

JOURNAL OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL
SESSION OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL
OF THE INDIAN TERRITORY



4th SESSION

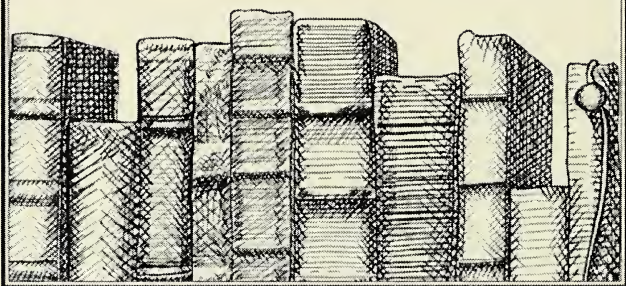


Smithsonian Libraries

Adopt-a-Book Program

Adopted by

Shari Finrock



2959

JOURNAL
OF THE
FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL

OF THE
Indian Territory,

COMPOSED OF

DELEGATES DULY ELECTED FROM THE INDIAN TRIBES LEGALLY RESIDENT
THEREIN,

ASSEMBLED IN COUNCIL

AT OKMULGEE, INDIAN TERRITORY,

FROM THE 5TH TO THE 15TH (INCLUSIVE) OF MAY 1873.

Under the Provisions of the Twelfth Article of the Treaty made and concluded at the City
of Washington in the year 1866, between the United States and the Cherokee Nation,
and similar Treaties between the United States and the Choctaw and
Chickasaw, Muscogee and Seminole Tribes of Indians,
of same date.

LAWRENCE, KANSAS:

JOURNAL STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE.
1873.

E.

I

4th sess.

JOURNAL
OF THE
FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL
OF THE
Indian Territory,

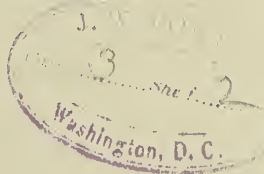
COMPOSED OF
DELEGATES DULY ELECTED FROM THE INDIAN TRIBES LEGALLY RESIDENT
THEREIN,

ASSEMBLED IN COUNCIL

AT OKMULGEE, INDIAN TERRITORY,

FROM THE 5TH TO THE 15TH (INCLUSIVE) OF MAY, 1873,

Under the Provisions of the Twelfth Article of the Treaty made and concluded at the City
of Washington in the year 1866, between the United States and the Cherokee Nation,
and similar Treaties between the United States and the Choctaw and
Chickasaw, Muscookee and Seminole Tribes of Indians,
of same date.



LAWRENCE, KANSAS:
JOURNAL STEAM BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE.
1873.



E
78
151622
4th session
SCNHR:3

LIST OF DELEGATES.

CHOCTAWS.

A. R. Durant,
Colman Cole,
Wilson Jones,
Nelson McCoy,
Alfred Shoney,
Mish-a-ma-tubbee,
John Garvin,
David Roebuck,
Jonas White,
Harris Carnes,
Wm. Fry,
J. P. Folsom,
John McKinney,
Campbell Leflore,
McKee King.

CREEKS.

J. R. Moore,
J. M. Perryman,
Samuel Grayson,
N. B. Moore,
D. N. McIntosh,
Chilley McIntosh,
James Larney,
James M. C. Smith,
Caweta Micco,
Ward Coachman,
P. Porter,
S. W. Perryman,
Timothy Barnett,

CHEROKEES.

Joseph Vann,
J. A. Scales,
James Shelton,

R. E. Blackstone,
Eli Smith,
D. H. Ross,
Lewis Ross,
Joshua Ross,
Amer-su-yer,
Ambrose Downing.
Wm. Mackey.

WYANDOTTES.

Wm. Walker.

OTTAWAS.

J. W. Early.

SENECAS.

Joseph White Crow.

EASTERN SHAWNEES.

Lazarus Flint.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEES.

Joseph Ellis,
Sam Charley.

QUAPAWS.

Lewis Quapaw.

SACS AND FOXES.

Wa-ca-mo,
Pem-e-see.

CONFEDERATED PEORIAS.

Edward Black.

MIAMIS.

J. B. Roudeboux.

JOURNAL OF GENERAL COUNCIL.

OKMULGEE, C. N., }
Monday, May 5, 1873. }

The Fourth Annual Session of the General Council of the Indian Territory convened to-day pursuant to adjournment on the 18th of June, 1872.

The roll was called showing the number of members present to be insufficient for the transaction of business.

Credentials were presented by Messrs. A. R. Durant, Colman Cole, Nelson McCoy, Alfred Shoney, Mish-amatubbee, John Garvin, Jonas White, Harris Carnes, and Wm. Fry, of the Choctaw Nation, J. M. Perryman, John R. Moore, Chilley McIntosh, D. N. McIntosh, Samuel Grayson, N. B. Moore, and James Larney, of the Creek Nation,—and Ambrose Downing and William Mackey, of the Cherokee Nation.

Council adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, May 6, 1873, }
9 o'clock A. M. }

Council convened pursuant to adjournment. Roll called without a quorum. Messrs. J. M. C. Smith and Caweta Micco, of the Creek Nation, Wm. Walker, of the Wyandottes, John W. Earley, of the Ottawas, and Joseph White Crow, of the Senecas, presented their credentials, and were admitted as delegates.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, May 7, 1873, }
9 O'CLOCK A. M. }

Council met pursuant to adjournment. Enoch Hoag presiding. Prayer by Chilley McIntosh. Roll called. Lazarus Flint, of the Eastern Shawnees, presented credentials and was admitted to a seat.

The President, as usual, appointed the following named interpreters, namely: L. C. Perryman, for the Creeks, Colman Cole, for the Choctaws, and James Shelton, for the Cherokees.

Wm. Robinson, of the Creek Nation, was directed to perform the duties of doorkeeper until the Council attained a quorum.

Council adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, May 8, 1873, }
9 O'CLOCK A. M. }

Council convened pursuant to adjournment, when the roll was called showing a sufficient number of members present for the transaction of business.

