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le Hibbs
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123 B. St., Southeast, Washington, D. C.
June 5, 1924

Messrs. Levi B. Gritts, Chairman
John R. Smith
William Rogers
D. R. Coodey
Fred McDaniel

Cherokee Representative Committee

Gentlemen:

For your information, and through you for the information of the Cherokee people, I respectfully submit the following brief report on Cherokee matters:

I arrived in Washington in the afternoon of Thursday, May 29, 1924. The contract for prosecution of the Cherokee claims under authority of Public Law No. 57, 68th Congress, executed by your Committee with me, and my associates on the 26th ultimo at Muskogee, was forwarded to the Department by Superintendant but did not reach us until Tuesday June 3rd, 1924. The transcripts of the proceedings of the District Council meetings, of the Delegate-Council meeting at Tahlequah (May 21, 1924), and of the Representative Committee at Muskogee on Monday, May 26th., 1924, were not sent with the Contract. I assume that it required some time to put it all into typewriting. However, yesterday, June 4, 1924, my associates and I took the contract and executed it in due form before Justice Siddons (one of the Justices of the Supreme of the District of Columbia) and filed it with request for approval by the Secretary and Commissioner. The Contract will undoubtedly be approved within the next day or so - as soon as the above mentioned transcripts arrive.

It has been my earnest hope that we might get the matter of the Contract closed in time to get at least the Freedman Claim filed before the Summer recess - but I am afraid it will have to go over until October. Congress will adjourn Saturday (day after tomorrow) and it is the intention of the Court of Claims to begin its Summer, Tuesday, so I understand.

I expect a decision by the Court of Claims in the case we have already submitted Monday next. If the decision does not come down on that day, we must wait for it. Also, until after the Court re-convenes next October.

It is my intention to attend the summer and autumn annual meetings of the Cherokee Societies, as usual, this year.

Hoping that this year may be one of prosperity in every way for our people, I am

Very respectfully and sincerely yours,

Signed: Frank J. Bondinal, Attorney

WHEREAS, The Cherokee Representative Committee in regular convention assembled for the consideration of the various interests of the Cherokee people; AND

WHEREAS: This Committee is especially interested in the efforts of the officers of the Society of Oklahoma Indians;

IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: That this Committee on behalf of the Cherokee people heartily endorse the enunciated objects of said Society of Oklahoma. Viz: "To protect the Civil, Social, Educational and Financial rights of the Indians."

passed and approved this 20th day of July, 1925.

Levi B. Gritts
Chairman

D. R. Coody
John R. Smith
William Rogers

Attest: Fred McDaniel,
Secretary

Hibbs
rker

Information obtained from:
S. H. Lewis, 316 Alexander Bld'g
Tulsa, Oklahoma

68th. Congress
2nd Session

H. R. 10105

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

March 2, 1920

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

AN ACT

Conferring Jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, examine, consider, and adjudicate claims which the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek, and Seminole Indians may have against the United States, and for other purposes.

1. Be it enacted by the Senate and house of Representatives
2. of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3. That jurisdiction be, and is hereby, conferred upon the Court
4. of Claims to hear, examine, consider, and adjudicate any
5. and all claims arising under or growing out of any treaty
6. stipulation or agreement of the United States with the Choc-
7. tow, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek, or Seminole Indian Nation
8. or Tribes, or any act of Congress, in relation to Indian
9. affairs, which said Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek,
10. or Seminole Indian Nations or Tribes may have against the
11. United States and which claims have not heretofore been
12. determined, or adjudicated: Provided, That said Court of
13. Claims shall also hear, examine, consider, and adjudicate any

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1. claims which the United States may have against said Indian
2. nations: Provided further, That the suits be instituted
3. within two years from date of approval of this act: Provided
4. also, That from decisions of the Court of Claims in said suits
5. appeals may be taken as in other cases to the Supreme
6. Court of the United States.

7. The Court of Claims shall have authority by proper
8. orders and process to bring in and make parties to such suits
9. any or all persons deemed by it necessary or proper to the
10. final determination of the matters in controversy.
11. The claim or claims of each of said Indian Nations
12. shall be separately or jointly by petition in the
13. Court of Claims, and such action shall make the petitioner
14. party plaintiff plaintiffs and the United States party de-
15. fendant; Such petition on the part of any such nation or
16. tribe shall be verified by the attorney or attorneys employed
17. to prosecute such claims or claims under contract or contracts
18. with the principal chief or governor of the nation or tribe
19. interested and approved by the Secretary of the Interior.
20. A copy of the petition shall, in each case, be served
21. upon the Attorney General of the United States, and he or
22. some attorney from the Department of Justice, to be designated
23. by him, is hereby directed to appear and defend the
24. interest of the United States in said cases.

