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**MINUTES**

OF THE

**Eighth Grand General Indian Council,**

HELD UPON THE

**Cape Crocker Indian Reserve,**

COUNTY OF BRUCE,

From Sept. 10th to Sept. 15th, 1884

**OFFICERS :**

*President :* CHIEF WM. B. MCGREGOR, Cape Crocker.

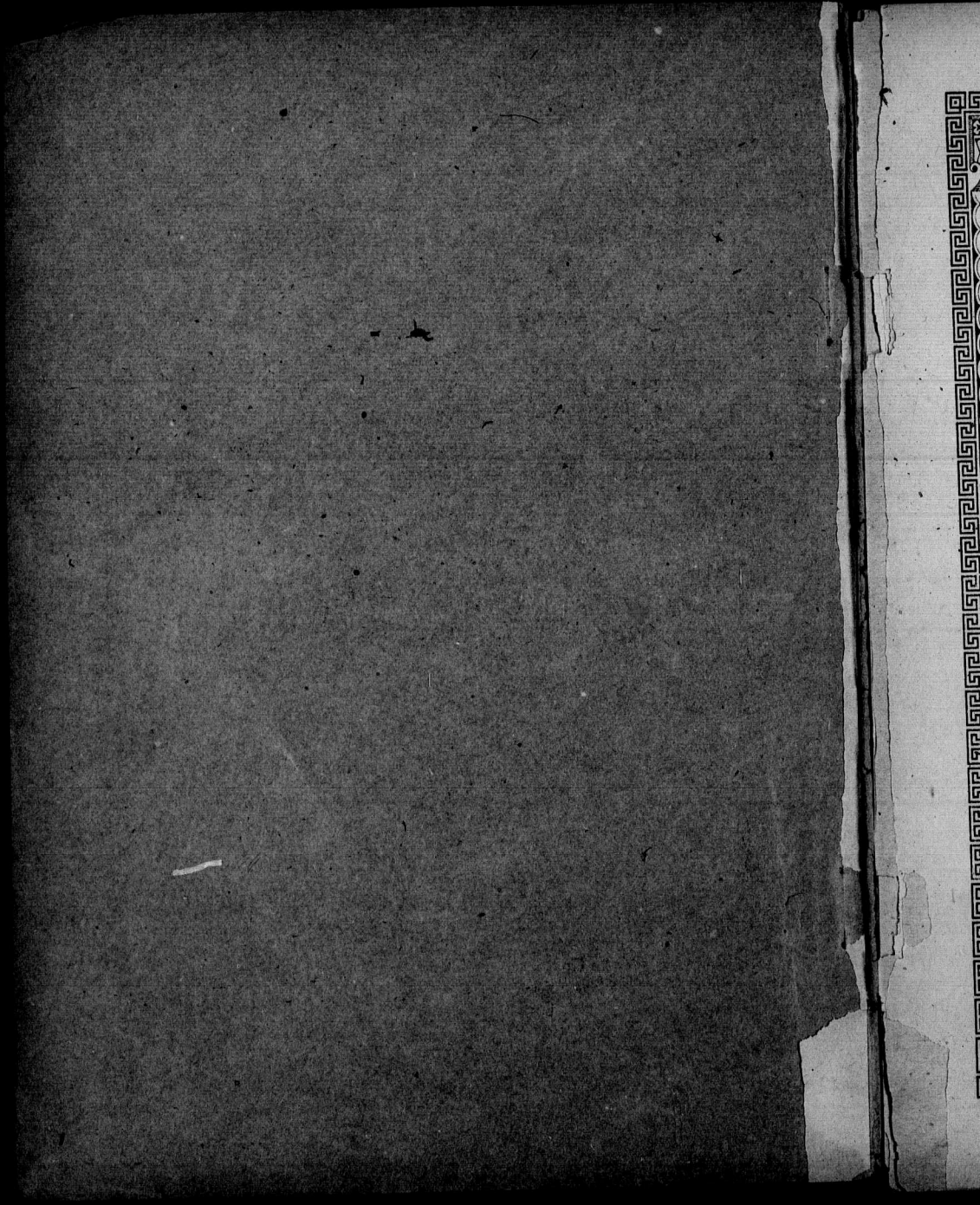
*1st Vice-President :* CHIEF JOSEPH FISHER. *2nd Vice-President :*  
CHIEF SOLOMOM JAMES.

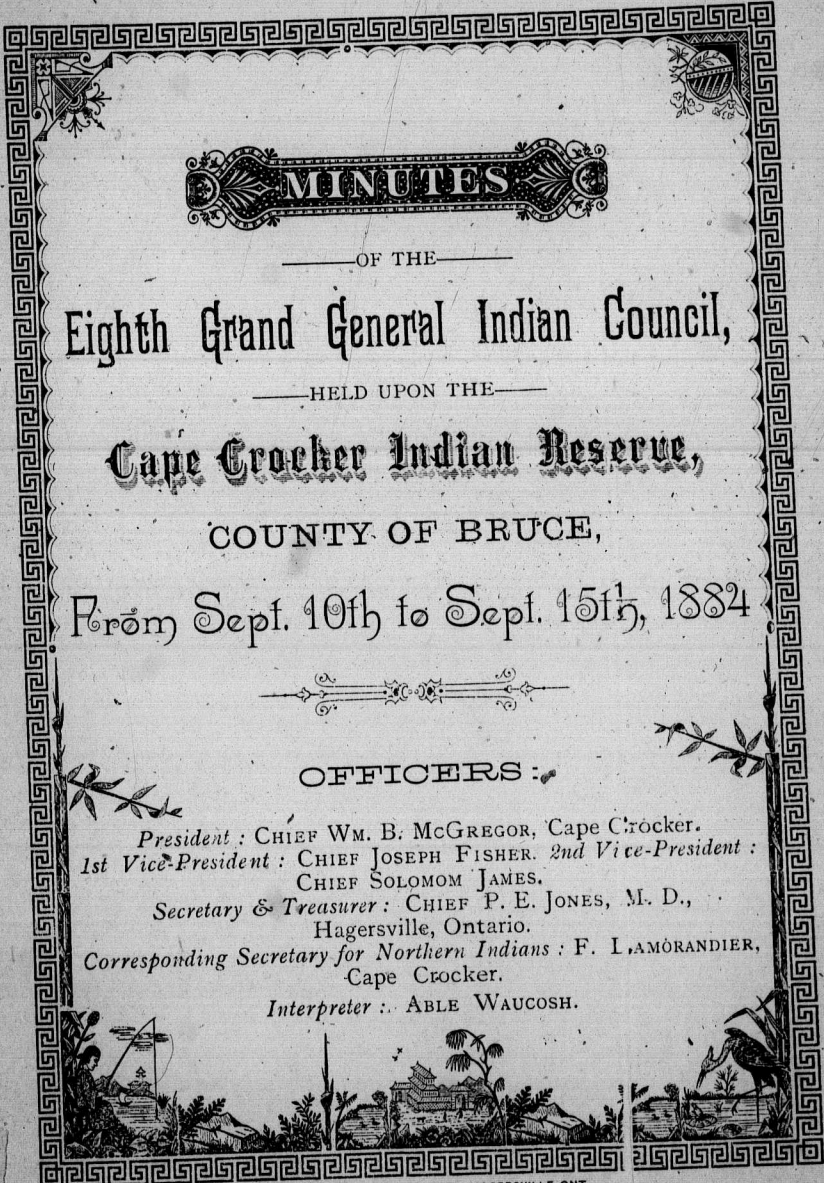
*Secretary & Treasurer :* CHIEF P. E. JONES, M. D.,  
Hagersville, Ontario.

