

Executive Office  
Tishomingo Co  
Aug 24<sup>th</sup> 1863

To His Excellency  
PP Pritchett  
Principle Chief  
Choctaw Nation

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst, and in reply will state I also received a letter from Gen Bussey of the same date and containing the same information of the one referred to in your letter (ie) that of transferring the Grand Council from Armstrong Academy to Fort Smith on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sept

I should have preferred the Council being held in our own Country at a convenient point as at first specified; still I think it far better for us to enter into a convention with Commissioners of the U.S. Govt at Fort Smith than we should be compelled to go to Washington City. Fort Smith gives the Federal Govt some advantage in as much as a large amount of supplies are there & telegraphic communication with Washington, & its proximity to Fort Gibson which will make it convenient for the various Princes there & in alliance with the Federal Govt to attend.

The Commissioners of several Nations met on the 15<sup>th</sup> inst near Carriage Point in consultation, it was agreed that the Commissioners of all the Confederate Indian Nations should meet at Boggy Depot on the 24<sup>th</sup> inst and start in a body from there not later than the 26<sup>th</sup> inst for Fort Smith; But a letter from Hon Israel Fulson informed me, the Choctaws had yet appointed & could not appoint their Commissioners.

until the meeting of the Genl Council on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September and requested all the Deligates to meet in Grand Council at Armstrong Academy on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. I immediately addressed a letter to each of the Executives of the Other Nations requesting them to accede to the request of Mr Fulson, which I presume will be acceded to. Still I must express my regret at the delay. The Executives & Commissioners of Other Indian Nations are anxious to meet the United States Commissioners as soon as possible and relieve their anxiety in learning what must be their future prospects & destiny; They think the Choctaw Authorities have ample time to make all their necessary appointments to meet the US Commissioners.

On the reception of Mr Fulson's letter, I also addressed a letter to Genl Bussy explaining the delay & requesting the US Commissioner to await our arrival at Fort Smith which would not be later than the 15<sup>th</sup> Sept or else meet us at Armstrong Academy. My letter went through by a special express who will return and meet me with a reply by the 1<sup>st</sup> Sept at Armstrong Academy. The Prairie Indians will not be at the Grand Council as was anticipated, they having already gone to a Council with US Commissioners on the Arkansas River. Jesse Chism was sent by the Federal Govt for them. The Osage & Cadore will be there no others. It will give me pleasure to meet you at Armstrong Academy on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept, and talk with you on matters of such vital importance to our selves and people. I will certainly be there my health permitting.

The action of all the Confederated Nations should be united. Should not the Commissioners of the United States ~~not~~ meet us at Armstrong Academy, the Commissioners of all the Nations should be prepared to proceed to Fort Smith

at once in a body to meet the US Commissioners.

I have the honor to be  
Very Respectfully  
Your Friend & Obedt Servt  
Winchester Colbert  
Gov Chick Nation,