

THE DECISION OF THE COMMISSION IN THE WATTS CASE.

The late amendment to the law providing for the appointment of a commission to try and determine applications for Cherokee citizenship gives the commission authority to pass upon the rights of those who are residents of the country by permission of the Indian office.

For a number of years the Watts family has been forced upon the Cherokee people by the Indian office. This exercise of power by that office may have been in consequence of the undetermined right of the Cherokee nation to admit or readmit persons of Cherokee blood to citizenship.

DECISION IN WATTS CASE.

The Commission go into Details and Sum the Case up at Length.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE TERRITORY, VINITA, IND. TER., APRIL 25, 1888.

Cherokee Nation vs. W. J. Watts, et al.

We deem it best to give a synopsis of the history of this case from its inception down to the present time.

Under the provisions of "An act approved February 7th, 1888, amending an act, entitled an act providing for the appointment of a commission to try and determine applications for Cherokee citizenship, approved December 8, 1869," W. J. Watts and others were accordingly notified to appear before this commission on the 15th day of April, 1888, then and there to establish their right to citizenship in the Cherokee nation, and having been called, on three several days, at the court house door in the town of Tahlequah, and no answer being made either in person or by attorney, now comes R. F. Wyly, nation's attorney, and moves the commission to declare these parties as intruders upon the "Cherokee public domain."

Motion was sustained by the commission for these reasons: First, that W. J. Watts did, some time during the year 1872, appear before Chief Justice John S. Vann, of the supreme court of this nation, and submitted the evidence of his claim to citizenship for approval or rejection, the same to be reported to the national council for its final action under the law. Now the law, under which Mr. Vann was then acting, was based upon a joint resolution of the national council, approved December 10th, 1869, entitled "Joint Resolution of the national council in regard to the North Carolina Cherokees."

This resolution was based upon a petition from the Cherokees then living in the state of North Carolina, asking to be admitted into the Cherokee nation, as members thereof.

The act referred to, entitled "An act relating to the North Carolina Cherokees," under which the chief justice of the supreme court of the Cherokee nation made his report of this case, was as follows:

"Be it enacted by the national Council, That all such Cherokees (North Carolina Cherokees) as may hereafter remove into the Cherokee nation and permanently locate therein, as citizens thereof, shall be deemed as Cherokee citizens."

Provised, said Cherokees shall enroll themselves before the chief justice of the supreme court within two months after their removal in the Cherokee nation, and make satisfactory showing to him of their being Cherokees, and the said chief justice is required to report the number, names, ages and sex of all persons admitted by him to be entitled to Cherokee citizenship, and also the number, names, ages and sex of the persons denied the rights of Cherokee citizenship, to the annual session of the national council in each year.

Approved, November 20th, 1870. Mr. Vann heard the evidence in this case, under the foregoing quoted law, at Fort Gibson, Cherokee nation, and made a report in which he says: "This certifies that during my sitting as chief justice of the supreme court, Cherokee nation, to take evidence in case of applications for Cherokee citizenship, at Fort Gibson, Cherokee nation, some time in April, 1872, as a result of commission authorized by the national council for the

same, one W. J. Watts, son of Malachia Watts, filed his application then and there for Cherokee citizenship, with sufficient proof to entitle him to said right, according to my best judgment, which I forwarded to the senate with my recommendation, and classed 'B'." This November 5th, 1874.

JOHN S. VANN, A. J. S. C., C. N. The recommendation of Mr. Vann as chief justice was placed before the senate of the Cherokee nation, and a bill granting the Watts citizenship passed that body, but failed to pass the lower branch of the national council, consequently the claim was lost before that body.

Second.—We next hear of these parties being cited to appear before the "Chambers Court." This notice was duly served on the 24th day of February, 1879, and failing to appear at the appointed time, judgment was rendered against A. J. Watts, on motion of John F. Lyons, nation's attorney, by default. (This is the history of these parties as concerns their citizenship, up to this time.)

