

For the Cousins' Minutes

19

MINUTES

—OF THE—

7th Grand General Indian Council,

—HELD UPON THE—

NEW CREDIT INDIAN RESERVE,

Near Hagersville, Ontario.

FROM SEPTEMBER 13th TO SEPTEMBER 18th, 1882.

OFFICERS :

PRESIDENT : CHIEF SAMPSON GREEN, DESERONTO.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT : JAMES STYERS. 2ND VICE PRESIDENT : CHIEF SOLOMON JAMES.

SECRETARY & TREASURER : CHIEF P. E. JONES, M. D.,
HAGERSVILLE.

*Pamph
1883*

HAGERSVILLE, ONTARIO :

PRINTED AT THE HAGERSVILLE BOOK AND JOB ROOMS.
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1883
Box 1

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- 5 Jos
- 7 Lou
- 9 Vic
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- 1 Hy
- 3 M.
- 5 Fre
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CLASSIFIED LIST
—OF—
CHIEFS  DELEGATES
—ATTENDING THE—
Grand General Indian Council of 1882.

Manitoulin Island Reserve.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Francis Medosaga, Chief. | 2 William Genoshameg, Chief. |
| 3 Chas. Wahbegegik, “ | 4 Thos. Genoshameg, “ |
| 5 Joseph Tagewenene, “ | 6 Louis Odjig, “ |
| 7 Louis Mendowahbe, Delegate | 8 Alex. Wawashkosh, Delegate |
| 9 Vicint Wahkegegik, “ | 10 L. Meshepeneshemah, “ |
| 11 Joseph Agowesay, “ | 12 Louis King, “ |

Saugeen Reserve.

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Hy. H. Madwayosh, Chief. | 2 David Root, 2nd Chief. |
| 3 M. B. Madwayosh, Delegate. | 4 John George, Delegate. |
| 5 Fred Waubegce, “ | 6 Rev. Wm. Walker, “ |
| 7 John Kewaquom, “ | |

Muncy Reserve.

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Joseph Fisher, Chief. | 2 John Chicken, Chief. |
| 3 John Henry, “ | 4 Abel Waucahsh, “ |
| 5 Job Fisher, “ | 6 Thomas Fisher, “ |
| 7 Joseph French, “ | 8 George Fisher, “ |
| 9 Peter Brigham, “ | 10 John French, “ |

Sarnia Reserve.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Nicholas Plain, Chief. | 2 Joseph Wawanosh, Chief. |
| 3 Wm. Wawanosh, “ | 4 Robert George, “ |
| 5 Albert Rodd, “ | 6 James Menass, “ |

Walpole Island Reserve.

1 J. Pah-tah-quoung, Chief.	2 James Elgin, Chief.
3 James Saugee, "	4 Henry Naggs, "
5 Mo-ke-we-nah, "	6 Joseph Kahyoshk, "

Cape Crocker Reserve.

1 Wm. McGregor, Chief.	2 Wm. Angus, Chief.
3 Fred Lamorandier, "	4 Abner Elliott, "
5 Wm. Waukay, "	

Bay of Quinte.

1 Samson Green, Chief.	2 Abram. P. Brant, Chief.
3 Jas. P. Brant, "	

Six Nation Reserve.

1 A. G. Smith, Chief.	2 Josiah Hill, Chief.
3 N. H. Burning, "	4 John Fraser, "
5 Elijah Johnson, "	6 Peter Powless, "
7 John Carpenter, "	8 Seth Newhouse, "
9 Richard Hill, "	10 Wm. Wedge, "
11 Moses Hill, "	12 David Hill-Sawyer, "
13 Nicodemus Porter, "	14 Joseph Henry, "
15 Henry C. Clinch, "	16 George Key, "
17 James Steys, "	18 John A. Beaver, "

Delawars of Grand River.

1 Michael Anthony, Chief.	2 Rev. A. Anthony, Chief.
3 Wm. Monture, "	4 John Monture, "

Oneidas of the Thames.

1 Rev A. Sickles, Chief.	2 Moses Brown, Chief.
3 John Brown, "	4 Peter Powless, "
5 John Sickles, "	6 Louis Island, "

Sauble Reserve.

1 Thomas Johnson, Chief.	2 John Johnson, Chief.
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Alderville Reserve.

1 Peter Crow, Chief.	2 Thos. Marsden, Chief.
3 Wm. Baker, "	

Muncys of the Thames.

- | | | | | |
|--------|------------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| Chief. | 1 Wm. Waddilove, | Chief. | 2 James Huff, | Chief. |
| “ | 3 John Nicholas, | “ | | |

Messissaugas of the Credit.

- | | | | | |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------|----------------------|--------|
| Chief. | 1 Dr. P. E. Jones, | Chief. | 2 C. M. Herkimer, | Chief. |
| “ | 3 David Sawyer, | Ex-Chief. | 4 John Sterling, | “ |
| | 5 Jas. Tobieoe, | Chief. | 6 Hiram Tobieoe, | “ |
| | 7 Ed. Spencer, | “ | 8 John Cheehock, | “ |
| Chief. | 9 Charles Wesley, | “ | 10 Jas. A. Wood, | “ |
| | 11 Wm. Elliott, | “ | 12 Alonzo McDougall, | “ |
| | 13 Jas. Lafo me, Sr., | “ | 14 Peter Sault, | “ |
| | 15 George Henry, | “ | 16 Alf. A. Jones, | “ |
| Chief. | 17 Wm. Sterling, | “ | | |

Shawanago Reserve.

- | | | |
|---|------------------|--------|
| “ | 1 Solomon James, | Chief. |
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Parry Island Reserve.

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|--------|
| “ | 1 Peter Negiss, | Chief. |
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South Bay Manitoulin Reserve.

- | | | |
|---|------------------|--------|
| “ | 1 David Assance, | Chief. |
|---|------------------|--------|

Georgian Island Reserve.

