

# Indian Chieftain.

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D. N. HARRIS, Editor, M. E. MILFORD, Manager.

VINITA, IND. TERR., MAY 21, 1891.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

We are authorized to announce Mr. Gideon Morgan as a candidate for the independent ticket for Judge of the Northern Judicial Circuit.

## TO OUR COUNTERPARTS:

"Every not greatness; for them makest thereby thyself the worse; and so the distance greater."

The campaign liar is abroad in the land.

Nearly all the celebrities of the nation were at Claremore last week. Tahlequah must have put on a deserted appearance, but then, "the government still lives." Indeed, this is a great country.

LOCATING the right men in the right place is an amusing, and interesting game to the student of Cherokee politics. It resembles the "shell trick," you see the shell and think you see the ball. It is possible that you do, and probable that you do not.

THE candidacy of Senator Henderson for re-election is a foregone conclusion, and is attracting but little attention. He is not a very interesting figure in or out of the senate and his retention in that body has no significance whatever. He is a National, a Downing and a Liberal and probably a Prohibitionist.

It is reported that Judge Tom Bullington is a possible candidate for the senate in Delaware district. We know of no man in or out of the Downing party whom we would rather support for that position than the judge. And being a good Alliance man he would not doubt receive the endorsement of the order in his district.

A RED-HOT joint canvass between the three political parties now in the field, with numerous barbecues and plenty of "white mule" may be fully expected this summer. But it is to be hoped that the programme will be more varied than that of four years ago—at least the same "jokes" should not be repeated at every gathering.

HON. D. W. BUSHYHEAD came up from below Monday night intending to spend several days in the city but was taken sick and returned Tuesday night. It is reported by F. W. Strout, with whom Mr. Bushyhead is very intimate, that he will not accept the nomination for chief on the third party platform but will get up one himself.

The present system of taxation (if it may be so called) is a very unjust one. The poorest individual in the country pays as much tax as the richest, because every citizen is equally interested in the invested funds, the interest of which is supposed to run the government. Thus the rich men are not only getting the almost exclusive use of the country, but are not taxed in proportion.

One very remarkable and laughable thing in connection with the Goosenock intruders is that, according to report, four years ago there were only 124 negro voters in the district, but when the election came on they numbered 340. Wonderful increase in so short a time. But after being imported by both political parties to take part in the election they have remained and insist on being recognized as Cherokee citizens. Politics are getting badly mixed, eh?

Does anyone object to knowing how much of this estate he is entitled to, and where it is located? If so please state your objections. If you are a candidate for office you may have a delicacy in answering, but we insist upon it all the more on that account. It will take some legislation to get allotment and we are looking for men that are "built that way," not for campaign purposes only but real out and out allotment men—who are willing to talk allotment in season and out of season and work for that end.

THE World of last week makes use of the following very sensible statement that "allotment is the only salvation for our government," but spoils it all by wanting to put off that "salvation" until all other questions are settled. That is one of the principal things to be gained by allotment. The settlement of all these vexed questions would follow in the wake of allotment and be ultimately and finally settled. There would no longer be any room for Mr. Intruder, besides other complications are arising daily over which we seem to have no control. If we were compelled to grant citizenship to all the intruders we have we had better allot to keep others out than remain as we are—better "bear the ills we have than fly to those we know not of."

There is a strong probability that Capt. Jackson and Webb Vann will be the nominees for the senate on the Downing ticket in Coowescoocoe district. However, the very formidable independent movement that is now in operation may force the party to make concessions, that otherwise they would not make, but if Mr. Mayes were to make the selection himself he would no doubt name those two gentlemen.

THE average newspaper runs against all kinds of people and gets an excellent opportunity to study human nature (canine would be a better word.) There is one man in mind, who has a great deal to say about campaign methods, who is especially deserving of notice in this connection. He has been in office four years, is a candidate now and will be two years hence—if alive. Regularly every other year, about April or May, he brings or sends fifty cents to THE CHIEFTAIN office and gets the paper four months. Presuming that he has been equally liberal(?) with the other papers of the nation—there were but three others until recently—his investment is equal to twenty-five cents a year to each one, or \$1.00 a year spent for newspapers. And this man, in his own estimation, is an oracle—a regular modern Solomon.

## URGES SPEEDY ACTION.

Judge Olligan insists that the Time for Allotment is Here.

