 1898
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D. M. Marrs, Editor

MESSAGE OF ROLLY McINTOSH

To the National Council
of the Muskogee Nation:

Gentlemen:

I have the honor, after the recent election, to address you in an official capacity, and whatever may be the final result of the action taken by the people in said election, it can be said to their credit that one of the most momentous actions they were ever called upon to perform was conducted all over the Nation with the most perfect order and good will.

As you are aware, we have lived many years and prospered as a nation under treaties with the United States government, the provisions of which were not, in all respects, fully satisfactory to us, but which have so long formed a part of our government that we have come to desire no radical change in their provisions or terms. Propositions for a change have come time and again, but our council has

maintained a firm opposition thereto. Our guardian, the United States government, having greater faith in the wisdom and judgment of the Creek people, laid before them an agreement framed by the Dawes and Creek commissions, for their ratification or rejection. It is provided in said agreement that if it is ratified, our government and most of the rights and privileges we now enjoy under former treaties, would remain intact for a time, while if neglected, the so called Curtis bill would become our law. This matter has been voted on by our people, and your honorable body has counted the votes according to the Creek law, and declared that the Dawes-Creek treaty has been defeated by a decided majority.

It would seem that we are now in the embraces of the Curtis law, a law repugnant to our people, and in which they have had no hand or work in the making. It will be your duty now to take such action as will convey to the people the information of the recent election.

The United States government although a great and powerful nation, has placed bounds and checks on its powers of legislation, and its congress is required to make all its laws in strict harmony with

certain great principles of right and justice clearly laid down in the constitution of the United States, on which the government has been founded. It is found that the Curtis law, which, without our consent and against clear treaty stipulations, divests us of the rights and privileges guaranteed to us in such treaties, is one made in strict harmony with the constitution, then it will be time for our people to seriously consider the wisdom of making an agreement for a change in relations with the United States.

The Creeks have in their employ competent attorneys who are paid to bring before the courts of the United States such questions as those above mentioned, and it might be proper, in this connection, that you urge them to renewed energy in this direction.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROLLY McINTOSH

Acting Principal Chief.

ROLEY MCINTOSH TO GEORGE WRIGHT

Okmulgee, I.T. Nov. 26th 1898

Hon. J. Geo. Wright

U.S. Ind. Snspector

Muscogee I.T.

Dear Sir:

Now that the department of the Interior under the act of June 28th last, has taken upon itself the work of collecting royalties, rents, ect. due the Creek Nation, I desire to ask your attention and action in the following case. A Creek citizen Robert Stewart by name it appears obtained from Creek Treasurer Childres for cutting railroad ties and furnishing the same to the railroad company, as provided by Creek law. Under this contract, he did business with the railroad company for a considerable time when the honorable W.B. Moore took the office of treasurer, and under it, he Stewart continued the tie business; but Moore declares that said Stewart has never paid into the treasury any money as provided by our laws, although it is alleged that he has done a large business in the furnishing of ties by which a very considerable amount of money should have been paid into the Creek national treasury, Mr. Stewart lives at or near Holdenville, this nation, N.B. Moore former treasurer at Muscogee, and E.B. Childers at Wagoner this nation. These two latter named gentlemen would doubtless be valuable witnesses as to whether the said Stewart

did obtain tie-contract from them, and whether in consequence of said contract he paid into the national treasury at any time any money. I desire that you take such action as will cause an investigation of this matter to the end that our treasury may be reimbursed, if it shall appear that it has been kept out of any moneys lawfully due to it under such tie-contract.

Very Respectfully

Roley McIntosh

2nd and actg. Prin. Chief M.N.

D.C. Watson

Priv. Secy.