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(Private and Confidential)  
"In the Square"  
Major Pitchlynn, Bent and Lewis.

Chortau Agency  
Jan 20 1852

Dear Sirs.

I have not as yet heard whether the Com<sup>t</sup>. of Indian Affairs will concur to my visiting Washington as requested by the Council, and conclude to write a few lines, in order to obtain your opinion upon a subject of great interest, in my estimation, to the Chortau people. It is this. The Govt of the United States will no doubt wish to obtain homes for the Indians now west of Missouri & those in Texas. In fact the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs clearly indicates as much. Some of those tribes are far advanced in civilization & no doubt would be glad to be colonized in a more Southern latitude. Would it not be well for the Chortau Nation to consent to their colonization within its borders, upon condition the U.S. Govt. would pay a full equivalent & agree to keep the tribes in subjection & hold them (not the Chortau Nation responsible for any misconduct or depredations) committed by members of such tribes? This appears to me to open a rich field for the Chortau, with their extensive territory for realizing large profits from their wild lands, without parting with the right ownership & sovereignty over an acre of it.

It seems to me the true policy of the Chortau Nation is to appeciate their Government to that of the United States - allowing such tribes as might desire

to settle in their country to do so, within certain  
Districts, to be laid off & to be under the general  
laws of the Choctaw Nation, but to make local or  
District laws for themselves - having their local  
Chief & Local Council. To allow these tribes a  
Representation in the National Council, which  
should only legislate upon National matters;  
leaving every District, whether it be Choctaw,  
Chickasaw, Delaware, Shawnee, Kickapoo  
Caddo, or, any other - to legislate for District  
interests. In short to make the General Council  
of the Nation sustain the same relation to the  
Tribes, settled within the Choctaw limits,  
that the United States Govt. bears to the State  
Governments. This would increase the population  
of the Choctaw Nation (for all these districts would  
belong to the Choctaw Nation) in a few years, so  
as to bring it up to the standard for admission  
as a Sovereign State into the Union. The red  
Indians would learn law & civilization from  
the Choctaws, & look to them, as the benefactors  
of the race of red-men. This plan furnishes  
the solution for your Chickasaw difficulties.

They could be restricted to a reasonable area or  
District & allowed the privilege of local legislation  
just as the other Tribes in their districts, so far as the  
law would not conflict with the law of the  
Choctaw Nation. The Government of the United States  
would manage their various tribes through the Choctaw

Nation, their agents should be sub-agents to the  
Chortau Agency - so as to prevent conflict of  
jurisdiction. Immense trouble would spring up  
in the Chortau country - Your Treasury would  
overflow from the tribute, Rail, indirectly,  
by these tribes for the privilege of living on  
your land. & finally you would become a people  
with a prosperous State

I have just hastily given the outline  
which your own imagination will readily fill up.  
The details of this plan can be maturing or  
leisure. Think of it & if it strikes you as  
feasible & profitable to your Nation, see  
the Commissioner of Indian Affairs & sound him  
upon the subject. Rest assured there will be,  
as soon as the fact is known, generally, that the  
Government wishes to procure homes further  
Nebraska Indians, in a Southern climate - & the  
immense advantages to be derived from that some  
by the Indian nation which shall first open its  
arms to receive these wandering brethren - a  
colony will spring up between the Cherokee Creek  
& Chortau Nation as to which one shall reap the  
honor. If I had the opportunity to communicate  
you, the plan could be further developed & I think  
satisfy you & any patriotic Chortau of the  
propriety of holding out the goot. the idea then  
upon some & suitable terms the Chortau Nation  
would colonize some of the tribes. Your friend  
D. A. Coates

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letters.