The business of the day was opened with prayer by Chilley McIntosh, when the President remarked:

That in this, their Fourth Annual Assembly, they had much for which to be thankful to the Supreme Ruler of Nations, in that peace had prevailed, very generally among tribes and nations of Indians, and prosperity had crowned the labors of the civilized nations represented. That in the continuance of the present administration of the General Government of the United States, they have reasonable hope of a maintenance of the humane policy in the management of Indian affairs, and that the advancement of the Indians in education, industry and christianity, under these peaceful influences, will, in a brief period, place them beyond the power of evils which have so constantly followed them and retarded their progress. He informed the Council that the Kiowas and Comanches have remained upon their reservations, and dis-

continued raiding into Texas; have restored their white captives and returned the stolen government stock that was available, and have remained at peace, and that they with the Cheyennes, are in a more hopeful condition than on any previous period. He regarded the services of the "Peace Council" on the Washita—under the auspices of this General Council—as very fruitful in bringing about this encouraging result, and that it was for the General Council to determine whether they had not further duties to perform in the same direction at this session, inasmuch as the maintenance of peace with the frontier tribes tends to strengthen the bond of peace, and add to the security of the best interests of all the inhabitants of the Indian Territory, as all have common interest, and when combined and confederated, constitutes *each* a protection to the other, *and all* a safeguard against undue encroachment by citizens of the States. He further reminded the Council of their suffering in the delay of a central executive government for the restraint and punishment of criminals who are infesting the Territory (a refuge for outlaws), and who retard its growth and thrift. The Government of the United States has made repeated efforts to place over them a Territorial Government to meet this want, but so far have failed. The General Council had the same end in view in framing the Okmulgee Constitution, which failed of adoption. It is for them to consider and determine, whether they have not further duties to perform on this important subject at this session. A government reaching and restraining the evils alluded to is essential to their growth and advancement in all the avenues leading to prosperity and happiness.

D. H. Ross, of the Cherokee Nation, introduced a resolution providing for the appointment by the Chair of a committee to prepare a memorial to the President of the United States, praying the liberation of Satanta and Bigtree, as follows :

Whereas The strict observance and exercise of good faith is indispensable to the perpetuity of peace

and good will between nations as well as individuals, and

Whereas Certain promises were made to the Kiowa Indians, contemplating the early pardon and liberation of their chiefs, Satanta and Bigtree, (now imprisoned in Texas), upon certain conditions which have been fully complied with on their part, and

Whereas The treachery of the Modocs in the massacre of the lamented Canby and others on the Pacific coast, is recognized at Washington as cause for delay in the faithful compliance with the sacred promise of the Government of the United States, and

Whereas The Indian Peace Commission, acting under authority of a resolution of the General Council, June 17th, 1872, were (in conjunction with Mr. Cyrus Beede, acting under instructions of Hon. Enoch Hoag, Superintendent of Indian Affairs), largely instrumental in bringing about a cessation of hostilities, and the establishment of peace which now happily exists between the tribes of the southwest and the people of the United States. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved By the General Council of the Indian Territory, that the President, the Hon. Enoch Hoag, appoint a committee of three members of the General Council, whose duty it shall be to carefully prepare a memorial to the President and the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, setting forth such facts, as in their judgment may be pertinent to the case—the danger of destroying the confidence of the “Plains Indians” in the promises of the government, by delay—the false position in which the civilized tribes are placed, as *friends* and *advisers* of their brothers of the plains—the vast interests at stake, and the consequent importance and urgency of the immediate liberation of the chiefs, Satanta and Bigtree, and their safe restoration to their tribe, the Kiowas.

Referred to Committee on Relations with the United States.

On motion of J. A. Scales the rules for the deliberation of the last session of the Council, were adopted for the present session.

On motion of Mr. Durant, the rules were read and interpreted.

On motion of J. Ross, the committee of the former session, known as Committee on Education and Agriculture, was dissolved, and a Committee on Agriculture and one on Education formed in its stead. The Chair named, as members of the committees—

On Education—J. M. Perryman, Chairman, R. E. Blackstone, J. P. Folsom, Wm. Walker, and D. H. Ross.

On Agriculture—Joshua Ross, Chairman, J. R. Moore, William Fry, John W. Early, William Mackey, A. R. Durant, and Wm. Walker.

On motion of J. A. Scales, the Council adjourned till 2 o'clock, p. m.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Council met, when P. Porter, Creek; Joseph Ellis and Sam. Charley, Shawnees; and Ward Coachman, Cherokee, presented their credentials, and were assigned seats.

D. H. Ross, of Cherokee, introduced a resolution requesting the Committee on International Relations, to prepare a communication to the Kiowas and other tribes of the plains—adopted. The resolution reads as follows :

Resolved, by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That the Committee on International Relations be requested to prepare, at once, and submit a communication to the Kiowas, Cheyennes, and other tribes of the plains, congratulating them upon their friendly relations with the people of the United States, and with other Indian tribes, reassuring them of the continued friendship and fraternal regard of their brothers, the confederated tribes of the Indian Territory, and the necessity of abstaining from all acts of hostility towards each other and the

people of the United States, and of the determination of the General Council to intercede for the early liberation of the chiefs, Satanta and Big Tree.

Council adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow.

FRIDAY, May 9th, }
9 O'CLOCK A. M. }

The Council met pursuant to adjournment, when the roll was called, showing a quorum present. Prayer by the Chaplain.

The journal of the preceding sessions was read and adopted.

Messrs. C. Leflore, J. P. Folsom, and J. McKinney, of the Choctaw Nation, presented credentials accrediting them as members to the General Council, and were admitted to seats.

McKee King, Wilson Jones, and David Roebuck, from the same Nation, reported that they had been elected members to this Council, but that they had misplaced their credentials, which being vouched for by their colleagues, the Council received them by a unanimous vote.

S. W. Perryman, of the Creeks, presented his credentials, and was received.

R. E. Blackstone, of the Cherokee Nation, presented the following resolution, which, after three several readings, was adopted. Resolution reads as follows:

Whereas The councils of the several tribes of the Indian Territory have failed to adopt the constitution framed by the General Council, at Okmulgee, in December, 1870; and,

Whereas Additional reasons have appeared which render it all-important that the several tribes of this Territory unite under one General Government, for their mutual improvement and protection;

Therefore, be it resolved by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That the President be and is

hereby authorized to appoint a special committee to consider the propriety of revising the Constitution, and submit the result of their deliberations to this Council for its action.

