Indian Chieftain.

$1.50 Per Year In Advance.

Published Thursdays by THE CHIEFTAIN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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VINITA, IND. TER., APR. 13, 1893.

CAPT. J. L. ADAIR is a prospective appraiser of intruder improvements.

IT is an unfortunate day for a man when he determines to get money without regard to the means employed.

THIS is indeed a great country, but most of its greatness lies in the future and is likely to begin in the lifetime of the present congress.

THE prospect is that the census law will provide for certificates which will be in a measure negotiable paper, upon which payment can be enforced by whoever holds the same.

THE report comes from various sources and is to some extent reliable that the intruders will resist being removed from this nation and are determined to prevent, if possible, the appraisement of their improvements.

IF the seventy allotments to be made on the Strip to Cherokees are based on "valuable and permanent" improvements made there prior to Nov. 1, 1891, it is safe to say there will never be seventy made—nor the half of seventy.

THE first case to come before Judge Stuart on opening court at McAlester was against two women for indulging in a tongue lashing. The case was dismissed and the judge at once gave notice that in the future in all frivolous cases, where the government or any of its citizens were not injured, the costs would be charged up to the marshals.

THE United States supreme court last week decided the Old Settler case in favor of the Indians, and gave judgment for $212,000 with interest at 5 per cent. for 55 years amounting to $795,000. The Old Settler and their descendants will receive this money as soon as congress makes the appropriation. The number who will participate in the payment is estimated at 1000 persons.

THE "Life and Times of Wm. P. Ross" is a book of two or three hundred pages containing a biographical sketch of the late Col. Ross and with it are incorporated his messages as chief and many of his most notable arguments before the committees of congress, and speeches at home. To the future historian of the Cherokee nation, whom we should all hope soon to see about his labors, this book contains invaluable information, while to the student its examples in composition and rhetoric are certainly models. Copies of the book can be obtained from Mrs. Ross, at Fort Gibson, through whose efforts the work has been published, or from Wm. Ward, at the postoffice, Vinita, at $1.50 each.

THAT $700 MATTER.

It is now generally conceded that the Hastings-Baugh episode will never be investigated by the authorities of this nation. But this does not mean that the country does not believe that they are guilty. Indeed some of the very best men in and out of council say positively that Mr. Baugh declared in a most emphatic manner on the streets of Tahlequah and also in Washington that Hastings agreed to pay him $700 to vote for his confirmation as delegate and had broken faith with him. It is humiliating to every patriotic and truith-loving citizen of the Cherokee nation to witness such wholesale debauchery amongst the officials of this little government, and if this matter is to be "winked at" by Chief Harris and the national council are we in a position to command the respect of the outside world? Not much. It will only hasten the day of our dissolution and, judging from the utterances of many prominent men throughout the nation, the people are disgusted beyond endurance and will seek and obtain a remedy somehow and somewhere.

THE WAY TO KEEP THEM OUT.

As has been so often repeated in these columns, the intruder question has been and is yet the greatest and most complicated of all the problems that confront the Cherokee people. We are now just on the eve of a conflict with them that threatens the very existence of the nation. If the government carries out the letter and spirit of the recent Strip agreement, (and we have no reason to believe that it will not) then trouble of the gravest kind may be looked for. The intruders show very plainly now that they do not intend to submit even to the decrees of congress as touching their status here. The ultimatum has apparently been reached and they are chafing under the prospects of removal from the country under the conditions prescribed by congress. For years it has been with great difficulty that a conflict between our citizens and the intruders has been averted and now, stung by recent defeat, and exasperated by the adverse acts of congress, they are becoming desperate. No one doubts the ability of the United States army to remove them from the country, and keep them out for that matter—but many have very grave doubts as to their being kept out and it is reasonably certain that they will not be kept out if we persist in maintaining our present slip-shod government. Some mode of protection to individual property rights in the soil must be had before there is even a shadow of hope for getting rid of this class of people. So long as we persist in holding land in common, just so long will the outside world continue to wedge its way in, and share the benefits of our common property. The cry was raised in certain localities, before the Strip treaty was ratified, that it was a scheme and was detrimental to the interests of the full-blood and should be rejected; but Mr. Full-blood came promptly to the front and informed council that it was his desire, yea his intention, that the bill be ratified and the money disbursed immediately and what was done is now a matter of history. So with reference to a division of lands: those who pretend to speak for the full-blood and claim to know his wishes and are posing as his protectors, are fast proving to be his worst enemy.

But the reaction is coming. The full-blood is beginning to see that his every interest is in the hands of demagoges and shysters who are systematically robbing him of both land and money. When the full-blood element of the country gets a plain view of the situation as it really is, then the reaction will be rapid and final.

THE BASIS OF HAPPINESS.

The great clamor against the existing system of government in the five tribes is chiefly due to holding land in common, though the system of taxation now in vogue is receiving its share of denunciation. The people are not in sympathy with the mode of government to which they are forced to submit and therefore have no faith in its permanency. The democratic party in the United States has just come into power as a protest against republican extravagance and the wide-spread and implacable discontent of the Cherokee people will sooner or later find expression in a change of government brought about by the express will of the Indians themselves, as in the case of the recent ratification of the Strip agreement. All the thinking people of the rank and file—and we mean by the rank and file, those who are not in office or in a position to monopolize the country—that we are fast becoming a centralized oligarchy on a small scale controlled by unscrupulous men who would sacrifice anything or everything for money. That the public monies are being wasted none will deny, and that our system of taxation is most unjust nearly all have agreed. For several years the people of the Cherokee nation have been grumbling more or less all the time at the way things were going and have from time to time shown their discontent by hurling from office some known demagogue. But the results have not been satisfactory. The seat of trouble has not been reached. It is an axiom as old as republican governments that the only safeguard to constitutional liberty is found in a multitude of small land owners protected by individual title. This class forms the permanent and also the conservative element in all communities. It is here that homes are built—around the sacred homestead cluster the most tender and abiding memories—and the love of home finds its fruitage in the love of country. True patriotism must have for its incentive specific, individual interests, that the whole country does not share in common. The sacred precincts of the home must be private and special with rights which even the state cannot question nor take away.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL.

