

HON. JOSEPH H. CHOATE,
Honorary President.

TELEPHONE, LOMBARD 25-21.

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Philadelphia, February 16, 1917

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HERBERT S. WELSH,
EDWARD M. WISTAR.

Mrs. J. M. Willson, Jr.,

Kissimmee, Florida.

Dear Mrs. Willson:

Your favor of the 13th instant just received and read with interest.

I am glad to know that Dr. Kelly is steadily improving and will probably soon be about again. His interest in behalf of the Seminoles ought to be very helpful.

I am glad that Mr. Moore can be depended upon in this matter.

You will be pleased to read the enclosed copy of a letter from Governor Catts, especially that part where he says that he will present the Seminole claims in his message to the Legislature. I think there will be no difficulty in assuring him that the Federal Government is ready to cooperate in this matter. I have written to Commissioner Sells several times, and today am sending him a copy of Governor Catts letter of the 12th. I hope that Commissioner Sells will write to the Governor direct.

The action of some one in dropping your name from the Seminole Committee is very petty. It will hurt whoever is responsible for it more than it will you, although the action naturally must be irritating to you.

Mrs. J.M. Willson, Jr., -2-

The resolution quoted by you, asking that Mr. Coleman be held indefinitely in Florida, is certainly in bad taste coming from any patriotic organization, in view of the fact that Mr. Spencer is in the service of his country. I do not know where the latter now is, but I have written to him in Miami along general lines, and I ought to receive a reply in the near future telling me where he is now located. It is barely possible that some arrangement might be made to get a leave of absence for Mr. Spencer so that he could assist in describing the lands which the proposed bill will aim to cover. If you find that Mr. Spencer's presence would materially aid in this work, I will see if this plan can be brought about.

My pamphlet will be out about the 20th, and I will then send you a supply. The list of the D. A. R. officers and the other data that you propose to send me has not yet arrived, but I presume that it will come along shortly. When it is received, I shall make good use of it.

With kind regards to you both, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

enc.

M. K. Sniffen