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1. Any and all claims against the United States within
2. the purview of this Act shall forever barred unless suit be
3. instituted or petition filed in the Court of Claims within
4. two days from the date of approval of this Act as provided
5. herein. Upon the final determination of any suit or action
6. instituted under this Act the Court of Claims shall decree
7. such amount or amounts as it shall find reasonable to pay the
8. attorney or attorneys employed therein by any of the above
9. named Indians nations for their services and expenses, and
10. in no case shall the aggregate amounts decreed by said Court
11. of Claims be in excess of the amount or amounts stipulated
12. in the contract of employment or in excess of a sum equal
13. to 10 per centum of the amount of recovery against the
14. United States.

Passed the House of Representatives March 1, 1920.

Attest:

Wm. Tyler Page, Clerk

ence Hibbs
d Representative
uary 8, 1937

S. R. Lewis & Snake L. Miller

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AN ACT RELATING TO DISTRICTS AND REPRESENTATION
IN NATIONAL COUNCIL

Art. 1. Relating to Districts

Art. 2. Representation in National Council

ARTICLE 1

Relating to Districts

tion 441. The Cherokee Nation shall be divided into nine districts,
be defined as follows, to-wit:

SEQUOYAH DISTRICT

tion 442. Beginning at the mouth of Salisaw creek; thence up the same to the
ssing of Rogues path; thence along said path to within ten yards of
-Ekah-wees house, leaving Sen-a-kah-wee's in Sequpyah district; thence to
irect line to a point one hundred yards of Edward Still's; thence in a
ect line to Corn Tassel's, in Flint District; thence in a direct line to
Yellow Springs; thence to George Still's wagon road, leading to Stone's
mill; thence in a direct line to Tsi-a-no-na-s, leaving Tsi-a-no-na's in
nt district; thence in a direct line to the line of the State of Arkansas
nce south along said line to the Arkansas river; thence up said river
the place of beginning.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT

tion 443. Beginning at the point where Rogue's path crosses Salisay cree;
nce on a direct line to Allen Gafford's on Elk creek, and down said creek
it's junction with the Illinois river; thence across Shott Mountain to
Harlen's, leaving Harlan's in Illinois District; thence along the road to
eph Coody's; thence along the road to William Hendrick's; leaving
drick's in Tahlequah district; thence on the main road to the line of the
itary reservation of Fort Gibson; thence north on said line to the
theast corner of the reservation; thence west on the reserve line to
nd river; thence due west to the line of the Muskogee Nation; thence south
said line to the Arkansas river, and down said river to the mouth of
isaw creek and up same to the place of beginning.

CANADIAN DISTRICT

tion 444. Beginning at the junction of the Arkansas and Canadian rivers;
nce up the Canadian river to the line of the Muskogee Nation; thence along
d line to the Arkansas river, and down the same to the place of beginning.

g to Districts -

FLINT DISTRICT

445. Beginning at the point where Rogue's path crosses Salisaw creek along the line of Illinois district to the Illinois river; thence up to the mouth of Caney creek, and up said creek to the mouth of ton's spring branch, and up said branch to the wagon road at ton's; thence along the main old road to the crossing of the south of the barren fork of the Illinois river; thence up said branch to the the state of Arkansas; thence south on said line to the line of h district; thence west on said line to place of beginning.

GOING-SNAKE DISTRICT

446. Beginning at the mouth of Little Caney creek, at the residence Eagle; thence up said creek to its source at John Young's; thence to nders on the barren fork of the Illinois river; thence along the road s McDaniel's on the Illinois river; thence along the road, or path, to Grand Saline, to Saline creek; thence up said creek to the crossing Washington county wagon road, at Gore's old cabin; thence along said Flint creek, and up said creek to the line of the State of Arkansas; south on said line to the line of Flint District; thence on said the mouth of Caney creek, and up the same to the place of beginning.