The Chair appointed C. Leflore, Chairman, and R. E. Blackstone, P. Porter, D. H. Ross, Wm. Walker, J. P. Folsom, and D. N. McIntosh members of the Special Committee. And added Mr. McKinney, of the Choctaw Nation, to the Committee on Education.

Mr. Moore, of the Creek Nation, introduced the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously :

Resolved, by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That the Committee on Agriculture is hereby requested to report as soon as practicable, upon the following points, namely: The probable area in acres of cultivated land ; the grains, plants, vegetables and fruits grown and adapted to our soil and climate ; implements used, and what measures are necessary to stimulate a general love for agriculture, horticulture, and stock raising among the people of the Indian Territory.

The Chair gave a brief history of the Cheyenne Indians—of their number and character since 1862—of their suffering under Colonel Chivington and Generals Hancock and Custar, and of their consequent distrust of United States soldiers, arising from said conflicts and disasters. He alluded to the successful efforts of the friends of the Indians in reclaiming and restraining them from further general hostilities during the last four years, and of the importance of extending to them the assurance of continued friendship and aid from the civilized Indians, as a means to strengthen and secure their permanent friendship and early confederation with the tribes and nations of the Indian Territory.

On motion of J. A. Scales, the Council adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Council convened pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by the Chair, when the roll was called—present forty-seven members.

Messrs. Wa-ca-mo and Pem-me-see, of the Sac and Fox, and Lewis Quapaw, of the Quapaw tribes, presented credentials as members to the General Council, and were received.

The Council elected Lewis Gokey Interpreter for the Sac and Fox delegation, and Samuel Valier for the Quapaw.

J. Ross, chairman of the Committee on International Relations, reported the following resolutions:

Resolved, by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That the President be and he is hereby requested, in behalf of the nations and tribes confederated in the General Council, to congratulate the Kiowas, Cheyennes, and other tribes of the plains, for the laudable manner in which they have conducted themselves, in the maintenance of friendly relations with the United States as well as among themselves, and to convey to them the earnest wish of the General Council that they continue in the abstinence from all acts of hostility, as the safety and perpetuity of the Indian race depend upon the preservation of peace with the government and people of the United States, and to assure them of the continued friendship and sympathy of the General Council, and its willingness to aid them in adjusting their relations with the government; and that every effort in the power of the General Council will be made to cause the early liberation and return of Satanta and Big Tree, chiefs of the Kiowas, now held in captivity.

Resolved further, That the Secretary be instructed to affix the names of the members of this Council to the foregoing.

Which, by motion of Mr. Scales, was unanimously adopted under suspension of the rules.

The Chair added S. W. Perryman to the Committee on Agriculture, at Mr. Moore's instance.

Mr. Moore also introduced the following resolution, which, on motion of J. M. Perryman, was adopted under suspension of the rules.

The resolution reads as follows :

Resolved, by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That the Committee on Education is hereby requested to report as soon as practicable upon the following points, namely : The population of each tribe entitled to representation in the General Council, together with the population of the Territory at large ; the amount of their respective funds provided for school and orphan purposes ; number of schools in operation ; the aggregate and average number of scholars of each sex ; the number of teachers, male and female, and what portion are natives or citizens of the Territory, and the general state of education among the people of the Indian Territory.

Mr. Scales moved that the Committee on International Relations be instructed to take into consideration the subject of the best method of inducing the Cheyennes to confederate with the nations and tribes composing the General Council, and for that purpose they are instructed to confer with the President of the Council.

On motion of Mr. J. M. C. Smith, the Council adjourned till to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY, May 10, 1873, }
9 O'CLOCK A. M. }

The Council convened pursuant to adjournment, when the roll was called, showing the presence of a quorum, and the business of the day opened with prayer by the Chaplain.

The Chair announced as members of the Committee on Credentials, J. A. Scales, chairman, Lewis Ross,

Edward Black, Chilley McIntosh, S. W. Perryman and John McKinney.

John Roubedoux presented credentials accrediting him a member to the General Council from the Miami tribes, which, on motion of Mr. Scales were referred to the Committee on Credentials.

Edward Black presented credentials as member from the Confederated Peorias, &c., and was admitted to a seat.

On motion of Mr. Scales, the Chair added Mr. J. McKinney to the Committee on International Relations.

On motion of the same gentleman, the Council adjourned till 9 o'clock Monday morning.

MONDAY, May 12, 1873, }
9 O'CLOCK A. M. }

Council met pursuant to adjournment, when the roll was called, showing a quorum present, and the business of the day opened with prayer by the Chaplain.

The proceedings of Saturday were read and adopted.

T. Barnett, of the Creek Nation, presented his credentials as member to the Council, and was admitted to a seat.

Mr. Scales, chairman of the Committee on Credentials, presented the following report, which, on motion of D. H. Ross, was adopted under suspension of the rules :

The Committee on Credentials in the case of J. B. Roubedoux, delegate from the Miami tribe, would respectfully state that it has ascertained that the Miami tribe of Indians, numbering about one hundred and twenty seven, made arrangements with the Peorias on the 15th of January, 1872, to confederate with them, which arrangement was ratified by the proper authority of the United States on the 27th of March, 1873 ; that the greater part of the tribe is now legally resident

in the Territory, that the remainder will be by the 1st of October next, and that the tribe retains its distinct organization and relations with the government of the United States. Your committee recommend, therefore, that Mr. Roubedoux be admitted as a member of the Council, and that he be paid from the day of his arrival.

D. N. McIntosh, acting chairman of the Special Committee on the propriety of revising the constitution, &c., reported preamble and resolutions, the consideration of which, on motion of Mr. Scales, was deferred until 2 o'clock P. M.

On motion of J. R. Moore, the Council adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Council convened and was called to order by the Chair, when the deferred business of the morning session was taken up.

On motion of Mr. McKinney,* the report was read the second time.

Mr. Scales, of the Cherokee Nation, interposed some objections to the phraseology of the report. Some words occurred in it which he thought were unnecessarily pointed.