CHIEFTAIN, IND. TERR., May 16, 1891.

EDITOR CHIEFTAIN:—I see that you come out square on allotment. I consider it one of the most important questions of today with the people of this nation and a subject that concerns the leaders of our political parties from want of manhood or fear of political destruction, fail to say anything about their platforms. The time is on us that something must be done if we expect to have anything to say in the matter of division. The longer we delay, the fewer acres we will have to divide and with greater risk. But says one, the treaty of 1866 provides in what means we are to hold our lands. It has been the course of all enlightened people to change positions and forms of government to meet the existing wants and conditions. I venture the assertion that there is not a single informed person of any race but what think it quite time here to wind up holding lands in common. Our race is becoming too much mixed up to be satisfied with a law or a system that permits others to take possession of property which properly belongs to themselves. The pressure is getting great on the inside and the popularity of this all admit. If this is true, why delay? I venture that all the candidates have privately assured their friends that it would be best for us to divide our lands. Allow me to remark that such deception is to-day our greatest enemy. If it is best for our people it is not justice to boldly advocate it, or, if not, show why? Let us not talk to suit the crowd in which we happen to fall. Manly principles are meritorious and deserve respect in any country. We are entering one of the most important canvasses the Cherokees ever had or will have and it behooves every citizen to post himself and act accordingly in the choice of his officers. Before the next two years roll around the sale of the strip and preparations for dividing the remaining lands may be in progress. We estimate that there are east of 900 about 200 acres of land per head. A fair calculation would not reach more than 60 acres of billable lands per head. Think of one person now having thirty farms of sixty acres each enclosed and cultivating them—equal to 1800 acres or to thirty person's shares. Counting his quarter of a mile limits he has control of 12,640 acres of land, grass, water, timber and first privilege on all minerals. Where is the justice and where is the poorer Indian's interest going? How about the cattle? The man with the big herd is in the same line—legally robbing the poor, and the poor pay a heavy tax to protect both monopolies. Where are you Joel Mayes, Bushyhead and Benge? All want to "perpetuate" a government that legalizes such robbery. Have you no conscience, or one speck of manhood? Claiming to be leaders of the people. For what purpose? It appears for no other motive than selfish purposes. You are not providing any remedy and deserve to be rolled up Salt river and left. This is plain talk, but some one deserves it and is responsible to the people for allowing them to be imposed upon. The question arises, does our present system of government deserve to live? If controlled in the manner in which it has been for twenty years back we doubt the propriety. The Downing and National do not even mention a division of our lands; so afraid the fullbreds will not vote for them. Gentlemen, stand for right, if alone. If you do not see far enough in the future to form your opinion on what is inevitable in regard to dividing our lands, you certainly should not aspire to the honorable positions you now seek.

What does the Hon. James Barbour say on the 3rd of Feb., 1826, in regard to holding lands in common: "Nothing, it is believed, has had more injurious influence on our efforts to improve the condition of the Indians than holding their lands in common. Past experience has left the strongest evidence against its practicability. An attempt was made in the first settlement of Virginia and probably in the early settlements of the colonial settlers. On the very

think of ruin they abandoned it for the rescue. The distribution of the soil and the individuality imparted by the work of its cultivation, history informs us, instantly gave a new and favorable aspect to their condition." This came from one of the most humane and noble hearted friends the Indian ever had or ever will have.

Read ever had or ever will have. Read his communication to the Hon. John Cocks, chairman of the committee on Indian affairs, dated Feb. 3rd, 1826. We have his opinion in reference to the white man's experience in the early days of Virginia and other parts. You can refer to great men of to-day in all parts of the United States and they all agree with Barbour. Read the 23rd resolution of the commercial treaty which met in Kansas City. We give it in part: "That the public domain of the United States is the heritage of the people and should be preserved and used. We therefore recommend the speedy extinguishment of the Indian titles in Oklahoma, Indian Territory and other states and territories, the abolition of all tribal system, the settlement of all Indians on lands in severalty and the opening of the surplus lands to settlement under the provisions of the homestead law." All the resolutions were adopted by a unanimous vote, but the silver and tariff clauses, and there were 162 delegates from twenty-five western and south western states. A few years ago such resolutions were not thought of. The government then had plenty of land but now she sees the necessity of securing all the land she can for her own citizens. Congressmen see such a course is popular and pledge themselves to carry out what their people want, just as our candidates do here. We all know that power and necessity know no limit, and let us not underestimate it. It is today like unto the lion and the lamb; we are the lambs of course. Not prudent to take such chances. The government is desirous of a change. It is at enormous expense taxing its people to sustain the department of the Indian Bureau. Our country is open to the settlement of other tribes of Indians east of 90°.