TAHLEQUAH DISTRICT

447. Beginning at the mouth of little Caney; thence along the line of snake district to Spring creek; thence down the same to Grand river, n said river to the line of Illinois district; thence along said line Illinois river, and up said river to the mouth of Caney thence up said creek to the place of beginning.

SALINE DISTRICT

448. Commencing at a point on Spring creek where Going-Snake and ah districts corner, and up the left hand fork of Spring creek, by er Lowrey's, and across to Oo-lee-stu-hee's place, leaving said place ne district; thence along a path to Oo-lee-stu-hee's old place, it in Saline district; thence along on the ridge to Chu-le-o's place, that place in Saline district; thence to a Ford above Ned Christie's inaw, thenceo in a straight line to the mouth of a small creek ed Persimmon's, on Grand river, and down same to the mouth of creek, and up said creek to the place of beginning.

COO-WEE-SCOO-WEE DISTRICT

449. Commencing at the crossing of the line of Illinois district d river; thence up said river to the mouth of Rock creek, and up same Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad; thence north on said road to the the State of Kansas; thence west on said line to the 96' of west de, and south on said meridian to the northern boundary line of the e Nation, and east on the same to the northeast corner of said e Nation; thence south on the line of said Nation to the line of the s district, and east on said line to the place of beginning.

g to Districts -

450. Commencing at the mouth of Rock creek, on Grand river, and up creek to the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad; thence north on said line to the line of the State of Kansas; thence east to the line of the Quapaw and other affiliated tribes; thence following the boundary line of said tribes and the Cherokees to the line at the State of Missouri; thence south on said line, and the line of the State of Arkansas, to the line of the Snake district; thence west on said line to the southeast corner of said district; thence on the line of said district to Grand river, above Simon's; thence by the river to the place of beginning.

APPORTIONING REPRESENTATION IN THE COUNCIL

451. "In accordance with article third, section second, of the constitution, there shall be elected, at the election to be held on the first Monday of August, 1881, and thereafter until the taking of the next census, as provided for by the constitution. The following number of members of the council from each district, to-wit:

From Illinois	District, 5 members		
" Canadian	"	4	"
" Sequoyah	"	3	"
" Flint	"	3	"
" Hoing-Snake	"	4	"
" Delaware	"	6	"
" Saline	"	3	"
" Tahlequah	"	5	"
" Coe-Wee-Scoe-Wee	"	7	"

(December 11, 1880)

Hibbs
representative
9, 1937

S. R. Lewis

TRIBAL COMPACT

COMPACT BETWEEN THE SEVERAL TRIBES OF INDIANS

Article 1. The removal of the Indian tribes from the homes of their fathers, east of the Mississippi, has there extinguished our fires, and changed our position in regard to each other; and whereas, by the solemn pledge of treaties, we are assured by the government of the United States that the lands we now possess shall be the undisturbed home of ourselves and our posterity forever; therefore, we, the authorized representatives of several Nations, parties hereunto, assembled around the great council kindled in the west at Tahlequah, in order to preserve the relations between our several communities, to secure to all their respective rights and to promote the general welfare, do enter into the following compact:

Article 2. Peace and friendship shall forever be maintained between the Nations, parties to this compact, and between their respective citizens.

Article 3. Revenge shall not be cherished, nor retaliation practiced, nor offences committed by individuals.

Article 4. To provide for the improvement of our people in agriculture, manufactures, and other domestic arts, adapted to promote the comfort and business of our women and children, a fixed and permanent location on the lands, is an indispensable condition. In order, therefore, to secure these important objects, to prevent any future removal, and to transmit to our posterity, an unimpaired title to the lands guaranteed to the respective Nations by the United States, we hereby solemnly pledge ourselves to each other, that no Nation, party to this compact, shall, without the consent of all the other parties, cede, or in any manner surrender, to the United States, any part of their present territory.

Article 5. If a citizen of one Nation commits wilful murder or other crime, within the limits of another Nation, party hereto, he shall be subject to the same treatments as if he were a citizen of that Nation.

Article 6. In case of property stolen, or taken by force or fraud, the property, if found, shall be restored to the owner; but if not found, the delinquent person shall pay the full value thereof.

Article 7. If a citizen of any Nation, party to this compact, shall commit murder or other crime, and flee from justice into the territory of another Nation, party hereto, such criminal shall, on demand of the principal Chief of the Nation from which he fled (accompanied with credible proof of his guilt), be delivered up to the authorities of the Nation having jurisdiction of the crime.