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------|
| “ | 1 Chas. Bigeanoe, | Chief. |
|---|-------------------|--------|

Rama Reserve.

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|---|---------------------|--------|
| “ | 1 Rev. John Jacobs, | Chief. |
|---|---------------------|--------|

Scugog Reserve.

- | | | |
|--------|-------------------|--------|
| Chief. | 1 Chancy Johnson, | Chief. |
|--------|-------------------|--------|

Kettle Point Reserve.

- | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------|
| “ | 1 Isaac Shawahnoo, | Chief. |
|---|--------------------|--------|

Chief.

Chief.

SUMMARY.

NAME OF RESERVE.	NO. OF DELEGATES.
Manitoulin Island.	12
Saugeen.	7
Muncy,	10
Sarnia,	6
Walpole Island,	6
Cape Crocker,	5
Bay of Quinte,	3
Six Nations,	18
Delawares of Grand River,	4
Oneidas of the Thames,	6
Sauble,	2
Alderville,	3
Muncys of the Thames,	3
New Credit,	17
Shawanagoo,	1
Parry Island,	1
Georgian Island,	1
South Bay Manitoulin,	1
Rama,	1
Scugog,	1
Kettle Point,	1
21 Reserves,	Delegates 109

Open
of
Counc

DELEGATES.

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MINUTES

—OF THE—

Grand General Indian Council.

NEW CREDIT, 13TH SEPTEMBER, 1882.

Opening At 10 a. m. the Delegates of the various tribes had assembled in the new Council House of the Mississauguas, Council of the Credit.

The President, Chief Wm. Wawanosh, took the chair and the proceedings were formally opened by singing and prayer, by Rev. Henry P. Chase.

Address of Dr. P. E. Jones, Head Chief of the New Credit Tribe, was granted permission to address the Council. On behalf of his Band he welcomed the Delegates to his reserve. *Welcome by Chief* He trusted they had all found their billets and that *P. E. Jones.* during their stay they would be comfortable, both in mind and body. He informed the Council that his people had decided to give to all Delegates during the session their supper, bed and breakfast free, so that all the expense the delegates would be at would be the purchase of their dinner. (Applause) He was pleased to see such a large Delegation and was especially happy in being able to meet so many of his Manitoulin Island Brethren. He congratulated them upon the very beautiful weather they were having, and trusted their deliberations would be carried on in a spirit of brotherly love and that the work done at the Grand Council of 1882 would be of much benefit to the Indian Tribes of Canada. He informed the Council that he would have to ask them for Friday, 15th, as he and his people had made arrangements to formally open the new Council House upon that day; he trusted, however, that the suspension of business for that purpose would be amply made up by the amusements and entertainments of the inauguration.

The President's Speech.

The President, in giving his opening address, gladly welcomed the Delegates to this the 7th meeting of the Grand General Indian Council. He was very much gratified at the large attendance and complimented them upon their fine and intelligent appearance and happily alluded to the progress the Indian Tribes had made towards civilization and enlightenment which enabled them now to exhibit a gathering like the present, composed of such a large number of happy faces, well clothed bodies, and no doubt, wise heads!

He referred to the original Indian Act —how in Councils of his people in times past it was found not suitable to their welfare; that the Government upon petitions from the Indians had, from time to time, so amended the

First Resolution

Act that now we have a law which though still capable of improvement is far in advance of the former legislation.

Prominent among these changes and additions is that of Enfranchisement, by which any Indian is enabled to become a citizen, if he attains the required degree of education and civilization and bears a good character for integrity and sobriety. He told them the last Indian Act would be laid before them and each and every clause would be explained to them by men of our own race who were capable of doing so, and he trusted they would deliberate upon them with an eye to the general good of the race and not simply for the benefit of their own local reserves.

In concluding he had pleasure in eulogizing the efforts of Chief P. E. Jones in the building of such a beautiful Council House and in so beautifying the grounds appertaining thereto. He felt sure that he would be long remembered by his people and that the substantial house he had built and the beautiful trees he had planted would be a monument to his energy and good advice long after he had passed away, as his late father's memory still lives from his having done so much for the benefit of his people by preaching the blessed Gospel. He ended by saying "Chiefs and Delegates, I shake hands with you all in my heart."

As this speech was delivered in the English language the interpreters were immediately appointed.

First Resolution It was moved by Chief John Henry, seconded by Chief James Menass, and resolved, that Abel Waucaush be interpreter for the Ojibways. Carried.

It was moved by Chief Charles Herkimer, seconded by Chief Dr. Jones, and resolved, that Chief Alex. Smith be interpreter for the Six Nations. Carried.

The President's speech was then interpreted.

The minutes of the last General Council, held at Sauguen, were read, and on motion, were approved.

The President then adjourned the Council until 3 o'clock p. m.

— — — — —

AFTERNOON SESSION.

GENERAL COUNCIL, NEW CREDIT RESERVE,
September 13th, 1882.

The President took the chair at 3 o'clock, and the election of officers for the ensuing term was proceeded with. For President the following nominations were made:—

<i>Election of Officers.</i>	MOVED BY	SEC'D BY
1 James Styers,	Ch. Alex. Smith,	Ch. Sampson Green.
2 Rev. H. P. Chase.	John Stirling,	Abner Elliott.
4 Ch. Wm. Wawanosh,	Ch. Jas. Mañass,	Ch. John Chicken.
4 Ch. P. E. Jones	Ch. John Henry,	John Finch.

Upon motion, Chiefs Samson Green and Joseph Fisher were appointed scrutineers for the election. The election took place in the usual way by each delegate stepping up to the scrutineer's desk and recording his name in favor of his chosen candidate.

At the close of the poll the following votes were found to have been cast: James Styers, 24; Rev. H. P. Chase, 51; Wm. Wawanosh, 5; Dr. P. E. Jones, 20.

