

OHS #35607

MESSAGE OF L. C. PERRYMAN

Okmulge I. T.

July 23, 1895

To the Hon. National Council,

Gentlemen:

The Constitution & laws of Our Nation vest in your principal chief the authority to call your Hon. body together in extra session, when in his judgment there exists a public necessity for so doing.

Having on this occasion in pursuance of the authority thus vested in me, called you together in this extra session it now becomes my duty to present to you the reasons that impelled me thus to assemble you, and suggest the subjects which I deem it well and expedient for you at this time to deliberate on, and enact such laws relative thereto, as in your wisdom may seem for the welfare of our Nation. As you are aware an act was passed by our National Council in Nov. 1893 setting apart \$600,000 of the Nations invested funds now held by the Government of the U. S. for distribution in percapita payment among the Creek people, and directing your Prin. Chief to make a requisition on the Government of the U. S. for a transfer of said sum to the treasures of the Creek Nation for the purpose above stated.

You are aware that the conditions upon which our invested funds are held by the U. S. make the same payable to us that is the principal only at the pleasure of the Federal Government.

In view of the fact that the Government of the U. S. is borrowing money, I am convinced that a requisition on their Treasurer for the above mentioned sum would avail nothing thence have made no requisition.

Since the adjournment of the last session of your Hon. body, I have received numerous letters & petitions from citizens in every part of our Nation, urging that some steps be taken to make said sum of \$600,000 available to our people, that the same may be distributed among our citizens in a per capita payment as contemplated in said act of 1893.

It is both my purpose & duty to obey the will of my people, & believing it to be the desire of a majority of the Creeks to secure said sum of \$600,000 & have the same distributed in a per capita payment, I recommend that you take such action in the premises as will accomplish that end.

In this connection permit me to suggest what I believe to be the most feasible means of making said money available by obtaining consent of Congress, the Creek Nation can sell & transfer a claim or bonds on the Federal Government

for \$600.000 of our invested funds & get the money for the same.

In view of the fact that the present Congress is drawing to a close & that some active steps will have to be taken to secure Congressional consent for our Nation to make such transfer as above suggested, I recomend that you pass a measure clothing our delegation to Washington with full authority to employ there, such Council or assistance as they may believe to be necessary to obtain authority from Congress for such transfer, & to assist said delegates to perfect the transfer of said sum of \$600.000 of our invested funds & secure the money thereon.

I would further suggest that said delegates be empowered to contract to pay such persons as they may engage for the purpose herein mentioned, a reasonable percent of said sum of \$600.000.

Hon. A. P. McKellop one of our delegates is here to report to your Hon. body the work of the delegation thus far, and he will be able to make some valuable suggestions to you with refference to what action will be necessary, both by your Hon. body and the Congress of the U. S. to make said sum of \$600,000 available to our people.

The second subject to which I invite your attention

relates to an act passed by your Hon. body and approved by me
Oct. 30 1894.

This repeals an act of Council approved Nov. 6 1893
under which Hon. L. W. Colby was employed by the Creek Nation
to defend certain suits pending in the Court of claims against
the Creek Nation, based on Indian depredations

In pursuance of the directions in said repealing act,
I notified Gen'l. Colby of his dismissal hereunder.

In Dec. last. Gen'l. Colby visited me & presented the
written opinions of a Majority of the members of our supreme
Court, to the effect that said repealing act was unconstitutional
for the reason that it controvened the terms of a contract,

A like opinion was also submitted to me by our att'y
General.

And thereafter, I reengaged Gen'l. Colby under & accord-
ing to the terms of the original act of his employment, and
issued to him a warrant for \$4000. for his salary for the pre-
sent year.

I recomend that you take some action in his matter
expressive of the sense of your Hon. body relative to retain-
ing Gen'l. Colby for the period & services contemplated in the
act of 1893 employing him.

The third subject I recomend to your attention, is

that you make an appropriation to compensate the assistant Light horsemen of our Nation who bravely responded to the Call of your country when the desperdoes who have for some time past produces a reigh of terror in the Northern part of the Indian Territory. These officers devoted a month to the work of riding the Creek Nation of these lawless characters, & their services are a great credit to our Country, An estimate of the amount due them will be furnished you, and I recomend that you make an appropriation to cover same.

I submit as a fourth subject for you to consider & act upon. The enactment of some provision explanatory of the Word Majority used in our Constitution. A Majority of all the votes cast at a general election, are necessary to elect a Principle & second Chief, then I suggest that it would be wise at this time for you to pass some measure, providing either, for the ordering of a new election, or vesting in the Council the power to elect a principle & second Cheif when it should occur at a general election that neither of the Candidates for these high offices had received a Majority of all the votes cast.

I submit as a fifth and last subject for your consideration, at this time, that you make an appropriation to

cover the contingent expenses of our government for the present year, for such as stamps, stationary & other like incidentals that our officers are compelled to use in this discharge of thier public duties. An appropriation of \$500. will cover this expense & relieve your Executive & other officers from considerable embarrassment.

I respectfully submit all of the foregoing subject to your consideration, and trust that the wisdom of Him who holds the destinies of Men & Nations in the hollow of his hands will direct your deliberations.

Very respectfully

your obedient servant

L. C. PERRYMAN

Prin. Chief M. N.