

Nowak, C. N.
Sept. 5th 1860

Dear Col.

I have a few moments time to write to you. My object in writing at this time is to say that Choctaws are never before in a more deplorable Circumstances than they are now. The long and severe drought of the summer have cut off entirely the crop: I know of no person having more than a bare sufficiency for their own use and there are hundreds of families that did not gather one bushel out of their fields; what makes it more distressing is that it follows ~~a~~ a hard year for something to eat; many of them barely made out to get through and now another year of scarcity unprovoked is before them make it truly deplorable; If anything is to be done it should be done with all speed. There are many now living, what little is doled out to them by those who have a little.

It will be well that the sad condition of the Choctaws, represented to the Department that some immediate measures might be taken for their relief -

Nancy and the children are all well and send their love to you -
Yours truly
Jos. Dukes