ENACTMENTS

OF THE

NATIONAL COUNCIL

OF THE

MUSKOGEE NATION,

DURING THE SESSIONS OF 1880 AND 1881.
ACTS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE MUSKOGEE NATION,

Passed During October Session, 1880.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, on and after December 5th, 1880, the mileage of Members of the National Council and Clerks and Interpreters, and Judges of the Supreme Court and Clerks and Interpreters, shall be ten cents (10 cts.) per mile, going and coming.

Approved October 12, 1880.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That the Superintendent of Public Instruction is hereby directed to furnish each neighborhood school with a strong desk (not to exceed in price the sum of three dollars), with good lock and key; and he shall instruct the Teacher of each school to keep the books and stationery furnished for the use of the school (when the same are not in actual use) securely locked in the desks; and

Be it enacted: That when books or stationery are furnished the Teacher for the use of the school, the cost of the same shall be charged to said Teacher, and when the Teacher makes quarterly reports, there shall accompany said report an accurate statement of books and stationery furnished the school during the quarter; books and stationery on hand at commencement of quarter;
books and stationery lost; books and stationery destroyed, and books and stationery worn out during the quarter; also, books and stationery on hand.

Should it be found that books or stationery have been lost or destroyed through the carelessness of the Teacher, the amount of damage shall be deducted by the Superintendent from the Teacher's order for warrant; and

**Be it enacted:** That the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall accompany his annual report with an accurate statement of books and stationery on hand at commencement of year, books and stationery lost, destroyed or worn out during the year, and books and stationery remaining on hand at the close of the year.

Approved October 12th, 1880.

**Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation:** That an act, entitled *An Act authorizing the Committee styled the "Mill Committee" to let and conclude contracts on the part of the Muskogee Nation*, be and is hereby repealed.

Approved October 14th, 1880.

**Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation:** That the act of 1874, entitled "*An Act Funding the Public Debt,*" be and the same is hereby repealed.

**Be it further enacted:** That all bonds issued in pursuance of said act shall be canceled by the issuance of non-interest bearing warrants in lieu thereof: *Provided, That accrued interest thereon up to November 1st, 1880, shall be paid.*

Approved October 15th, 1880.

**Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation:** That, from and after the passage of this act, any person who shall set up, or keep, any house or room, either public or private, for the purpose of gambling, and shall induce, or permit, any person therein to bet at any game of cards, dice, or any other device which may be
adopted for game of hazard, shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, shall be fined in a sum not less than fifty dollars ($50), nor more than one hundred dollars ($100); and no property except improvements shall be exempt from the payment of fines imposed by this act.

Be it further enacted: That it is hereby made the duty of the District Solicitor to see that this law is faithfully executed, and for his services he shall receive twenty-five (25) per cent of such fine; the residue to be paid into the Treasury of the Muskogee Nation.

Approved October 18th, 1880.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, after the passage of this act, any non-citizen, over the age of fifteen years, desiring to remain within the limits of this Nation, shall appear before the Judge of the District within which he desires to remain, and furnish satisfactory evidence that he is law-abiding and of good character; he shall also, with at least two sureties, who shall be responsible citizens of this Nation, enter into bond to the Muskogee Nation, in the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars, that he will abide by the laws of the Muskogee Nation, and in no manner illegally injure the property of the Nation, or the person or property of any citizen thereof. He shall then make application for permit to the National Treasurer, at the same time presenting the above-mentioned bond and a certificate from the District Judge that he has furnished satisfactory evidence of good character and law-abiding disposition. If there are then no legal objections, the Treasurer shall grant the permit, for which he shall charge one dollar per month for the time during which the permit is to run. Of the amount so charged, twenty-five (25) per cent. shall be retained by the Treasurer as personal fee, and the remainder shall be placed with the national funds. Within fifteen days after the granting of the permit he shall send notification thereof, with all
the conditions, to the Solicitor within whose district the non-citizen is to reside. The person thus procuring permit shall be allowed to keep within the Nation only such live stock as will be actually necessary for the proper performance of his labor. Should he violate his contract, he shall forfeit both the permit and the fruits of his labor; and should he violate his bond, suit may be brought against bondsman and sureties by the aggrieved party, and damages to the amount of the injury recovered. If, at the expiration of fifteen days after the permit shall have expired, the person obtaining the same procures no new permit, and still remains in the country, he shall be reported for removal by the District Attorney: Provided, however, That any mechanic or professionalist desiring to obtain permit to remain within the limits of this Nation, shall be permitted to do so by producing satisfactory evidence of good character before a District Judge, and paying into the National Treasury the sum of twenty-five dollars per annum: And provided, That this act shall not be so construed as to prohibit the employment of neighborhood school teachers or blacksmiths by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Be it further enacted: That any citizen of this Nation who shall be guilty of renting land to, or otherwise employing, a non-citizen, except in accordance with this act, shall, upon conviction for each offense, be fined in the sum of one hundred dollars, said fine to be collected by the District Attorney and placed in the National Treasury.

