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**delaware-cherokee
indians
1867**

ONE HUNDRED YEARS IN OKLAHOMA

1867 - 1967

By Elmer J. Sark

The Spanish and French explorers were supposed to be the first to see these lands, but they were not interested in establishing homes, did not stay long and left very few records of what they found here.

Some small bands of Indians, or clans as they were sometimes called, voluntarily moved westward looking for what they called "The Promised Land" and word came back from them telling of the uncertainties and hardships they were experiencing.

A Principal Chief, William McIntosh of the Creeks, signed a treaty with the U.S. Government ceding away much of the lands belonging to the Creek Indians who were then living in the eastern part of the U. S. Chief McIntosh was tried and condemned by a council of his Nation and sentenced to death for his act and he was executed on April 30, 1825, by a party of his warriors.

Of particular interest to Oklahomans is the Indian Removal Bill passed by the Congress of the United States and signed by the President, Andrew Jackson, on May 28, 1830, creating Indian Territory and granting certain lands to the Indians, particularly the Five Civilized Tribes consisting of the Cherokees, Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles, in this new territory.

These Indians were living in the eastern part of the United States when the Secretary of War John Eaton advised them of the new law and the terms of same, and gave them orders to move to this new Indian Territory. Some of them would not agree to move and leave their lands, their homes, schools, churches and their life savings in improvements and move west across the Mississippi River to lands they knew nothing about.

Following this in 1832, an agreement was made and a treaty was signed, giving the lands of the Creek Indians in the East, for which they were to receive a tract of land in Indian Territory, lying west of lands already occupied by the Cherokees in the new Indian Territory, now Oklahoma. The lands already allotted to the Cherokees was to be known as the Cherokee Nation, and an adjoining tract of land was to be known as the Cherokee Outlet. (See Map)

The most important thing to happen to Bartlesville, Washington County and North-east Oklahoma was the signing of the Cherokee-Delaware Indian Treaty at Washington, D. C. on April 8, 1867, recommended by the Secretary of the Interior and signed by President Andrew Johnson on April 11, 1867.

This is the beginning of One Hundred Years in Oklahoma and the beginning of a development period to later be known as "From Teepees to Skyscrapers."

The Delaware Indians living in the eastern part of the State of Kansas had been visiting and hunting in Northeast Indian Territory and talking with the Cherokees about merging their people, their social, political and land interests into one strong Indian Nation, which could be of great mutual benefits.

These meetings continued and during 1866, a deal was developed with Charles Journeycake, as Chief of the Delawares, and William P. Ross, as the Principal Chief of the Cherokees, and approved by the tribal councils, for details for the purchase of citizenship and allotment rights for the Delawares in the Cherokee Nation. All details, agreements and documents were then taken to Washington, D.C. for approval by the Secretary of the Interior and signed by the President of the United States. (copy attached)

As evidence of the foresight and judgment of their leaders, the members of these two Indian tribes have been living together for the past one hundred years to establish and develop the Cherokee Nation into one of the outstanding territories in our nation.

As a part of the treaty it was agreed that the Delawares, in exchange for the privilege of purchasing citizenship and allotment rights, were to abandon their tribal offices and officers and thus Charles Journeycake was the last Principal Chief of the Delawares. The Cherokees were to retain their tribal rights and officers and Mr. W. W. Keeler is today serving as Principal Chief of the Cherokees and his authority is recognized by the Department of Indian Affairs.

A detailed history of the development of Northeast Oklahoma would require many books and each item, such as farming, grain, cattle and oil, just to mention a few important ones, can not be well covered in a brief resume of the many years.

In an effort to record and preserve some of the more important and official developments of this period of time and area, we have secured, with the help of Nathan H. Young of Dewey, Oklahoma, a grandson of John Young, a member of the final Delaware Indian Council, a photograph taken at Washington, D. C. during 1867 at one of the treaty meetings held there. The men shown in this photograph are named as follows: Front row, left to right: James Ketchum, James Connor, Chief Charles Journeycake, Isaac Journeycake, and John Sarcoxie. Back row, James McDaniel, an agent, Black Beaver, Henry Tiblow, John G. Pratt, Agent and former missionary, Charlie Armstrong and John Young.

