

# OUR RED NEIGHBORS.

Synopsis of the Proceedings of International Territorial Convention at Eufaula.

Important Suggestions Made by Various Chiefs of the Several Civilized Tribes.

A Sub-Committee Appointed to Draft Articles of Confederation of the Five Nations.

Special Correspondence of the Gazette.

EUFULA, CREEK NATION, I. T., Dec. 11.—An adjourned meeting from last of the International Territorial Convention was held here today. In order that the proceedings of today's meeting may be better understood a synopsis is given of the proceedings of the International Territorial Convention, called by Hon. D. W. Bushyhead, principal chief of the Cherokee nation, to meet at Eufaula, Creek nation, on the 15th day of June, 1887.

In introducing the Cherokee delegation to this international council the Hon. D. W. Bushyhead addressed the following instructions to show to the entire council the object of calling said international Indian council together.

RESOLUTIONS.—Whereas, the opening of said lands to homestead settlement would be in conflict with the uniform policy of the government in reference to the Indians of this territory, and its solemn pledges that the limits of the Indian Territory should not in all time to come, be included in the limits of any state or territory;

Whereas, the opening of said lands would necessarily involve the establishment of a territory of the United States within the limits of the Indian Territory in violation of said treaties, therefore be it

Resolved, by the representatives of the Creeks, Seminoles, Chickasaws and Choctaws, in convention assembled, that in their opinion the negotiations authorized by the act of congress of March 3, 1885, are incompatible with the rights, interests and future security of the people of the Indian Territory and should not be entered into, and to secure the integrity of the Territory as Indian country, and the interests of the several tribes therein, we hereby pledge ourselves and our respective governments.

The report of the committee respectfully submitted.

The report being read and duly introduced in Cherokee, Creek and Choctaw, was, after some discussion, adopted with but one dissenting vote. The convention then adjourned until 5 o'clock a. m. on June 12.

At 8 o'clock a. m. the convention convened, pursuant to adjournment. On motion of J. R. Moore, the chair announced a recess until 11 o'clock a. m. to afford the committee time to complete its work as outlined in the laudacious of the Cherokee chief to his delegates. On being called together at 11 o'clock, the committee reported the following additional resolutions:

Resolved, that the representatives of the Seminoles, Chickasaws, Choctaws, Creeks and Cherokees, in convention assembled, that in order to strengthen the bonds of unity and fraternal feeling existing between them, to secure more harmonious action in the support of their common rights, and the more efficient administration of laws between themselves, we recommend to the national councils of our respective nations the enactment of laws upon the following subjects, to-wit: 1. Providing for the arrest and removal of fugitives from justice, escaping from one nation to another, represented in this convention, who be delinquent.

2. Providing for equal remedies at law between the individual members of said nations in civil matters arising between citizens of different nations.

3. Providing for the confederation of the nations and tribes of the Indian Territory under one Indian government upon such terms as will not conflict with their several tribal rights and guarantees and their relations to the government of the United States under treaties now in force. Be it further

Resolved, that the executive and legislative branches of the government of the said Creek, Seminole, Cherokee, Choctaw and Chickasaw nations are hereby requested to use their authority to have their respective delegations to Washington instructed to work in concert for securing the passage of the bills by congress in reference to territory and depredations upon timber upon Indian lands which were passed by the United States senate during the session of the Forty-eighth congress and which were favorably reported by the house committee on Indian affairs.

Respectfully submitted.

JULIUS C. FOLSON, Chairman.

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The following is a part of Chief J. M. Perryman's message to his national council in regard to the Oklahoma lands: Any proposition for a change effecting the Oklahoma country otherwise than that contemplated in the treaty must at once arrest the attention of the whole family of nations occupying the Territory. Our relations with the United States are such that one nation cannot make an important change in any of their relations affecting great public interests without it being felt, more or less, by all the other members of the family. Moved by the knowledge of this fact, the representatives of the Cherokee, Musko-

gees, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole nations met in convention at Eufaula, on the 15th day of June last, to advise together as to the best course to pursue toward the proposition likely to be made by the agents of the government for the purchase of Oklahoma. This convention, in which the Musko-gee nation was fairly represented, unanimously declared it was their opinion that the negotiations authorized by the act of congress of March 3, 1885, are incompatible with the rights, interests and future security of the people of the Indian Territory, and should not be entered into. The proceedings of the convention are herewith submitted for your official action thereon.

THE DECEMBER MEETING.

The Indian international council, consisting of the five civilized tribes, met today pursuant to adjournment, with the following members present: L. H. Benge, William P. Ross, Frog Siskiller, Daniel Redford, Adam Feelin and James Chambers of the Cherokees; Coweta Micco, John R. Moore, S. B. Childers, D. N. McIntosh and Sam Grayson of the Creeks; G. W. Harkins of the Chickasaws; and Green McCurtain and N. B. Ainsworth of the Choctaws, and John F. Brown, E. J. Brown and Hulpata of the Seminoles. The report of G. W. Grayson as to what action had been taken by the various tribes represented was read, and most of the proceedings were reported to have been ratified by the national councils of the Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Cherokees. Mr. Brown stated that the Seminoles had also adopted the resolutions proposed at the June meeting given above.

Mr. Feelin of the Cherokees moved that a committee be appointed consisting of two from each tribe. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Ainsworth moved the addition of S. H. Benge, which was adopted, and the

president made the following appointments: W. H. Ross, Adam Feelin, D. N. McIntosh, John R. Moore, G. W. Harkins, S. H. Benge, Green McCurtain, N. B. Ainsworth, John F. Brown and E. J. Brown.

On motion of G. W. Harkins the committee adjourned.

At 7 o'clock p. m. the committee met pursuant to adjournment. The roll was called, showing a quorum present. The action or report of the committee was read, which provided for a sub-committee consisting of William P. Ross, G. W. Harkins, John F. Brown, D. N. McIntosh and N. B. Ainsworth, whose duty it should be to draft "articles of confederation" and report to this committee at a future meeting.

On motion of Sam Grayson the report was adopted.

On motion of Adam Feelin it was left with the president to set the time of the next meeting. The president announced that it would be on the third Monday in March next.

On motion of N. B. Ainsworth, Eufaula was the place named for the next meeting.

Mr. G. W. Harkins presented the following resolutions: In order to strengthen the bonds of unity and fraternal feeling existing between them, to secure more harmonious action in the support of their common rights, and the more efficient administration of laws between themselves, we recommend to the national councils of our respective nations the enactment of laws upon the following subjects, to-wit: 1. Providing for the arrest and removal of fugitives from justice, escaping from one nation to another, represented in this convention, who be delinquent.

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