Approved October 18th, 1880.
Prosecuting Attorney shall receive twenty-five per cent. as personal fee, and the remainder shall be turned into the National Treasury.

Approved October 19th, 1880.

ACTS OF 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, after the passage of this act, whenever the Prosecuting Attorney is seeking evidence upon which to base criminal prosecutions, he may have parties brought before the Judge of the District, and there examine them under oath.

Be it further enacted: If, at such preliminary examination, any party shall have testified to certain facts, and shall, at the regular trial, so testify as to falsify the preliminary testimony, and such falsification shall be willful, then such party shall be guilty of perjury, and, upon conviction, shall suffer the penalty prescribed for perjury.

Be it further enacted: That witnesses appearing before Judges under the provisions of this bill, shall be paid by the Nation the same amount per diem and mileage as are paid witnesses appearing at regular criminal prosecutions.

Approved October 8, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, until further provision is made for the pupils of Asbury and Tallahassee Manual Labor Schools, who have been deprived of school privileges by the burning of those institutions, the Lovering Manual Labor School shall have the privilege of accommodating twenty pupils (ten boys and ten girls), over and above the number contracted for by the Muskogee Nation with the
Baptist Board, at the same price per capita as those contracted for are accommodated.

Approved October 8th, 1881.

Whereas, "Section 2137 Revised Statutes of the United States," which reads as follows: "Every person other than an Indian, within the limits of any tribes with whom the United States has existing treaties, who hunts or traps or takes or destroys any peltries or game, except for subsistence, in the Indian Country, shall forfeit all the traps, guns and ammunition in his possession, used or procured to be used, for that purpose, and all peltries so taken, and shall be liable, in addition, to a penalty of five hundred dollars," is violated with impunity within the limits of our Nation; and whereas, game and fur-bearing animals are rapidly being destroyed by non-citizens; and

Whereas, No cognizance is taken of the violation of the above-recited law, for the reason that information of such violation is not furnished to authorities having jurisdiction; therefore,

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That it is hereby made the duty of the Prosecuting Attorneys and Light Horse Captains to report all violations of "Section 2137, Revised Statutes of the United States," to the United States Indian Agent.

Be it further enacted: That any person licensed or holding a permit found guilty of violating said statute shall forfeit the license or permit, and be reported for removal from within the limits of the Creek Nation.

Approved October 10th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, after the passage of this act, no non-citizen who has been legally ordered out of the limits of this Nation shall ever be again permitted to reside within the limits of the Nation, and no officer shall grant a permit to reside within the limits of the Nation to any non-citizen who shall have been ordered out.
Acts of the National Council. 9

Be it further enacted: That should any District Judge refuse to grant a certificate of moral character to any non-citizen, he shall report his action to each other District Judge within the Nation, within five (5) days after such refusal.

Be it further enacted: That any District Judge who shall intentionally grant a certificate of moral character to a non-citizen who has been legally refused such a certificate in another District, or by a preceding Judge of the same District, shall be subject to impeachment.

Approved October 13th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, after the passage of this bill, the following series of text-books shall be used in the neighborhood schools of this Nation, viz.:

Harvey's Primer.
Harvey's Revised Grammars.
Ray's New Arithmetics.
Eclectic Geographies.
Eclectic History.
Eclectic Copy books.

Approved October 20th, 1881.

Supreme Court Room, Okmulgee, I. T., Oct. 22d, 1881.

* * * * It is held by the Court, that the Constitution makes the action or decision of this Court a finality. To reopen any case, after a decision by this body, would defeat the design of the Constitution. * * *

D. N. McIntosh.

* * The testimony of any person, whether related to the parties in suit or not, is admissible before any of the Courts of this Nation. * * * Circumstantial evidence is to be admitted in any of the Courts of this Nation.

JAMES FIFE.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, hereafter, no dancing shall be permitted within the walls of the National Capitol building, and
any person found guilty of violating this provision shall be fined in the sum of one hundred dollars; said sum to be collected by the Light Horsemen of the Okmulgee District and transmitted to the National Treasurer, to be placed with the general funds.

Approved Oct. 24th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That the Acting Superintendent of Tallahassee Mission is hereby authorized to continue said school at the old location until the new Tallahassee is prepared for the accommodation of pupils; and, in carrying on the school, she shall accommodate twenty-five (25) boys.

