

Note: The Camp Napoleon Council was a meeting of Native American tribes in Oklahoma that resulted in an intertribal compact, "Camp Napoleon Compact." The council took place at Cottonwood Camp on May 24, 1865 near present-day Verden in Grady County. The tribes of the Indian Territory agreed to cease fighting with one another and work together to form a confederation to maintain the political integrity of the Indian Territory. They also elected delegates to travel to Washington and negotiate with the federal government. They agreed upon a compact that described the basic principles they wanted incorporated into any post-Confederate war treaties with the United States government.

**Compact made and entered into between
the Confederate Indian tribes and the Prairie tribes of Indians,
made at Camp Napoleon, on Washita River,
May 26, 1865.**

Whereas the history of the past admonishes the red man that his once great and powerful race is rapidly passing away as snow beneath the summer sun, our people of the mighty nations of our forefathers many years ago having been as numerous as the leaves of the forest or the stars of the heavens; but now, by the vicissitudes of time and the change and misfortune and evils of disunion, discord, and war among themselves are but a wreck of their former greatness; their vast and lovely country and beautiful hunting grounds, abounding in all the luxuries and necessities of life and happiness, given to them by them by the Great Spirit, having known no limits but the shores of the great waters and the horizon of the heavens, is now on account of our weakness being reduced and hemmed into a small and precarious country that we can scarcely call our own and in which we cannot remain in safety and pursue our peaceful avocations, nor can we visit the bones and the graves of our kindred, so dear to our hearts and sacred to our memories, to pay the tribute of respect, unless we run the risk of being murdered by our more powerful enemies; and

Whereas there still remains in the timbered countries, on the plains, and in the mountains many nations and bands of our people, which, if united, would present a body that would afford sufficient strength to command respect and assert and maintain our rights:

Therefore, we, the Cherokees, Choctaws, Muscogees, Seminoles, Chickasaws, Reserve Caddos, Reserve Osages, and Reserve Comanches, comprising the Confederate Indian tribes and allies of the Confederate States of the first part, and our brothers of the plains, the Kiowas, Arapahoes, Chivans, Lipans, and of the several bands of the Comanches, the Nocomies, Co-cho-te-kas, Le-na-weets, Yampankas, and Mootchas, and Jim Pock Mark's band of Caddos and Anadarkoes, of the second part, do, for our peace and happiness and the preservation of our race, make and enter into the following league and compact, to wit:

ARTICLE I.

Peace and friendship shall forever exist between the tribes and bands parties to this compact. The ancient council fires of our forefathers already kindled by our brothers of the timbered countries, shall be kept kindled and blazing by brotherly love, until their smoke shall ascend to the spirit land to invoke the blessing of the Great Spirit on all our good works. The tomahawk shall be forever buried. The scalping knife shall be forever broken. The warpath heretofore leading from one tribe or band to another shall grow up and become as the wild wilderness. The path of peace shall be opened from one tribe or band to another, and kept open and traveled in friendship, so that it may become white and brighten as time rolls on, and so that our children in all time to come may travel no other road, and never shall it be stained with the blood of our brothers.

ARTICLE II.

The parties to this compact shall compose (as our undersigned brothers of the timbered country of the first part already have done) an Indian confederacy or band of brothers, having for its object the peace, the happiness, and the protection of all alike, and the preservation of our race. In no case shall the warpath be opened to settle any difficulty or dispute that may hereafter arise between any of the tribes or bands parties to this compact or individuals thereof. All the difficulties shall be settled without the shedding of any blood, and by suggestion of the chiefs and headmen of the tribes, bands, or persons interested. The motto or great principle of the confederated Indian tribes shall be, "An Indian shall not spill an Indian's blood." In testimony of our sincerity and good faith in entering into this compact we have smoked the pipe of peace and extended to each other the hand of friendship, and exchanged the tokens and emblems of peace and friendship peculiar to our race, this 26th of May 1865.

Jack Spears, 2nd Chief and Acting Chief of Cherokee Nation;

T. Vann, J. P. Davis, Smallwood, Charles Downing, T. C. Guess, John Chambers, H. T. Martin,
W. P. Adair, Delegates from Cherokee Nation.

Tuckabatche Micco, Acting Chief of Creek Nation;

Yarkinhar Micco, Moty Kannard, Tidsey Fixico, Tustanuck Harjo, Ward Coachney, Nocusyah
Holer, Pleasant Porter, Delegates from Creek Nation.

Israel Folsom, Nathaniel Folsom, Delegates from Choctaw Nation.

Winchester Colbert, Cyrus Harris, Ashalatubbee, Delegates from Chickasaw Nation.

John Jumper, Chief of Seminole Nation, Nocos Harjo, Pussah Yahhola, Thomas Cloud, George
Cloud, Foos Harjo, Nokos Emathlah, Cho Emathlah, Tooshatchecochookamy, Nocos
Emathlochee, Nulthcup Harjo, Cahcheille, Abidikey; John Brown, Interpreter; Delegates
from Seminole Nation.

Tyner, Chief Reserve Caddo Nation; George Washington, William Lieutenant, Chickiyoates,
Johnson Washington, Cahwahamen, Delegates Reserve Caddo Nation.

Wahtahshimgah, Chief Osage Nation; Clairmore, Nimchamka, Black Dog, Chief and Delegate from Osage Nation.

Toshowah, Chief Reserve Comanche Band, Ohapsirme, 2nd Chief Reserve Comanche Band, Kah ab ba nait, Quer re nait, Wahchenim Kah, Delegates from Reserve Comanches.

Tatobecher, Chief of Kiowa Nation, Tahebecut, Quinatohope, Delegates from Kiowa Nation.

Little Raven, Chief of Arapahoe Nation, Peatipcent, Delegates from Arapahoe Nation.

Wistooah toh ho pe, Chief and Delegate from Cheyenne Nation.

Woodercarnervesta, Chief and Delegate from Lipan Band of Apaches.

Quiniheany, Chief Noconee Band Comanche Nation.

Mione, Chief of Cochahkah Band Comanches.

Boiwa quastak, Chief of Tinawith Band Comanches.

Toyekkahnah, Chief of Yampucka Band Comanches.

Pahrood sa ma, Chief of Nooches Band Comanches.

Buoyenahtoyeh, Delegate from Nooches Band Comanches.

James Pock Mark, Chief Caddos and Anadarko Bands, Chab ba an nah, Delegates from Caddos and Anadarko Bands

Witnessed by-

J. W. Throckmorton, [illegible] to treat with Prairie Indians

W. D. Reagan, Com. C. S.