This photograph of the Cherokee Indian Council was taken at Washington, D. C. on July 19, 1866, and a copy was secured from the Smithsonian Institute during March, 1967, by Elmer J. Sark for this display. The members shown are, left to right, John Rollin Ridge, Saladin Watie (son of Stand Watie), Richard Fields, Col. E. C. Boudinot (son of Elias Boudinot or Buck Watie) and Col. William Penn Adair.

A copy of the Cherokee-Delaware Indian Treaty is included in this display and was secured from the Government files at Washington, D. C. by Elmer J. Sark who presents it here in brochure form. Included also is a map showing the boundaries of the Cherokee Nation, the Cherokee Outlet, and Seminole, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Osage Nations which were originally in the Indian Territory.

With the signing of the treaty by the councils, the approval by the Government on April 11, 1867, the Delawares in great numbers began moving from Kansas to Indian Territory, and the real development of this area started as the Cherokees and Delawares both felt they were permanently settled and could build their homes and develop their lands with a sense of security.

The records show that Chief Charles Journeycake had already started moving his Delaware people to their new homes during 1866, on the promise that the Cherokees would sign the treaty, and he established his first home by the Verdigris River and named the camp Alluwe, in the south part of what is now Nowata County, Oklahoma. This home and camp site are now under water in the Oologah Reservoir, and the town was moved to higher ground a couple miles east of the original site and is now called New Alluwe. The graves that were in the Alluwe cemetery have also been moved, including those of the Journeycake family and were reinterred in the Nowata Cemetery.

Other Delaware Indian families moved farther west and established Indian villages or camps and one group came to the Caney River west of now Copan and still another came to the Caney River at what is now Bartlesville.

Some white men were here, or came prior to 1867, and more came after the Indian conflicts were discontinued and all efforts were toward a peaceful development of their new home lands. These white men began living among and with the Indian families, and some of them became members of the tribes by marrying Indian women. Some very important instances resulted from this inter-marrying of the whites and Indians, and some of our important families and developments resulted from this class of pioneers.

Churches, schools, business, cattle, grain, oil and many fine homes were the results of the combined efforts of all who came here to live, and by Statehood in 1907 great progress was quite evident.

Our neighbors, the Osage Indians, should not be forgotten in these recordings since their lands are a part of what was the Cherokee Outlet established by the Indian Removal Bill of May 28, 1830, creating the Indian Territory, and later during 1871 the Osages purchased some of these lands.

In the spring of 1871, the Osages who had been living and had agencies at Drum Creek near Independence in Montgomery County, and another at Quenemo in Osage County, Kansas, started moving to their new lands in the Cherokee Outlet laying west of the 96th Indian Meridian. This Meridian as established was to be the line between the Osage and Cherokee Nations, and now in 1967 it is the County Line between Osage and Washington Counties of Oklahoma.