Rev. H. P. Chase was therefore declared elected President for the following term of two years.

It was moved by Chief Dr. Jones, seconded by John Sterling, and resolved, that this Council do elect only two Vice-Presidents. Carried.

Fourth
Resolu-
tion

James Styers for 1st Vice-President was moved by Chief Alex. Smith, seconded by Chief Moses Brown, and elected by acclamation.

Chief Solomon James, Dr. Jones and Joseph Fisher were nominated for second Vice-President, but Chiefs Jones and Fisher withdrawing, Chief Solomon James was elected by acclamation.

F. Lamorandier and Dr. P. E. Jones were nominated for Secretary-Treasurer, but as Mr. Lamorandier strongly appealed to the Council to be relieved from the office which he had held for two years, Dr. Jones was declared elected, unanimously, by a rising vote.

Fourth Resolution Moved by Abel Waucaush, seconded by Wm. Elliott, and resolved, that each Band represented in this Council do contribute one dollar (\$1.00) to defray expenses attendant upon publishing the minutes thereof. Carried.

The account of the late Secretary was here presented for payment and a discussion took place as to the best way to form a fund to bear the expenses of the Grand General Indian Council. The subject was postponed until the next session and on motion of Chief P. Crow, seconded by A. A. Jones, the Council adjourned until 9 a. m. of the 14th inst.

MORNING SESSION.

GENERAL COUNCIL, NEW CREDIT RESERVE,
September 14th, 1882.

Present: the Officers and most of the Chiefs and Delegates.

The President took the chair at 9 30 a. m., and the Council was opened by singing and prayer by Rev. John Jacobs.

New President's Address The President, speaking in English, addressed the Council, congratulating them upon the fine representation present. He spoke eloquently of the attachment of the Indian Tribes to our Great Mother the Queen and hoped we could continue to show our Loyalty to the Crown.

He gave a short but interesting account of his visit to England and showed some medals he had received as Chief and former President of the Grand Council. He compared the former condition of the Indians with their present civilized state and gave some very wise and useful advice respecting the conduct to be observed in the Council and the work to be done. He concluded by thanking them for the honor they had conferred upon him by a second time electing him as President. (Applause)

Second Vice-president's Address Chief Solomon James, 2nd Vice-President, said he rose by permission of the President to thank the Council for the honorable position they had placed him in. He earnestly advised the delegates to work harmoniously together, by which means they would be able to transact more business and do it better than had been done in some former Grand Councils. (Cheers)

The unfinished scheme for raising funds for the Grand Councils was discussed.

Wm. Wawanosh was of opinion it would not be just to tax each band alike, as there was such a difference in the size and wealth of the various tribes.

The President also thought the tax should be regulated by the population.

Moses Madwayosh called attention to the fact that some bands had paid their share and some had not, and he hoped the delinquents would pay.

Chief Charles Bigcanoe said that if each band gave one dollar (\$1.00)—it was a small sum—but would be sufficient to create the fund desired, provided the Six Nations gave six dollars (\$6.00); that is one dollar (\$1.00) for each of their tribes.

Chief P. Crow was in favor of appointing a committee to decide the matter and report to the Council.

Fifth Resolution

Sixth Resolution

Seventh Resolution

Chief Rev. A. Sickles said as the delegates were representing the people of the various tribes he supposed they had confidence in them, and thought that each band should at once pay one dollar (\$1.00) in to the Sec'y-Treas. and wipe out the small debt and show ourselves honest.

Mr. Sickles suggestion was immediately acted upon and 18 of the Bands present paid in one dollar (1.00) each as shown by the financial statement in the latter part of these minutes.

Fifth Resolution It was moved by Chief A. G. Smith, seconded by Chief Josiah Hill, and resolved, that in future every Band of Indians shall be represented in the Grand Council according to population, every 100 members shall be entitled to one representative, and every representative shall be required to pay fifty cents into the funds of the Grand Council—provided however, that every Band composed of less than one hundred members shall be entitled to one representative. Carried.

Sixth Resolution It was moved by Chief D. Crow, seconded by John Nichols, in amendment and resolved, that each Band be represented according to their financial position. Lost.

Upon motion the Council adjourned to meet again at 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

September 14th, 1882.

Seventh Resolution The President took the chair at 2 p. m.
Moved by Chief A. G. Smith, seconded by Fred Lamorandier, that Chief Dr. P. E. Jones be Treasurer of the Grand Council in addition to his Secretaryship. Carried.

Question by S. Green Chief Samson Green wished to know, as all the Bands had been invited to the Council, if the President had a programme of the business to be here transacted.

President's reply The President said he had not, but that he had carefully perused the last Indian Act and he hoped those who had read it would be prepared to name the several clauses which might appear to them to be objectionable or at variance with the welfare of the Indians, and asked them to give their views freely upon those sections.

He thought that when the affairs of the Indians were under the control of the Imperial Government they got better satisfaction and had more confidence in it, but he was sorry to say that since the care of the Indians had been transferred to the Canadian Government the same confidence did not exist towards it. They were kept in ignorance of a good many things and their money matters were so managed as to give uneasiness to the Indians, and the expenses of the management were greatly increased.

W. Wawanosh's Speech Wm. Wawanosh said, in reply to the address of the President, as he (the President) had asserted that the management of the Indians now was not so satisfactory as when under the Imperial control, he would like the President to make some distinct charge, that the Council might discuss it. He was inclined to believe that the purely Canadian management was the best and referred to the annual reports made by the Government which were distributed among the educated Indians in which everything was shown how the monies were handled.