J. P. Folsom, of the Choctaw Nation, and member of the Special Committee, spoke in support of the spirit of the report, and showed reasons for the occurrence of the objectionable words referred to by Mr. Scales. He hoped, however, that gentlemen would thoroughly and deliberately consider the report in a spirit of love and friendship toward each other. The action of the committee was not final, and he consequently believed that the members thereof would accede to any amendment that would render the report agreeable to all.

Mr. Scales responded that such was the spirit in which he proposed to discuss the measure, that he did not wish it rushed through the Council, and moved the further consideration of the subject be postponed till the morning session.

Mr. Scales' motion to postpone until to-morrow, was finally agreed to.

J. P. Folsom, chairman of the Committee on Relations with the United States, submitted to the Council a memorial to the President of the United States praying the liberation of the Kiowa chiefs Satanta and Big Tree.

On motion of Mr. Scales, the memorial was referred back to the committee reporting the same, with a request that a few verbal alterations be made.

On motion of Mr. D. N. McIntosh, the Council adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

TUESDAY, May 13, 1873, }
9 O'CLOCK A. M. }

Council convened. Roll called, and the business of the day opened with prayer, as usual.

The proceedings of yesterday were read and adopted.

Mr. Folsom reported the memorial in relation to the liberation of the Kiowa chiefs, which on yesterday was resubmitted to the committee.

After being read and interpreted, the report was adopted on Mr. Scales' motion. (*See appendix A.*)

Mr. Scales then resumed the consideration of the report of the Special Committee.

After some remarks, he offered and read a substitute.

After some discussion, Mr. Scales objected to the original report, not only because it specified the "Cherokees, Chickasaws and Seminoles," but because it was couched in bad English.

Mr. Blackstone excused the committee by saying that it was composed of Indians, who necessarily thought in Indian, and hence the irregularities in their English.

Mr. Scales advised all concerned not to write in English when they were thinking in Indian.

Mr. Folsom, of the committee, replied that the committee was competent to write and transact its business much better in Indian, but that he feared the gentleman objecting could not well manage business coming up in that shape.

After continued discussion, the further consideration of the report was postponed till 2 o'clock P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Council met pursuant to adjournment, when the postponed business of the forenoon was resumed.

Mr. D. N. McIntosh, chairman of the Special Committee, proposed, in order to meet the views of Mr. Scales, to strike out the words "Cherokee, Chickasaw and Seminole nations," whereupon Mr. Scales withdrew his proposed substitute.

Upon Mr. Folsom's call the report was read the third time.

Messrs. Porter and Folsom proposed to strike out the objectionable words and insert in lieu thereof the words "the nations," which was agreed to.

On motion of J. N. Perryman, the report of the Special Committee (*see appendix B*), which had so closely engaged the attention of the Council, was finally adopted with Folsom and Porter's amendment.

A number of the Winnebago Indians who had been visiting the Territory, arrived, when on motion of Mr. Porter, Colman Cole, C. McIntosh, Amersayer and Joseph Vann were appointed a committee to arrange

for receiving them in accordance with Indian etiquette. This ceremony was performed by smoking the pipe of peace, &c., as is customary on such occasions, when they were addressed by the Cherokees, Creeks and Choctaws, who welcomed them as friends and brothers.

On motion of J. Ross, the Council adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, May 14, 1873, }
9 O'CLOCK A. M. }

Council convened pursuant to adjournment. The roll was called and the business of the day opened with prayer. The proceedings of yesterday were read and adopted.

Mr. J. Ross, of the Committee on International Relations, reported the following preamble and resolutions :

Whereas It is deemed expedient by the General Council of the Indian Territory, that a delegation of the different nations and tribes of the General Council proceed to visit the Cheyennes, Kiowas and other tribes of the plains who have not confederated with the same.

Therefore be it resolved by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That a delegation of one member of the General Council from the Choctaws, one from the Creeks, and one from the Cherokees, together with such others as the President may wish them to appoint, be instructed to proceed as early as practicable to the Cheyennes, Kiowas, and other tribes of the plains not confederated in the General Council, whose duty it shall be to aid in the maintenance of peace upon the frontier.

Be it further resolved, That the President of the General Council be requested to give the said delegation such instructions as in his judgment may be necessary to accomplish the object herein above specified, and take such other steps as are required to carry out the object of the same ; and that said delegation

be entitled to the same compensation for their services as members of the General Council.

Be it further resolved, That in the event it is deemed advisable by the authorities of the United States that a delegation from the Cheyennes, Kiowas, and others, as may be selected, proceed to the city of Washington, that the President of the Council be requested to add two members of the General Council to such delegation, whose duty it shall be to accompany the same, and aid in the establishment of such relations between the said tribes and the United States as may be most conducive to the formation of permanent peace upon the frontier, and to confer as fully as practicable with the authorities of the United States upon Indian affairs, and to report to the adjourned session of the General Council.

Which were read and adopted on Mr. Walker's motion.

Mr. Grayson introduced the following resolution, which was read three several times, and on motion of Mr. Potter, adopted :

Resolved, by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That the Committee on Relations with the United States, is hereby instructed to take into consideration the subject of the exorbitant and discriminating charges for transportation imposed by the M., K. & T. R. R. Company upon the people of the Indian Territory, and to report the result of its deliberations to this Council as early as practicable.

D. H. Ross introduced the following resolution :

Resolved, by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That with the view of enlarging and cementing the fraternal feeling which exists among the confederated nations and tribes of the Indian Territory, and in order to provide for a want deeply felt by all, a special committee of seven be appointed by the President, for the purpose of considering the importance and expediency of originating and permanently founding within the Indian Territory a literary and industrial international college; and that the several members of said committee be requested to

confer with the nations and tribes interested, by bringing the subject before their several National Councils, or otherwise, and report at the adjourned session in December next.

Which was duly read, interpreted and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Scales, the Council adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Council convened pursuant to adjournment, and was called to order by the Chair, when Mr. Scales introduced the following resolution, which, on motion of Mr. Porter, was adopted under suspension of the rules.

The resolution reads as follows :

Resolved, by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That the Secretary thereof is hereby instructed to furnish the President of the Council with a copy of the proceedings of the present session thereof, and that the President is hereby requested to cause to be printed for publication fifteen hundred (1,500) copies of the same.

