

**FIVE  
CIVILIZED  
TRIBES  
PROTEST**

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**AGAINST**

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**CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATION**

**Contemplating Annexation of**

**INDIAN TERRITORY TO OKLAHOMA  
OR  
TERRITORIAL FORM OF  
GOVERNMENT**

**PRIOR TO MARCH 4th, 1906.**

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**1902**

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## EUFAULA CONVENTION

NOVEMBER 28, 1902.

Pursuant to a call of the Honorable Green McCurtain, Principal Chief of the Choctaw Nation, there assembled at Eufaula, in the Creek Nation, Indian Territory, November 28, 1902, delegates from three of the Five Civilized Tribes in the Indian Territory, for the purpose of formally expressing to Congress the views of the Indians on Statehood for the Indian Territory. These delegates were appointed by the Principal Chief of the several tribes under the authority of resolutions by their respective councils. The delegates were :

CREEK NATION :

- |  |                     |     |
|--|---------------------|-----|
| Honorable P. Porter, Principal Chief of the<br>Creek Nation..... | Muskogee, Ind. Ter. |     |
| Cheesie McIntosh.....  | Checotah,           | “ “ |
| Rolley McIntosh.....   | Fame,               | “ “ |
| John R. Goate.....   | Holdenville,        | “ “ |
| Alex A. Davis.....   | Okmulgee,           | “ “ |
| A. P. McKellop.....  | Muskogee,           | “ “ |

CHEROKEE NATION :

Wash Swimmer .....	Tahlequah, Ind. Ter.		
A. L. Lacie .....	Baptist,	“	“
L. B. Bell .....	Vinita,	“	“
J. G. Schrimser .....	Claremore,	“	“
George Sanders .....	Rose,	“	“

CHOCTAW NATION :

H. P. Ward .....	Kiowa, Ind. Ter.		
L. C. LeFlore .....	Caddo,	“	“
Hampton Tucker .....	South McAlester,	“	“
Henry Ansley .....	McAlester,	“	“

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Honorable Pleasant Porter was made permanent chairman, and Henry Ansley, permanent secretary.

A committee on resolutions was appointed, consisting of L. B. Bell, Cheesie McIntosh and Hampton Tucker.

The committee reported the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted,

RESOLUTIONS.

**Whereas,** The Five Civilized Tribes of the Indian Territory have, by agreements made and entered into with the United States, provided for the dissolution of their tribal governments; and,

**Whereas,** The changed conditions brought about by such agreements require a complete revolution in our land tenure, and new laws and usages unknown to the Indians composing the Five Tribes of the Indian Territory, which conditions will require time for the Indians to adapt themselves to the changed order of things; and,

*Whereas,* These changes were apparent to the contracting parties at the time of the making of said agreements, which is evidenced by the fact that a separate political organization was provided for the Indian Territory, and the period for the dissolution of said tribal governments was fixed at March 4th, 1906; and,

*Whereas,* Citizens of the United States, and not Indians, now residents in and upon the lands of the Five Tribes, are making by petition and lobby influence efforts to induce the Congress of the United States to ignore the spirit and letter of these agreements by placing the Indian Territory under the laws of Oklahoma Territory; failing in that, to organize a United States territory out of the present judicial organization, known as the Indian Territory, either of which propositions would delay the work of the government as now organized and satisfactorily proceeding under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior for the fulfillment of the agreements referred to. Now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved,* By the duly authorized representatives of the Five Civilized Tribes, in convention assembled, at Eufaula, Creek Nation, Indian Territory, November 28, 1902,

We affirm our confidence in the purpose of the United States government to faithfully discharge the obligations it has assumed in its treaties with the Five Civilized Tribes in the Indian Territory.

We are opposed to and protest against any legislation by Congress that contemplates the annexation of the Indian Territory, or any part

thereof, to the Territory of Oklahoma, or to any state; and we insist upon our tribal governments continuing intact and our tribal conditions remaining unchanged until March 4, 1906, at which time, should Congress deem it wise to change the present form of government in the Indian Territory, we ask that a state be formed out of the territory composing Indian Territory without the preliminary steps of a territorial form of government.

The authority and supervision of the Department of the Interior over Indian affairs in the Indian Territory, and the duties imposed on the Dawes Commission by such authority in the distribution of the lands belonging to the Five Civilized Tribes are sufficient for the present demands of government, and satisfactory to the owners of the soil.

It is incumbent upon us as self-governing people to propose a state form of government for the country owned by us and take part in the establishment of the same, to take effect at the dissolution of our tribal governments in 1906.

We most earnestly protest against the misrepresentations found in the petitions presented by people assembling in conventions at different places in the Indian Territory, purporting to represent the wishes of the people of the Indian Territory, firmly believing as we do, that they represent no part of the Indian population and a very small part of the white people of the Indian Territory, in so far as they represent the people of the Indian Territory as asking for a territorial form of government or statehood jointly with Oklahoma.

On account of sickness and high water, the representatives of the Chickasaw Nation did not attend. This nation, however, is thoroughly in accord with the purposes of the convention, as evidenced by a resolution passed by its council authorizing the appointment of delegates and by a letter from the Honorable Palmer S. Mosely, governor of the Chickasaw Nation, appearing in this pamphlet.

The Honorable Green McCurtain was unable to attend, but commends the action of the convention in a letter published herein.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,  
CHICKASAW NATION.

WAPANUCKA, I. T., Dec. 5, 1902.

HON. HENRY ANSLEY, Secretary of the Five  
Tribes Conventiion, McAlester, I. T.

DEAR SIR:—I have received a copy of the  
resolutions adopted by the convention held at  
Eufaula, Ind. Ter., on November 28, 1902, on  
behalf of the Five Civilized Tribes, and the pur-  
pose of this letter is to state that the same meet  
my approval.

I regret my inability to meet with the con-  
vention at the time and place, and for the pur-  
poses stated,

Very respectfully,

— PALMER S. MOSELY,  
Governor Chickasaw Nation;

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
CHOCTAW NATION.

KINTA, I. T., Dec. 5, 1902.

MR HENRY ANSLEY, Secretary Five Tribes Convention, at Eufaula, I. T., McAlester, I. T.

SIR:—I am just in receipt of the resolutions adopted by the convention held by the Indians of the Five Tribes, at Eufaula, on November 28, 1902. I am convinced that these resolutions express the sentiment of the real Indians throughout the Indian Territory, and I feel sure they will meet the hearty approval of the better element of the law-abiding non-citizens who dwell among us. For these reasons I heartily endorse the action of the convention, and believe its work will go a great way toward convincing Congress as to the wishes of the great mass of people who reside within the confines of the Five Civilized Tribes.

Yours truly,

GREEN McCURTAIN,  
Principal Chief Choctaw Nation.

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Resolutions were adopted authorizing the Secretary to publish the proceedings and resolutions in pamphlet form, mail to the President, Secretary of the Interior, heads of the Indian Department, Senators, Members of Congress and Chiefs of the Five Civilized Tribes.

HENRY ANSLEY,  
Secretary.