Chief Dr. Jones' Speech Chief Dr. P. E. Jones was also of opinion that the management was best under Canadian control. In the case of the more trivial grievances, Ottawa was much more convenient of approach than London, England, and in the event of serious trouble there was nothing in the transfer of management to prevent our appealing directly to our Great Mother the Queen. In his connection with the affairs of the Messissaugus, of the Credit, for a number of years, necessitating several visits to Ottawa, he had only found one Superintendent-General who was difficult to

President's reply

Eighth Resolution

Ninth Resolution

Section No. 20

approach and unwilling to listen to the matters requiring attention. Moreover the present Government have lately made a most important and wise appointment: that of an "Inspector of Indian Agencies and Reserves," whose duty it is to visit each Reserve and hear and investigate before the Indians themselves any complaints they may have and report them to the Government: The present management have also instructed their agents to hand a copy of the account current of the past year to the head chief of each tribe by which means they should be able to see exactly how they stand financially.

President's reply. The President said he wished to bring no charge against the Government but referred to the unnecessary expenses as shown by the report presented and advised the Grand Council to recommend curtailing the expense to as narrow a compass as possible.

The above discussion took place while the first nine sections of the Indian Act were under consideration.

Where sections of the Act are not mentioned in the minutes it is to be inferred that said sections met with the approval of the Chiefs and Delegates present at the time they should have been discussed.

Eighth Resolution. Section No. 12 was examined and after some discussion, it was moved by Chief Josiah Hill, seconded by Chief A. G. Smith, and resolved, that this Council have no amendment to advise upon Section No. 12. Carried.

Ninth Resolution. Upon Section No. 13.

Moved by Chief Josiah Hill, seconded by John Beaver, and resolved, that this Council have no amendment to offer to Section No. 13 of the Indian Act. Carried.

Section No. 20. Upon Section No. 20 a long discussion took place, most of the Delegates arguing that it was very necessary that provision should be made that a civilized and educated Indian might make a will which would be legal, bequeathing the property he had accumulated to his family or other

member of the Band to which he belongs. It was argued that the uncertain and arbitrary provision made for the distribution of property in this section had a tendency to discourage an Indian in accumulating property, as by it he is not permitted to distinguish between members of the family or relatives who have been friendly and of assistance to him and those who have been the reverse.

Tenth Resolution Moved by Chief N. H. Burning, seconded by Chief Elijah Johnson, and resolved, that this Council do hereby recommend that Section 20 of the Indian Act be so amended that Indians be allowed to make a legal will. Carried.

Eleventh Resolution Moved by Chief P. Crow, seconded by Wm. Wawanosh, and resolved, in amendment that the section be retained as it is. Lost.

Wm. Wawanosh in seconding Chief Crow's motion said that the law had now been in existence a long time and there was no case brought forward to show they had suffered by it. He thought it might cause injury, as a careless widow might squander the property of her late husband and he knew by experience that such cases had occurred where great injustice had been done and where the Band had been obliged to interfere to protect the children. *

* I was unavoidably absent during the above discussion and Mr. Lamorandier kindly acted as Secretary for me. I would, however, heartily have supported the original motion and I trust I will be pardoned for remarking here, as I would have done had I been present, respecting Mr. Wawanosh's argument, that the law already provides that the Superintendent-General may remove a careless widow from charges, and the father having the power to make a will would in a great measure prevent the careless widow from getting that charge at all, as he during his life having worked for the property would best know where it would be appreciated and taken care of after he was gone.—*Dr. P. E. Jones, Secretary.*

Twelfth Resolution

Thirteenth Resolution

Fourteenth Resolution

Section 74

Section 82

Twelfth Resolution Moved by Chief Joseph Fisher, seconded by Chief Peter Bigcanoe, and resolved, that in section 20 a second cousin may also be allowed to share in deceased relatives property, no nearer relative being alive. Carried.

Upon motion the Council adjourned for one hour.

Upon reassembling Section No. 36 was read and discussed.

Thirteenth Resolution Moved by Chief Dr. P. E. Jones, seconded by Fred Lamorandier, and resolved, that the Superintendent-General be hereby requested to so amend Section 36 that Indians of a Trade or Profession which interfere with their working their farms shall with the consent of their Tribe and the Superintendent-General be impowered to lease their lands. Carried.

Fourteenth Resolution Moved by Chief John Henry, seconded by Chief Wm. McGregor, and resolved, that Indians who are entirely destitute in means will also be impowered to lease their land with consent of the Band and Superintendent-General. Carried.

The Council did not consider it advisable as yet to offer any requisites for amendments to the various sections respecting timber upon Indian lands or the sale of Indian land embraced in Sections 37 to 68 inclusive.

Section 74 Upon Section seventy-four Chiefs Samson Green, Dr. P. E. Jones and several others spoke in high terms of praise and expressed their hope that the Indian department would by every means possible encourage the various tribes to take advantage of the privilege therein provided for the Councils to frame legal rules and regulations for their own Local Government.

Section 82 Several powerful and earnest speeches were made upon Section 82, notably that of Chief Samson Green. He said he thought it a great injustice that an Indian should be doubly punished for a crime; that when an Indian was convicted by a jury the Judge sentenced him to a penalty which he thought adequate to the offence he committed; treating him just as he would a white man under similar circumstances, but then by this Section the Indian Depart-

ment in step and say you are an Indian and in addition to the penalty the Judge has imposed we will deprive you of your interest money—your birthright—during the time you are a prisoner. He therefore

Fifteenth Resolution Moved, seconded by Chief Wm. McGregor, and resolved, that the following be struck out of Section 82 of the Indian Act: "any Indian convicted of any crime punishable by imprisonment in any penitentiary or other place of confinement shall during such imprisonment be excluded from participating in the annuities, interest money or rents payable to the band of which he or she is a member," and also the words "or to the band as the case may be." Carried.

Moved in amendment by Chief N. H. Burning, seconded by Chief Henry Clinch, and resolved, that Section 82 is hereby advised to be erased altogether. Lost.

