

DUNCAN, SUSIE E.

COLLECTION.

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AN OLD DOCUMENT.

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Supplied from Files of Walter Adair Duncan,  
Deceased, By Susie E. Duncan, Rose, Okla.

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NOTE- The within and foregoing document was written by  
me verbatim and punctuated exactly as the original copy.

James R. Carselovey, Field worker.

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TO THE CHEROKEES AND OTHER INDIANS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

CHEROKEE NATION, INDIAN TERRITORY,

July, 30, 1885.

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A great man has gone from earth who, more than any of the other personages prominent in the great event of the present age, represented in his life and conduct, the noble principles and tendencies of modern civilization. The fame of General Grant is associated with the awakening of a great nation's conscience and with the exhibition on a vast scale of that spirit of "brotherly love and charity" which is the test and proof of human progress.

In his travels over the world, after the close of the late war, General Grant was met and welcomed by Potentates and People as the Representative Champion of Freedom and equal rights. He was hailed as the leading figure of a nation which after a four years struggle, had just won the most difficult but decisive of all victories- a victory over itself- and thus shown itself to contain in equal proportions the elements of progress and purification-

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Of a state whose government is identical with the people-from whose ranks the hero had risen and to which he had returned- a people whose "democracy" is an offspring and manifestation of the "Golden Rule."

The Great Commander- the generous and magnanimous opponent-the unswerving friend-the greatest man of the greatest nation, has now passed away.

Aside from the reason which call for the tributes of respect from all the world, the Cherokees and other Indians have special cause for sorrow in the fact that General Grant was at all times, and especially when their rights were in peril, their firm and constant protector and friend. To several chiefs he was personally known, and was by them regarded with profound reverence and affection. It was General Grant who initiated what is known as "The Indian Peace Policy"- a policy which had for it's main feature the treatment of the Red Man as a "Man"-entitled to a man's natural rights and priviledges, and subject to control by the same means and influences as other men. General Grant, when President established the practice of encouraging the Indians as Tribes and individuals

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to follow peaceful pursuits- of protecting them while so engaged-against marauders, and of punishing them for the evil they did or were responsible for-taking care, as a conscientious man, that the encouragement, the protection, or the punishment was fully deserved in each case. The Indian relied upon General Grant as a true and just man, who would suffer no underserved evil to come to them if he could help it, and it is fitting that they should express on this occasion their deep sense of obligation for his noble kindness.

True greatness is by nothing made more manifest than by the grateful attachment of the weak and dependent.

I suggest to my brothers of this Territory that they devote the day set apart for the funeral of General Grant (Saturday, 8th Inst.) to such exhibitions of the respect we all owe to his name and memory as shall be appropriate to the place and occasion.

D.W. Bushyhead,

Principal Chief.