

Kissimmee Fla. Feby. 10th. 1919

Mr. M.X. Sniffen,  
Philadelphia Pa.

My Dear Mr. Sniffen:-

I understand the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs will make it a part of their legislative work at the next legislature, to ask that the 100,000 acres set aside by the State for the Seminoles, be turned over to the National Government. As these good women did not help, aid or assist in the getting of this land, I think they should have kept their fingers out of the pie. They favored, you remember the Sears Bill.-

Please do not understand me as objecting to the Natl. Gov. having entire charge, instead of the State of Fla. as I have always favored that plan, - and you and I have talked and agreed that, that would be the best policy for the Indians. But if I am not mistaken, you told me in our last conversation, that there might be some obstacles in the way - probably Gov. Catts, - and that you would talk the matter over with Commissioner Sells, before we made any move in the matter.

The Woman's Clubs committee, I believe are going to ask the Legislature for \$5,000. annually for the upkeep of Royal Palm Park, and in case is they plan to tack this request onto their Seminole land bill and make the Indian's land carry through their Park scheme. I have already told our representative that I hoped he would oppose the giving of this money for this park. The "Big Mogul" in the club is very anxious about the dear Indians' land now, but her expressed pain I think was, that the Indians be given a 100 acres "of good land" in the north part of Florida for their reservation, or the Sears' bill.

It may be that you have talked with the Commissioner, and have decided upon the best plan for the security and future of this land. I would be pleased to know what the Indian Rights Association think as the best plan for this land.

Recently at the Baptist State Convention, I had a talk with the Home Mission Board Secretary, - Dr. Gray, of Atlanta Ga. about some work among our Fla. Seminoles, - for years Dr. Holt and myself have been trying to get the Board interested, but lack of funds prevented, - but this year, Dr. Gray suggested that we map out some working plan. I believe the time is now ripe for a move along these lines, for their uplift.

If the Natl. Gov. intends to establish a school, and a farm, then my idea is that some effort be made for religious teaching be made close by. Using the educated Seminoles from Oklahoma for this purpose. I have had some correspondence with the Okla. Indians. They have been trying to do this teaching with their Fla. kinsmen. You I know are very much interested in the uplift of these Fla. Seminoles and I would be glad to have any suggestions you can give for their betterment. Mrs. Willson joins me in kind regards, to you and Friend Elkin.

Very Sincerely Yours,