Mr. Mackey introduced the following resolution, which, after the usual readings, was adopted on Mr. D. H. Ross' motion.

The resolution reads as follows :

Be it resolved by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That a special committee of six, with authority to enlarge, be appointed by the President, whose duty shall be to take into consideration the importance of organizing an Annual International, Agricultural, Horticultural, Mechanical and Stock Fair, within the Indian Territory; and that said committee be authorized to confer with the various nations and tribes, and report at the adjourned session of the Council in December, 1873.

Mr. Porter introduced the following resolution, which elicited considerable debate in consequence of opposition from Mr. Blackstone. The resolution went

through the necessary readings, however, and on Mr. Grayson's motion, passed the Council.

The resolution reads as follows:

Be it resolved by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That in connection with the subject of originating an International Literary and Industrial College, the Special Committee of seven be instructed to call the attention of the Council of the nations and tribes interested, to the importance and expediency of authorizing one or more lecturers, and to provide the necessary means of sustaining them; whose duty shall be to travel through the United States and deliver lectures, and employ such other means as may seem proper to further enlighten the public mind upon the Indian problem of the Indian Territory, and if deemed necessary, solicit government, State, and other aid in behalf of the institution contemplated.

S. W. Perryman introduced a resolution providing for the adjournment of the Council on the 15th inst., at 12 o'clock M.

On motion of Mr. Folsom, the further consideration of the resolution was postponed till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

The Chair announced the names of D. H. Ross, Chairman, James Shelton, S. W. Perryman, P. Porter, J. P. Folsom, C. Leflore and Wm. Walker as the Special Committee of seven.

Council adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, May 15, 1873, }
9 O'CLOCK P. M. }

Council convened pursuant to adjournment, when the roll was called, and the business of the day opened with prayer by the Chaplain.

Mr. S. W. Perryman's resolution to adjourn was considered, and on motion of J. Ross, further consideration was postponed.

Mr. Porter introduced the following resolution, which, on motion of Mr. Blackstone, was adopted after the usual readings.

The resolution reads as follows :

Resolved, by the General Council of the Indian Territory, That as a mark of appreciation of the eminent services of Col. Chilley McIntosh, Commissioner and Interpreter, and D. H. Ross, Commissioner and Secretary of the Indian Peace Commission to the Indians of the plains in July, 1872 ; and to secure them from actual loss while so engaged, the Hon. President, Enoch Hoag, be authorized and requested to pay Chilley McIntosh for his services as Interpreter, and D. H. Ross as Secretary, the sum of \$50 each, and also Eli Smith's medical bill.

Mr. J. Ross, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, submitted a report (*see appendix C*), which, on motion of D. H. Ross, was adopted under suspension of the rules.

Mr. J. M. Perryman, Chairman of the Committee on Education, also introduced a report (*see appendix D*), which, on motion of D. N. McIntosh, was adopted under suspension of the rules.

The Chair announced as members of the Special Committee the names of W. T. Mackey, Joshua Ross, D. N. McIntosh, A. R. Durant, John F. Brown, Cyrus Harris, with power to enlarge.

Mr. McIntosh moved to adjourn to meet at Okmulgee.

Mr. Folsom made a counter motion to meet at North Fork.

Mr. Blackstone proposed Fort Gibson, but withdrew his motion at Mr. McIntosh's request.

Mr. McIntosh's motion to adjourn prevailed, to meet at Okmulgee on the 1st Monday in December next.

ENOCH HOAG,

President.

G. W. GRAYSON,

Secretary.

APPENDIX.

A.

Your committee to whom was referred the resolution of this Council, requiring the same to prepare a memorial to the President of the United States, and the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, looking to the immediate liberation of Satanta and Big Tree, the chiefs of the Kiowas, beg leave to report the following, and recommend its adoption.

JOSEPH P. FOLSOM,

Chairman.

OKMULGEE, CREEK NATION, I. T., }
May —, 1873. }

TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE HON. SECRETARY
OF THE INTERIOR OF THE UNITED STATES.

Executive Mansion, Washington City, D. C.

Pursuant to resolution of the General Council of the Indian Territory, of May —, 1873, your memorialists, the Confederate Nations and Tribes, in Council assembled at Okmulgee, most respectfully but urgently ask your serious consideration and action upon the following subject matter, to wit: The propriety and expediency of the immediate pardon and liberation of Satanta and Big Tree, Chiefs of the Kiowa Indians, now and for two years past imprisoned by the authorities of the State of Texas.

It is not our purpose to discuss or even consider the causes leading to the arrest, conviction and incarceration of these chiefs. It is, however, a painful matter

of fact, that it was followed by greatly increased hostilities by the Kiowas upon the frontier settlements of Texas.

Alarm and apprehension of a wide-spread Indian war had taken hold of the public mind, when the General Council of the Indian Territory of June, 1872, authorized the sending of a Peace Commission to the Kiowas, and others. This Commission, in compliance with instructions of the Hon. E. Hoag, President and Superintendent, met the Plains Indians at Fort Cobb, I. T., 22d July, 1872. (*See report of the Secretary of the Commission, and that of the Hon. Superintendent, E. Hoag*). As is well known to the President and the Hon Secretary of the Interior, the labors of this Peace Commission, at that Council and subsequent to it, have been fruitful of the most happy results to all of the parties in interest. In the emphatic words of the leading Kiowa raiders, "*the war was cut right off*"—the Kiowas in due time liberating all of their white captives—sending a delegation to Washington, complying with all the demands of the Government, which in turn had promised to restore to their people, at some early future day, their chiefs Satanta and Big Tree. The time contemplated for this liberation and restoration has expired. The Kiowas having complied faithfully—with all the conditions exacted, confidently anticipated the liberation of these prisoners upon the rising of grass—the month of March. They have been disappointed. They feel it. They construe it to bad faith. An occasion is thus given to the restive spirits among them to incite distrust. They reason the same as do other men, touching the sacredness of pledges. They cannot understand why the Government should exact rigid compliance with every promise on their part, and at the same time practice non-observance of

pledges on its own part. Nor can they comprehend or understand why they are practically held responsible for the doings of the Modocs, on the Pacific coast, of whom they have probably never heard. They have declared their readiness to bind themselves to the Government of the United States and the Confederate Tribes jointly—to take a position between the two—clinging to the hands of each. What more can they do to assure the Government of their pacific intentions?

