

Doakville Choctaw Nation
June 19th 1862

To
Col Peter P. Stetelyum }
Eagle Town Co. }

I am in receipt of a letter from Brigadier Genl Albert Pike respecting Slave hands to be hired to work on the fortification now in progress of erection in this Nation to be called Ft. McCullough. The commanding Genl is quite anxious that the good Citizens of the Choctaw Nation should make every exertion and furnish such help as in them lie to carry on the work and complete the same as soon as it can be done. He has called on the people of Texas for assistance, but they have not responded to the patriotic call — they deem it as an empty project, and burlesque the commanding Genl without reserve. Some of our own people joins heartily in the burlesque. This course of things ought not to be countermanded by reflecting men. I think you wrote me once, that our western frontier was unprotected & that you entertained fears for Biggs, Depot — & Chal. too, long before Genl Pike had concluded to erect a Fort in our Country. It does seem very strange, that the people of Texas as well as our own folks, who were murmuring great deal

at the supposed exposure of our Western Frontier when there was no
troops here to protect it. Should now turn loose & hurl their clam-
orous voices against Genl Pike when he is here with his
Command to protect the very Frontier they loudly called
for before he came in to the country. I hope the good
Citizens of the Nation will let Reason Control their passion
for once and come boldly & willingly to the assistance of Genl
Albert Pike and at once erect a fort that will withstand
the Rifle Cannon of Lincolnites for all time to come.

It is my candid opinion that, if the war continues, these same
clamorous people, will clamour loudest against Genl Pike
for less than two months, for not having pushed his fortifi-
cation to completion. The fortification when comple-
ted will be of immense value to the Choctaw Nation
as well as to the States of Arkansas and ~~Florida~~^{Alabama}-
more so, to the Choctaws & Chickasaws from its being
established in their midst. This intended for all
time to come, at least for all future operation. —
The Government of the Confederate States has promised
the Choctaws & Chickasaws protection in her late Treaty
with them, & she will do what she has promised.
Genl Albert Pike is here to carry out those promises, ~~and~~
and is now calling on the Choctaws for laboring
hands to do that, which, he considers to be of the

most important to us! - He wants at least one hundred
Slave laborers - and about 300 hundred Chertans to
make Intrenchments at Ft. McCallough - he will pay
them at the rate of one dollar per day for just Hands
and make settlement every ^{Saturday} night or sooner if you wish.
Now, Sir what say you to the great undertaking.
How many Hands can you spare? - I will spare all
the men hands I have - Brother Howell ought to
spare how many? - Saml Garland - Morris - Mc
Kane - Tho: J. Nicholam, the Hartins &c. &c. down
your section of the County. Capt R. M. Jones
ought at least put in One hundred hands - he
having at least two hundred working hands.
I wish you would put your shoulder to the wheel
to ~~excite~~ ^{arouse} the patriotic spirits of the Chertans
for Genl Pike - I told him that I would write
you on the subject - that I should have
taken the trouble of calling on my friends for
labouring hands, but I am ordered to proceed
immediately to Fort Gibson with my Regiment,
I could not attend to it, when I come back
I will then see to it. Your true sons, Lewis Day
& Peter, one a Captain & the other First Lieutenant in the 2^d Chertan
Battalion were both well last Wednesday. - they are both

were thought of by his Peers in arms. — I hope
to see them rise higher in military tactics as
well as rank. —

I understand that General and
Murray are determined to make us a secondly
& request for taking the waggons trains from them
& for which purpose they have gone to Richmond —
I hope to see them some day. —

Your claims will be paid for furnishing
to the troops if you will present it to the Commissary
now under Maj. Sampson H. Tolson — —

We leave next Monday for the Kansas line —
The Battalion will remain at these quarters
until equipped for duty.

Truly yours
Respectfully

Sampson H. Tolson

P.S. Say to the Ladies of your Section of the County
that the 1st Regiment Choctaw Volunteers will next
Winter = or if they choose
to furnish clothing the Companies that come out of
their Section or County. — they will be paid honorably.
S. T.