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Indian Rights Association,

995 DREXEL BUILDING,

Philadelphia, February 26, 1917

Mrs. J. M. Willson, Jr.,
Kissimmee, Florida.

Dear Mrs. Willson:

Your favor of the 21st instant duly reached me, for which I thank you.

I am delighted to hear of the splendid opportunity you and the Kissimmee friends had to present the Seminole situation to Governor Catts. It would be interesting if we could be present at the meeting of the Internal Improvement Fund when the Governor presents that subject to them.

I am greatly pleased to learn how well your Seminole booklet is being received. It is interesting to know that you received such a complimentary letter from Mr. Coleman. I do not know him personally, but it may be that he has been a good listener in all directions and is now forming his own opinion.

I expect to be in Washington this week and when I see Commissioner Sells I shall suggest to him the advisability of having Mr. Coleman at Tallahassee for at least a portion of the time while the Legislature is in session. It is barely possible that we could secure a furlough for Mr. Spencer if he is not too far away, and have the benefit of his knowledge as to what lands should be explicitly described in the Seminole bill.

I met Commissioner Sells at Carlisle last week and had a few minutes talk with him. He told me that he had written a letter



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to Governor Catts, and expected to sign it when he returned to Washington, on the 23rd. I will remind him of this and make sure that the letter has not been sidetracked.

I have written to Mrs. Carruth and Mrs. Gilkis in accordance with your suggestion, sending them my Seminole pamphlet. We are sending that article, with the accompanying letter, to the chief officers of the Federation of each State, and to the president of each organization affiliated with the Federation. I have already sent you fifty copies of the article, and if you need more, let me know.

I enclose copy of the syndicate article that ought to appear in a chain of newspapers stretching from coast to coast, probably the latter part of this week.

As to the time of my reaching Florida, it seems to me that I ought to aim to get there about March 26th, so I could have a talk with Mr. Ingram and Dr. Webb of St. Augustine, and then, unless you expect to be at Tallahassee, to run down to Kissimmee for a conference with you, and then perhaps see Inspector Coleman. After that I will proceed to Tallahassee and do whatever I can. I expect while in Washington to see Senator Fletcher and Congressman Sears, with a view to enlisting their activities in connection with the Legislature side. My thought is that both may be able to give me suggestions, or put me in touch with some of the members of the Legislature.

With kind regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Sniffen

enc.