

My Friend and Brother

Choctaw Academy. Kentucky

28th Sept 1829.

Having visited this school to see my children
I feel it my duty to take this opportunity to write you upon the affairs of
our nation, (the Choctaws,) and before I return home I shall give you my
opinion of this school and its tendency to enlighten and civilize our nation.
My good friend Mr Mackey (one of our Interpreters) is with me and will
assist me in this communication, I am a friend to my nation and I am a
friend to my white Brethren, I have fought for my white Brethren as the
President knows and that is proof that I am not your enemy - our nation
is ^{in a} very great disorder and confusion at this time; and greatly divided in
their opinions, as to what is best for them to do, and I believe our cause is
the conduct of the Missions in our nation I hope our friend the President
will be kind to the Choctaws and do all for them in his power - I have seen
your letter to the Choctaws, before I left home and I understand your wishes
If our nation could remain at home and live free and independent I
would be glad, or if the people of Mississippi would adopt us as their
children upon equal terms I would also prefer remaining ^{where} we are. But
I believe this cannot be expected. our only chance is to accept your proposition
in due time to remove to a country where you can protect us. I am confident
that by proper means many of our people will be willing to go beyond
the Mississippi and some will want to remain where they are now.
my heart is sorrowful when I write to you - now I give you my
advice if you would send for a few more in our nation and have

them at the city of Washington and explain to them our ~~our~~ situation,
it would be good, and I am very willing to be one of ~~the~~ the party
and go and see my great Father if he wishes me to do so. and you
know I have influence among my people, and I could again call here
and see my children. But if you do not think this best the next advice I
would give is that that you would send good men to ~~see~~ the nation to
explain matters to us. If you should call for us before to direct that our
good friend Mr Mackey should be one of the party, for he is ~~very~~
good and true, and we can depend on him. The Missionaries are
receiving our money and our property, and they are doing no good
in the education of our children and our children never can get the
english language and a good education at home. I would be
glad if the Missionaries could be regulated ~~in~~ or restrained in some
way for the good of the nation, if they were gone we could make our
own children teach common learning and then we could send them
to this school to finish their education. Yet the Missionaries are
not friendly to ^{his} institution, because they cannot get all the money,
and another principal objection I have to the Missionaries is their
introduction of the Choctaw Books in their schools, they teach our children
altogether in the Choctaw language where as they should be kept from
using their own language as much as possible, to make good progress
in study. I shall now take my ~~leave~~ leave of you promising to
write again before I return home. I enclose you to show this to
to the President and tell him not to forget his faithful Choctaw.

friends. As I have merely suggested the above ideas for your better
consideration believing it the best and only ^{people} cause for ~~any~~ to pursue and do
well, I hope you will not expose me to any people in this respect
until they are convinced of their error, for there is great deal of
jealousy among my people at this time. no more but I remain
your friend and Brother.

Mushketubbee. (The former
Chief of the Choctaw Nation)

To the Hon, Mr

John H. Eaton

Sec^y of War

City of Washington

I do certify that the above is a true Interpretation
by me

Wm Mackey US Int^y

Choctaw Academy, Ky

28. September 1829

Mushulatabbee - Capt a chief
of the Choctaw Nation -

Was under the Academy to see his
children - gave his opinion of the school -
Speaks on the subject of Emigration
thinks many of the Choctaws would
go &c. &c.

Copied

Madm Office

City of Washington
Sec of War
Wm. H. Eaton

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Indian Affairs
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