

T Y P E S C R I P T

Office of the Executive
Department
20th June 1865

Hon Sir

The horrid civil strife which has been waged for more than four years past between the different sections of the United States has, I confidently hope terminated and I can rejoice with you.

It was the misfortune of the Choctaw Nation to be geographically so situated as to be compelled against the will of the main body of the people to break its ancient faith with the United States which was so long their boast.

The causes and influences which were brought to bear on the Choctaws left them no other alternative. The United States Government on the secession of the States of Arkansas and Texas withdrew their forces from the Indian Country adjacent thereto, and the alternative left the Choctaws was an alliance with the Confederate States, or an invasion by forces from the States of Arkansas and Texas to which they could offer no resistance.

Peace, I hope permanent and lasting, having been made between the armies of the United States and those who lately constituted the armies of the Confederate States. The olive branch has been brought to us, by commissioners, appointed by the military authorities of the United States and in good faith on the part of the Choctaw Nation, I have accepted the same and have entered into stipulations with commissioners Lt. Col. A.C. Mathews and W.H. Vance adjutant U.S. a copy of which is herewith enclosed.

I also enclose a copy of resolutions passed at a Grand Council of different tribes, held at Armstrong Academy or Choctaw Tamaha, Choctaw Nation on the 12 Inst. and before it was known that Commissioners from the military authorities of the United States were on their way to meet us. These resolutions show that peace was the great desire of the Grand Council

Peace with each of the tribes of the Indian Territory and peace with the United States.

You will see that the stipulations which I have made with the aforesaid commissioners, point to a Grand Council to be convened at Armstrong Academy on the 1st day of September A.D. 1865. I enclose a copy of my proclamation convening that Council.

I hope and expect that it will be indeed a Grand Council. I shall make strenuous efforts to have every tribe within the limits of the U.S. Territory from this Nation to the base of the Rocky Mountains represented at that Council. I shall not send any commissioners from the Choctaw Nation to Washington City as recommended in resolutions of the Grand Council.

I trust you will send commissioners to meet us at the time and place of the Grand Council referred to in the enclosed stipulations or treaties on the part of the United States, which may be deemed necessary, not only with us as a Nation but also with any of the other tribes which may be then and there represented.

There will at the same time and place be convened a called session of the General Council of the Choctaw Nation to give full force and efficacy on the part of the Nation to any action which may be taken.

I trust you will send us suitable men--men of character of _____ dispositions and in whom we can confide.

All we desire is open fair dealing with a great and generous nation.

Respectfully
Your obedient servant
P.P. Pitchlynn

P.C. of the C.N.

To the Honorable
The Commissioner of
Indian Affairs

Washington City D.C.