Should the government so desire, under the treaty of 1866 she could bunch the Indians and crowd the territory, thereby leaving us poor in land and imposing objectionable tribes on us. We are surrounded by a progressive people and it becomes us to try to keep pace and not be left. Let us swim with the tide is favorable. Past experience should teach us the necessity of prompt action. We refer to the Cherokees, Creeks, Seminoles and other tribes in the old country from 1825 to 1830. From this history we should reap some benefit, as we paid dearly for it. It clearly proves what might and necessity will do. Are we not verging near that situation again—only worse—as we have no other place to go. We must meet the matter square in the face, as all must perceive.

After saying so much you expect me to suggest a plan, which is this: First, have a survey in sections and quarter sections. At the same time have a committee to appraise each quarter section with all improvements thereon. State to whom they belong, what kind. Give the party who owns an improvement first refusal for himself and family at the stated valuation, requiring not less than eighty acres taken in one body, thus dividing on a cash basis, protecting the interest of all alike. If thought best, prohibit alienation for a time of such portions as will secure a home for the more indigent and require only citizens to own land for at least twenty years. I would like to have this matter thoroughly discussed; if I am wrong, someone please convince me. You own it in the Cherokee people; if right we should also come to the front. As ever, J. K. CLINGAN.

## A WARM ENDORSEMENT.

W. L. Trott Puts in his Oar—No Use for Parties.

VINITA, I. T., May 15, 1891.

MR. D. M. HARRIS, DEAR SIR AND FRIENDS:—Allow me to congratulate you in the step you have taken. I must say that it afforded me much satisfaction to see your name appear as editor of THE INDIAN CHIEFTAIN and also the way you and our old friend Thomas Howie launch out. While his plan may not be altogether practicable, yet you have both started pursued in the right direction and I certainly will meet with the approval of most of our citizens. What we need now is men honest enough to contend for the right and willing to be politically sacrificed rather than submit to wrong or evade any question of importance that should be before the people. Any man who can stand up and say that he is being perpetrated upon the Cherokees to-day and allows the real issues that should be brought out to give place to party fealty is not worthy to handle a pen or of the support of his neighbors. The past twenty years' experience with our party fights without an issue sought is enough to convince an unbiased man that there is no good in them, notwithstanding our people become so infatuated in them that their general interest is lost sight of. Yet, seemingly, some of our very best men will point to their party as the way out of our demoralized condition and try to show to you that all governments are alike as parties. They fail to recognize that we are not a government but only a family of wards within a great republican government, and that there should be no difference between us, but our interest should be the same. Could we recognize this fact it would at once do away with the necessity of a campaign fund and the use of so many political sheets throughout the country, with their spit-fire policies and flimsy party platforms, that can be construed any way to suit the crowd present, and to slide into office. It is plain to

be seen that none of our political bodies have as yet offered or advocated anything to satisfy the people. Hence a great majority of our best thinking and wisest men are undecided as to choice. They are breathlessly awaiting a man who will secure a speedy and final settlement of all the differences that now exist in our midst, and secure to every citizen his untrampled rights and interests in our lands and moneys. Many think this can only be done by sectioning and allotting the lands, and paying out per capita, the general fund. There we have the section lines marking out our fence rows and public roads for us, and the power taken from the council to dictate how much of our land we shall use for pasture, farming or otherwise; or to wrangle over the price of grazing privileges and location of mineral leases. In private conversation with any of the gentlemen who are aspiring to the first positions they will agree with you upon any of these questions but publicly they evade them, evidently for fear of political sacrifice. Then can we afford to endorse them on such principles and be independent men who can and will publicly express themselves on all issues pertaining to the general interest of the people. If we elect such men to the council and senate who have no party strings tied to them, they can advocate and contend for the general interests and men can't afford to fight them as they do party interest. Then, as you say, it doesn't matter whether the chief's name is George, Joel or Dennis. Individual interest can and will be protected in all courts from the intruder, from the boomer element, from party and class legislation and from public sentiment, against a commonality of land and moneys, but not so with a nation. Now for fear of worrying you, I will continue to hold up the interest of the people and denounce personal and party interest, fraudulently obtained, your paper will be appreciated, your cause endorsed and your name long remembered by a people with whom you have cast your lot.