*Corresponding Secretary for Northern Indians :* F. LAMORANDIER,  
Cape Crocker.

*Interpreter :* ABLE WAUCOSH.







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Cape Crocker.

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CLASSIFIED LIST  
—OF—  
CHIEFS AND DELEGATES

—ATTENDING THE—  
Grand General Indian Council of 1884.

**Chippewas of Nawash.**

- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Wm. B. McGregor, Chief. | 3. F. Lamorandier, Secretary. |
| 2. Wm. Angus, " "          | 4. Abner Elliott, Delegate.   |
- Post Office, Cape Crocker.

**Mississaugas of the Credit.**

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. P. E. Jones, M. D., Chief. | 3. Wm. C. N. Elliott, Delegate. |
| 2. Chas. M. Herchimer, " "    | 4. Jas. A. Wood, " "            |
- Post Office, Hagersville. *Ont.*

**Munceys of the Thames.**

- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Scobie Logan, Chief. | 2. John Nicholas, Delegate. |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
- Post Office, Middlemiss.

**Pottawattamies of Muncey.**

1. James Fox, Head Chief. Post Office, Middlemiss.

**Chippewas of Saugeen.**

1. Hy. H. Madwayosh, Chief. 3. Wm. Walker, Delegate.  
2. John Kadahgawou, " 4. John George, "  
Post Office, Chippewa Hill.

**Ojibways of Parry Island.**

1. Peter Megis, Chief. 2. James Paguhmegahbowh, Delegate  
Post Office, Parry Sound.

**Ojibways of Shawanaga.**

1. Solomon James, Head Chief. Post Office, Parry Sound.

**Mississaugas of Scugog.**

1. Chancey Johnson, Delegate. Post Office, Scugog.

**Ojibways of Lake Superior.**

1. Jos Na-bah-na-go-chung, Chief. 3. Ed. Na-bah-na-go-chung, Dél.  
2. Mash-ke-yosh, Chief. 4. Peter Ka-ga-yosh, Delegate.  
Post Office, Sault Ste Marie.

**Ojibways of Garden River.**

1. Augustin Shing-wauk, Head Chief. 3. Jacob Thompson, Chief.  
2. Buhg-wa-ge-ne-ne, Chief. 4. John Augustin, Secretary.  
Post Office, Garden River.

**Chippewas of the Thames.**

1. John Henry, Head Chief. 4. Thos. Fisher, Delegate.  
2. Joseph Fisher, Chief. 5. Geo. Fisher, "  
3. John French, " 6. Abel Waucaush, "  
Post Office, Muncey.

**Chippewas of Kettle Point.**

1. Isaac Shawonoo, Chief. Post Office, Ravenswood.

**Ojibways of Lake Huron.**

1. John Nahwegahbow, Chief. 2. Paul She-nau-guong, Delegate.  
Post Office, Little Current.

**Ojibways of South Manitoulin Island.**

1. David Asscence, Chief. 2. Francis Nowgeshig, Delegate.  
Post Office, Manatowaning.

**Ottawas of Manitoulin.**

1. Wm. Kenoochamag, Head Chief. 4. Anth. Agowesag, Delegate.  
2. Alex. Pelkey, Delegate. 5. Joseph Sigenock, "  
3. Lewis Odjig, "  
Post Office, Manatowaning.

**Chippewas of Rama.**

1. Joseph B. Naneshkong, Chief. Post Office, Fawn.

**Mississaugas of Alnwick.**

1. M. Chubb, Head Chief. 2. Rev. Geo. Blaker, Delegate.  
Post Office, Roseneath.

**Mississaugas of Georgiana Island.**

1. Charles Biganoe, Head Chief. Post Office, Georgiana.

**Nahnahbedabing Reserve, Lake Huron.**

1. Jos. Jaquo, Sr., Head Chief. 2. Jos. Jaquo, Jr., Delegate.  
Post Office, Wekwemikong.

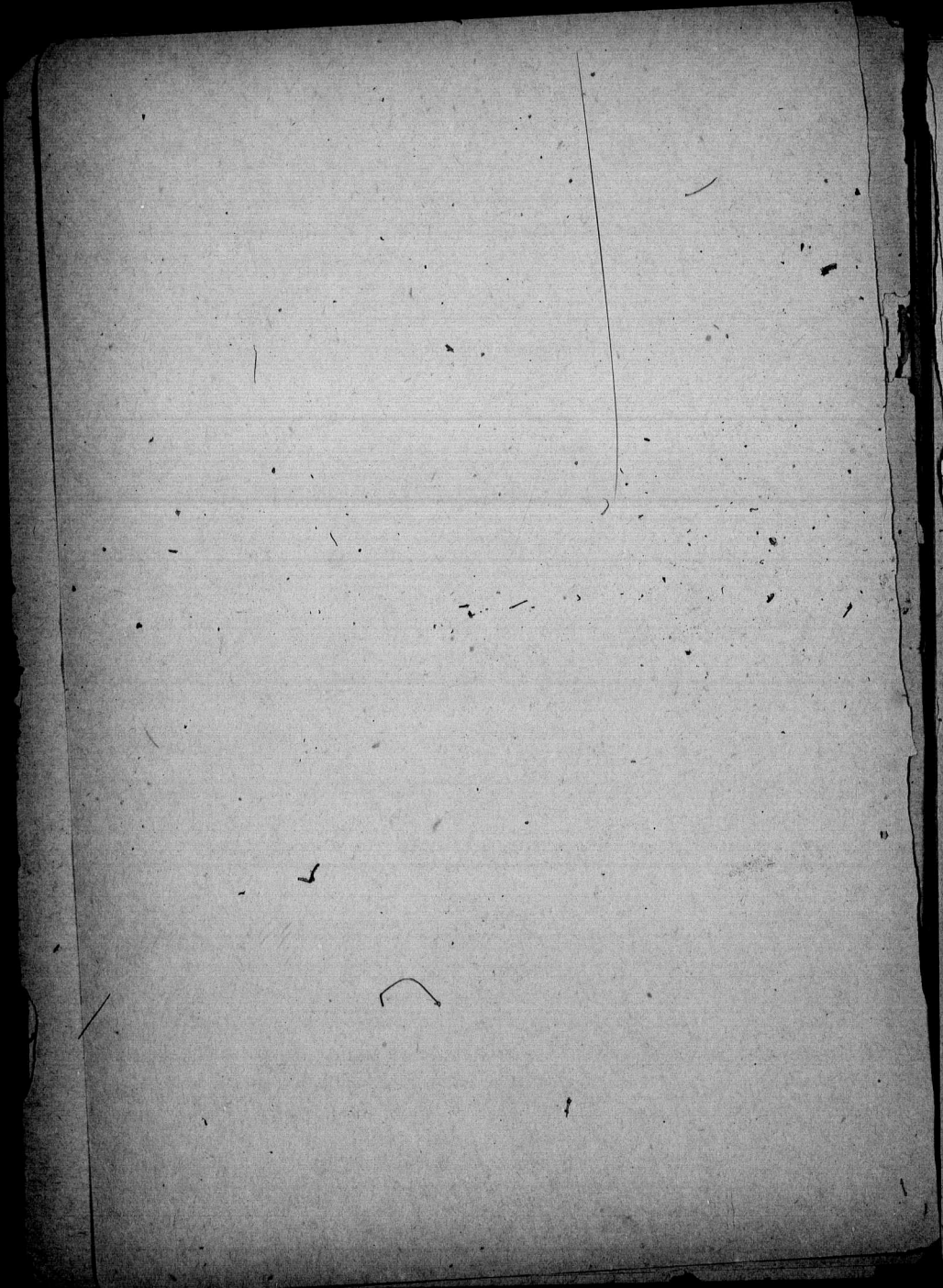
**Non-treaty Indians of Saugeen.**

1. John Kewaguam, Delegate. Post Office, Chippewa Hill.

**Honorary Members.**

1. David Sawyer, Ex-Chief. Post Office, Hagersville. *Out near*

*Brantford*  
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## PREFACE.