Hibbs
Representative
9, 1937

TRIBAL COMPACT

Section 8. We hereby further agree, that if any one of our respective citizens shall commit murder, or other crime, upon the person of any other citizen, in any place beyond the limits of our several territories, the person so offending, shall be subject to the same treatment, as if the offence had been committed within the limits of his own Nation.

Section 9. Any citizen of one Nation may be admitted to citizenship in any other Nation, party hereto, by consent of the proper authorities of such Nation.

Section 10. The use of ardent spirits being a fruitful source of crime and misfortune, we recommend its suppression within our respective limits, and agree that no citizen of one Nation shall introduce it into the territory of any other Nation, party to this compact.

Done in general council, around the "Great Council Fire," at Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation, this the third day of July, 1843.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHEROKEES

Hair Conrad, his X mark
Samuel Downing, his X mark
Turtle Fields, his X mark
Stop, his X mark, Thomas Foreman
J. Vann
Archibald Campbell, his X mark
Old Field, his X mark
Michael Waters
John Looney, his X mark
George Lowery
Tobacco Will, his X mark
Thomas Woodard, his X mark
Dutch, his X mark
Charles Cocdey

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CREEKS

Tus-Ta-Nug-Gee-Mathla, his X mark
In-Ther-Nis-Harjo, his X mark
Ho-Ler-Ter-Micco, his X mark
Ufalar-Harjo, his X mark
Chilly McIntosh
Oak-Ceen-Harjo, his X mark
Ho-Tul-Ca-Harjo, his X mark

S. R. Lewis

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TRIBAL COMPACTREPRESENTATIVES OF THE OSAGES

Alexander Chouteau, Osage Int.

Shin-Ka-Wa-Sha, or Belbazo, his X mark

Black Dog, his X mark

Gron-San-Tah, his X mark

Gra-Tam-E-Sah, his X mark

Be it known that the National Council of the Cherokee Nation, in annual council convened, have this day approved and confirmed the within articles of a compact, entered into the day and date therein named, by the authorized representatives of the Nations, parties thereunto.

Done in National Council, at Talequah, Cherokee Nation, this second day of November, A.D. one thousand eight hundred and forty three.

Charles Coody, President
National Committee

James M. Payne, Speaker
National Council

Approved: Jno Ross

O. Moore, Supervisor
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Hibbs
representative
y 10, 1937

S. R. Lewis

SUPPLEMENT TO COMPACT

PPLEMENTAL ARTICLES TO THE "COMPACT" between the Creeks and the
Cherokees, agreed upon by the Delegates of the respective Nations, at
Muskogee, I. T., in convention called by Principal Chiefs of the said
Nations on the 7th day of October, 1884, to-wit:

t. The provisions of the Compact entered into at Tahlequah, Cherokee
Nation, on the 3rd day of July, 1843, between the authorities of the
Cherokee, Creek and Osage Nations, are hereby renewed and re-affirmed.

d. That so much of the laws of the Muscogee Nation as in their
operation or enforcement, subject to seizure and confiscation and property
of any citizen of the Cherokee Nation, shall be and remain suspended so
far as such Cherokee Citizens is concerned, until the first day of
August, 1885; and the owners of such property, unless otherwise authorized by
the laws of Muscogee Nation to longer remain within the limits of the
said Nation, shall be allowed until that time to dispose of or remove their
uses or other property without said Muscogee Nation.

t, in case such persons, at the expiration of such time, shall have
failed to dispose of, or remove their property, the same shall be subject
to be disposed of according to, the provisions of the law relating thereto
in force in the Muscogee Nation.

i. That remedy at law for the recovery of any debt or the
enforcement of any contract, or to secure any right or demand held by the
citizens of one Nation against the other Nation, or a citizen of the
one Nation residing in the other Nation, shall be the same in all respects
between citizens within their own Nations - the object of this provision
being to open the courts of the two Nations fully to the citizens of each.

n. The legislative authorities of the two Nations, parties to this
compact, may regulate by law the time, manner and conditions upon which the
citizens of the Nations may be allowed to reside temporarily within its
limits for the purpose of trade, stock raising, farming, or for other
business or pleasure; and certificates signed by the Principal Chief and
attested by the seal of the Nation to which the person availing himself
of the benefit of any law regulating such privileges, (belongs) shall be
taken and held as "prima facie" evidence of the citizenship of such
person.

