

One hundred years ago this Fall future Washington and Nowata Counties were undergoing a careful scrutiny which would result in the settling within the next few years of a once prominent and still proud people within their boundaries. These were the remaining members of the Delaware Indian Tribe, recognized in history as the ~~first~~ first Indian tribe to ~~be~~ make a treaty with the white man, and acknowledged by many other tribes along the Atlantic seacoast as "grandfather".

This action was set in motion by the Treaty of July 4, 1866, ending the Civil War in the Cherokee Nation. In this, the Cherokee Tribe was forced to accept settlement within its boundaries of friendly or civilized Indians of other tribes.

The Delaware Tribe, forced for more than 200 years finally to an ever-diminishing reservation e between Kansas City, Kan., and Leavenworth, had suffered raiding of property and lands and innumerable other injustices by the white man in that area. Such was their desolation that tribal leaders were forced to seek another ^{13,} home for their people. Some had hoped to go to the Rocky Mountains, but on Oct. 11, 1866., John G. Pratt, an early missionary to the Delaware and other tribes and at this time the U. S. Agent for the Delawares, wrote to Chief Capt. John Connor and Assistant Chief Charles Journeycake, instructing them to go to the Cherokee Nation with four other delegates to select lands for their removal as provided in the earlier Treaty.

Pratt wrote: Gentlemen, I am directed by the Hon. D. N. Cooley, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, under date of Sept. 1, 1866, to furnish you with such instruction

and information as will enable you to proceed south and select for your tribe a new reserve in that country. . . . All those lands in the Indian Country which are open for settlement and selection. . . you may select lands in quantities of 80 or 160 acres as you may deem wise.

Pratt wrote further "At a Council of Delawares held at this office on Oct. 13, 1866, it was determined that the following persons are fully authorized to act for and on behalf of the Delaware tribe, Capt. John Connor, Principal Chief, Capts. Charles ~~JANE~~ Journeycake and John Sarcoxie, assistant chiefs, Joseph Armstrong and Andrew Miller, councillors and Isaac Journeycake, U. S. Interpreter".

So, in accordance with this act of the Delaware Council and a Resolution of the Cherokee Council, dated Nov. 7, 1866, the selection proceeded under the instructions of the U. S. Government through the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the Delaware Agent Pratt. The Cherokee Resolution was signed by H. D. Reese as Clerk and ~~JANE~~ James Vann as President of the National Council It was concurred in by R. B. Ross, Clerk of the Council and John Young, a Delaware, as Speaker of the Council, and signed by William Potter Ross as Principal Chief.

The Delaware delegation selected "that part of the country on the Little Verdigris or Caney, beginning at the Kansas Line where the 96th Meridian crosses the same, and running thence east 10 miles, then south 30 miles, thence west 10 miles, thence north to the place of beginning". ~~After Agreement was reached~~

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Agreement on the area selected was reached with the Cherokee representatives on Dec. 9, 1866. On April 8, 1867, the final articles of agreement ~~with the~~
 Nation
 between the Cherokee representatives and the Delaware leaders were consummated. These, lengthy and detailed, were written largely by Charles Journeycake, a

highly literate leader, in contrast to John Connor, whose intelligence was never questioned but who could not write. Connor was recognized as Chief of the Delawares by the U. S. Government, but Charles Journeycake had been elected Principal Chief by his people in 1861.

Representing the Cherokee Nation in this final agreement were William Potter Ross, principal Principal Chief, and Reilly Keys and Jesse Bushyhead, delegates for the Cherokees, and for the Delawares, John Connor, Principal Chief (so far as the government was concerned) and Charles Journeycake, Assistant Chief and John Sarcoxie and Isaac Journeycake.

The names which appear finally on official documents do not pre represent all those who worked toward these agreements and the settlement of the Delawares any more than the merelisting of dates represents all the work done. Noted in history as one who was on hand to welcome the Delaware delegation and assist in their work is James McDaniel. He was one of the few Cherokee who had settled in the Coowescoowee District of the Cherokee Nation shortly after its formation in 1856.

When the Cherokee Regiment was organized in May, 1861, to protect the Cherokee living on the northern border, Chief John Ross appointed McDaniel as Captain of Company D, under the command of Colonel John Drew. He served only a short time if at all, being strongly neutral in his stand in the Civil War, and he soon joined Creek Chief Opothleahola's Loyal Indian forces after the Battle of Round Mountaint and fought in the Battle of Caving Banks on Dec. 9, 1861, on the side of the Union Creeks.

McDaniel later was commissioned a Captain of Company A, in the Second Indian Home Guard Regiment of the Union Army. He was a Cherokee delegate to Wash-

ington after the Civil War and signed the agreement admitting the Delawares to citizenship rights into the Cherokee Nation. He died in Washington in 1867, but not before he had assisted the Delawares in their selection of their future tribal home.

by some historians

Another mentioned as active in assisting the Delawares is George Bullette, descendant of a long line of Delaware leaders, and at one time a Chief of the Tribe.

Despite the fact the area chosen by the Delaware delegation in the fall of 1866 comprixed approximately the area of present Washington County, less a mile or so along the eastern side and about ten miles on the southern end, not all of the 985 Registered Delaware enrolled in Kansas in 1867 chose to emigrate to this area. ~~Many~~ Some few families preferred to abandon tribal identity and remain in Kansas. Others drifted off into other portions of Indian Territory.

Even Chief Charles Journeycake preferred to settle outside of the designated area. He established ~~his home~~ his home on Lightning Creek, just north of Old Alluwe, now inundated by the waters of Ooll Oologah Reservoir. This family, which included eight daughters, became the center of social and intellectual life of the area. From this center Charles Journeycake also continued his leadership, both in statesmanship and religious activities. He is accepted by history as the first Delaware to be baptized a Christian west of the Mississippi River, taking his Baptist faith from his mother, Sally, who served as a Christian Leader and as an interpreter throughout her life.

However, Journeycake kept his finger on the area he had helped select, establishing the first Baptist Mission in the area, at Silver Lake, south of future Bartlesville, and preaching here and at early Bartlesville frequently. Journeycake's daughter, Nannie, was the wife of Jacob Bartles, for whom the city is named, and other of his daughters married pioneers of early Bartlesville.

So it was that a large portion of the 985 Registered Delaware emigrated to future Washington and Nowata Counties in 1867-68, to take up 80 or 160 acres, for which the Delaware Tribe had paid \$1.00 per acre, at a cost of \$157,600, for approximately that many acres.

And so it was that many Delaware were on hand when the Cherokee themselves began to move farther out in their Nation as ranching and farming spread to new lands the Cherokee ~~Nation~~^s owned in common. Needless to say, such settlement was not altogether simple in some instances, as the Cherokees, who favored ranching found many fine farms well fenced by the provident Delaware, who characteristically turned to farming.

Today, the Delaware, although they purchased citizenship rights in the Cherokee Nation as they purchased their land when they incorporated legally into the latter tribe, still maintain an identity in their tribal thinking, and operate under a Business Committee, headed today by H. L. McCracken.