Having been largely and directly instrumental in effecting reconciliation between the disaffected tribes of the plains and people of the United States, your memorialists, the Confederate Tribes, feel assured that the Kiowas will not disappoint their just expectations, nor the trust of the United States Government, if no vacillating policy is permitted by their Great Father, the President, touching the liberation of these chiefs. Believing that we fully comprehend the magnitude of all of the interests involved, we most respectfully and earnestly advise their immediate liberation. They have suffered two years close confinement; they now have some conception of the powers of the Government, and its magnanimity. They know that while we are their friends, they will not be sustained by us in evil doing—and that their only safety for the future is in peace—peace with all. Let the Government at once fulfill its promises. Make the ceremony of liberation one of note, and we believe that like the noted chief of the Sioux—Red Cloud—Satanta will hereafter be the steadfast friend and advocate of peace.

The Government, by its duly authorized agents, has solicited our good offices in controlling the turbulent elements among our less favored brothers of the great

plains. We have not shirked the responsibilities. Our work shows for itself. We beg the President and Secretary not to permit our future usefulness to be compromised by any ill-advised action, or non-action, affecting the liberation of these chiefs.

B.

Your committee to whom was referred the resolution of the General Council of the Indian Territory, in reference to the propriety of revising the Constitution of said Territory, framed December, 1870, after careful consideration of the same, beg leave to submit the following preamble and resolution as their report, and recommend their adoption.

D. N. McINTOSH,

Chairman of Committee.

R. E. BLACKSTONE,

Secretary.

Whereas That it appears from the report of the Secretary of the General Council of the Indian Territory, that certain nations have failed to report their action on the Constitution submitted to them by this Council in December, 1870, for their adoption or rejection; *and whereas*, That the crisis now upon us is such that the further delay of their action thereon may endanger the prosperity and happiness of the people inhabiting the Indian Territory, is obvious to all; now therefore

Be it resolved by the General Council of the Indian Territory assembled, That the nations to whom the Constitution was submitted by this Council in December, 1870, for their adoption or rejection, are hereby most respectfully, yet earnestly requested to act on that Constitution, and report the result of their action thereon as the schedule thereof requires.

Be it further resolved, That all nations and tribes above referred to, failing or refusing to report finally their action on said Constitution at or before the adjourned meeting of this Council to be hereinafter provided for, shall be deemed and held to refuse to ratify the same, and this Council shall be governed accordingly.

Be it further resolved, That whenever this Council adjourns, it shall be to meet on the 1st Monday of December, 1873, and at which time, the General Council when convened, shall take such other steps as shall be deemed wise and best for the advancement and protection of the people of the Indian Territory, as well as for the perpetuation of peace and friendship now so happily existing between ourselves and the nations of the plains, and for the promotion and maintainance of peace among the nations, with themselves and the citizens of the United States.

Resolved further, That the Secretary of this Council forward without delay, an authenticated copy of the preamble and resolutions to the executive of each nation above referred to, with a request that they shall submit the same to their respective national councils, with the least possible delay.

C.

OKMULGEE, CREEK NATION, }
May 15, 1873. }

To the General Council of the Indian Territory:

Your Committee on Agriculture respectfully submit their report.

EASTERN SHAWNEES cultivate three hundred and forty acres of land. They plant garden seed, corn, oats, potatoes and wheat. They have one apple and

two peach orchards. They own fifty-eight horses, two mules, sixty-eight cows and oxen, with four hundred hogs. They drive fifteen wagons and thirty-five plows. Work is done by their own hands

OTTAWAS till the soil of four hundred and sixty acres. They mow grass, reap fields of oats and wheat; pull corn and beans; dig potatoes and tend the garden. Their fruits are apples, cherries, gooseberries and peaches. They use plows, reapers and cultivators. They have ducks, chickens, geese and turkeys. They have sixty-five mules, horses and ponies, one hundred and sixty cows and oxen, and three hundred hogs.

SENECAS plow four hundred and sixty acres, gather corn and potatoes, harvest oats and wheat. They have five hundred fruit trees, two hundred and forty-five oxen, bulls and cows, one hundred and ten horses, three hundred and fifty hogs, forty diamond plows, thirty wagons, thirty-five shovel plows, three prairie plows, twenty-five bull tongues, three mowing machines, and one reaper.

QUAPAWS raise corn on five hundred acres. Their possession is three hundred and fifty ponies and horses, two hundred and twenty cows, bulls and oxen, ten mules, six hundred and fifty hogs, sixty wagons, two mowing machines, and apple and peach orchards.

PEORIAS have improved fifteen hundred acres of land. They raise corn, wheat, oats, potatoes, onions, turnips, Hungarian, Timothy grass, apples, peaches, pears and cherries. They have the horse, mule, cow, hog, plow, cultivator, mowing machine, corn planter and harrow.

MIAMIS are moving from Kansas. They cultivate two thousand nine hundred acres, and raise corn, wheat, oats, grasses, vegetables and fruits. They own fowls, hogs, cattle, horses, and all kind of farming implements.

SACS AND FOXES have four hundred and seventy acres cultivated, not including the mission farm of fifty acres. They raise corn, beans and pumpkins. They use the plow, hoe, and grubbing-hoe; they have mowing machines, a sorghum mill, horses cattle and hogs.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEES plant corn, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, ground peas, beans, peas, and garden seeds. They work in eight hundred acres of fields. They use the plow and grubbing-hoe. They raise hogs, cattle and horses.

CHEYENNES AND ARAPAHOS are taking up the arts of peace. They are not in Council.

AFFILIATED BANDS of Indians are Absentee Shawnee, Caddo, Delaware, Wichita, Kechi, To-wac-co-nie, Ionie, Waco and Pen-e-teth-ka. They live on the extreme borders; number fifteen hundred, and cultivate one thousand acres. They have plows and hoes, and own ponies, mules, and cattle.

CHICKASAWS are farmers; intelligent, and rich in cattle and horses. Their delegates have not come to Council.

