

Kissimmee, Fla., April 28, 1916.

Mr. Joseph K. Griffith,  
1616 E. 79th St.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Griffith:

I want to thank you for the interest you have been taking in our Seminoles, and to ask you to secure a copy of the April number of the "RED MAN", in which I have an article.

I wonder whether it will be possible for you to get a copy of the Secretary of the Interior's Report, Fiscal year ending June 30th, 1898, where United States Indian Inspector Duncan recommended, by instruction of the Secretary of the Interior, large areas of land for the Seminoles. The next year the Florida Legislature, in a Seminole Land Bill, granted these lands almost to the acre. The bill was approved by the Governor; but it contained a "loker" whereby the land grabbers had already secured these lands, and the Indians failed to receive it.

The speculators not only took lands that the Indians had secured for fifty; but took the swamp and overflowed lands as well.

You speak of an attorney, Mr. Sloan. Would he be willing to look into this matter from a philanthropic standpoint, as of course I would not be able to defray any expenses in the matter?

Do you believe that the Everglade land holders would make a clear title if any question should arise?

Thanking you, I am

Very sincerely,

MMW-RP