

Indian Chieftain.

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VINITA, IND. TER., SEPT. 12, 1895.

JIM HILDEBRAND has withdrawn his contest against Johnnie Dameron for the sheriff's place in Delaware district.

The bank of Kincaid, Kan., was robbed Friday night of between two and three thousand dollars. The safe was blown open with dynamite.

ZIP WYATT, a desperado who has been making life one continual picnic for the Oklahoma newspaper correspondents, died in jail at South End Saturday.

The Croeks have patched up their troubles to the extent of compromising their treasurer fight and agreeing on an officer to draw and pay the money in the sub-treasury.

WE NOTICE in some of the Tahlequah papers a financial statement of that city which is quite creditable. A statement of Vinita finances is a thing that has never been made, of late years.

THE CHIEFTAIN has a well earned reputation for modesty and meekness, but we will be pardoned this week if we mention the fact that no less than six pages were sufficient to hold its printed matter.

JUDGING from the utterances of prominent intruders, we are led to believe that they share the general belief that a crisis is soon to be reached in their case. The chances are that this great question will now be settled finally.

THE CHOCTAW railway desired to build on a different line from that approved by the secretary of the interior and the government brought an injunction preventing it from doing so. The territorial supreme court has decided in the railway's favor.

ESPARECHER, a full-blooded Creek, was elected chief of the Creek nation last week by a very large majority. There were six candidates in the field including Gen. Pleasant Porter and Chief Perryman. It is said the anti-pasture sentiment did it.

THE Guthrie Capital worked a bill through the Oklahoma legislature requiring all territorial officers to give all public printing to that paper but the supreme court has decided the law to be class legislation and now all the newspaper boys will get some of the pie.

A FEW months ago our people were sending delegations to Washington in the interest of a United States court and bending every energy to secure as much as possible for Vinita. But now no one seems to care much whether we get the big jail or not, or whether we ever have a court house or not. Such is human nature.

THERE IS NOW a first class chance for some statesman to introduce a measure that will make him famous in the matter of disposal of the intruder improvements. There is no question but that the poorer classes of our people should be allowed a chance to get homes on favorable conditions and this is the last opportunity.

THERE IS SAID to be an interesting story connected with the burglary case in which Joe Merrell figured here last week. To be an accomplice in such a case is no more than is to be expected from some of the crowd that are said to be under a good sized cloud just at this time. Let the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth be told.

THERE IS LITTLE doubt but what the rights of all classes of citizens in the Cherokee nation will be finally settled at an early date. If you are a white adopted citizen you should send your name accompanied by one dollar to the treasurer of the White Adopted Citizens' association and be enrolled a member, so as to be in a position to have your status established. The time has come when it is the part of wisdom for each citizen to know exactly where he stands as regards his rights to participate in the division of land that is soon coming.

IN DISCUSSING the status of the white adopted citizens of this nation no stress whatever need be placed upon what that class of our citizens have or have not done for the country. The whole matter must hinge on the law and the section of the constitution of the Cherokee nation under which they become citizens. Section five of amendments to article three of the constitution defines and fixes the status of all classes of citizens here; that and that alone is sufficient to settle the question as to the rights of adopted citizens in this country.

NO OTHER SOLUTION.

It is said that in England all roads lead to London. So in the discussion of methods and means by which monopoly may be overcome and made impossible we always arrive at one, and the same conclusion—allotment. Twenty years ago a restriction act might have been passed by our legislature that would have done great and substantial good, but it is hardly possible that any change in our present system of holding land will suffice that does not at least lead to allotment of all the land equally amongst all the people.

One of the reasons why a restriction act would not be practicable under the present circumstances is that the pro rata share of the citizens is constantly changing with the increase of those who share in the land holding. What would be the share of a citizen today would not be a share tomorrow as it would be correspondingly less as population increases.

The proposition has been made that no one be allowed to take, hold or occupy land except those who have reached the age of 18 years, but the injustice of that system is too apparent to call for argument, as under the treaty and under our constitution all citizens are equal, joint owners of the land without any reference whatever to age or condition. So any measure that would force an equal division, even though it be only temporary, would not meet the demand of those who are clamoring for an equal division and opposing the present system that is so favorable to monopoly.