SEMINOLES are farming on the Wewoka. They are improving, and are building a good foundation of wealth and prosperity. They have not come to Council.

WYANDOTTES cultivate three hundred and forty acres. They raise corn, oats, wheat, beans, peas, potatoes, turnips, pumpkins, squashes and melons, with tobacco; and have set out orchards of young fruit trees. Their stock consists of five hundred and fifty horses, twelve mules, six hundred cattle, one thousand hogs. Attention is paid to the improvement of domestic animals by the introduction of pure breeds. They have three mowing machines, three

patent hay-rakes and plows. Farm prospects are hopeful.

CHOCTAWS are one of the Five Nations of the Indian Territory. They are civil, friendly, intelligent, industrious and wealthy. They cultivate sixty-five thousand acres of land. They raise the cereals; plant gardens and set out fruit trees, which bear the apple, peach, pear and cherry. Tobacco is cultivated for home consumption. Bales of cotton are shipped by railroad and by steamboat for St. Louis and New Orleans. Choctaw farmers use the ax, plow, hoe, harrows, scrapers, shovels, spades, threshers, mowers, and reapers. They possess herds of goats, sheep, hogs, mules, horses, ponies, and cattle. They are enlarging farms and building new fences. Cotton and cattle bring them cash. They are improving native stock by mixing pure breeds imported from the States.

MUSKOKEES stand with Cherokees and Choctaws, Seminoles and Chickasaws in point of civilization. They lost millions of dollars in the war, during which, large herds of cattle were driven away. They forget the past, and are improving farms. Their cultivated land contains sixty thousand acres. The productions are corn, wheat, oats, rice, sweet potatoes, and Irish potatoes. Some of the farmers of the North Fork and Arkansas are experimenting on the growth of cotton—tobacco could be raised. Beans, peas, turnips, mustard and lettuce grow in the gardens. About the farm houses of the Muskokee Nation are growing orchards of apples, peaches, plums and grapes. Farmers are enlarging farms, improving houses, and are using improved implements. Horses, cattle, mules, sheep, goats and hogs are increasing the wealth of the nation. The introduction of fine stock will improve native stock. Intelligent young men of the

Muskokee Nation are not neglecting their duty in the department of Agriculture.

CHEROKEES have about seventy-five thousand acres of land in successful cultivation. They raise corn, oats, wheat, cotton and tobacco for home consumption, with potatoes, beets, cabbage, mustard, lettuce, onions, peas, beans, pumpkins and melons. Corn never fails to make them bread. Cotton and tobacco are raised for home use. The women of the Cherokee Nation spin, dye beautiful colors, and weave homespun of cotton and wool; wheel and loom are home-made. Gardens are well cultivated, and flower and garden seed are in demand, such as would suit soil and climate. Nurseries in the States and the Cherokee nursery at Tahlequah, are selling hundreds and thousands of fruit trees to citizens of the nation. One farmer has an orchard of two thousand trees, consisting of apples, peaches, pears, cherries and plums, also grapes. The yard of many a Cherokee farm house has the shade of the oak, locust, maple, cedar and walnut. There, on a hidden branch of the tree, the mocking bird warbles his matchless songs. The pink and rose, in bud and bloom, adorn the walk from gate to door; honeysuckle, in beauty and fragrance, clings to the windows of home. They read the Advocate in English and Cherokee, which is published at Tahlequah, and journals of agriculture from the States. Ten mills grind and bolt flour and meal, and saw lumber of the walnut, oak and pine.

War, and the war speculators consumed and drove off herds from the Cherokee Nation—peace and time are increasing the number of cattle, ponies, horses, and sheep. The farm yard is alive with turkeys, chickens, ducks and geese. Morgan and Argyle, Devon and Durham, Berkshire, Chester White and

Poland China, mixing with native stock, are improving the Cherokee breeds of the horse, cow and pig.

The Indians of the Cherokee Nation do their own work, hire or invite neighbors to town to work. The man who invites to work, leads his neighbors to timber to split rails, or to the field to fence and plow. They plow many acres and split hundreds of rails. The women finish the quilt, and the men and women sit down to a good dinner. They go home happy. They use the ax, plows, double-shovels, harrows, cultivators and mowing machines; and this year they are cultivating more land than they did the last season.

In the Indian Territory we estimate, from reports made by delegates from nations and tribes represented in this Council, two hundred and forty thousand acres of cultivated land. In all the land there is a will to cherish our simple inheritance—to labor to improve farm and home. Farming is the occupation of the Indian nations and tribes. Productions of the soil are grains, grasses, potatoes, cotton and tobacco. Domestic animals graze on the prairie, through the woods and along the streams. Wool and beef cattle are sold and shipped to St. Louis. The raising of corn, wheat, fruit and stock, is a success. Indian civilization is a success. They are improving in all respects—they are successful farmers.

Read this letter of the Rev. John Harreld, on Indian improvement, forty years a minister of the Gospel to the Indians.

OKMULGEE, CREEK NATION,)
May 12, 1873. }

Mr. Joshua Ross—Dear Sir: In compliance with your request, in reference to the improvement of the Indian nations and tribes, I can only say, that during the forty years that I have known them, they have

made great improvement in many respects, especially in agricultural pursuits. My acquaintance, however, is mainly confined to the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws and Chickasaws. It is true that their advancement has not been so great and sudden as some desired, nevertheless, it has been sure and constant, except during the late war. Just as soon, however, as peace was restored, they nearly all returned to their homes. As soon as practicable their houses and fences were repaired. In many instances their farms were enlarged and new houses built, and their families made comfortable. In a large variety of cases they raise an abundance of corn for home consumption, and some of them raise wheat, oats and cotton. During the present season, I have traveled extensively through the Indian Territory, and feel confident that there is a larger amount of land in cultivation in some localities than at any former year. The spring, however, has been quite cold and backward; nevertheless, we trust by the blessing of God, that our Indian friends will be able to realize a good crop during the present year, and give them encouragement for further progress in domestic pursuits.

As ever, your sincere friend,

JNO. HARRELD.

