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C. J. [unclear]

New York Tribune

New York Feb 3rd 1871.

Dear Sir:

I have heard with interest your statement of the wrongs and rights of the Choctaw people, of which I had already a general knowledge. I have long felt that the treatment of those we call Indians by my race has been rapacious, overbearing and unjust, and that we owe, especially to the ^{Cherokee} ~~Choctaw~~ and Choctaws, a fulfillment to the utmost of our treaty obligations and contracts, considering how ruthlessly they were driven from their goodly possessions east of the Mississippi. I shall at all times be ready to do all in my power in aid of your claims to justice.

But, Colonel, you will allow me to say that the hearts of many of our people are steeled against your claims by their belief that the men who led your nation into the Rebellion have still too much influence over them, and whatever moneys shall be paid over in satisfaction of your claims will in large proportion be absorbed by these misleaders. However it might be with me I assure you it will be difficult to secure payment of your just claims if these Rebel agents and emissaries are allowed or likely to reap the chief benefit of such payment. I beg you to satisfy our friends

in Congress and the Departments that the moneys
and bonds claimed by you will, if paid, not be
allowed to pass into the hands of those misleaders
of your people and the enemies of the United
States.

Yours &c

Horace Greeley

(signed)

Col P. P. Pitchlynn
Washington
D.C.

Copy of letter from
Horace Greeley to
P. P. Pitchlynn in
relation to claims
of the Charleston Post
against the United
States.