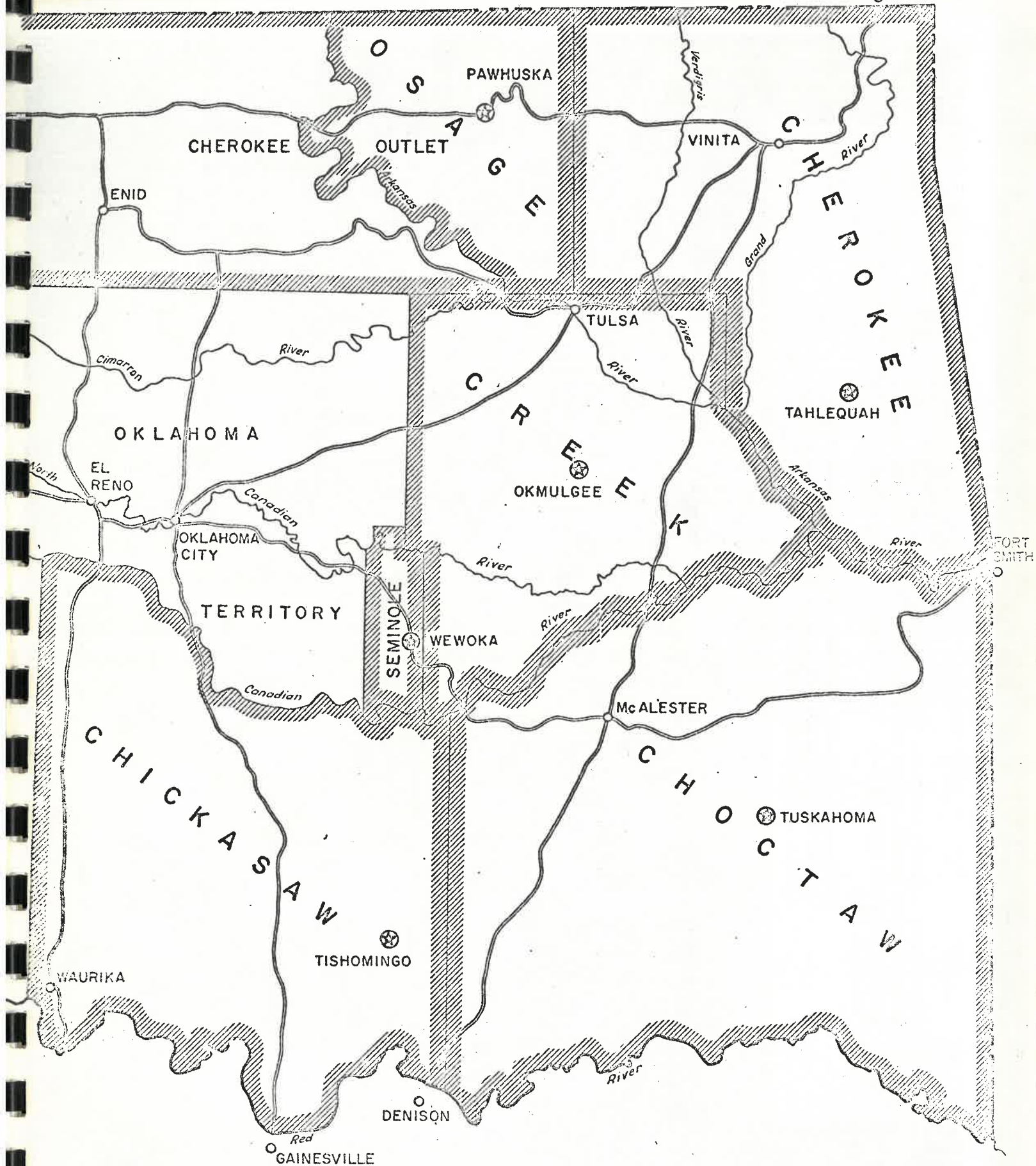
By reason of an error in the survey, the Osages were moved to and established an agency and village at Silver Lake, south of Bartlesville, and the Indian Agent, Isaac T. Gibson, directed the erection of a sawmill and some frame buildings at the site before learning of the error. In 1874 the error was discovered and the Osages abandoned the Silver Lake Agency and village and moved west across the Meridian to a new site on Bird Creek and established their new agency and called it Pawhuska.

We did not all arrive here before 1867 or even 1907, and we came shortly after that and learned to know some of our outstanding pioneers, whites and Indians, lived neighbors to them, and our memories of these times and people is a treasure indeed.

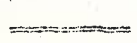
The first one hundred years in Indian Territory and Oklahoma would be hard to match and harder to excel in a general development by any part of the United States.

This is but a recording of what could and has been done in our area and can serve as a challenge to future generations.

Time and space will not permit the recording of the names of the men and women who have had a prominent part in the development of Bartlesville, Washington County and Northeast Oklahoma, but each one has written an important page in the history of this great area.



LEGEND

-  BOUNDARY LINES
-  INDIAN TRAILS

BOUNDARIES OF INDIAN NATIONS IN INDIAN TERRITORY

As Shown On Rand McNally Map, 1898.