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The Eighth Grand General Council was held at the beautiful reservation of the Chippewas of Nawash, at Cape Croker, in the County of Bruce.

The Reserve is situated upon the promontory which separates Lake Huron from Georgian Bay and upon a peninsula extending into Georgian Bay. The location is beautiful and romantic. At the south of the Cape are high and rocky bluffs covered with a luxuriant growth of various kinds of valuable timber. The end of the Cape is a high cliff and the intervening country possesses some fine fertile valleys, interspersed with rocky ridges. There is a beautiful little bay on the west of the cape where there is a good wharf and fine anchorage while the water contains an abundance of the best of fish.

The head chief, Wm. B. McGregor, is a man of superior intelligence and fair education, he is ably assisted in the management of the affairs of his people by his bright, business like and gentlemanly Secretary, Mr. F. Lamorandier, who has also charge of the Cape Croker post-office.

The Council House is a large new building, two stories in height, the upper part being used as a council chamber and the lower for tea-meetings and other entertainments, both halls are supplied with convenient anti rooms.

There are two churches upon the reserve, Methodist and R. Catholic, and they have each a fine school. There is also a comfortable residence for the Indian agent. The population is about 400. The Indians appear to be happy and contented, following agriculture during the summer and fishing to a large extent during the proper season.

Here the Grand General Indian Council held its eighth meeting with a representation of 53 delegates from twenty different Bands. The greatest harmony and good feeling prevailed throughout the deliberations, which were a careful discussion upon the Indian Acts, and particularly the parts referring to enfranchisement.

Since this last Grand Council the Dominion Government have passed a Franchise Act, in which the adult male Indian of Ontario and Quebec, who has proper property qualifications is allowed the privilege of voting for a representative in his constituency for the Dominion Parliament. A proper scheme for the right to exercise the Franchise, has for many years been the great object of the Grand Council.

An Indian adopting the provisions of the enfranchisement clauses of the Indian Act, would be entitled to that privilege, but it has always been unfair to the Indian, for he would, in a measure, be obliged to sever his connection with his people, and there would be great danger in breaking up the tribal union, which now exists, and which the Aborigines are anxious to retain.

The Dominion Government is the legislative body with which the Indians affairs are entirely connected, and to which the Indian pays taxes by the consumption of dutiable goods, the Provincial Governments are supported by the Dominion Government, and the public expenses of the management of the various reserves, are at present borne by a taxation upon the funds of the Band in the hands of the Indian Department, which taxation is in many cases equal in proportion to territory to that of neighboring white municipalities.

The position now is this, we are permitted to vote for mem-

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bers for the Dominion Parliament, we lose nothing by this privilege, and it is evident that we should exercise the franchise thus conferred upon us, by voting for the candidate who is most likely to be able to assist our people in the affairs relating to Dominion legislation.

On account of the altered position the Indians of Ontario now occupy, in respect to the politics of the country, no doubt this matter will engage the attention of much of the time of the next Grand Council, and as the subject is very important it is to be hoped every reservation will be represented by delegates.

We would desire to call the attention of the Chiefs of Bands particularly to the CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND COUNCIL which is published in this pamphlet, and to the fact that hereafter the business of the Council will be carried on strictly according to that constitution.

# CONSTITUTION

—OF THE—

## Grand General Indian Council,

—OF—

## ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

—O—

- Title.* (1) This meeting of Delegates from the Indian Tribes of Ontario and Quebec, shall be called "The Grand General Indian Council of Ontario and Quebec."
- Time and place of meeting.* (2) That the Council meet once every two years, at the time and place appointed by the previous Council, subject, however, to extra sessions to be called by the President. Due notice of the time, place, and object of the meeting shall be given to the Head Chief of each Tribe.
- Officers.* (3) The Officers of this Council shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be elected at the close of each of the regular Sessions.
- Who Eligible.* (4) Only Delegates duly authorized shall be eligible for election as Officers of the Grand Council.

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*Number of Delegates.* (5) Each Band of Indians in Ontario and Quebec shall have the right to send one Delegate for every one hundred or fraction of one hundred of the population.

*Credentials.* (6) Delegates to the Grand Council must be duly appointed by their respective Bands, and must present a certified authority in writing from their Council to be presented to the Secretary on the arrival of the Delegates, giving name, Reservation, and post office address.

*Fees from Delegates.* (7) Before the Secretary registers the names of any Delegates, it shall be his duty to collect \$1.00 from each Delegate to go into the funds of the Grand Council.

*Leave of absence.* (8) Any Delegate wishing to leave before the close of the Session must obtain permission from the President, and in case of their neglect to comply with this rule, their names and that of their Reserve will be published in the minutes.

*Rules for addressing Council.* (9) Delegates shall not be allowed to speak upon subjects which are not before the Council, or more than twice on one subject; nor longer than ten minutes except by permission of the President. The President by vote of the Council, may permit non-Delegates to speak subject to the same rules.

*Ruling of President Final.* (10) The ruling of the President in all matters of order and decorum, during Sessions of the Council shall be final, and persons refusing to obey his ruling shall be considered disturbers of the meeting and punished according to law.

*Expenses how paid.* (11) That any debts incurred by the Sec-Treasurer in the discharge of his duties as such, become *defacto* the debt of the Council, and be paid by that body, and also that Deputation or emergent expenses, shall be paid in such manner as the Grand Council shall direct.

*Place of meeting.* (12) That in choosing the place of meeting of the Regular Grand Council the movers and seconders of motions, shall not be allowed to name any other reserve than their own.

(13) The order of business in the Grand General Council shall be :

*Order of business.* 1st—Opened by prayer and praise.  
2nd—Minutes of former meeting read.  
3rd—President's address.  
4th—Sec.-Treasurer's Report.  
5th—Unfinished business transacted.  
6th—General business transacted.  
7th—Council closed.

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# MINUTES

—OF THE—

## Grand General Indian Council.

### FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

SEPTEMBER 10TH, 1884.

In the absence of the President, and 1st Vice, the 2nd Vice President, Chief Solomon James took the chair.

The Council was opened by singing, and prayer by Ex-Chief David Sawyer.

Chief W. B. McGregor addressed the Council in words of kindly welcome.

