

any nation that would oppress us. If, now, the people here assembled will accept the laws and the covenant prepared by their chiefs, and desire me to reign over them in accordance therewith, behold, I am willing to be their king.

Then I drew back, and Melchizedek went to the front of the platform, and read in the hearing of all the people the laws and the covenant. And he demanded of them, Are ye willing to abide by these? and the people answered, We are willing. And he demanded, further, Is it your will that the chiefs of the seven tribes to be confederated under these laws and this covenant shall sign their names thereto as a witness against any who may, hereafter, refuse to be governed thereby? and the people said, It is our will.

Then Melchizedek spread the parchment, whereon the laws and the covenant were written, upon the altar, and I signed my name thereto, and the other chiefs, one by one, came up the steps and signed each his name under my name.

When the parchment was signed and delivered into the keeping of Salmon, my scribe, we went down the steps, all but Melchizedek, the priest. He remained beside the altar, alone, and placed wood thereon, and kindled it, and laid upon the fire the parts of a firstling of the flock. And when the