*left to right- John Rollin Ridge, Saladin Watie (son of Stand Watie),
Richard Fields, Col. E.C. Boudinot (son of Elias Boudinot
or Buck Watie), Col. William Penn Adair. - 1866-*

2164
Department of the Interior
April 11 1867

The within agreement,
between the Cherokee
and Delaware tribes
of Indians concluded
on the 5th inst, and pro-
viding for uniting
the two tribes, as con-
templated by the Cher-
okee treaty of July 19th
1866, is respectfully
submitted to the
President, with the re-
commendation that
it be approved.

Wm. Morrison
Secretary

Approved April 11, 1867

C. M. Johnson

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Articles of Agreement made this 8th day of
April, A. D. 1867, between the Cherokee Nation
represented by W^m P. Ross, Principal Chief, Riley
Keyer and Jesse Bushyhead, delegates duly autho-
rized, parties of the first part, and the Delaware
tribe of Indians represented by John Connor
Principal Chief, ^{Charles Journeycake, 2d Chief,} Isaac Journeycake and John
Sarcovic delegates for and on behalf of said Dela-
ware tribe duly authorized

~ Witnesseth ~

Whereas, by the 15th Article of a certain treaty
between the United States and the Cherokee Nation,
ratified Aug. 11, 1866, certain terms were provided
under which friendly Indians might be settled
upon unoccupied lands in the Cherokee County
east of the line of 96° of west longitude, the price
to be paid for such lands to be agreed on by the
Indians to be thus located and the Cherokee
Nation subject to the approval of the President
of the United States; and whereas, by a treaty
between the United States and the Delaware
tribe of Indians, ratified Aug. 10th 1866, the re-
moval of the said Delaware to the Indian

[11]

Country south of Kansas was provided for, and in the 4th Article thereof an Agreement was made by the United States to sell to the Delawares a tract of land, being part of a tract the Cession of which by Cherokees to the United States was then Contemplated - and Whereas, no such cession of land was made by the Cherokees to the United States, but in lieu thereof terms were provided as hereinbefore mentioned, under which friendly Indians might be settled upon their lands, and Whereas a full and free Conference has been had between the representatives of the Cherokees and the Delawares in view of the treaties herein referred to, looking to a location of the Delawares upon the Cherokee lands and their Consolidation with said Cherokee Nation:-

Now therefore, it is agreed between the parties hereto, subject to the approval of the President of the United States, as follows:

The Cherokees, parties of the first part, for and in consideration of certain payments, and the fulfillment of certain Conditions here

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-in after mentioned agree to sell to the Delawares
for their occupancy, a quantity of land east of
the line of the 96° west longitude, in the ag-
-gregate equal to 160 acres of land for each indi-
-vidual of the Delaware tribe who has been en-
-rolled upon a certain register made Feb'y,
18, 1867 by the Delaware Agent, and on file in
the Office of Indian Affairs, being the list of
the Delawares who elect to remove to the
"Indian Country," to which list may be ad-
-ded, only with the Consent of the Delaware
Council, the names of such other Delawares
as may within ^{one} month after the signing
of this Agreement desire to be added thereto, and
the selections of the land to be purchased by
the Delawares may be made by said Delawares
in any part of the Cherokee reservation east
of said line of 96° not already selected and in
possession of other parties, And in case the
Cherokee lands shall hereafter be allotted
among the members of said Nation it is agreed
that the Aggregate amount of lands herein
provided for the Delawares to include their im-

improvements according to the legal subdivisions when surveys are made, (that is to say 160 Acres for each individual) shall be guaranteed to each Delaware incorporated by these Articles into the Cherokee Nation; nor shall the continued ownership and occupancy of said land by any Delaware ^{so registered} ~~part of the agreement~~ be interfered with in any manner whatever without his Consent, but shall be subject to the restrictions and Conditions and Laws of the Cherokee Nation applicable to native Citizens thereof. Provided that nothing herein shall confer the right to alienate, convey or dispose of any such lands, except in accordance with the Constitution and Laws of said Cherokee Nation.