The list of Delegates was read over and approved, David Sawyer objected to his name not appearing upon the list. Chief Dr. Jones explained that the delegates from the Mississaugas of Credit had been elected by the Band in a Council called for the purpose and according to the vote then given, only those mentioned on the list handed in, could be recognized by him as Head Chief as delegates from his band.

It was moved by John Henry, seconded by Wm. Walker, and resolved that David Sawyer be appointed a Delegate for the Mississaugas of the Credit. Withdrawn.

It was moved by Jos. Fisher, seconded by Abner Elliott, and resolved that D. Sawyer be appointed an Honary Delegate to this Council. Carried.

It was moved and seconded that the Council adjourn until the ringing of the bell after dinner.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

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Chief W. B. McGregor suggested that the Delegates in the Council Chamber be separated from the visitors which was accordingly done by the Delegates taking the front seats.

The Sec.-Treas. read his report and the various communications he had received.

It was moved by John French, seconded by John Fisher and resolved, that the report as read be adopted and that the balance due the Sec.-Treas. be paid. Carried.

It was moved by Chief Wm. B. McGregor, seconded by John Fisher, and resolved, that John Kewaquam be a Delegate for the Non-Treaty Indians of Saugeen. Carried.

The Constitution of the Grand Council was read over clause by clause, and fully interpreted. An objection was raised to the five minutes limitation of Sect. 9.

It was moved by Able Waucaush, seconded by Wm. Elliott, and resolved that the constitution as read be adopted except that the time limit be 10 minutes. Carried.

The Council adjourned. Approved.

Signed } S. JAMES.  
 W. B. MCGREGOR.

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 SECOND DAY.—MORNING SESSION.
 

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The second Vice-President, Chief S. James, in the chair. Council opened by singing and prayer by Rev. George Blaker.

The Chairman addressed the Council congratulating the Delegates upon their safe arrival. He reminded them that they were all Christians and were met together to discuss matters relative to the welfare of the Indian Tribes. He said "I congratulate the Head Chief of this band upon having this Grand Council held upon this beautiful Reserve. I also congratulate and thank the men, women, and all of this Band for the care and kindness they are showing for the welfare of the Delegates. Since I have come to this Reserve I have to praise you for the excellent Council Chamber and other public buildings for it shows you are a prosperous people."

Chief Wm. McGregor replied. He said it was always his desire that the Grand Council should be held upon his reserve. His people would spare no pains for the proper accommodation of the Delegates and would use their best endeavors to supply you all with good and sufficient provisions. They would have the liberty of viewing the reserve from one end to the other with the beautiful scenery of mountain and lake. They might also view the ladies of the reserve who would be happy to show them about and introduce them to all upon the reserve. He hoped they would have a pleasant time here, so that when they left it would be with a kindly feeling towards his people and in peace and good will amongst themselves. Cheers.

The Chairman, Vice-President Chief S. James wished that a nomination take place for the selection of a president to assist him as he did not feel confident to carry on the business of the Council unaided.

There was considerable objection to the election of a President being pressed before the end of the session as provided by the constitution.

It was moved by Chief John Henry, seconded by Wm. Walker, and resolved, that Chief Wm. B. McGregor act as assistant president *pro tem*. Carried.

Chief McGregor thanked the Council for his appointment and took his chair.

It was moved by Wm. Elliott, seconded by Able Waucaush, and resolved that F. Larnorandier be assistant Secretary *pro tem*. Carried.

Chief S. James and Dr. Jones, thanked the Council for the assistance afforded them.

The Roll was called and the Minutes of the former meeting read, and on motion adopted.

Chief Augustine said he would kindly request the speakers to speak louder. He thought the habit of speaking so low was acquired while the young men were making love to their sweethearts. He hoped they would in future speak out bold and loud and show that they did not sue very long to win their wives.

The Council adjourned for dinner.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

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The Council resumed its session at 2 p. m.

The President requested the Grand Secretary to explain the amendments to the Indian Act since the last Grand Council.

It was moved by Wm Walker, seconded by Chief Angus, and resolved, that the Secretary read the Indian Act clause by clause. Carried.

The Secretary first read a letter from Chief Jas. Whiting, enclosing two dollars as fees and giving an excuse for not being present.

The amendments to the Indian Act made in 1881-2 were first explained and discussed.

The Indian Act was then read section by section. Sections 1 to 12 were interpreted and gave rise to no discussion. Upon section 13 being read Abner Elliott said he had a motion to offer upon it and a discussion followed.

David Sawyer was in favor of having the section retained as it was.

Abner Elliott said that the depriving of an Indian woman (marrying outside of the tribe) of her rights with regard to the share of the land was improper, and he would urge upon the delegates to recommend that the section be altered so that she should enjoy the privilege of land ownership.

F. Lamorander said that the power which give such woman right to her annuity takes away from her the ownership of land which appeared to him to be an injustice.

John Nicholas was in favor of the Section remaining as it is.

Able Waucosh spoke in favor of retaining it.

Chief Duhgwanene was of opinion it should be amended.

Chief M. Chubb considered that section 13 was framed for the protection of the Indians, although appearing hard at first sight he was in favor of retaining the section as it is.

Abner Elliott in reply thought it was more of a punishment than protection and was strongly in favor of amending the section.

Thos. Fisher spoke also in favor of amendment.

Chief Wm. McGregor said that in some reservations the chiefs deprive the woman who marries outside of the Band of her interest money and he thought this was not right.

Chief Dr. Jones thought that the Council should also consider the legal points of the question. That the landed property should descend though the male population of the Tribe. For instance an Indian woman marrying a non-treaty Indian, her son would be in the strange position, of not being legally entitled to share in his mother's land, as he belonged to no Band and it would be the same with the son of a white man who had married an Indian woman. If the section was altered there would be danger of breaking up the tribal relation.

George Fisher was in favor of retaining the section as it is, and made a powerful speech in favor of it.

It was moved by Able Waucosh, seconded by Wm. Elliott, and resolved, that section 13 be retained as it is. Carried.

It was moved in amendment by Abner Elliott, seconded by Chief John French, and resolved, that the Superintendent General be advised to amend Section 13, so as to allow any Indian woman the ownership of land. Lost.

Section 20 was approved of.

Section 36 was approved of as amended.

Section 74 was approved of as amended.

Section 75 was approved of as amended.

Section 82 was approved of as amended.

Those Sections of the Act not specially mentioned, were approved of without discussion after being read and interpreted.

The Council adjourned until 8 p. m.

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#### EVENING SESSION.

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Section 83 was discussed, several Delegates spoke in favor of this section being amended so that both men and women should be included in the latter part, and that the penalty should be more severe and include the landed property.

It was moved by Chief Dr. Jones, seconded by Chief Wm. McGregor, and resolved, that the Superintendent General be requested to alter the latter part of Section 83, to read as follows: "Also to stop the payment of the annuity and interest money of "any Indian having no children who deserts his or her husband or "wife and lives immorally with another person, and such person "shall be deprived of any participation in the landed property of "the Band." Carried.

It was moved in amendment by John Nicholas, seconded by J. A. Wood, and resolved, that in addition to the original motion that a fine or a fine and imprisonment be also imposed upon the guilty party. Lost.

On motion the Council adjourned until 9 a.m. of the 12th.

Approved.

Signed (S. JAMES.  
W. B. MCGREGOR.

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MORNING SESSION.