Approved Oct. 24th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That all male citizens, over the age of eighteen years, shall, at the call of the District Judge, without good reasons for neglect, work on the public road, or pay for the benefit of the parties so working, the sum of one dollar per day during the time in which such work is being done in the district. It shall be the duty of the District Judge to have collected all sums due in accordance with this act.

Approved Oct. 25th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That the law regulating the height of fences is hereby so amended as to read “seven rails high and double-ridered,” where nine rails high and staked and ridered occur.

Approved Oct. 27th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, after the passage of this bill, the members of the Examining Board of Teachers of Neighborhood Schools shall be appointed by the Principal Chief and Superintendent of Public Instruction, and said board shall consist entirely of Indians.

Approved Oct. 27th, 1881.
Acts of the National Council.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That all drovers, not citizens, passing through this Nation, shall pay a tax of ten cents (10 cts.) per head on all cattle, horses, mules and asses, which they shall drive through.

Be it further enacted: That this body shall elect one collector of drovers' tax for each road over which stock are driven. One-quarter of all such taxes collected shall be retained by the collector as personal fee, and the remainder shall be transmitted to the National Treasurer.

Approved Oct. 27th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That no adopted citizen, of any other Indian tribe or nation, shall have the right to reside within the limits of this Nation, unless he is employed by a citizen of this Nation, under the requirements of the permit law. Provided, however, That this act shall not debar other citizens of Indian Nations from obtaining rights of residence under the provisions of the compact.

Approved Oct. 28th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That all former laws fixing the tax on licensed traders doing business within the limits of the Muskogee Nation are hereby repealed, and the amount of tax on each establishment trading under license from the United States Government is hereby fixed at two hundred dollars ($200.00) per annum, in current money of the United States, or Creek national obligations which, in market value, shall be equal to that amount; said sum to be paid on the first day of January of each year.

Approved Oct. 29th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That the law regulating the number of students attending schools in the States is hereby so changed as to make the number so attending schools twenty-
one, of which number there shall be three who are colored.

Approved Oct. 29th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, after the passage of this act, no person shall be allowed to inclose land for pasture or fields within one-half mile of the National Capitol building; and any person found guilty of violating this act shall be punished by a fine of one thousand dollars ($1,000.00).

Be it further enacted: That it is hereby made the duty of the Captain of Light Horse, of Okmulgee District, to collect all such fines, and turn the money over to the National Treasurer.

Approved Oct. 29th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That permission is hereby granted to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, through the Board of Trustees hereinafter named, and to their successors, to found, establish and maintain, within the limits of the Creek Nation, and under the protection of the laws thereof, an Indian University, that shall be to the Indian Territory, as nearly as practicable, all that State Universities are to the several States in which they are located, and shall be open to the reception of students from the citizens of the Creek Nation and other Indian tribes or nations. There is also hereby granted to said University the free use of only such an amount of land as shall be needful for the carrying out of its general plans and purposes; Provided, That whenever the said land shall cease to be so used, it shall revert to the Creek Nation.

Be it further enacted: That the following named individuals are hereby constituted a Board of Trustees, viz: Rev. H. L. Morehouse, D. D., Secretary of the A. B. H. M. Society.

Rev. J. S. Murrow, Missionary.
Rev. Daniel Rogers, Missionary.
Prof. A. C. Bacone, President Indian University.
Rev. Charles Journeycake, Chief of the Delawares.
Rev. James Williams, ex-Chief of Choctaw Nation.
Rev. John McIntosh, Supt. Public Instruction, Creek Nation, together with the Principal Chief of the Creek Nation. Said Board of Trustees shall represent the American Baptist Home Mission Society and the Indian Tribes or Nations to which they respectively belong, and shall have power to locate the said University, paying for any improvements which may be found on the ground which they select for the purpose, to hold, superintend and control all buildings, money and property belonging thereto. They shall, as soon as practicable, arrange for literary, theological and other needful departments, shall prescribe the courses of study, appoint instructors and other officers, shall have the power to confer degrees, and to make appointments to its own membership, for the purpose of perpetuating its existence and promoting its efficiency. All its acts shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Board of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, so long as the University derives any of its support from the said society; and shall be subject to the approval of the Muskogee Nation regarding appointments of said Nation's representatives on said Board.

Approved October 29th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That the Trustees of the Asbury Manual Labor School are hereby empowered to consider the practicability of purchasing and converting the building now occupied by said school into a Female Academy, and report, by resolution or otherwise, their action to the next session of the National Council.

Approved October 31st, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That the Trustees and Superintendents of the
several Manual Labor Boarding Schools are hereby empowered to make such rules and regulations, regarding the visiting of pupils by their parents and friends, as such Trustees and Superintendents shall deem best for the interests of their several institutions.

