An act contracting to the Delegation appointed to negotiate with the authorities of the United States one-fourth of the recovery out of the "Leased District" so called &c

Whereas the United States has bought out the Indian interest in Oklahoma and settled it with United States citizens, and thus departed from the policy established and maintained since 1830 of reserving the Indian Territory to be occupied by Indians alone; and whereas Bills have been introduced in Congress to incorporate said Leased District into the Territory of Oklahoma without any reference to the rights of the Choctaws and Chickasaws, which shows an attitude of the U.S. towards the Choctaws and Chickasaws different to that taken towards the Creeks, Seminoles and Cherokees in reference to their western lands; and whereas the Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation has been advised in a formal manner by the U.S. Commissioners appointed under Act of Congress of March 2. 1889 to negotiate with all Indians in the Indian Territory for the cession to the United States of all their right claim or interest in and to lands west of the 96th degree of longitude, and that the U.S. has now full title to the lands between the 98th and 100th degrees of west longitude ceded to the U.S. by

the Choctaws and Chickasaws in 1866. and that said U.S. Commissioners were not authorized to even negotiate with the Choctaw Nation relative thereto; and whereas the Choctaw Nation is not willing to expend any money in the prosecution of this claim, but desires to engage the service of a Delegation willing to pay all expenses incurred; and whereas the Choctaw Nation wishes to support said Delegation in the employment of competent counsel, and a large and able corps of assistants to push the equitable rights of the Choctaw Nation upon the attention of the Executive Department of the United States and upon Congress in order that the rights of the Nation now ignored may be recognized. now therefore;

Sec 1. Be it enacted by the General Council of the Choctaw Nation assembled, that the Delegation appointed under "an act providing for the" "disposition of the interest of the Choctaw Nation in" "the lands west of the 98th degree of west longi=" "tude", or their assigns are hereby guaranteed and pledged twenty-five per cent of the recovery to the Choctaw Nation in consideration of the facts above recited – it being distinctly understood that said Delegation shall bear all the expense in conducting this business, and that they shall not call on or expect any ap=

propriation whatever in this connection, except as contracted herein, towit; twenty five per cent of the recovery, and in case of failure said Delegation shall bear the loss of their expense labor and time.

Sec 2. Said Delegation or its assigns are hereby authorized in the name of and on behalf of the Choctaw Nation to make requisition on the proper authorities of the United States for twenty-five per cent of whatever appropriations Congress may hereafter make on account of such so called Leased District aforesaid, and to execute proper receipts therefor, and all acts or parts of acts in conflict herewith are hereby repealed, and this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Proposed by
T. P. Ward
Chairman Committee on Chiefs Message

Bill No. 14.

Bill Passed the Senate
And referred to the House
~~Dec 23rd 1889~~
Pres. Senate

Dec 23rd
1889

Passed the House
and refered to the
Principal Chief
this the 23rd Dec
1889.
D. E. Hotema
Speaker

Approved Dec 24th
1889
W. F. Smallwood
Principal Chief of the
Choctaw Nation

Filed in my Office
this 24th day of
December 1889.
W. B. Jackson.
National Secretary
Choctaw Nation.