To awaken the love of agriculture, we have the honor to name labor on the farm, raising fine stock, reading and writing for agricultural papers and journals, international fairs, institutions of agriculture for the education of boys and young men of the Indian nations and tribes, in the rudiments and knowledge of husbandry.

We recommend the adoption of the following preamble and resolution :

Whereas Our home and heritage now and forever, is a land of fertile soil and mild climate, fit for grazing and agriculture—which has worked out and must continue to work out the prosperity and happiness of our people—it being the foundation of all substantial wealth; and as a people we are interested in the productive development of our soil, and should, therefore, use every appliance looking to that end.

Resolved, therefore, That this Council recognize these facts, and that the Illustrated Journal of Agriculture, published in the city of St. Louis, already having a large circulation among our people, and being pre-eminently suited to our wants and necessities through its able writings and useful and beautiful illustrations, is hereby recommended, with the American Agriculturist, Colman's Rural World, Western Rural, Prairie Farmer and Country Gentleman, to our people and nations, as publications calculated to promote their interests, and should be read by as many of the people as are able to procure them.

JOSHUA ROSS,

Chairman of Committee on Agriculture.

WM. T. MACKEY,

Secretary.

D.

(REPORT ON EDUCATION.)

Your committee, to whom was referred the resolution of the General Council calling for a report on the subject of education among the several nations and tribes of the Indian Territory, beg leave to submit the following as their report:

The SACS AND FOXES, numbering four hundred and forty persons, have one school, with twenty-four children in attendance—fourteen boys and ten girls. Their annual school fund amounts to \$5,000; \$10,000 has been appropriated to erect a building for a Mission

School. A part of their number in Kansas, is expected to unite with the tribe in the Indian Territory at an early day.

The MIAMIS have a population of one hundred and twenty-seven, and a school fund amounting to \$2,500 annually. Their children, to the number of thirty-seven, are sent to district schools in the State of Kansas.

The CONFEDERATED PEORIAS have a population of one hundred and sixty-five. Their annual school fund is \$3,129. They have one school in successful operation, and a Mission school under consideration, both under the supervision of the "Friends." The aggregate number of pupils in attendance at school is thirty; average number of males in attendance, fifteen; average number of females in attendance, seven. The Peorias are making commendable improvement in education, having a very good teacher, who is a graduate.

The AFFILIATED BANDS of the Wichita Agency have two schools, with an attendance of fifty pupils. Their new building at the Wichita Agency has a capacity for one hundred pupils.

The OTTAWAS have a population of one hundred and fifty. They have one school in successful operation. The aggregate number of pupils in attendance is between thirty-five and forty. The average number of males, fifteen; average number of females, twenty. Their teacher is from the denomination of Friends. The school funds of the Ottawas has been in litigation five years, but under the provision of a recent law, they hope to derive the benefit of it very soon.

The population of the WYANDOTTES, SENECA and SHAWNEES, is five hundred and fifty-four. Of this

number two hundred and seventy-five are Wyandottes, one hundred and ninety-five Senecas, and eighty-four are Shawnees. They have one school, under the control of the Society of Friends, with an aggregate attendance of sixty pupils. Forty-six of these are Wyandottes, five are Senecas, and nine Shawnees. Neither of these tribes have any school funds. The cause of education among them, however, is encouraging. The Wyandottes are, to a great extent, an educated people. Their teacher is not a native.

The population of the QUAPAWS is two hundred and thirty-seven. They have an annual school fund of \$1,000. They have one Mission school in operation, with about forty-five scholars in attendance, twenty of whom are males, and twenty-five females, under the care of "Friends."

The population of the CHOCTAWS is about seventeen thousand. They have forty-eight neighborhood schools, and one academy for the instruction of boys, and a seminary for girls. They have not been able to reopen their academies and seminaries, which were closed by the late war in the United States, except one of each. Their school fund amounts to \$32,000 annually. They have no separate orphan school fund, but have a law providing for orphans in their public schools. The number of pupils in these schools is about one thousand, including ten youths, one-half of whom are males, who are sent to high schools in the States, at the expense of the nation. About one-half of the teachers are citizens. About three-fourths of the Choctaw people read and write the Choctaw language, and about one-third read and write the English language.

The population of the MUSKOGEE Nation is about thirteen thousand five hundred. They have \$24,158

annual public school fund. The whole number of public schools in operation is thirty-one. Out of this number six schools have been set aside for the benefit of freedmen. The aggregate number of pupils in attendance at these schools is about seven hundred—the average number about five hundred. The number of each sex cannot now be ascertained. Twenty of the teachers are natives, and eleven whites. In addition to these public schools, the Muskokees have two boarding schools, each accommodating eighty pupils—an equal number of male and female; one under the control and management of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, the other under the Methodist board. Besides these schools, there is one boarding and day school in the care of the Presbyterian Church South. This school has been in operation but a few months, and has fifteen regular attendants.

There being no delegates present from the Chickasaw and Seminole Nations, your committee have no report from them.

The population of the CHEROKEES is about seventeen thousand five hundred. Their annual school fund is \$29,547, but will be increased after the present year to nearly \$50,000; and their annual orphan fund, amounting to \$10,059, will also be increased to something near \$20,000. There are sixty-two schools in successful operation, four of which are for the benefit of freedmen, besides several private schools supported by neighborhoods. They have also an orphan asylum and female seminary, supported from the public fund. One hundred thousand dollars has recently been appropriated for establishing an asylum for the deaf, dumb and blind, and otherwise unfortunate Cherokees. Also, \$75,000 for an asylum for such indigent Chero-

kee children as cannot speak English. The aggregate number of children attending school is about twenty-six hundred, about fourteen hundred of whom are females. Three-fourths of the teachers are natives, and nearly two-thirds of this number are females. A majority of the full-bloods read and write in their own language, and have Bibles and hymn books printed in that language.

In conclusion, your committee would say, that there are many children sent to higher schools in the States, from different nations in the Territory, who have not been enumerated in this report, and no doubt it will be gratifying to this Council to see the interest manifested in the cause of education by the nations and tribes of the Indian Territory, which appears more apparent from the fact, that about one-half of their invested funds is donated to the cause of education.

J. M. PERRYMAN,

Chairman.

R. E. BLACKSTONE,

Secretary.