it enacted by the National Council, That the Articles supplementary
to the Compact of 1843 between the Cherokees, Creeks, and Osages, four in
number, agreed to by and between delegates of the Cherokee and Nations
respectively, at Muskogee, I. T., on the ninth day of October, 1884, and
the delegates through the Principal Chief to the National Council of
the same for their decision in regard thereto, as the said supplementary
articles are embraced and set forth in the above copy thereof, be, and the
same are hereby ratified and declared to be in full force and effect as a
part of the Compact between the two said Nations, from and after the date

pplement to Compact -

on the said Articles, so hereby ratified, shall be confirmed by the
tional Council of the Muskogee Nation, as jointly recommended by the
id delegation of the two Nations and submitted for that purpose.
ecember 13, 1894).

by O. Moore, Supervisor
-Pioneer History S-149

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ce Hibbs
Worker

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RESOLUTION

Resolved by the Cherokee Executive Committee, appointed by the Principal Chief, W. C. Rogers, under authority of a resolution passed approved by a convention of the Cherokee people held in the city of on the 22nd day of October, 1916.

That Whereas, The Nighthawk Keetoowahs of the Cherokee Nation at the 10th day November, 1920, commend and designated Levi Gritts of Tee, Okla., for the position of Chief of the Cherokee people, and request that the various organized groups, bands, or clubs, of the Tee people take action in reference to the appointment and confirmation of a Chief for the said Cherokee people.

Resolved by said Cherokee Executive Committee, that Whereas, the Levi Gritts seems to be the choice of the Full-blood element of the Tee people, and is an educated Full-blood Cherokee, speaking both the Tee and English languages fluently. Having a general knowledge of Affairs, and so the opinion of this Committee is in every way well fitted and competent to fill said position with honor and credit to Cherokee people.

Resolved, that we, therefore, endorse and approve the action of Nighthawk Keetoowahs at the Illinois Fire on November 10th, 1920, and respectfully recommend that the other Organizations of the Cherokee concur in these Resolutions, thereby, making a selection of Levi unanimous for the position of Chief of the Cherokee people.

Adopted and approved this the 31st day of January, 1921, at Quah, Oklahoma.

Signed: W. Tate Brady, Chairman
of Cherokee Exec., Committee

W. W. Breedlove
Ass't Secretary

Resolved in by members of said Committee and other Cherokee Citizens in session assembled

Signed: Simon R. Walkingstick
Martin R. Rowe
James W. Duncan

Ed N. Washbourne
George W. Mayes
S. G. Macfield
W. R. Dawson
S. R. Lewis

ance Hibbs
Worker

ILLINOIS FIRE, NOVEMBER 10, 1920

In compliance with the call of the Nighthawks Keetoowah Chief, rum of the Council and advisory members of said Organization met at the Illinois Fire for the purpose of rendering a formal and official determination as to the best means for the accomplishment of ordinating all of the Cherokees into a unit of effort in the line of general development and progress, and in the prosecution of various interests and claims against the United States, CONCLUDED
LCS:

WHEREAS, The Nighthawks Keetoowahs, an organized group of Full-Cherokees, and inclusive of all the Full-blood Cherokees, by virtue of their ancient traditions, customs and practice in domestic and social life, were wholly unadapted and unprepared to assume the role of quick and radical changes brought about by the obtaining of the "Act"; AND

WHEREAS, These Nighthawk Full-bloods, as well as all other groups and bands of Full-bloods, were completely overwhelmed with what seemed to be a deliberate repudiation of all solemn Treaty stipulations and obligations on the part of the United States Government, divesting them of what they considered their vested rights and prerogatives of self-determination in their National Government affairs, they crystallized into a defiant and combative mood, and looked askance and with skepticism at every act of the Government, taking the position that every new act was a further exploitation of what little they may have left of a once held holdings; AND

WHEREAS, This unfortunate position was perpetuated and aggravated by the fact that the Cherokee people, per force of the sudden change in their condition became factionized and bitterly antagonistic towards one another, rendering impossible a united Cherokee effort for mutual benefit. In this state of condition obtained, much to the advantage of the rapacious and exploiting hordes who infested our country and plied their hands in graft; AND