And the said Delawares, parties of the second Part, agree that there shall be paid to the said Cherokees from the Delaware funds now held or hereafter received by the United States, a sum of money equal to one dollar per Acre for the whole Amount of 160 Acres of land for every individual Dela-

ware who has already been registered upon the aforesaid list made Feb'y. 18, 1867, with the additions thereto heretofore provided for. And the Secretary of the Interior is Authorized and requested to sell any United States stocks belonging to the Delawares, to procure funds necessary ^{to pay for said lands} ~~for the payment~~.

But, in case he shall not feel authorized under existing treaties to sell such U. S. bonds belonging to the Delawares, it is agreed that he may transfer such U. S. bonds to the Cherokee Nation, at their Market value at the date of the transfer.

And the said Delawares further agree that there shall be paid from their funds now or hereafter to come into possession of the United States, a sum of money which shall sustain the same proportion to the existing Cherokee National fund that the number of Delawares registered as above mentioned and removing to the Indian Country sustains to the whole number of Cherokees residing in the Cherokee County, and

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for the purpose of ascertaining ^{such} ~~the~~ relative
numbers of the people ~~parties hereto~~, the
registers of the Delawares herein referred to,
with such additions as may be made within
~~four~~ ^{one} month from the signing of this Agree-
ment shall be the basis of calculation as
to the Delawares; and an accurate Census
of the Cherokees residing in the Cherokee Nation
shall be taken under the laws of that Nation
within ^{four months} ~~the same period~~, and properly certified
Copies thereof filed in the Office of Indian
Affairs which shall be the basis of Calcu-
lation as to the Cherokees.

And that there may be no doubt here-
after as to the Amount to be contributed
to the Cherokee National fund by the Dela-
wares, it is hereby agreed by the parties her-
eto that the whole Amount of the invested
funds of the Cherokees, after deducting all
just claims thereon, is \$678,000⁰⁰. And
the Delawares further agree that in calcu-
lating the total Amount of said National
fund there shall be added to the said

sum of \$678,000⁰⁰ the sum of \$1,000,000 being the estimated value of the Cherokee Neutral lands in Kansas, thus making the whole Cherokee National fund \$1,678,000, and this last mentioned sum shall be taken as the basis for calculating the amount which the Delawares are to pay into the Common fund.

Provided, that as the \$678,000 of funds now on hand belonging to the Cherokees is chiefly composed of stocks of different values, the Secretary of the Interior may transfer from the Delawares to the Cherokees a proper proportion of the stocks now owned by the Delawares of like grade and value, which transfer shall be in part of the pro-rata contribution herein provided for by the Delawares to the Cherokee National fund; but the balance of the pro-rata Contribution by the Delawares to said fund shall be in cash, or U. S. Bonds at their market value.

All cash and all proceeds of stocks, whenever the same may fall due or be sold, received by the Cherokees from

the Delawares under this Agreement shall be invested and applied in accordance with the 23^d Article of the Treaty with the Cherokees of Aug. 11, 1866.

On the fulfillment by the Delaware of the foregoing stipulations, all the members of the tribe registered as above provided shall become members of the Cherokee Nation, with the same rights and immunities, and the same participation (and no other) in the Common funds as Native Cherokees, save as hereinafter provided. And the Children ^{hereafter born} of such Delawares so incorporated into the Cherokee Nation shall in all respects be regarded as Native Cherokees.

[Cherokee 1867 1-164]

Will. P. Rogers ^{Principal Chief}
Piley Keys ^{Cherokee Delegation}
John X Connor
~~Charles J. Connor~~
Isaac J. Connor
John X Sarcosia

signed, acknowledged & delivered
at the City of Washington this
8th day of March 1867 in
our presence.

John G. Pratt.
J. W. Phillips
Thomas Ewing

The following photograph shows the presentation of the Cherokee and Delaware Indian Councils' pictures taken in 1867 and a brochure entitled, "One Hundred Years in Oklahoma", both framed in black walnut.

This combination is being presented to H. E. "Gene" Winn, Bartlesville Librarian, by Elmer J. Sark, for the History Room.

Pictured from left to right with the Delaware Indian Council and the Cherokee Indian Council pictures are: N. H. "Nate" Young, Elmer J. Sark, H. E. "Gene" Winn and W. W. "Bill" Keeler.

Elmer J. Sark