— o —  
SEPTEMBER 12TH, 1884.

Council was opened by singing and prayer by Chief John Henry.

The minutes of former meeting were read and on motion approved.

The President arose and said he had attended a separate Council last night of the Delegates from the Northern Tribes, and the feeling was, that they thought they were not acceptable in the Grand Council, and that they could not understand the work of the Grand Council and had decided to go home. He had asked the Delegates to come to the Council this morning and see if better arrangements could not be made, a greater chance given them to speak.

After some explanations

It was moved by Wm. Elliott, seconded by F. Lamorandier, and resolved, that the Delegates from the Northern Bands have full liberty to speak or ask questions on the matters before the Grand Council. Carried.

The President thanked the Council for the vote and the kindly manner in which they had been received.

It was moved by Able Waucosh, seconded by F. Lamorandier,

and resolved, that the Council be now open to hear what the Northern Delegates have to say, and that their matters be discussed hereafter. Carried.

Chief Wm. McGregor addressed the Council and urged a unity of feeling amongst the Delegates, that the subject of the Indian Act and its amendments should first be finished as it was now before the Council, and also pointed out that the young men were especially entitled to be heard upon this matter, as they were educated and could understand the Indian Act.

The Secretary said that he had used his utmost endeavors to have invitations sent to every Chief, and he considered that every delegate who was present had an equal right to speak and vote, but only upon matters at the time before the Council.

Chief Augustine said, Chiefs and Delegates it is my usual custom to come forward to the platform to address the Council. I was sorry that I could not take part in the discussions of the Council and had made up my mind to go home this morning, but I decided to come to the Council and make my parting friendly, but I find you have retained my presence with you and I thank you all.

He said that by Section 13, they had adopted the woman who had married a non-treaty Indian into his Tribe but they, since then, had not received their interest money. He complained that certain miners and traders had come into his neighborhood and had made bargains with them respecting roads and other matters, and they had in nearly every case not fulfilled their promises.

The President, Chief S. James, called the attention of the Council to a treaty made at Sault Ste Marie in 1850 between Hon. W. B. Robinson and the Ojibway Indians in that district in which certain privileges were granted the Indians for hunting and fishing, and he complained that this privilege was abused by the whites, who use the hunting and fishing grounds and remove their traps and otherwise interfere with them, and when they employ Indians they cheat them out of their wages. In time of war our

forefathers took up arms in defence of their country, obeying the call of the British Government under promise of future protection. The former agent at Parry Sound did not protect them but the present agent does better. He complained of the interest money being kept from absentees, and that deputations from the Indians to the Government had not been properly received.

John Augustine also stated that the Pennefather Treaty had been broken.

Chief S. James also advocated the representation in Parliament by Indians, that their interest might be looked after, and urged that a representative be sent from this Council as a delegate to lay before the Department the grievances of the Indians.

Upon motion the Council adjourned for dinner.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

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It was moved, seconded, and resolved, that the reporter from the *Detroit Free Press*, Mr. J. Grensell, (Yusef) be requested to address the Council. Carried.

Mr. Grensell being called upon was received with cheers. He said, two years ago he had visited at the invitation of Chief Dr. Jones the Grand Council held at the New Credit Reservation and was much pleased to see the high state of civilization and improvement there. He had travelled extensively throughout the United States from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic and had had every opportunity to observe the treatment of the Indians there, and was sorry to say the United States had not treated the Indian Tribes as fairly as Great Britain had her allies. He had always been interested in reading the history of the Aborigines of America, and lately, his interest had been increased by being present at the opening up of a large mound near Detroit, where a number of relics were found, and amongst them a long copper

needle, which must have come from the copper regions of Lake Superior, and such copper relics were found all down the Mississippi River.

Since then he had met an agent who had been present at the mine on Lake Superior, sixty feet below the surface which was covered by large trees. At the bottom of this mine they had found Indian mining tools made of tempered copper, the art of which is now lost. They also found a large piece of copper ore and the position of the tools and surrounding circumstances led to the belief that that mine had been suddenly abandoned hundreds of years ago likely from some more powerful nation sweeping down upon them in war and causing them to flee. These things led him to believe that the ancient Indians many hundreds, perhaps thousands of years ago were quite civilized and knew many arts which are now lost. But he now saw that the Indians were entering upon a new era when the advancement they make will not be lost to history. There was a time when the history of the whites was hidden in darkness but from now on the condition of the people of the world will be preserved by the great power of education, the pen and the press. (Loud cheers.)

He thanked the President, the officers, and the delegates for the kindness shown him and wished them a hearty good-bye. The Secretary replied and showed the importance of the press in keeping the Government right in Indian management and hoped the *Detroit Free Press* would be a paper which would use its influence in that direction.

He moved, seconded by Chief John Henry, a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Grunsell for his attendance here and at the last Grand Council. Carried by a standing vote.

It was moved by Chief Augustine Zhingwauk, seconded by John Nicholas, and resolved, that Section 84 be retained. Carried.

Upon Section 94

It was moved by F. Lamorandier, seconded by Chief John French, and resolved, that the Superintendent General be requested to add the following to said Section: "It shall be the duty of



"the Reeve of any Town, Village or Township adjoining any Indian Reserve to issue a Proclamation from time to time calling upon the citizens to aid in strictly enforcing the temperance parts of the Indian Act." Carried.

Considerable discussion took place upon Sections 95, 96, 97, 98, and it was

Moved by Chief Scobie Logan, seconded by John Nicholas, and resolved, that the Sections respecting prostitution be approved as amended. Carried.

The new amendments to the enfranchisement Sections were read and interpreted. Section 99 was first discussed.

David Sawyer said the land is held in common and there should be some provision made for allotting the land. He thought Enfranchisement would be the means of breaking up the Band. If an individual received a fee-simple and his land was near the whites he might get \$300 per acre and then spend the money in a reckless way. He said the Six Nations was not in favor of Enfranchisement.

Chief Pah-quah-che-ne-ne said he knew of a case in which an Indian became enfranchised, sold his forty acres, bought a steam boat, and was now a poor man.

The President expressed himself as against the amendments to the Enfranchisement Act.

Chief Augustine was also against the amendments.

Chief George Fisher said he did not want to be confined to the old fashioned way; as soon as a young man becomes educated he wishes more freedom and to become enfranchised. He thought sufficient protection was laid down in the Act to keep out the careless, reckless ones from the benefits of enfranchisement. If the Band think a person is fit for enfranchisement, why keep him back? Let him become a citizen. He was in favor of enfranchisement as set down.

Chief P. E. Jones spoke strongly in favor of the act as amended.

Chief Augustine was very glad he had heard such fine speeches but he was doubtful if they would bring forth any fruit. Some of you wish to become like white men. Perhaps you will be like the white man who made this paper, (pointing to the Robinson Treaty) and then broke it. If any of my Band wish to become like the white men who have broken this treaty, you may go, I will give you nothing.

Chief Kadahgawon considered himself enfranchised already because he was a Christian.

It was moved by George Fisher, seconded by Wm. Walker, and resolved, that this Council approve of the enfranchisement Sections of the Act as amended. Carried unanimously.

It was moved by Chief P. E. Jones, seconded by Jas. A. Wood, and resolved, that the remainder of the Sections of the Indian Act be approved of. Carried.