Third.—The evidence of these parties shows that some of them or their ancestors should appear upon the census rolls of the Cherokees taken in the old nation in the year 1835, if in Tennessee, as alleged. The rolls fail to show the name of any of these parties or their ancestors, though there are persons on them by the name of Watts who are enrolled thereon as full blooded Cherokees.

W. J. Watts and other have to establish a lineal descent from some person whose name must appear on the rolls to-wit: Rolls of 1835, 1845, 1851 and 1852. They have ignored the right and privilege tendered them to try and prove their descent from some one on these rolls, which, if proven, would entitle them to Cherokee citizenship. This is their affair, and not ours.

It will be seen at once by reference to the act approved November 20th, 1870, that the chief justice of the supreme court had no authority to admit or reject applicants for Cherokee citizenship; they only make report with his recommendation in the premises.

W. J. Watts, J. S. Morgan, Tom Blackard, John Blalock, Thomas Hope, Watt Nicholson, Mrs. Maberry, one Patterson, one Nord, Mrs. Boyd, one Blalock, A. J. Watts, and Mc. Watts, and their families, are hereby declared to be intruders upon the public domain of the Cherokee nation.

J. L. ADAIR, Chairman Commission. JOHN E. GUSTAF, Commissioner.

A MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

WATTS CASE, I. T., April 17, 1888.

EDITOR CHIEFTAIN:—I wish to suggest through your paper, and the Phoenix, to the practicing physicians in the Indian Territory, that there should be a medical association organized within our bounds to promote the interests of the medical profession. Will you not give us space in your paper to discuss the subject, and all those who favor the suggestion to reply? I hope all those who feel interested will reply as early as practicable.

Dr. D. H. BEAR. [The CHIEFTAIN will take pleasure in extending to the physicians all the aid possible.—Ed.]

A WASHINGTON press dispatch brings the report that the Cherokee delegates are trying to induce the Ottawas to abandon their allotment ideas and come into this nation.

Attention is fixed on Germany. One veteran ruler, the Emperor William, has just passed away, and the grave is even now ready to receive his successor. The crown will rest on three heads in a single year. There are elements of deep interest in a reign like that of the Emperor William, whose life covered most of our stirring century. The story can be read in a finely illustrated article in Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly for May.

The official survey of the Ottawa reservation was completed last week and allotments are being made to Indians thereon under the supervision of Gen. Howard, the special commissioner appointed for that purpose. He is assisted by Major Powers, a government surveyor, whose duty it is to re-establish surveys already made and make subdivisions of less than 40 acres where necessary. These gentlemen, we are informed, will also superintend the allotment of the Quapaw reservation which lies just south of us along the state line, and will establish headquarters at Baxter in about two weeks and enter upon their duties in that direction.—Baxter Springs News.

BOOKS.

What Great Men Have Said Regarding Them.

A wise mother and good books enabled me to succeed in life.—Henry Clay.

I had the great good fortune to be supplied with useful books, and these gave me success in life.—Daniel Webster.

Books teach me to think.—B. Franklin.

I pity the man who is too poor and mean to buy books for his children.—John Calhoun.

No one can be truly educated unless he reads and thinks.—Thos. Jefferson.

Educate! Educate! Educate! Send books throughout the lands.—Patrick Henry.

The Eureka publishing house, of Terrell, Texas, publishes a number of good books. They give good pay to agents who mean business.

The music house of Babner & Weber, St. Louis is out with a port folio of new publications of sheet music. There is surely not a house in the country that publishes more really meritorious pieces of music in a year than this one. It keeps a more complete line of musical merchandise.

"Crockett's" Oil Miller's serum, passing away has "hit out" again in search of new pastures, and green fields. The owner will liberally reward whoever returns the wandering one.

Whooping Cough may be kept under complete control and all danger avoided by frequent doses of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. No better treatment can be prescribed for it. Sold by W. C. Patton & Co.

No duty should be left undone. If you have a smarting skin disease it is not your duty to scratch and irritate it but to apply Chamberlain's Ointment and cure it. Guaranteed and sold by W. C. Patton & Co.

