

the re-possession of our rights.

As the matter then stood, the Department's unalterable determination was neither to allow us to repossess our lands, nor to allow us to have jurisdiction over those who occupy them. If anything has been accomplished in the matter by the delegation, a full statement of the same will doubtless be found in their report.

During the last session of the U. S. Congress, there were several bills introduced providing for the changing of our relations with the U. S. Government. Among others was one, providing for the "establishment of U. S. Courts within the Indian Territory and for other purposes. The "other purposes" which were enumerated, were such as would give to the U. S. entire jurisdiction over our people, both in civil and criminal matters - but the bill was so cautiously worded as to lead the reader to infer, that no change save the change of the U. S. Dist. Courts base of operations was intended - and that the Indians would be greatly benefited by such change. Fearing that unless the Indians should take such action as would convince the U. S. Congress that we were un-animously opposed to the bill, it might become a law - this Office called a general international convention, which convened at this place on the 18th of March.

The Convention sent to the President and Congress