

RH  
MS  
38.15

II. 4.  
John G. Pratt

Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> 1859,

Delaware, K. T. Jan. 9, 1859.

Dr. C. Robinson. -

Dear Sir. - No doubt you have been looking for us at Washington for some time. It has been our expectation for the past two weeks, to be on the way, but the chiefs disagree considerably, and numerous councils have been held. They are not now able to set a time to leave. This delay results from a suspicion, on the part of some of the old men, that the delegation may be induced to sell them out, and the request of the Commissioner that delegation be supplied with "full power" to act, has only increased this feeling.

An effort has been made to cripple the influence of old Sar-kox-y, as it was known he would favor a treaty. A few others of the Delegation were suspected of entertaining a desire to sell. I was, myself, invited to go with them, but as Sar-kox-y injudiciously told the Council he already had a man in Washington to attend to his business, at the same time intimating that you were the person referred to, suspicion then fell on myself and Charles Johnson. I now think it wiser for both of us to remain at home. My reason for this conclusion is this - It has become the plan of those opposing a treaty, to send an extra delegation, specially charged to prevent any changes. Now if Charles, and myself, remain at home - this can be prevented, as we

are ab  
intim  
as the  
fully  
delega  
Charl  
to a c  
has  
and  
sell  
is the  
will,  
sligh  
arro  
now  
self to  
ly an  
these  
at a  
but  
exce  
are a  
to the  
will

are about the only ones known to be intimate with you. Danko's party, as the delegation now stands, is fully represented. With the other delegates, is Isaac Johnnycake, and Charles Ketchum, both favorable to a change. John Courner, also, has a large tract of land in Texas, and privately expresses a desire to sell out and go to it. His brother, Jim, is the only one likely to be obstinate. He will, no doubt, go with John, after a slight heritation. On the whole, the arrangement is better than it would be for Charles and myself to go - and then be followed by an opposing party.

It will be the policy of all these delegates to shake their heads at any suggestion for a purchase, but I know, that, with the one exception, mentioned above, all are anxious to sell. The approach to them should be careful - but will be, in the end, gladly acceded to.