Mr. O. W. Battell a traveling man representing Messrs. S. Collins, Sons & Co., printing inks, New York, after suffering intensely for two or three days with lameness of the shoulders and back, completely cured it with two applications of Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It cures lameness and rheumatism when all other treatment fails. Guaranteed and sold by W. C. Patton & Co.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve. The best salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Felted and Itching, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by W. C. Patton & Co.

Children. Often need some safe cathartic and tonic to avert approaching sickness or to relieve colic, headache, sick stomach, indigestion, dysentery and the kind complaints incident to childhood. Let the children take Simmons' Liver Regulator and keep well. It is purely vegetable, not unpleasant to the taste, safe to take alone or in connection with other medicines. J. H. Zeilin & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. J. B. Rowell, one of the best known citizens of Brownwood, Texas, contributes the following item as his personal experience. "After having suffered from Diarrhoea for some time and having tried different medicines with no good result, I tried a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which relieved me at once and I recommend it to all who may be suffering from this troublesome complaint." Sold by W. C. Patton & Co.

Their Business Booming. Probably no one thing has caused such a general revival of trade at W. C. Patton & Co.'s Drug Store as their giving away to their customers of so many free trial bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Their trade is simply enormous in this very valuable article from that it always cures and never disappoints. Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Croup, and all throat and lung diseases quickly cured. You can test it before buying by getting a trial bottle free, large size \$1. Every bottle warranted.

Brace Up. You are feeling depressed, your appetite is poor, you are bothered with headache, you are drowsy, nervous, and generally out of sorts, and want to brace up. Brace up, but not with stimulants, spring medicines, or bitters, which have for their basis very cheap, but weak, and which stimulate you for an hour, and then leave you in worse condition than before. What you want is an alternative that will purify your blood, start the action of Liver and Kidneys, restore your vitality, and give renewed health and strength. Such a medicine you will find in Electric Bile, and only 50 cents a bottle at W. C. Patton & Co.'s Drug Store.

A Distinguished Clergyman's Testimony. Rev. R. M. DeLoach, President of the Methodist Protestant Church of South Carolina, writes from Greenville: "About four years ago I was attacked with what the physicians pronounced neuritic rheumatism, accompanied with erysipelas. My appetite failed me entirely, and I had an intermitting pulse and very irregular pulsations of the heart. A terrible pain soon came into my chest and shoulders, and I became so helpless that I could attend to no business at all. The pains were movable, and would sometimes pass from one part of my body to another. Finally the erysipelas broke out on my left hand and arm, and produced much swelling. I was for eighteen months afflicted in this way, and of course used a great many of the medicines, but nothing gave me relief. Friends finally persuaded me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I noticed a decided improvement while taking the first bottle. I continued to use until I had taken one dozen bottles, when I found myself sound and well again, with no sign of disease left except a stiffness in my hand, a result of the erysipelas. While taking the medicine I gained on an average two pounds of flesh per week. I think \$8.00 a valuable medicine, and I frequently recommend it to my friends." Write to the Switzer Bros. Co., Atlanta, Ga., for a Treatise on Blood and Skin Diseases, mailed free to anyone.

W. M. CHOUTEAU, Dealer in FLOUR, GROCERIES, FEED AND GRAIN.

Also a full line of Queensware, Glass and Woodenware.

Best CIGARS and TOBACCOS in town.

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M. W. Couch & Son, Chelsea, Ind. Ter., Headquarters for Dry Goods, Clothing, Hats, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, and Furnishings.

Just received, a new lot of the Hamilton-Brown \$2.50 shoes, for ladies. All sizes.—W. R. Badgett & Co.

Oh my, where did you get that lovely hat? "At Mrs. W. M. Chouteau's, of course, and it was so cheap."

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Clothing. We have just received a line of the finest clothing ever shown in the town. Prices the lowest. W. R. BADGETT & Co.

Hats! Hats! Hats! We can show you the nicest line you ever saw; all sorts, sizes and shapes, also straw goods in endless variety. W. R. BADGETT & Co.

