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Petition of members of the Chickasaw Nation of Indians, residing in the Choctaw district, praying for an equitable division of the school-funds belonging to said Indians.

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PETITION

OF MEMBERS OF

THE CHICKASAW NATION OF INDIANS,

RESIDING IN

*The Choctaw district, praying for an equitable division of the school-funds
belonging to said Indians.*

FEBRUARY 8, 1877.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

*To the honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States
in Congress assembled:*

We, the undersigned Chickasaws, now living and residing in the Choctaw district, respectfully show that we are living in the Choctaw district, and have lived here since we emigrated from the East. We number about 2,000 or more, and have great many children growing up in ignorance, as the Chickasaw authorities in the Chickasaw district refuse to let our children have any interest in the school-funds. Their reasons for not allowing us any participation in the school-funds is that we are living outside of the Chickasaw district; we have asked the authorities of the Chickasaw district repeatedly for our pro-rata share of the school-funds, as we have an equal interest in it, but have been refused. We were informed lately that we must move into the Chickasaw district before we would be allowed any benefit of the school-funds.

We have been living here since our removal to this country, and have made improvements, and have become identified with the Choctaw people, and our common interest being one and the same. Under the treaty of June 22, 1855, article 5, we have the same rights and privileges with the Choctaw tribe of people, and our interest in the land is the same, but not in financial matters.

Under said article of said treaty of 1855 the country now occupied by the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes is common to both tribes, and either has a right to live in any of the two districts with equal privileges. With this understanding, we have lived here, but neither tribe can participate in the money matters of the other tribe, though the Choctaws have allowed us to send our children to school. Their funds being inadequate, they have requested us to apply to the Chickasaw authorities for help, for which we have made application. They have refused to assist us unless we move to the Chickasaw district.

We have as much right to the funds as any other Chickasaw, as it is Chickasaw funds; and now we want our proportion of the school-funds of the Chickasaws for the purpose of educating our children.

We would further say that in common conversation with the leading

men of the Chickasaws living in other parts of the Choctaw district, they say that we are entitled to it and should have it, and they are with us in opinion, &c.

We remain, your humble servants, &c.,

LECHER.

JAMES ANOLATUBBEE.

NICHOLAS WORCESTER.

IAHOKATUBBEE.

JOHN YUKUBBEE.

ALISON ANUKCHATUBBEE.

JACKSON PERRY.

ABEL WORCESTER.

THOMAS MILLER.

WILLIAM MOORE.

WILSON JAMES.

JOHN HOYNBEE.

McALESTER, CHICKASAW NATION,
February 1, 1877.

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