As ever, your friend,

W. L. TROTT.

## Farmers' Alliance,

### INDUSTRIAL UNION.

#### NATIONAL ORGANIZATION.

President, L. F. Felt, North Carolina; Vice-President, J. H. Hunt, Tennessee; Secretary, J. H. Hunt, Tennessee; Lecturer, J. H. Hunt, Tennessee.

#### INDIAN TERRITORY.

President, D. S. Felt, Indian Territory; Secretary, D. S. Felt, Indian Territory.

#### COOWESCOOEE COUNTY.

President, E. A. Warren, Vinita; Vice-President, J. H. Hunt, Vinita; Treasurer, Thomas Howie, Vinita; Secretary, J. H. Hunt, Vinita; Lecturer, J. W. Parker, Adair.

#### DELAWARE COUNTY ALLIANCE.

President—J. D. Taylor, Grove; Secretary—D. A. H. Collins, Fairland.

This department will be conducted by the County Alliance of Coowescoocoe and Delaware counties and the members are responsible for the same. D. M. Harris and Thomas Howie are the active members of the order.

The Alliance convention called at Claremore on June 15th should be held on the 15th of the next month. The committee not having the address of the secretaries of the various sub-unions will rely on the notice given through these columns, which is authority to select delegates to the convention.

Ever this is in print the probability is that the Cincinnati convention will have formed a new political party, willing and anxious to take part in administering the government of the United States. The elements of which it will be composed are "divers and sundry" in character and just what part it will play in the United States politics will be hard to guess.

Political trekkers are busy traveling these days, getting weakened voters to sign a contract that if a person's name is used in the primaries or the convention they agree to support the ticket straight. After delecting this contract is known in the state as the "yel low log contract." We trust no good Alliance man will be guilty of such unworthy methods to procure a trilling man's vote, as it is the man and not the party to vote for.

#### The Work of Arkansas.

All that have identified themselves with the Alliance are not in the true sense of the word Alliance men any more than all that have joined the christian church are true christians. They must attend upon the ordinances of the church, they may have a thorough understanding of their duties. Simply taking the required obligation does not make any great change in the individual. He is to be schooled before he can always conform to the principles of the order. We believe that there are some true and direct portions of the Cherokee nation that sincerely desire harmony and brotherly love throughout the order. Then all such should ever strive to accomplish this great aim and principle of our order. We are compelled to acknowledge that there has been considerable illegal work done in the nation, but the individual members are not responsible. I expect that if Arkansas had sent organizers into Delaware or any other district before they were properly organized they would have had considerable success, because no one knows the principle of the order. Then, in justice, those districts that have been organized under Arkansas should be allowed to withdraw from Arkansas and join the territorial union. A great many have joined in good faith and are true Alliance men, fully determined that as far as they were concerned the Alliance has come to stay. J. W. ABRAHAM.

# JAMES MUSKRAT, Afton, I. T.

General dealer in

Dry Goods, Groceries,

Hats, Caps, Etc., Etc.

CUSTOM MADE

BOOTS AND SHOES.

ALLIANCE STORE

I am selling goods only for cash or its equivalent and can give you the benefit of cash purchases.

Keep always on hand FLOUR, BACON, LARD, ETC.

I buy Eggs, Chickens, Turkeys; in fact Everything. When you come to Afton don't buy until you get my prices.

Yours for trade,

JAMES MUSKRAT, AFTON, I. T.

## Organizer at Work.

EDITOR CHIEFTAIN:—I visited Catoosa, Mingo and Tulsa recently. Organized a sub at Catoosa May 2nd, as reported by Brother Boyd, secretary-treasurer; one at Geo. Bullet's, near Tulsa, the 6th; one at Mingo school house the 6th of noble members. It commenced raining about 2 a. m., the 3rd, and filled Mingo creek bank full, so I had to leave my horse and cart at the creek Monday and walk to the station where I boarded the train and went to Tulsa and began working towards home. I never met a more hospitable people than on this trip and a welcome was accorded me wherever I went. I surely tender my thanks for the kindness shown me.