Spring Arrival. The largest stock of spring goods ever shown in this city are to be found at G. W. Green's. The best assortment, best styles, and the lowest prices.

Laces and Embroideries. I can show you the finest line of Terebin, Oriental and everlasting, ever shown in this city. Also the finest line of Embroidery.—G. W. GREEN.

Boots and Shoes. And still they go, every bodybuys them. The celebrated Priesmeyer shoes and Giesicke boots, none to equal them. For sale only by G. W. GREEN.

The Montanio Dime Show will pitch tents in Vinita, Monday, April 30th and remain three days. Do not fail to see this show as you will see more for 10 cents than you have ever saw for 50 cents and \$1.00.

The Montanio Dime Show is coming again, twice as large as before. Remember this is the only show that sticks strictly to one price, 10 cents for everyone. We do not come through the nation and charge 25 and 50 cents like most shows of our kind. Remember the date—Monday, April 30, May 1 and 2.

We call special attention of farmers to our stock of farm implements. We have all sizes of the celebrated John Deere Prairie Queen sod plows. They are the best on earth. We also have the John Deere New Deal plow with sod attachments, and the Deere Parallel cultivators that are not surpassed by any on the market.—Butler Bros., Chouteau.

About the Hardware Trade. We are still on deck in the opera house block. Our Hardware and Implement stock is full in every department. We can sell you anything from a carpet tack to a shreshing machine or a saw mill. Plows, Harrows, Corn planters, Cultivator and Wagons are our strong hold. Nobody can beat our prices. In builders' hardware we are full up. Our cutlery and other show case goods are the finest. Blacksmith's iron and tools of all kinds we have in abundance. All these goods are going to be sold for cash and mighty cheap. W. W. Miller & Co.

OUR BULLETIN. OUR SPECIALTIES.

New York Seed Potatoes, Landreth's Garden Seed, Onion Seed in Bulk, New Orleans Molasses, New Orleans Sugar, White Frost Flour, Marionville Patent Flour, In larger quantities and lower prices than any other house in the Cherokee Nation. SKINNER, RATCLIFF & CO.

CONSTITIATION. I called the "Father of Diseases," because there is no medium through which disease so often attacks the system as by the absorption of poisons given in the retention of decayed and effete matter in the stomach and bowels. It is caused by a Torpid Liver, not enough bile being excreted from the blood, to produce Nature's own excretion, and is generally accompanied with such results as

Loss of Appetite, Sick Headache, Bad Breath, etc.

The treatment of Constipation does not consist merely in unloading the bowels. The medicine must not only act as a purgative, but as a tonic as well, and not produce after its use greater constiveness. To secure a regular habit of body without changing the diet or disorganizing the system.

My attention, after suffering with Constipation two or three years, was called to Simmons' Liver Regulator, and having tried almost everything else, I found it to be a most wonderful and afterwards reduced the dose to a teaspoonful, or per direction, after each meal. I found that it had done me so much good that I continued to use it until I had taken one dozen bottles, when I found myself sound and well again, with no sign of disease left except a stiffness in my hand, a result of the erysipelas. While taking the medicine I gained on an average two pounds of flesh per week. I think \$8.00 a valuable medicine, and I frequently recommend it to my friends.

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Gents' Suits Clothing, from \$4.50 to \$25.00

Calicoes, 20 yards for 1.00

5 pounds A No. 1 Coffee 1.00

14 pounds A No. 1 Sugar 1.00

Tobacco 30c 40c and 50c per pound

Fruit Vinegar 35c per gallon

Silk Suspenders 25c per pair

"Neilson's Best" Baking Powder (guaranteed) 15c per pound

A car load of No. 1 Michigan Salt at bottom prices

Am prepared to give you more Soap and better Soap for than any other house in the Cherokee Nation. 10c

Ladies are Especially Invited

to call and examine a nice line of Hats and Dress Goods, all styles and prices.

Your order for any Newspaper or Magazine solicited, at publisher's prices.

Call and examine my stock and prices.

Respectfully, F. A. NEILSON.

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