

And whereas, by letter under date of the 30th of March, 1886, J. M. Perryman, Principal Chief of the Creek Nation, advised the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that the said contract was entered into without authority on the part of the Delegates making the same, and therefore was declared to be of no binding force upon the Creek Nation;

And whereas Pleasant Porter, D. M. Hodge, and Is-par-he-cher, Delegates of the Creek Nation, on the one part, and the undersigned, Samuel J. Crawford, on the other part, have made a contract dated the 8th day of January, 1889, for a similar purpose, and therein have stipulated for the payment to the said Crawford of the sum of ten per centum upon whatever amount or amounts might be secured on account of the sale or relinquishment of the lands aforesaid; which contract was subject to ratification and approval by the Council and Principal Chief of said Nation;

And whereas the National Council of the said Muscogee or Creek Nation did by an act approved on the 31st day January, 1889, by the Principal Chief of said Nation, ratify and confirm the first of said contracts which was approved in 1885, and by another act also approved on the 31st of January, 1889, by the Principal Chief of said Nation, ratify, approve, and confirm the said second contract, dated January 8th, 1889, for three and one-half per centum, instead of ten per centum;

And whereas an agreement was entered into between the said Pleasant Porter, D. M. Hodge, and Es-par-he-cher, Delegates of the Creek Nation, acting for said Nation, on the one part, and William F. Vilas, Secretary of the Interior, on behalf of the United States, on the other part, for the relinquishment and cession of the interest and title of the said Muscogee or Creek Nation in and to certain lands therein described, in consideration of the sum of two million, two hundred and eighty thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven dollars and ten cents, to be paid to the said Creek Nation, which agreement has been submitted to Congress for its approval.

And whereas the said Secretary of the Interior, to whom the contracts and act of ratification aforesaid have been submitted since said agreement between him and the Creek Nation was presented to Congress, declines to ratify or approve the said agreements in whole or in part, not having been previously aware of the existence of the same