Temperance Sections The Sections up to No. 99, restricting the sale of intoxicating liquors to Indians, were approved of and brought out some short and sensible temperance speeches by the Delegates.

Enfranchisement Upon the subject of Enfranchisement several speeches were made.

Chief Abner Elliott inquired respecting the Sub-Section to Section 99 and thought it might be advisable to have the consent of the Band as to the allotment of the land for a professional Indian applying for enfranchisement.

Geo. Fisher and Chief A. G. Smith were opposed to enfranchisement as they thought it would be the means of breaking up the Reserves after deeds had been granted.

Chief Wawanosh's speech Chief Joseph Wawanosh thought that the enfranchisement part of the Act was well framed and he would like very much to see his brethren who were educated avail themselves of the advantages it gave by giving them all a certain amount of responsibility and a voice in the choosing of members of parliament where the laws were made.

John Sterling's speech John Sterling said that he was strongly in favor of the Indian becoming enfranchised. They, at the New Credit Reserve, were not far from it now in qualification and he thought that under its arrangement they could work their

Chief Dr. Jones' speech

Sixteenth Resolution

Seventeenth Resolution

land better; feeling themselves the undisputed owners and individually more responsible for the care of their farms.

Chief Dr. Jones' speech Chief Dr. Jones in reply to the arguments of Chief Smith and Geo. Fisher, pointed out that the enfranchisement clauses left it optional for the Council of a Tribe to accept or reject the application of any member of their Tribe for enfranchisement and suggested that the proper place for opposition to such was in their own local councils, and he considered it unwise or unpolitic to render opposition to it in the General Council where so many Tribes were met together and where so many might think enfranchisement as provided for in the Act a step towards civilization and independence.

The Section was passed without proposed amendment; not so the Sub-Section.

Sixteenth Resolution Moved by Chief A. G. Smith, seconded by Chief Dr. P. E. Jones, and resolved, that the Superintendent-General be requested to so amend Section 99, Sub-Section 1, that the persons mentioned therein be not allotted land without the consent of the Tribe in Council. Carried.

Seventeenth Resolution Moved by Michael Anthony, seconded by Chief A. G. Smith, and resolved, that Rev. Albert Anthony be accepted as a Delegate on behalf of the Delewares of the Grand River. Carried.

As Friday, 15th, had been set apart for the formal inauguration of the new Council House, upon motion the Council was adjourned to meet again on Saturday 16th at 9^a. m.

GRAND GENERAL INDIAN COUNCIL.

NEW CREDIT RESERVE, SEPT. 15, 1882.

Opening of the New Council House.

From the Detroit "Free Press."

"INDIAN COUNCIL IN CANADA."

By Yusef.

"A hundred years ago Joseph Brant, "Thayendanegea," the famous chief of the Six Nations, of New York, removed with the greater portion of his people to Canada. He had served on the Royalist side during the revolutionary war, and accepted from Gen. Haldimand a grant of lands in the Valley of the Grand River, sixty miles west of Niagara, as a compensation for loss of territory in New York. The Six Nations have continued to reside on this reserve since, their number at the present time being about 2,500. The region is well cleared and fertile and was originally the home of the Messissaugas, or Great Eagle family of the Ojibwas, and there still resides on the Indian reserve near Hagersville Station, on the Canada Southern Railway, what is left of the Messissaugas tribe—a band of 220 persons, whose head chief is Dr. P. E. Jones, "Ka-ke-wa-quo-na-by," Waving Plume. This gentleman is the son of the late Rev. Peter Jones, an Indian famous for his eloquence and his missionary labors in

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Canada. Chief Dr. Jones is a graduate of one of the best medical colleges, a man of varied accomplishments and among other things a chess player of some note. His rank as such will be best understood by chess men when it is mentioned that he has solved all the problems, including the famous "century problem" of the tourney now being published in *The Free Press*, and in which tourney he has taken the first prize.

The Messissaugas have 6,000 acres of land in the reserve divided into fifty-acre farms, all of which are under cultivation.

It is hardly necessary to say that as a people they are very well-to-do. They maintain a church and a school, and having also \$200,000 invested in the government funds thought it time to build a council house in which the business of the tribe might be transacted. A grand council of the chiefs and delegates of all the Indian tribes in Canada is held biennially. That of the present year was convened at Tuscarora on the Messissaugas reserve. There were delegates present from 21 different reserves, and among them some Delawarees—"Lenni Lenape," whom the other Indians of whatever tribe as far West as the Mississippi unite in calling "grandfather," by way of precedence—a title of more respect and veneration than "brother."

Cooper was mistaken in declaring "Uncas" the last of the Mohicans. There are several of the tribe still living in Canada. In particular there is Henry Chase, "Pahtahquahong," a dignified, wise and eloquent old man, who has visited England, had audiences with the Queen and formed the subject of several squibs and illustrations in *Punch*, in which it was intimated that, though he might fail in his particular mission, his white brothers in London would take him in hand, instruct him in all the commercial cheats and tricks of civilized England and send him back well equipped to fleece the red man. There is also Rev. Albert Anthony, "Shequagkinod," a minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church, educated at Hellmuth College, a handsome young Indian of graceful bearing, wearing garments of the regulation cut and color of the clergy, but otherwise romantic enough in appearance to warrant Cooper's descriptions of some of the heroes of the "Leatherstocking Tales," W. J. Waddilove, "Shapash," is their hereditary chief.

To assist in the dedication of the Messissaugas Council House, September 15th, came these and other Indians of more or less fame, some from points as distant as Lake Superior, and to welcome them were assembled not less than 1,500 of the men of the Six Nations and the Messissaugas with their wives and children.