Let me suggest to your readers that each county union elect three or four solid, unassuming brothers, strictly non-partisan, to lay before each candidate in the Indian Territory the demands we make and the one that refuses to work in the interest of the laboring masses, drop him at once, let his politics be what they may. It seems to me that this should be done in every state and territory. Have it so definitely understood that there will be no mistake and if they fail publish it to the world.

W. F. THOMPSON.

## A Convention Called.

We, the undersigned, being authorized by the Coowescoocoe district union, at Claremore, April 14th, to call a convention of the citizens of the F. A. & I. U., for the purpose of nominating a district ticket, and to revise and put forth a platform, hereby notified the various sub-unions that said convention will be held at Claremore, Monday, June 15, 1891, at 10 a. m. Each sub-union will be entitled to one delegate at large and one additional delegate for every ten members that are citizens of the Cherokee nation. All delegates must be citizens and hold credentials from their sub-unions within the district.

M. FLAZEK, H. CHAMBERS, Sr., Com. R. K. ABRAHAM.

## By-Laws of Vinita Union.

1. The regular meetings of this union shall be held on the second and fourth Fridays of each month and shall be called to order promptly from October 1st to April 1st at 7 o'clock p. m., and from April 1st to October 1st at 8 o'clock p. m., by the highest officer present, or in the absence of an officer, by any member, provided there be a quorum.

2. The right to move a reconsideration of any question disposed of at a called meeting shall accrue to any member of the union at the first subsequent meeting. It shall be the duty of the secretary to read at the opening of each session the report of the last regular and all intervening meetings.

3. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at all meetings of the union, and open and close the same in due form; to preserve strict order and decorum, and enforce the constitution and laws of the order; to decide all questions of order, subject to appeal to the union if demanded by two members; to give the casting vote on all questions before the union in which there may be an equal division of members, except in the election of officers and in appeals from his decision; to inspect all ballots on application for membership; to sign all orders drawn on the treasury for payment of such sums of money as may be voted from time to time by the union, and also such cards, certificates or notices as may require his signature to authenticate them; to appoint the non-elective officers at the time of his installation and to fill vacancies whenever they may occur; to appoint at the same time such standing committees as the union may prescribe and such other committees from time to time as may be required. It shall be the duty of the vice president to perform the duties of the president in the latter's absence.

4. Every member desiring to address the meeting shall arise in his place, address the president and await recognition from the chair before proceeding. A failure to observe this article or to interrupt any speaker, without said speaker's consent immediately asked for, or upon a question of privilege or a point of order, shall be considered a violation of order and subject to a fine of ten cents, at the option of the president.

5. Except by unanimous consent no member shall speak more than twice upon the same subject nor shall he consume more than five minutes in either of his addresses.

6. All fines imposed shall operate as a suspension, debarring the member from participation in the proceedings of the union, and he shall remain suspended until all fines are paid; Provided, said fines may be remitted by vote of the union.

7. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a record of all fines imposed and also of all dues and other indebtedness of each member, and said record shall be read in open session under the heading of "Unfinished Business" at every regular meeting.

8. Smoking during the sessions

# AWFUL WRECK ON THE FRISCO.

At Fairland,

IN PRICES, WE MEAN.

Three car loads of goods, consisting of

Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots and Shoes,

Hats, Caps and Clothing,

Making a Splendid and Complete Stock, have been put on the shelves in our Store and will be sold out at Prices

Astonishingly Low.

WE ARE HERE to SELL GOODS.

And have got them, so come to see us for Prices. WE POSITIVELY WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD. Come in and see us and let us show you our goods and give you our prices.

LEE B. SMITH & SON.

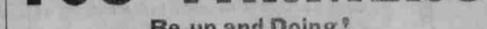
# YOU FARMERS

Be up and Doing!

THE TIME FOR ACTIVITY HAS NOW COME!

No man can hope to make good crops with poor FARM IMPLEMENTS.

It is not necessary for him to try and do so; I have good ones.



Plows of Every Description,

INCLUDING

Grand Detour, Canton Clipper; also the

Little Yankee Sulky.

THEY ARE ALL LEADERS IN THEIR LINE.

Steel and Wood Frame Harrows; also Disk Harrows.

CORNPLANTERS with Check Row Attachments.



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