WHEREAS, The advent and wonderful increase of the substantial number of white citizens, home builders and hence nation builders, and the decades of close contact and living in the atmosphere of intensive constructive effort, of which our young State stands without a precedent, the active and efficient participation of our men in the National Representative Bodies - all these have had the salutary affect of bringing all warring factors into closer harmony; AND

WHEREAS, The last, but not the least of all, the factors to bring about a conciliatory and receptive attitude of the Indians generally, were the experiences in our recent World Struggle. Our Great Government, in the virtue of being entangled in a World crisis, called upon its whole people for a united effort. To this all, not only the Full-blood and mixed Cherokees, but all the American Indians gave a spontaneous and vocal response, placing their manhood and material assets at the

posal of "Uncle Sam", thanking him for the opportunity to show the world that is inherently in them as a race. AND

WHEREAS, There is carried with all these changed conditions, a new psychological angle so far as the relations between the Government and the Indians are concerned. For the first time in history, the Indian realizes through the attitude of his Government, that his material effects and his manhood are a National asset; that he is a part and parcel of the body politic of a great Commonwealth, and not an isolated and segregated Indian problem." The Nighthawk Full-blood is receptive of this new attitude and as a group they are ready to re-assert their self-respect and confidence in themselves as well as confidence in the integrity of the Government in their behalf on the part of the Government of the United States, ID,

WHEREAS, By virtue of Statutory provisions, the Cherokees are divided into certain classifications. The unrestricted, mixed-bloods, and the incompetents, while to all intents and purposes are like any white citizens, are equally interested and have equal rights in all matters pertaining to our unadjusted Claims against the United States. AND

WHEREAS, The Full-bloods are possessed of restricted assets, lands and funds, and within a decade the restricted period shall terminate, and during that same space of time, all our Claims against the Government may be adjudicated and finally settled. This group being largely composed of non-English speaking people, and being by custom and practice trained to do their business through a Chief, it is but natural and logical that now, when a united Cherokee effort is so imperatively necessary to accomplish anything for the good of all, they should demand and designate a Chief. AND

WHEREAS, the Nighthawk Keetoowahs are keenly cognizant of the favorable attitude of the Government towards the Cherokees, and are sensible of the prevailing spirit of cooperation among the different groups and organizations of our people, they are alert to the opportunity at hand for effective cooperative work;

BE IT THEREFORE

RESOLVED: That it is the sense of the Council of the Nighthawk Keetoowah Society, in view of the favorable considerations, and the urgent demands of the Cherokee Claims and interests for immediate and concerted attentions, that we now recommend and re-establish the position of Cherokee Chief; AND

RESOLVED, That this council is fully cognizant and sensible of the social and political position of all the unrestricted Cherokees; that this group has no further need of the good offices of a Chief, except in-so-far as it facilitates the cooperation and coordination of all Cherokees in the protection and prosecution of interests and claims in which all have had mutual and equal right; AND

RESOLVED, That the Full-bloods, particularly the Nighthawk Keetoowahs, handicapped by a long period of recalcitrancy and mis-

comprehension, the major part of their number have no other means of communication except through the medium of the Cherokee language, and by reason of their larger outlook and comprehension of their new position and relations, they recognize that they must come into closer touch and cooperation with the supervisory and administrative agencies of the Government, and to do this, they require and demand the offices of a Chief; AND

RESOLVED, That this group commends for this responsible position, preferably a Full-blood Cherokee of dependable and efficient character; one reared and developed under Full-blood-Life conditions and thus understands and sympathizes with the thought and life of the Full-blood. A man who has had the advantages of an academic training and is master of both Cherokee and English languages, a man who has reached an age of calm and conservative discernment and deliberation. A man, of the integrity of thought and regard for the various groups of our people at all times compatible with their varied interests, and a man endowed with a native-born pride and ambition for his people. AND

RESOLVED, That for this arduous and responsible position, we respectfully and sincerely commend and designate Levi Gritts as a man well equipped with adequate qualifications to meet every requirement and emergency. We of the Nighthawk Keetoowah contingent of the Cherokee people, repose implicit confidence in his integrity and ability and earnestly feel that he is capable and should render us a most valuable service as chief of the Cherokees. AND

RESOLVED, That we expressly desire to impress the sincerity and integrity of our purpose for obtaining results for the mutual benefit of the Cherokees, by appealing, in an unbiased and non-partisan manner, to all the organized groups, bands or clubs for mutual co-operation and action in the premises; AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, That the Keetoowah Incorporated with headquarters at Tahlequah, Oklahoma, be requested, and is hereby requested to invite other organizations of the Cherokees to meet at Tahlequah for such action. That in the event these RESOLUTIONS obtained by confirmation from the other bodies, the executive bodies or committees of such organizations shall become and compose an EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE operative under the proposed Cherokee Chief.