A correspondent of the *Free Press* attended by invitation. He had in mind some such gathering as is depicted in Stanley's painting of the "Trial of Red Jacket." A sylvan scene with the great orators of the tribe in the fore-ground, and eager warriors in barbaric plumes with tomahawks and rifles and blankets worn with careless grace intent upon judgement seated beneath the shade, and bright garbed squaws and playful younger men seen here and there in groups through the intervening foliage. But in travelling from Hagersville to the Council House that pleasing fancy was gradually dispelled. The highway passes through the reserve. There is but little forest land, sufficient timber being retained upon each farm to meet the present need for fuel and fencing, no more. Farm after farm, with spacious barns and abundant stacks of hay and newly thrashed straw, corn fields and yellow pumpkins, and fields newly plowed for the fall seeding and cattle grazing in the meadows, met the eye—all Indian farms, and in the highway Indian young men in brightly-varnished buggies, with fast horses, and Indian maidens in silk attire, and all the splendor of the modern milliner. Family parties of Indians, more sedate, in holiday dress, and with pleasant anticipations of the day's pleasure.

A turn in the road brought the Council House in view—a red brick building with arched windows and cupola and flag-staff and the meteor flag of England swaying in the breeze. The Council House will seat 300 persons. The interior has portraits of the Queen and Sir John A. McDonald, Minister of Indian Affairs, and of a dozen Indian Chiefs of distinction. It stands upon a rise of a ground, and rows of young trees planted about it and the winding road leading to it, give evidence of good taste and foresight in beautifying the surroundings. Near by, a spacious bowery covered with green boughs, with

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flags and streamers flying, and plentifully supplied with plank seats, had been arranged for the meeting. A great many people were congregated about, listening to the music of a well organized brass band of Indian musicians. The festival had attracted the farmers from far and near, as could be seen by hundreds of teams and vehicles hitched about.

Very few of the Indian women wore the gay calico skirts, leggings worked with porcupine quill, bandana kerchiefs and blue cloth shawls which are naturally associated with their race. The greater number were dressed fashionably after the mode of their white sisters. Some partiality was evinced for gay colors. Scarlet shawls, with silk embroidery, and great hoops of earrings, and long gold pendants were quite plentiful.

Down the road was heard the melodious sound of a brass band playing a march from "Fatinitza," and there were shouts of, "There come the Mohawks!" They came on in good time followed by the Ojibway Band in red-trimmed uniforms with Prussian helmets and red and white plumes, who marched up to the council house playing "Pull for the Shore." Finally came the Tuscarora Band making in all four Indian brass bands, and then there was music in the air.

At length some 3,000 people, red-men and pale-faces were assembled. Chief Dr. Jones, attired in broadcloth as if for a wedding reception, invited all to seats in the bowery. He saw that all were placed in order—the clergy, the head chiefs and the visiting members of Parliament upon the platform, the other chiefs in front, the young Indian women to the right and the other visitors as suited their convenience.

A portable church organ was at one end of the platform. A young Indian girl played the accompaniments and a mixed chorus of trained voices led in the hymns that were sung, and entertained the audience with various selections, sentimental and humorous. Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Gilkison, presided, and the ceremonies began with prayer by the missionary, Rev. F. G. Weaver, followed by the hymn, in which all joined, "Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise!" which rendered into the Ojibway tongue reads as follows:

"O uh pagish ke che ingo dwok,
Neej uh ne she nah baig!"

Then followed congratulations by Superintendent Gilkison, an historical address by Chief Dr. Jones, in English, and several other addresses in the Indian language by different chiefs. A noteworthy one was that by Chief John Smoke Johnson—"Sakayenkwa a don," Vanishing Smoke, a warrior upwards of 90 years old, who had fought under Tecumseh in 1812. He told of the olden time and of the better days of the present, made a patriotic and loyal appeal and sat down with a salvo of applause. About his neck was a medal of George III. His son, G. H. M. Johnson, interpreted his speech.

There was a call for Chief Peter Jones, of Lake Huron, named after the Rev. Peter Jones. A wiry little man, with keen black eyes and alert movements, passed briskly up to the platform. He carried a sort of baldric, or haversack, of otter skin trimmed with beads, a "Skibbedogan" in Indian. He shook hands with the presiding officer, and taking from the "skibbedogan" two great silver medals of George III. and Victoria, placed the scarlet ribbon over his neck. Then he faced the audience and spoke slowly and with considerable elocutionary effect, arousing his countrymen to unwonted demonstrations of applause and delight. He was ceremonial and dignified, and conveyed the expression of what an Indian orator should be. His speech was interpreted by Chief Macash for the benefit of the white spectators.

After several other speeches a war dance was demanded. With great reluctance one of the Indians came forward, took off his coat, fastened a sash about his waist and called unsuccessfully on half a dozen of his colleagues. The drum and a curved bone drum-stick like a figure 7 were given to Chief Macash. All the people stood up on the benches, and there was a great pressure around the little clear space of ground in front of the dignitaries. Chief Peter Jones, with his medals on his breast, came to the assistance of the red-sashed dancer. The drum struck up and the two Indians began to foot it lively in time with its cadences. Chief Peter Jones raised several war-hoops that were received with laughter, but which had the effect of bringing another In-

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dian to his relief. Just when the dance grew fast and furious and the dancers' arms swayed rapidly, Chief Macash hit the drum an unlucky stroke, splitting the head from hoop to hoop.

No music, no dance; but dinner being called, the guests were fully satisfied. They sat down to a repast that reflected great credit on the Indian women, and in its particulars of poultry, meats, vegetables, fruits, and pastry was more than ordinarily rich and savory. After dinner there were bass solos by Chiefs Herkimer and Crow, very good singers, with an amusing repertory of English songs.