The President adjourned the Council until 9, a. m., of Sept. 13th, 1884. Approved.

S. JAMES.  
W. B. MCGREGOR.

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MORNING SESSION.

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SEPTEMBER 13, 1886.

The President took the chair at 9, a. m.. Council was opened by singing and prayer by Chief Jos. B. Naneshkong.

The minutes of former meeting were read and interpreted, and on motion were approved as amended.

Respecting the petition of Chief Waddilove to be recognized as a delegate to the Council.

It was moved by Able Waucosh, seconded by Jas. A. Wood, and resolved, that the constitution be carried out and that Chief Waddilove be admitted as a visitor. Carried.

It was moved by John George, seconded by Chief Wm. Angus, and resolved, that David Root be accepted by this Council as a substitute for Chief John Kadahgagewon absent, from sickness, by permission. Carried.

It was moved, seconded, and resolved, that Wm. Elliott be assistant interpreter. Lost.

It was moved and seconded in amendment, and resolved, that Chief Joseph Fisher be assistant interpreter. Carried.

The "Indian Advancement Act" was then taken up and discussed.

The first section of the Act was read and interpreted.

Chief John Henry wished an explanation as to how the two Acts worked together, for the Act of 1880 embraced a great deal of what was in the Advancement Act.

Chief Dr. Jones called the attention of Chief Henry and the Council to the 13th section of the new Act and explained that they could not clash.

George Fisher said that the new Advancement Act ought to be very carefully considered, for this reason that there was a provision for the paying of taxes in it, and the punishment by imprisonment failing to pay them. The Act would deprive members out of the elected Council from having a voice in the working of the local affairs of the Band. It also provided for the cutting up of the Reserve by survey against the will of the people. He thought the Local Agent had too much power and might abuse it.

Upon motion the Council adjourned for dinner.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

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The reading of the advancement Act was continued.

Upon the 3rd Section, Chief Dr. Jones explained that the Act could not apply to any Band until an order in Council was passed. He considered the Act could not and never would be applied to

any Band which had not by petition asked that it should apply to them. He considered the framing of the Act by the Superintendent General was intended as a liberal kindness to those advanced Bands who wished to take the management of their local affairs more into their own hands. The above explanation was made upon request of Chief John Henry.

Before continuing the discussion of the Act, clause by clause, the Act was read through and interpreted and at the close the Secretary Chief P. E. Jones explained the Act as a whole, showing that it divided itself into two parts, first that of appointing a Council of elected Councilmen, and second, the provisions for framing By laws for the local Government of the Band. He considered it a batch of privileges and on his own part was very thankful to the Superintendent General for framing such an Act.

Chief S. James, President, said that after hearing the Act read and the explanations made he considered that all the Indians of the Robinson Treaty were not capable of coping with its provisions and he would refrain from raising his hand in favor of it.

Abner Elliott thought the Act too oppressive in the way of taxation.

Wm. Walker said that although he thought his Band not yet fit to use the Act he would offer no opposition to it.

Chief Wm. B. McGregor said he was very much surprised at the way some of the Delegates opposed the Act. On the part of his own Band he would say that at the present time they were using almost the same provisions for local government as were contained in the Act and he saw no objections to it.

Chief John French said that as there was nothing compulsory about the Act he thought there was no use discussing it. Let those Bands who thought themselves fit for its adoption do so.

Abner Elliott said that he was surprised to hear some Chiefs say that they spurn the efforts of the Indian Department to aid the Indians in taking care of themselves. By entirely rejecting this new Act they can get along well enough with their own rules without submitting them to the Department for confirmation.

Wm. Elliott said it seems to me that some of the Delegates wish to continue in the woods or wilderness or along the lake shore where you can depend upon fishing and hunting. Now at the present time I see schools upon most of the Reserves, you send your small children to the schools. On the first day he does not learn even his A B C, but as he goes on and on he becomes educated and when he arrives at manhood he wishes to become more like the whiteman and obtain his living in the white man's way. So it is with a Band which has become gradually civilized and educated, they then wish to have their local affairs governed somewhat like the white people do theirs. This Act is not compulsory. Let it remain as it is and give those Bands wishing to come under it a chance to do so.

Chief Augustine said he blamed the Indians of the East and South who were educated for having these laws passed, but those of the North and West would not adopt them for they were awake and not asleep.

It was moved by Chief M. Chubb, seconded by Wm. Walker, and resolved, that "The Indian Advancement Act" be set aside. Lost.

It was moved in amendment by Chief P. E. Jones, seconded by Wm. C. N. Elliott, and resolved, that as "The Indian Advancement Act" is a liberal one and not compulsory this Council hereby approves of it. Carried.

Chief Dr. Jones spoke strongly in favor of his resolution. He pointed out the fact that only Bands which considered they were fit to take advantage of the privileges contained in this Act and had by petition of their council asked for it could have it apply to them. He showed that if a Band adopted it, then it was their privilege by section 10 of the act, to make By-Laws for their local government upon *all or any* of the 14 different subjects set forth in the sub-sections. One of those sub-sections, No. 11, gave the Band power to raise money by taxes according to the value of the landed property each Indian possessed. The Band adopting

the act might make a Tax By-law, or not, just as they saw fit. At present the public expenses of the Reservés were paid by a tax upon our interest money, which made each man, woman and child pay alike, and which for many reasons was not just.

Chief Chas. Herchmer spoke in favor of the Act. He told the Council that his Band, the Mississaugas, of the Credit, had already framed By-Laws upon most of the subjects mentioned in section 10, and upon all the subjects mentioned in the "Indian Act, 1880," section 74. He felt certain these By-Laws would be of great benefit to them and when confirmed by the Government they became law, and any Magistrate could punish any persons who broke such By-Laws, but they could not act upon rules and regulations made by the chiefs and council but not confirmed by the Government. He hoped this council would look in favor upon the "Indian advancement Act," and thereby encourage the Indian Department to grant us still further privileges.

Wm. Walker said he was sorry he had seconded the motion of Chief Chubb in the way it is worded. He first understood that if the Advancement Act was adopted they would be enfranchised, but now he saw his mistake. He considered when he seconded the resolution that the motion was intended to adjourn the debate on this Act until another time.

Chief Wm. B. McGregor said it was now eight years since he had heard the Indian Acts and they were then discussed in the Grand Council. They were of a compulsory nature and he was one who advocated a change and to have them left more optional with the Bands. He was glad to know that the Government had listened to the Indians and the Grand Council. Now every Band was independant of each other. He could not avail himself of the advantages of the Act at present but he would not put any obstacles in the way of other Bands embracing it, and if he saw them getting along well he would imitate them. Applause.

Chief S. James said, we, the Indians of the North of the Lake,

are not capable of using the Act lately passed. We are ignorant and innocent respecting it. But I have no objection to the civilized tribes coming under this law.

William Elliott said that as seconder of the amendment he would like to make a few short remarks. The superintendent General did not wish to force his measures upon the Indians against their will, and gave as an instance the provisions of the enfranchisement clauses of the Indian Act. No one had suffered under it. If he had the slightest idea that it would hurt the Northern Indian Bands he would not have seconded the amendment, but being convinced the other way he had acted accordingly. Cheers.

The amendment was then put and carried by a large majority.

On motion the Council adjourned until 9 a.m., Monday 15th, 1884.