Attest:
Honshooter,
Secretary Nighthawk Keetoowahs.

Signed: Sam Smith, Chief of the
Nighthawk Keetoowahs.
William Rogers, Ass't Chief.

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Tahlequah, Oklahoma, January 31, 1921

Pursuant to a second call issued January 17, 1921, by Price, President of the Keetoowah Society Inc., a large and representative delegation of Enrolled Cherokees convened at the old Cherokee Capitol, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, at ten o'clock a. m., the scheduled time for convention.

Isaac Greece, the second Vice-President of the Keetoowah Society presided and called the meeting to order. Representative and all delegates present as follows:

Of the Cherokee Executive Committee: W. Tate Brady, Chairman, Breedlove, Ass't Secretary, and E. N. Washbourne, George W. Mayes, Macfield, W. P. Dawson and S. R. Lewis, members of Committees, etal.

The Acting Chairman then announced through the Secretary, James [unclear], the object and purposes of the convention. The Secretary submitted that in view of some necessary Committee work and [unclear] of the important matters pending, and suggesting that it be a saving of time for the other Committees to retire from the session and hold executive sessions, and prepare their Resolutions. This was well taken, and the Convention adjourned until 1:30 o'clock

At 2 o'clock, P.M., Price Cochran, the president of the [unclear] Society Inc., presided and called the meeting to order. At the mutual request of John Smith, Interpreter Keetoowah Society Inc., and R. Smith, Interpreter Nighthawk Keetoowahs, the President elected Levi Gritts as the Official Interpreter from the Convention.

The president, after reviewing the work of his Organization, [unclear] his pleasure at the evident purpose of all participants for [unclear] and for results, and expressed his sincere desire to see all of the Cherokee people united for the purpose of working out problems, and for their ultimate betterment. Turning to W. Tate Brady, Chairman of the Cherokee Executive Committee, and Sam Smith, Chief Nighthawk Keetoowahs, he welcomed them and their following, and [unclear] them of the hearty cooperation of his Advisory Committee, composed of R. R. Meigs, Chairman, James W. Duncan, Secretary, John P. Smith, [unclear], Ned Gritts, Stout Chair, John Hicks, Judge Robinson, J. J. Samuel Chair, Ellis Duncan, Joseph Proctor, George Gritts, and constituting a quorum. Thereupon Mr. Brady and Chief Smith respectively, delivered short addresses, both speakers concurring with the sentiment in the urgent necessity for all the Cherokee people to unite and [unclear] together. S. R. Lewis followed with a short address in which he reviewed the enviable history and traditions of the Cherokee people.

Chief Sam Smith submitted the Nighthawk Keetoowah Resolutions, [unclear] upon Mr. Cornelius to read same in English, after which reading translated into Cherokee by Levi Gritts.

Resolutions hereto attached:

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By designation from W. Tate Brady, S. R. Lewis submitted and in English the Resolutions of the Cherokee Executive Committee; Levi translated same.

Resolutions hereto attached:

A resolution submitted by S. R. Lewis, asking Convention to itself individually and collectively to stand for an Indian Five Red Tribes. After translation by Levi Gritts, the Resolution unanimously carried.

Resolution hereto attached:

A Resolution prepared by Mrs. Fite and submitted by S. R. Lewis asking the University of Oklahoma for the interest taken in the preserving the history and life of "Sequoyah." The Proposed Pageant to be held in Tahlequah sometime in June being most appropriate. After translation by Levi Gritts, Resolution was unanimously carried.

Resolution hereto attached:

James W. Duncan, Secretary of the Keetoowah Society Incorporated, submitted and read the Resolution of the Keetoowah Society Inc., translated by Levi Gritts.

