

services and such as they may be willing to pay him by a direct act of their council for that purpose. It is suggested, however, that under the statutes of the United States authority is necessary to be conferred by Congress upon the Creek Nation to give, and upon him to receive, any sum of money in payment of his services in this behalf. It has seemed to me that this was the proper course for this business to take. Whatever may be justly due from the Creek Nation, in view of its advanced position among Indian nations and its independent powers, may properly be left to itself to adjust and pay.

I therefore transmit herewith copies of the papers referred to, and a suggestion of such an amendment as, in my opinion, would, if the judgment of Congress approved that course, effectuate the object. All of which is respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Committee.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,  
WM. F. VILAS,  
*Secretary.*

Hon. S. W. PEEL.

“EXHIBIT H.”

Whereas an agreement was made between L. C. Perryman and Fi-e-math-la, Delegates of the Muscogee or Creek Nation, on the one part, and the undersigned, Samuel J. Crawford, on the other part, bearing date on the 4th day of February, A. D. 1885, whereby the professional services of the said Crawford were contracted for in the prosecution of certain claims, rights, or interests of the aforesaid Creek Nation to an additional compensation for lands ceded to the United States by the treaty and cession of 1866, for which it was therein agreed the said Crawford should be paid the sum of ten per centum of whatever amounts might thereafter be secured; which agreement was approved by H. Price, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, under date of the 14th of February, 1885, and at a rate of compensation provided to be six and one-half per centum and no more of the amount which might be paid or secured by the United States on account of said cession, which said contract as so limited was approved by H. M. Teller, Secretary of the Interior, under date of the 26th of February, 1885;