Approved. S. JAMES.  
W. B. MCGREGOR.

MORNING SESSION.

SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1884.

Council was opened 9 a.m. by singing and prayer by Abner Elliott.

The minutes of former meeting were read, when Chief M. Chubb and Rev. G. Blaker explained in reference to Chief Chubb's motion respecting the Advancement Act, that the Ojibway language for the words "set aside" was very mild, and meant rather "to lay over" for future consideration, and that the meaning of the motion was intended to be of that character.

Upon motion the minutes were approved.

The matter of the Northern Indians and the Robinson Treaty was taken up.

Chief S. James thought it would be sufficient for a few of the principle men to speak, and then have the opinion of the council in the matter. He made a strong appeal to the delegates to assist the Northern Indians to get their rights.

James Paguhucgahbank thought the local matter of the Band should be discussed in their own council, but as to their grievances with the Government he thought the Grand Council could assist them.

Chief Augustine said he was glad to see all the Delegates. He had often heard of the Indian Acts being discussed by the Eastern Bands, and he was under the impression and fear that they were endeavouring to include all the Northern Bands in their request to become unfranchised also, but now it appeared to him that such was not the case, and he felt more satisfied. He had sold much land and timber, the land contained all kinds of minerals, but the payments for the land came slowly and often not at all. He wished to have the co-operation of the Grand Council to lay this grievance before the Government in as strong a light as possible.

Chief Pahwagene said be patient with my Chief Augustine, we will endeavour to explain our grievances. I hope you will be kind enough as a council to assist me to get the Government to carry out the terms of the Robinson Treaty. Yesterday I attended church twice. I am very glad I wish to be pious, I wish my children to be educated, I thank you a'l for your kind attention to my speech.

Chief Peter Megis said. During the war of 1812 a red coated man asked me to help him in the war, and told me he would give me a pension, but he has not fulfilled his agreement. Why is it so? I want you to give me advice as to how I am to proceed to get my pension.

It was moved by Chief C. Herchmer, seconded by Abner



Elliott, and resolved, that this Council humbly request the Superintendent General of Indian affairs to order an investigation as soon as possible into the grievances of the Northern Indians embraced in the Robinson Treaty of 1850. Carried.

Chief Wm. McGregor said in answer to some Delegates who complained of their Agent keeping back the interest money of absentees, he would state that the Agent of his Band had the same rule, but the absentee gave a written order to some friend at home to draw for them, which they did, and there was no injustice done. The Council adjourned for dinner.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.  
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The Secretary read a letter he had received from Chief A. Manidowassing and seven others of Shegwandah, Manitoulin Island.

It was moved and seconded that the contents of the letter be inserted in the Minutes.

The following is the letter:

"To the Chiefs and Delegates assembled in Council at Cape Crocker. My kind greetings."

"I regret that I am unable to come to meet you. In lieu of my personal presence I send you my requests, and wish that they be discussed in the meeting."

1. I wish the Superintendent General of the Indian Department to send me a statement of exactly the amount of each individual Indian's annuity and interest money, for the spring of 1884. The Interest payment was only \$1.10. I want to know if this is all each Indian should receive.

2. I hear that a large island near us called Strawberry Island, also another large island, called La Cloche Island have been sold, also Club Island, Bear Island, and Horse Island. All these islands were Indian lands and I want to know if the Indians

are receiving the interest of the money realized from the sale of these lands. The Department did not mention to us that these lands were to be sold as in the case of the Manitoulin Island. I want to know why?

3. I think to that too much is paid out of the Indian Funds for different expenses such as surveying, &c. I would like these expenses to be reduced as much as possible. The Indians are poor and need all their money.

We expect our Bishop to visit us in a few days and I made engagements to be at home to meet him. This is one reason why I cannot come to meet you.

Our kinds wishes. Yours truly,

CHIEF A. MANIDOWASSING.  
 JOHN MITCHELL.  
 JOHN PAHBEWASH.  
 WANDUHBAN.  
 WILSON GAHOZHENEGA.  
 JAMES PAHBEWANAH.  
 JOHN NAHWAKEZHUK.  
 OJA KEZHEONGAR.

Permission was given Assence to address through his speaker, Francis Norwegushig, who said that their reserve was an old one and adjoined the Wekwemekong reserve and the chiefs on that reserve interfered with their affairs, and the Indians came upon the reserve and removed wood from it. They felt it a hardship that it was so and wanted to lay the matter before the Grand Council and get their help to remove the grievance.

Moved by Chief S. James, seconded by Chief Angus, and resolved, that this Council humbly request the Superintendent General to order an investigation into the grievances of Chief David Assence. Carried.

Chief P. E. Jones read a letter from Mr. Percy Wood, of England, respecting the erection of a monument to the memory of Chief Tecumseth. He strongly advocated the matter, and would like it to be erected in his Council House grounds.

Chief J. Shewanoo was called upon to state if Tecumseth was an Ojibeway or not. He said that Tecumseth was a Shawanee

and not a Chippeway Indian, but he led the Chippeways during the war from the west clear down to the Hudson river. The Superintendent was a half-breed and had charge of both nations, the Shawanee and Ojibeway. They united in battle and were led by Tecumseth. The speaker's father was a cousin of Tecumseth and fought beside him and saw him fall. The Chief then spoke a few sentences in the Shawanee language which amused and interested the Council greatly.

Moved by Wm. Walker, seconded by Rev. G. Blaker, and resolved, that this matter be laid over until further information be obtained. Carried

The Secretary called the attention of the Council to the fact that there was still \$11.19 due his Band for expenses of the Grand Council.

Moved by Able Waucosh, seconded by Chief Wm. McGregor, and resolved, that each Delegate pay in the sum of 25 cents to wipe out the Council debt. Carried.

A long discussion took place respecting the Mount Elgin Industrial School at Muncy, and the opinion seemed to be about equally divided that it was poorly and well managed.

The Council adjourned for tea.

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EVENING SESSION.  
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On motion the President allowed Chief Tahgawenene (Jos. Jaquo) to address the Council.

He said he belonged originally to the Sarnia reservation and it was from them he should receive his interest money but he did not do so.

Moved by A. Elliott, seconded by Rev. G. Blaker, and resolved that the Superintendent General be humbly requested to order an investigation into the grievances of Chief Jos. Jaquo. Carried.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Upon motion the President vacated the chair and Abner Elliott was appointed chairman, and the Council proceeded to the election of officers.

## FOR PRESIDENT.

The following nominations were made:

NAME.	MOVER.	SECONDER.
Chief P. E. Jones,	Chief John Henry,	John French,
Chief W. B. McGregor,	Chief C. Herchmer,	John Nicholas,
Chief Jos. Fisher,	Wm. Elliott,	F. Lamorandier.
Abner Elliott,	Chief D. Sawyer,	Jos. Fisher.
Chief Sol. James,	Chief C. Bigcanoe,	Chief Megis,
Chief Jno. Henry,	Rev. G. Blaker,	H. Midwayosh.
Rev. Geo. Blaker,	Chief S. Logan,	Wm. Walker,

The vote was taken in the usual way when Chief Wm. B. McGregor received the majority of votes 29, and his election as President was upon motion made unanimous amidst much applause.