The chief if not the only hope of the great number of our citizens that are not getting their share of benefits accruing from the occupancy of land lies in the one clause of the Cherokee constitution that guarantees that the lands of the Cherokee nation shall remain common property and makes it possible even yet for a redistribution of the land among all citizens.

When we stop to think of the future we are forced to the conclusion that some time we will have to draw the line of citizenship on all future generations of Cherokees and declare for a settlement with those now living. This is what we have always done when a per capita payment is to be made of moneys belonging to the tribe and designed for equal distribution. A day is set beyond which no more births must be counted in making the apportionment. So it must necessarily be when the land is allotted; a time will be set, after which our children must be disinherited. This is without doubt one of the great reasons why every patriotic citizen shudders at the thought of what seems to be an unavoidable wrong done the unborn generations. Taking this view of the subject which is certainly the rational one, we are led to enquire if there is not some way by which this defect can be remedied by a system of inalienable titles when our lands are allotted, which, without doubt, will be in the near future. If each family could be given their pro rata share of land in a body with the title vested in the family with just legal restrictions so that it could remain in the family it certainly would be a wise precaution, for the time is certainly coming when a very large portion of the American people will be landless if not homeless. Of course the subdivision of land into smaller tracts will go on, but there will be a vast throng of people who will necessarily be landless. This is a subject for the consideration of our deepest and most disinterested and patriotic thinkers. It is a subject that we must soon grapple with, indeed that we are already grappling with and it is like Bancho's ghost, it "will not down."

The Cherokee Advocate is owned and run by the Cherokee nation. We understand it has always been a tax on the nation. In years gone by the Advocate was doubtless of service to the Cherokees as a news dispenser and exponent of the Cherokee rights, but the many individual newspaper enterprises that have sprung up in the Cherokee nation supplies that place and leaves the Advocate without more prestige and patronage than have other papers that have sprung up on their merit, and supply a place that they are paid for filling, and the Advocate is left a non-expense bearing competitor in the newspaper field. It would be a good thing for the nation to sell the Advocate and go out of the newspaper business, but if it will keep up its pet, we can't think of a better newspaper man to put at its helm than Waddie Hudson, who wants the job.—Phoenix.

For general information we print the following dates of holding circuit court in the several districts, as prescribed by the late law: Tahlequah and Goingsnake, 1st Monday in April and September. Delaware and Flint, 4th Monday in April and 2nd Monday in September. Saline and Sequoyah, 3rd Monday in May and September. Cooweescoowee and Illinois, 1st Monday in June and 4th Monday in September. Canadian, last Monday in March and April.

FT. SMITH LETTER.

Cherokee Bill Gets a Stay—Buz Lucky Sentenced.

Buz Lucky was sentenced Saturday to be hanged on Oct. 9, for the murder of deputy Marshal New Leflore in the Broken Arrow settlement of the Creek nation.

The big fight near Fairland, last April, in which John Smith was killed, Isaac McConnell was shot in the side and Albert Mathes badly beaten up has just been investigated by the court. McConnell was acquitted of the killing of Smith and the assault case against Mathes was nolle prosequi.

Cherokee Bill did not hang Tuesday. His appeal was not perfected though until the time for making preparation for his hanging had arrived.

The presence of Mrs. Hudgpeht near Wagoner has started the fake of Hudgpeht being hanged on circumstantial evidence and the supposed victim afterwards turning up alive. The report is absolutely without foundation. Charred clothing and bones and buttons, which were identified as belonging to the victim, were found, but that was all. Hudgpeht had been intimate with his victim's wife and she confessed having planned the murder with Hudgpeht. U. S. Marshal Crump was the judge before the case was tried. Hudgpeht's execution was stayed three times on account of rumors of the victim being alive, but neither his friends or Hudgpeht were ever able to find him. A year ago he was reported being with relatives in Kansas, but they emphatically denied the rumor.

The famous Dutch John case is again on trial. The defendants are now charged with shooting old lady Miller and Sherman Miller and burning two houses. It is thought to be the expiring blow of the outlaws at the most active leaders in the war against them.

John Meredith and Caroline Rogers, larceny; verdict not guilty.

Frank Thompson, violating intercourse law; plea guilty; 30 days and \$100.

Lewis Francisco, selling; verdict not guilty.

Jerry Williams, incest; verdict guilty.