The afternoon closed with the formal adoption and naming of the wife of Chief Dr. Jones, a white lady. She came forward, dressed in a short gown of dark green cloth, trimmed with blue silk and artistically ornamented with bead-work. She wore earrings, bracelets, brooch and necklaces of silver filagree and various ornaments of pearl. A circlet of golden beads was round her head; her hair hung loosely down. A very pretty picture she made as she stood before the audience, just the least bit flustered at being the cynosure of so many eyes. Rev. Mr. Chase spoke briefly in Indian and again in English, gave her his hand and led her forward, addressing her by the name of "Wabunooqua"—the "Lady of the Morning." And all the people thrice repeated the word "Wabunooqua" and gave three cheers. And so when evening had come on a great display of fireworks and a set concert by the Ojibway Band finished the dedication ceremonies of the Messissauga Council House.

The Algonquin legend has it that Waubeno, the strong man, pulled up an oak tree with his right hand, another with his left, crossed them and thereby preserved his family from the flood which covered the earth. From that day to this there has not been a greater difference in the pursuits of the children of the white and red races than in their stories of the deluge and their respective Noahs. Only in Canada would there seem to be a change. There the Indian has thrown away his weapons and adopted the plow and the implements of the white man. He has made great progress in civilization, and is accordingly happy and prosperous. He has naught to fear, except from that

enemy of the pale-face and the red-skin alike—the destroying fire-water.

MORNING SESSION.

COUNCIL HOUSE, SEPT. 16TH, 1882.

The Council was opened by singing and prayer at 10 a. m.

The President, Rev. H. P. Chase, suggested that it would be well for the Chiefs and Delegates to bring the business of the Grand Council to as speedy a close as possible. Some of the Delegates, he said, had already gone home, and as it was Saturday he would be obliged to leave to attend to his ministerial duties and get the Vice-President to conduct the afternoon session; if necessary, he would be back again on Monday. He thought they had studied the new Act but were not prepared to pronounce upon it and he thought it would be best to leave further discussion upon it until the next Grand Council; however he would like to know the views of the Council upon his suggestion.

Wm. Wawanosh said he was very much surprised to hear the President advise a termination of the sitting of this Council. If that were the case he would be disappointed as the work of the Council had just nicely begun. He thought that very few Delegates had left and if he went home now he would have nothing substantial to tell his people on his return.

Chief Solomon James said his people would be disappointed if the Council closed to-day without finishing the work. He and his Band expected that important business would be transacted at this Council and he thought some of the Tribes would not refund to the Delegates the amount of their expenses if they went home without finishing their work.

Abel Waucaush was of the same opinion and thought if the Council left unfinished business it would be a bad precedent for further Councils.

The President said he was agreed to abide by the decision of the Council.

It was moved by John Nicholas, seconded by Joseph Fisher, and resolved, that the President continue to remain on duty. Carried.

Chief Herkimer would like to say that he had heard some of the Delegates desired to leave on account of the expense they were putting upon the funds of the New Credit Band he wished to observe, in the absence of the head Chief, that they need not hurry away on that account as they were prepared to keep them until the close. Applause.

The business of the Council was then proceeded with.

It was moved by Wm. McGregor, seconded by Fred Lamorandier, and resolved, that James P. Brant, from Bay of Quinte, be received from that Band as a Delegate. Carried.

The adjourned debate upon enfranchisement took place. A number of eloquent speeches were made in favor of it, notably that of Ex-President, Wm. Wawanosh, and a few against it.

A motion in amendment to resolution No.—that the claim respecting enfranchisement remains as they are was withdrawn.

There were no objections raised to the remaining sections of the Indian Act and they were passed as acceptable.

The Council adjourned to meet again at 8 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

COUNCIL HOUSE, SEPT. 16TH, 1882.

Council met at 8 p. m.

The Rev. H. P. Chase being absent the Vice-President officiated. The first business proceeded with was the location of the next General Council.

Moved by Abner Elliott, seconded by Wm. Walker, and resolved, that the next Grand General Indian Council be held on the 2nd. Wednesday of September, 1884, at Cape Croker Reservation. Carried.

Moved in amendment by Moses Madwaosh, seconded by Jas. Wawanosh, and resolved, that the next G. and General Indian Council be held upon the Grand River Six Nation Reserve. Lost.

At this stage of the proceedings Chief A. G. Smith arose and stated to the Council that he had only lately discovered that the President elect, Rev. H. P. Chase, was not a Delegate from any of the tribes and he gave it as his opinion that it was contrary to business and custom that any person should hold that important and honorable office unless he were a proper Delegate from some Band of Indians. He was sorry to have to bring the matter before the Council in the absence of Mr. Chase whom he had a great respect for but he would have done so before had he been acquainted with the facts. He advised that Mr. Chase be summoned to attend the Council on Monday and called upon the Secretary to read over the names of the Delegates.

This matter took the Council greatly by surprise as the majority of the Delegates had supposed that Mr. Chase was properly delegated from his tribe and voted for him under that impression.

The Council ordered the Secretary to summon Mr. Chase to attend the Council on Monday and to read the list of Delegates.

Upon the Secretary searching for the list of Delegates it was discovered that the papers containing that list had disappeared and it became necessary to make out the list again. The principal Chief or Delegate of each Band was called up and a complete list of the Delegation obtained. Mr. Chase's name did not appear upon the Delegation of his own or any other Band.

The Six Nation Delegation, through their speaker, tendered an invitation to the Grand Council to partake of their hospitality at their Council House on Monday afternoon and the invitation was accepted with thanks.

Moved by Chief Samson Green, seconded by I. Walker, that

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this Council adjourn to meet at the Six Nation Council House at 9 a. m. on Monday. Lost.

Moved in amendment by Peter Brigham, seconded by Henry Naggs, that the adjourned Council meet here at 9 a. m. on Monday. Carried.

The Council then adjourned.

MORNING SESSION.

COUNCIL HOUSE, SEPT. 18th, 1882.

Council opened at 8.30 a. m. by singing and prayer.

Rev. H. P. Chase in the chair.