## FOR 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT.

NAME.	MOVER.	SECONDER.
Chief John Henry,	Jos. Walker,	Chief Wm. Angus.
Chief Jos. Fisher,	Wm. Elliott,	F. Lamorandier.
Chief Sol. James,	Chief C. Bigcanoe,	Jos. Benson.
Rev. G. Blaker,	Chief S. Logan,	Chief C. Herchimer.
John Augustine,	Chief D. Sawyer,	Rev. G. Blaker.

Chief Jos. Fisher received the majority of votes and his election as 1st Vice-President was made unanimous.

## FOR 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT.

NAME.	MOVER.	SECONDER.
John Augustine,	Chief D. Sawyer,	Rev. G. Blaker.
Chief John Henry,	Wm. Walker,	Chief W. Angus.
Abner Elliott,	Chief C. Herchmer,	Wm. Elliott.
Chief Sol. James,	Chief C. Bigcanoe,	Chief P. Megis.
Chief Sampson Green,	Chief P. E. Jones,	" W. McGregor.

Chief Solomon James received the largest vote and his election as 2nd Vice-President was made unanimous.

FOR SECRETARY-TREASURER.

It was moved by Wm. Elliott, seconded by Chief W. B. McGregor, and resolved, that Chief P. E. Jones, M. D., be Sec.-Treas. Carried by acclamation.

FOR INTERPRETER.

It was moved by Wm. Elliott, seconded by John George, and resolved, that Able Waucosh be appointed Interpreter. Carried by acclamation.

It was moved by Able Waucosh, seconded by John Nicholas, and resolved, that the Sec.-Treas. receive a salary of twenty-five dollars for the ensuing two years. Carried.

It was moved by Chief C. Herchmer, seconded by Chief Jas Fox, and resolved, that the Interpreter receive \$1.00 per day during the session of Council. Carried.

It was moved by Chief P. E. Jones, seconded by Able Waucosh, and resolved, that the following be added to clause 12 of the constitution :

"But when there is only one Delegate from a reserve he may be allowed a seconder from another reserve." Carried.

The business of choosing a place for the meeting of the next Grand Council was taken up.

It was moved by Henry Madwayosh, seconded by David Root, and resolved, that the next Council be held at Saugeen reserve. Carried 21.

It was moved by Abner Elliott, seconded by F. Lamorandier, and resolved, that the next Council be held at Cape Croker reserve. Lost, 7.

It was moved by Chief P. E. Jones, seconded by Jas. A. Wood, and resolved, that the next Council be held at the New Credit reserve. Lost, 11.

It was moved by Chief J. B. Naneshkong, seconded by Chief

S. Logan, and resolved, that the next Grand Council be held at Rama reserve. Lost, 8.

It was moved by Able Waucosh, seconded by Wm. Elliott, and resolved, that the next Grand Council be held on the second Wednesday of September, 1886. Carried.

It was moved by Chief P. E. Jones, seconded by Chief Scobie Logan, and resolved, that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered by this Council for the kind manner in which the Delegates have been treated while at Cape Croker. Carried by standing vote and loud cheers.

Moved by Able Waucosh, seconded by Chief Scobie Logan, and resolved, that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the ladies of Cape Croker for their kindness during our stay here. Carried with cheers.

The President, Chief Wm. B. McGregor, then addressed the Council.

He said, before I close this Grand General Indian Council I wish to say that I fear you have made a mistake in choosing me as President, for I think I am not intelligent enough for the position, and there are many here who are better qualified than I am. I was greatly astonished at being elected for I did not expect it. I am, however, proud and thankful to you for the honorable position you have placed me in and will do my best to fill it properly.

I trust that the various motions that have been passed during this session and especially those respecting the Northern Indians will be attended to. They may not get proper attention at first but by continually pressing the matter they will be listened to in the end.

It is my great desire that this Council shall be self supporting in financial matters. The sum required from each Delegate is small and I hope at the next Council sufficient money will be on hand to bear all expenses.

I trust that during the next two years you will all enjoy peace and happiness and that we shall meet again at Saugeen Reserve

with a large delegation determined to work wisely and hard for the benefit of our race. I thank you all for visiting my Reserve. Loud cheers.

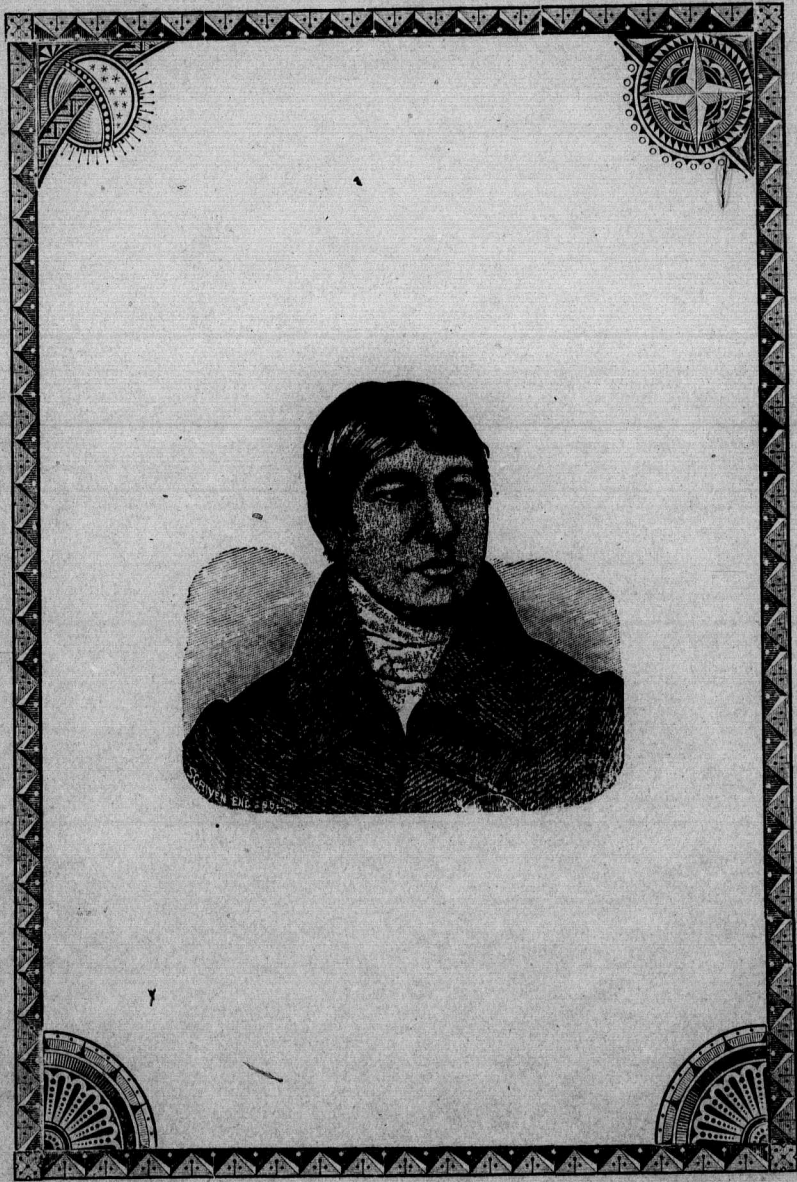
The 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents made eloquent speeches, thanking the Council for the honorable positions it had placed them in. The Council then closed, the band playing

“GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.”









SCRIVEN ENG. 1844