Resolution hereto attached:

RESOLUTION by S. R. Lewis: "RESOLVED, that Whereas the Night-Keetoowah, The Cherokee Executive Committee, and the Keetoowah Society have by their each and separate Resolutions, designated and confirmed Levi Gritts, as Chief of the Cherokees, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That Levi Gritts, by virtue of his qualifications by blood and attainments, be, by this Convention, and he is hereby declared, elected and constituted the Principal Chief of the Cherokees, and hereby confirming each and every Act by Resolution of the Night-Keetoowah, Cherokee Executive Committee, and the Keetoowah Society Incorporated, here-before submitted. After translation by Levi Gritts, the Resolution was unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION by W. W. Breedlove: WHEREAS, it is the sense and pleasure of the Convention that there should be an Assistant Chief; BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That Levi Cookson, a Cherokee by blood, and a man eminently qualified, is hereby elected and constituted Assistant of Chief of the Cherokees. After translation by Levi Gritts, the Resolution carried unanimously.

A Resolution submitted by W. Tate Brady, petitioning the Governor of the State Legislature, now in session, for Legislative provision for teaching in the Public Schools of the Commonwealth of Oklahoma, a true friend of the Cherokee people. Upon translation by Levi Gritts, the Resolution carried unanimously.

Resolution hereto attached:

A short address by Levi Gritts, the Chief-elect, pledging loyal and a sincere reciprocal spirit and effort to the best of his ability.

Resolution by William Rogers, Assistant Nighthawk Chief, amended by Breedlove commending and endorsing the eminent and worthy services, only to their peoples, but to the people of the United States, Senator L. Owens, Hon. W. W. Hastings and Hon. Charles Carter. After transmission by Levi Gritts, the Resolution carried unanimously.

Resolution hereto attached:

Convention adjourned at Six O'Clock P.M., and repaired to the hotel at the Redburn Hotel.

Signed: James W. Duncan,
Secretary of the Keetoowah
Society Inc., & Acting Sect.,
of the Convention.

Way O. Moore, Supervisor
in-Pioneer History S-149

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ance Hibbs
Worker

RESOLUTION OF KEETOOWAH SOCIETY INC.

WHEREAS, The Keetoowah Society of the Cherokee Nation was incorporated under the laws of Indian Territory in 1905, as the officers of said Society at that time believed that the laws of the Cherokee Nation were about to be abolished by the Congress of the United States.

WHEREAS, The officers of said Keetoowah Society knowing that there was a number of claims against the United States due the Cherokee people for lands and monies, and realizing that there ought to be some organized body to attend to the business of collecting same, and of transacting such unfinished business of the Cherokee people as had to do with one, and,

WHEREAS, Said Keetoowah Society Inc., has been a continuous organization since date of incorporation, and has been transacting the major part of the Nation's business since the United States completely abolished the laws of the Nation July 1, 1914, and

WHEREAS, Said Society before its incorporation, when the Dawes Commission in 1902 began to enroll Cherokee Freedmen for the purpose of allotting to them lands of the Cherokee People, and paying said Freedmen for lands belonging to the Cherokee people, the Keetoowah Society met and passed resolutions protesting strongly in writing against such action by the Government and later whenever the Government was about to make a payment of Cherokee money to the Freedman, the Society met and made its protest, and filed same in writing with the Indian Office at Muskogee and Washington, D. C., and,

WHEREAS, The Cherokee people have for many years been divided into two is known as the Nighthawk Keetoowahs, and what is known as the Cherokee Executive Committee, and said organizations are all desirous of waiting for the purpose of working together in harmony the transaction of the business of the Cherokee people before the Departments at Washington believing that it is beneficial and to the best interests of all the Cherokee people that a Chief of the Cherokees be elected, and

WHEREAS, The Nighthawk Keetoowahs and the Cherokee Provisional Committee having endorsed Levi Gritts as Chief of the Cherokees and a member of the Keetoowah Society Inc., having been called and the matter of electing a chief being submitted and discussed by the Advisory Committee, it was voted to join with said organizations and endorse said Gritts as Chief.

Passed the Advisory Committee this 21st day of January, 1921.

Signed: R. R. Meigs, Chairman Advisory Committee
James W. Duncan, Sec., Advisory Committee
Price Cochran, signed in Cherokee, Pres.,
Keetoowah Society Inc.
Issac Greece, 2nd Vice Pres., of Society.