Peace, gentle and burglar-proof, seems to have settled over the Cherokee nation since it has been definitely settled that we are to have a "big payment." But not so at Tahlequah; the wrangle goes bravely on. There are a few places of "trust and responsibility" to fill. A delegation must be sent to Washington and of course all the "kihegias" want to go, and some of them not only want to go but swear they will go. And then an appraiser is to be named who, in conjunction with those named by the United States, will appraise the improvements of the intruders prior to paying for them. Several worthy gentlemen are "pulling" for this position. Prominent among the latter may be mentioned Hon. C. V. Rogers and Judge Clark both of Cooweescoowee district, with Hastings, Baugh and a number of other "small fry," "humping" themselves to secure the place. Hoolie Bell is on the ground but as usual "don't want anything" and thus far has stood "far from the madding crowd."

The bill providing for a delegation to Washington, consisting of the chief, treasurer, and three burly assistants has passed the senate but hung fire in the house. The bill appropriates $1,000 in addition to a per diem of four dollars each. The senate is now struggling with a census bill. The committee that reported it could not agree as to its provisions. It provides for the appointment of three census takers in each district who shall sit at each voting precinct in their respective districts two days for the purpose of taking the census, after having given notice of dates. They are to issue certificates to all citizens of the number of his or her family, and to take the names of all intruders.

Indications now are that adjournment will not be reached before the very last of this week and perhaps not until some time next.

The $4 a day to the average member is a powerful incentive to holding on. The aggregate expenses of council are something like $300 a day which, in view of the amount of work done, is enough to make the whole country nervous.

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY.

The presbytery of the Cherokee nation convened in the Presbyterian church at Vinita, April 4, 1893, at 7:30 p. m., and was called to order by the retiring moderator, Gideon Morgan. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. Evans P. Robinson, after which the presbytery was instituted for business, with prayer. The Rev. Evan B. Evans was elected moderator, and the Revs. L. Dobson and S. E. Henry, temporary clerks.

On the following morning, at 8:30 the presbytery convened and was led in its devotional service by Rev. R. J. Lamb.

The Rev. Willis L. Miller was received from the presbytery of Oklahoma. A committee reported the organization of a church at Round Mount and recommended that it be enrolled accordingly. The report was adopted. The other work of the morning was of merely a routine character.

In the afternoon the committee on the overture concerning deaconesses reported recommending that it be answered in the affirmative. The report was adopted. The overture concerning evangelists was also answered in the affirmative. No action was taken in regard to the overture concerning vacancies and supplies.

The report of the committee concerning the revision of the Confession of Faith was received and discussed. All the overtures except 15 1-2 and 27 were answered in the affirmative.

The following commissioners were elected to the general assembly: Rev. Evan P. Evans with Rev. E. Edgar Mathes, alternate, and Elder Arthur Chamberlin with David Smallwood, alternate.

At the evening services the work of the different boards of the church was presented by Rev. E. P. Robertson, E. E. Mathes, J. McC. Leiper and A. D. Jacke.

The devotional services were held at the Worcester academy April 6th, at 2:30 p. m., and were conducted by the moderator.

The reports of the different committees were received and approved.

The presbytery feeling the need of a presbyterial evangelist elected Rev. D. N. Allen to that position; he has not yet given a definite answer, but it is hoped that he will accept it.

The standing rules of the presbytery were changed so as to meet hereafter on Thursday instead of Tuesday as heretofore.

Mr. Detlev Lescove was examined on experimental religion and his examination being sustained, he was received as a candidate for the ministry.

The devotional services were held April 7th at Willie Halsell college and were conducted by the Rev. W. R. King. The work of this day was merely routine, relating to the work for the coming year.

The presbytery accepted an invitation to meet at Eureka on the first Thursday in October. The presbytery voted to extend its hearty thanks to the people of Vinita and to the pastor of the Presbyterian church for their kind and hospitable entertainment.

Presbytery adjourned to meet at Eureka, and was closed with prayer.

The presbytery as a whole was a very interesting one and all who came went away feeling that it had been good for them thus to meet together.

On Thursday the Ladies Presbyterian Missionary society met in the Congregational church. Mrs. John Ross was elected president, Mrs. Arthur Chamberlin, Mrs. Jacke and Mrs. Ratcliff, vice presidents, Mrs. E. E. Mathes, corresponding secretary, Mrs. W. R. King, recording secretary, Miss Geneva Hicks, secretary of literature, Mrs. David Smallwood, treasurer.

A resolution of thanks was voted to the ladies of Vinita for their hospitable entertainment.

The popular service in the evening was conducted by the ladies society; Mrs. Arthur Chamberlin, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Jacke, Mrs. Holderman, Mrs. King and the Rev. W. R. King made interesting addresses. The session was a pleasant one and was enjoyed by all present.