John Pictou, introducing and selling; verdict guilty; 26 months and \$200.

Ira Smith, larceny; 2 years.

Charles James, larceny; verdict guilty; 18 months.

William Nail, Abe Foreman and William Thompson, robbery; verdict guilty; 3 years.

Mat Thomas, impersonating an officer; verdict not guilty.

Jack Griffin, intimidating witnesses; verdict not guilty.

Wallace Hunter, assault; verdict not guilty.

Susan Riley, murder; plea guilty to manslaughter.

Louis Davis, assault; rape and murder; plea not guilty.

King Cudjo, larceny; verdict guilty; 3 years.

Israel Carr, murder; released on \$2,500 bond.

Isaac McConnell, murder; verdict not guilty, from box.

Henry Howard, larceny; prosecution abated on account of death of defendant.

Mary A. Kettinger, George Washington and Richard Calhoun, murder; writ of error and stay of execution issued.

Thomas J. Thornton, murder; same.

produced, and very forcibly explained the objects for which the Dawes Commission is here, the desires of the government and the reasons for immediate action. His speech was listened to with intense interest, the people crowding around to hear him.

Hon. Joe Gardner spoke earnestly against allotment, and was replied to by Judge Durant and J. J. Allen. These speeches were in Choctaw, only, and those who understood it say that Gardner got worsted in the tilt.

The Atoka cornet band was out and furnished sweet music for the occasion.

From 500 to 1,000 people were present, 170 by actual count, of Choctaw blood. About 25 Chickasaw citizens were present, and there were representative men from nearly every county in the Choctaw nation.

The great disappointment of the day was the absence of Hon. Green McCurtain, who was sick and could not come.

It is said by those who are well acquainted that there has never been a more representative gathering of Choctaws.

The characteristic of the meeting was a quiet earnestness, and a determination to do what seems to be the best. There was little enthusiasm, but the quiet earnestness that betokens the presence of a great crisis was apparent on every hand.

Preparations were made to engage in a vigorous campaign that will reach every corner of the Choctaw nation before the sitting of council. Able speakers will be sent out.—South McAlester Capital.

The Citizen has always worked for what it thought to be the best interests of the Choctaw people. It began as an Indian paper, receiving an Indian name, and has fought for what it considered to be the best interests of the Indian people ever since its establishment.

It has fought the treaty plan of allotment and it is still ready to do so, but when the representatives of the U. S. government come to the Indians and tell them that if they will divide their country equally amongst the citizens, the U. S. government will put them in possession of all their lands, and protect them in all their rights, as such land holders, against the non-citizens that are overrunning the country, then it is plain enough to us that it is their duty to accept the terms. If they do not do so, they will rob themselves and their posterity of rights that they might have secured, by acting before it was too late.

If the treaty allotment is forced on them, after they have refused to act, and divide their country, they will only get one hundred and sixty acres each and one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre for the balance, when if it were divided, and they had the privilege of selling a part of it as individuals an average of \$5 per acre could be realized for all the land in the territory. With these facts before us, we would feel to discharge our duty to the Indian as a defender of his rights, if we did not advise him to act promptly in the premises, and secure these benefits before it is too late.—Atoka Citizen.

This is Why We Weep.
An exchange prints the following: "When the women all wear bloomers and their skirts are laid away; when their legs no more are rumors coyly hid from light of day; when their petticoats forgotten with its swishing, whisking twirls, and there's less demand for cotton, I'll be sorry for the girls. I'll be sorry for the lasses who in school are at their books—at the head or foot of classes—I'll be sorry for their looks for their ma's will make their trousers, and good heavens! don't we know who were boys, but are not now, sirs, that they make a holy show. It is bad enough when Willie weareth pants his mamma made and it often knock you silly just to see the youthful blade waring pants that no man knoweth which is front or which is back—if he cometh or he goeth there is quite an equal 'slack.' But your Susie! Oh 'tis galling; scalding tears will downward galling, when you hear the urchins calling: 'Say, where did you get them pants?' You will see her youthful glowing, but by no dead certain rules can you tell if she is coming or is going home from school. There'll be anguish for your pa's when the daughters all wear trousers that are just revamped from ma. So I weep as I'm writing and my great tears fall like pearls, scarce I know what I'm indicting for I'm sorry for the girls."—Ex.

