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Memorial of P. P. Pitchlynn, Choctaw delegate, in regard to carrying out treaty stipulations with the Choctaw Indians.

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MEMORIAL

OF

P. P. PITCHLYNN, CHOCTAW DELEGATE,

IN REGARD TO

Carrying out treaty stipulations with the Choctaw Indians.

FEBRUARY 6, 1871.—Referred with bill (S. 1307) to the Committee on the Judiciary.
FEBRUARY 9, 1871.—Ordered to be printed.

To the Senators and Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled :

The undersigned, a delegate of the Choctaw Nation, specially charged by several acts and resolutions of the Choctaw Council with the duty of procuring an appropriation by Congress to pay the amount due the Nation under the 11th and 12th articles of the treaty of June 22, 1855, respectfully calls the attention of Congress to the fact that he was a delegate of the Choctaw Nation, and a party to the treaty of 1855, and has ever since had charge of the interests of his people in connection with the claim known as the "net proceeds," the history of which is well known to Congress.

On the 9th day of March, 1859, the Senate of the United States made an award to the Choctaws, allowing them the net proceeds of the sale of their lands, ceded to the United States by the treaty of 1830.

By act of Congress approved March 2, 1861, the sum of \$500,000 was appropriated to be paid to the Choctaws on account of this claim.

Your memorialist would most respectfully call your attention to the necessity of an appropriation (to be made in conformity with the 12th article of the treaty of 1855) to pay the balance due the Choctaws, under the award of the Senate, before referred to.

This is no longer a claim; it is a debt, ascertained and settled; due under treaty stipulations; a debt of a peculiar and sacred obligation. These moneys are trust moneys. Your own Senate was made the arbitrator. It found the evidences of our claim on your own records. The account has been taken by your own officers. Every possible charge against us, to which ingenuity could impart a color of justice, has been allowed. The matter is in judgment.

Surely we may be heard to implore you to do our people justice.

P. P. PITCHLYNN,

Delegate of the Choctaw Nation.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 6, 1871.