Mr. Chase gave an explanation respecting his position in regard to the Grand Indian Council. He said that although for about 40 years he had been absent from his tribe he had constantly applied himself to the welfare of his people.

He had written to Chief Crow of his band advising him to elect a Delegation and come himself, and telling him that he thought he, Chief Crow, and himself would be enough from that reservation.

It had been his custom to attend the Grand Councils and he had before acted as their President. His attendance had been faithful—he had not missed a meeting—and that in consideration of these facts and that “ custom became law ” he should be acknowledged a Delegate.

He informed the Council that Chief Crow was only elected as 2nd. Chief but was not recognized by the department. He considered that if the Council deposed him at this late date they would be out of order. He thought himself properly elected and would retain his seat unless put out by the Council.

Chief A. G. Smith contended that custom did not become law in a case of this kind and that the argument that because he

had been President before, and a member of the Grand Council, was not a point that should be raised in favor of his holding an office in the Council now when he was not a Delegate from any tribe.

He had great respect for Mr. Chase and was very sorry that it had become necessary to bring this matter before the Council and regretted that Mr. Chase had not informed the Council of the position he stood in at the time of the nomination however, now that the Delegates understood the matter, he felt sure a large portion of them would not rest satisfied unless this matter were righted. They were anxious that the work of the Council should be carried on in a straightforward, business-like manner, that the deliberations might have weight with the Government and people who would assist them and that if such an irregular proceeding as this of Mr. Chase's appointment were allowed to stand, the people might ridicule our work instead of praise it.

Chief Crow thought that even if custom did become law Mr. Chase had not been properly elected for he did not believe any of the former Grand Councils had elected officers who were Non-Delegates and it most certainly was not their custom to do so.

He denied that his band had two Chiefs and said he was a recognized head Chief and was one of the Delegates from his Council to this Grand Council.

The Rev. Mr. Chase was not Delegated by his band; they conducted their business alone and without consulting him.

Chief Samson Green strongly advised the formation of a constitution for the guidance of the Grand Council and did not think the President elected regularly and according to custom.

It was moved by Rev. A. Anthony, seconded by David Sawyer, and resolved, that the Rev. H. P. Chase be retained in the chair as President. Lost.

It was moved in amendment by Chief A. G. Smith, seconded by Chief Samson Green, and resolved, that while this Grand Indian Council has all due respect and regard to the personal character of the Rev. H. P. Chase, still, as his nomination and election has been irregular according to custom, he be requested

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to resign and give place to one who is a Delegate from some band. Carried 34 to 25.

It was moved in amendment to the amendment by Chief Crow, seconded by John Sterling, and resolved, that the Rev. H. P. Chase be received by this Council as a Delegate from Alnwick Band and retain his seat. Lost 19 to 37.

The election of a new President then took place, the nominations being:—

	MOVED BY	SEC'D BY
1 Ch. Sampson Green,	Ch. A. G. Smith,	Moses Madwaosh.
2 F. Lamorandier,	Wm. Wawanosh,	John Chicken.

Chiefs Fisher and A. G. Smith were appointed Scrutineers.

At the close of the Poll the following votes were found to be cast:—

Chief Sampson Green.....	46
Chief F. Lamorandier.....	18
	—
Majority for Chief Green.....	28

The newly elected President thanked the Council for the confidence reposed in him; gave the chiefs and delegates some short but appropriate advice and promised to give the business of the Grand Council his earnest attention.

It was moved by Abel Waukosh, seconded by John Chiehook and resolved, that the following be a committee to frame a constitution for the Grand Council, the President, Chief P. E. Jones, Chief A. G. Smith, F. Lamorandier and Rev. John Jacobs. Carried.

It was moved by Rev. A. Anthony, seconded by John Nicholas, and resolved, that the subjects to be discussed at the next Grand Council be sent to each band at least one month previous to the sitting of the same. Carried.

It was moved by F. Lamorandier, seconded by Chief A. G. Smith, and resolved, that the several motions passed and business transacted during the meeting of this Grand Council be affirmed by this Council and the new President. Carried unanimously.

It was moved by Chief A. G. Smith, seconded by F. Lamorandier, that a vote of thanks be tendered to the New Credit people for their kindness during the session of the Council. Carried.

The seventh Grand General Indian Council was then formally closed by the President.

A great number of the Delegates then availed themselves of the kind invitation of the Six Nations and repaired to their Council House where speaking music singing and feasting was the order of the day, and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent.



Financial Statement.

RECEIPTS.

By cash from some Chiefs.....		\$6 00
do	Sarnia Band.....	1 00
do	Chief of Muncys.....	1 00
do	Kettle Point Band.....	1 00
do	Alderville Band.....	1 00
do	Oneidas of the Thames.....	1 00
do	Saugeen Band.....	1 00
do	Walpole Island Band.....	1 00
do	Parry Island Band.....	1 00
do	Manitoulin Island Band.....	1 00
do	South Bay Band.....	1 00
do	Shawanago Band.....	1 00
do	Scugog Band.....	1 00
do	Muncy Band.....	1 00
do	Georgian Island Band.....	1 00
do	Cape Crocker Band.....	1 00
do	Delawares of Grand River.....	1 00
do	Six Nations.....	1 00
do	Bay of Quinte Band.....	1 00
		24 00

EXPENDITURE.

1878	June 27th,	to Paper Pencil, &c.....	\$00 12
	Aug. 18,	to Printing Circula:s.....	1 05
	Aug. 26,	to Rrinting Minutes.....	14 45
	Aug. 26,	to Postage.....	75
	Aug. 26,	to Second Supply.....	15
	Sept. 13,	to Circulars.....	28
1880	Aug. 13,	to Postal Cards.....	51
	Aug. 13,	to Postage and Registration...	44
			\$17 75
	Balance in Treasurer's hands.....		6 25
			\$24 00