A large delegation of Chickasaws attended the equal division convention here on Wednesday last. We think there is little doubt but that a majority of the Chickasaws are in favor of equal division. Their country is almost completely overrun by non-citizens who trade in farms as though they owned the land in fee simple. Large tracts of land are held by men who have no shadow of a right in the country and are not even permitted as the law requires. Of course these men are not anxious to have the country divided among the Indians, as they would lose their hold on the land whenever this was done.—Indian Citizen.

Hex. L. B. BELL, of Vinita, was here this week attending circuit court. Mr. Bell don't look the least jaded as a result of the late "race." He is one of those indomitable fellows that you can't "do up."—Telephone.

Well now, speaking from the results of three consecutive campaigns in Delaware in which Mr. Bell got beaten, we should judge that he could be "done up" pretty easily. But perhaps when he gets down to Tahlequah and imbibes a few rounds of "white mulle" he really does feel indomitable.

WHERE QUANTRELL DIED.

Rev. Mr. Cobb Says It Was in the Sisters' Hospital, Louisville, Ky.

There appeared in the Star yesterday a dispatch from Little Rock, Ark., giving what purported to be a true account of the death of Quantrell, the guerrilla. It was to the effect that Captain Simon Horseley, before his death, had stated that Quantrell was killed by Kentucky Confederates on account of a raid he had made near Bardonia, Ky., in the spring of 1865.

The Rev. Thomas Cobb, pastor of the Methodist church at Thirteenth and Brooklyn, knows something of Quantrell's death, and this is his story:

"I knew Captain Horseley intimately. He was my warm friend. I do not believe he made the statement attributed to him in regard to the death of Quantrell. In December, 1864, Captain Horseley and myself went into the southern counties of Kentucky as cavalry recruiting officers under the authority of General Forrest, and remained there until 1865, when he surrendered to General John M. Palmer at Louisville.

"While in that country we met Quantrell's band and traveled and camped with it for two days and nights. Quantrell was on his way to West Virginia and Maryland to join Mosby. Horseley and Quantrell had many long talks and Quantrell urged us to go with him. Quantrell did not interfere with the rights of private citizens in that country, and had no trouble with confederate troops. We left him and he continued his march through Kentucky.

"When he reached the central counties of Kentucky, General Lee had evacuated Petersburg and was on the retreat, and it looked as if the army would surrender. Quantrell then stayed his march to await developments. It was then that he had a skirmish with federal troops, the twelfth Kentucky cavalry, and was seriously wounded. He was not known as Quantrell during that expedition, but went under the name of Captain Clark.

"He was taken to Louisville and placed in a hospital. He sent for a priest when he learned that he would probably not survive his wounds and asked to be sent to the Sisters' hospital. There he died and his body was buried in the Catholic cemetery in Louisville as that of Captain Clark.

"I was paroled in Louisville about that time by Colonel Folsom. One day Colonel Folsom asked me if I knew Quantrell, and I told him I did. Then he asked me if I would identify him and I said I would if he were dead. 'Then you would not identify him if he is alive?' asked Colonel Folsom. 'No,' I replied. I was then taken to view a body but it was not that of Quantrell. But a day or so after, several of Quantrell's men saw the dead body of their leader in the Sisters' hospital and attended his funeral in the Catholic cemetery. This I believe is the true story of Quantrell's death and burial."

The Rev. Mr. Cobb was one of the first recruits to Captain Frank Cockrell's company of the second Missouri infantry, and afterwards transferred into Lyon's cavalry under General Forrest.—K. C. Star.

The physician was surprised to find the head of the household at the door with a shotgun. "Why, what's the matter?" stammered the doctor. "That there medicine you gave my wife, she says is making her feel like a new woman. And I want you to understand that I no woman business goes in this house. First thing I know she'll be out making speeches."

One Kansas lawyer left off being an attorney because he wanted to be a gentleman. Another has quit the bar for the pulpit, presumably for the same reason. It begins to appear that the preachers and editors will find it necessary to get together and establish a period of probation until they see how the reformation works.—Ex.

The Vinita CHIEFTAIN starts this week on its fourteenth year. It is one of the best papers that comes to the Sentinel office, and as it has passed the fatal thirteen with banners flying it has everything favorable for a long life of continued usefulness.—Sentinel.

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