Approved November 2d, 1881.

Be it Resolved: That it is the opinion of the National Council of the Muskogee Nation, that the construction, by a company duly authorized by Congress, of a branch railway from a point on the eastern boundary of the Muskogee Nation, running westward to connect with the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, at some point between Muskogee and Eufala, so as to form a continuous road, in conjunction with the main line, to our southern boundary, is in accordance with the stipulations of the treaty of June 14th, 1866, between the Muskogee Nation and the United States, which concedes "the right of way to any company which shall be duly authorized by Congress, and shall, with the express consent of the Secretary of the Interior, undertake to construct a railway from * * * any point on their eastern to their western or southern boundary," as the same completes and exhausts all railroad grants and franchises conceded by existing treaties between the United States and the Muskogee Nation. Provided, however, That nothing herein shall be so construed as to infer any expression of opinion in regard to the question as to what company may be duly authorized by Congress.

Approved November 2d, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That the laws thereof, in relation to the mining of coal in the Creek Nation by citizens thereof, be and the same are hereby so amended as to authorize any corporation or company of citizens of the Muskogee Nation to form such business relations with any responsible citizen or company of citizens of the United States, and perfect
all necessary arrangements to the effectual and efficient mining of coal, as contemplated in existing laws.

Be it further enacted: That the existing law fixing a royalty of one cent per bushel, for a revenue for the benefit of the Nation, is hereby repealed, and such royalty is fixed at one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of one cent per bushel, to be paid to the National Treasurer, as directed by law.

Approved October 29th, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That no citizen of the United States, residing in the Creek Nation under a marriage permit, shall be entitled to make or own more than one place or improvement at the same time. Any and all places or improvements made in violation of this act shall be confiscated to the Nation and sold at public sale by the Light Horse Captain, and the proceeds turned into the Treasury of the Nation. Provided, however, That judgment shall first be rendered and execution ordered by the District Judge of the district in which such place or improvement is made.

Approved November 2d, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That the three thousand dollars heretofore appropriated for Mission School purposes for the colored Creeks are hereby set aside, to be used for preparing the ruins of the Old Tallahassee Mission for the use of the colored Creeks.

Be it further enacted: That the Principal Chief is hereby directed to appoint three citizens of the Muskogee Nation, who shall constitute the Building Committee for the New Colored Mission, and whose duties shall be to prepare the said ruins for the use of the Colored Creeks.

Be it further enacted: That the Trustees, on the part of the Colored Creeks, in whose charge the three thousand dollars ($3,000) were placed, be and the same are hereby required to see that the said three thousand dol-
lars ($3,000) are used in the building of the Old Tallahassee Mission, and for no other purpose.

Approved November 2d, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That permission is hereby granted to the “Harrell International Institute” to hold its sessions within the limits of the Muskogee Nation, at any point, not less than one-half mile from the Muskogee Depot, that will not interfere with the rights and privileges of any citizen of the Muskogee Nation; and the Trustees of the Institute are hereby empowered to select a piece of ground, under the above conditions, not exceeding three (3) acres, and erect thereon, for the use of the said Institute, suitable buildings and improvements: Providing, however, That said buildings and improvements are to revert to the Muskogee Nation whenever they are vacated by said Institute, or whenever said Institute, through its officers, shall violate the intercourse laws between the Muskogee Nation and the Government of the United States, or the laws and statutes of the Muskogee Government: And providing further, That no appointment of Trustees to said Institute shall be consummated until such appointment is confirmed by this Government. Said Trustees shall make annual reports to this body, stating the number of pupils, and such other matters as may be considered of importance to the Muskogee people: And providing further, That said Institute shall be subject to any future changes, in relation to its government, that the Government of the Muskogee Nation may deem proper to impose.

Approved November 2d, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, from and after the passage of this act, the President, Officers and Managers of the Indian International Fair Association shall be composed of natives of the Indian Territory; and that, should said Association violate the above provision, then the Charter under
which the Association was formed shall be null and void, and all the rights of the said Association under the Charter shall be forfeited.

Approved November 2d, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That all non-citizens who operate hotels, livery stables, boot and shoe shops, butcher stalls and millinery stores, under license from the United States, or who freight overland, shall pay tax annually as follows:

The two hotels at Muskogee and the one at Eufala, at the rate of $200 00

Smaller hotels 25 00
Livery stables 100 00
Boot and shoe shops 50 00
Saddle and harness shops 50 00
Butcher stalls 50 00
Millinery stores 15 00
Freighters overland 25 00

Be it further enacted: That any person violating this act shall be reported to the United States Indian Agent by the Principal Chief as an intruder, with request for his immediate removal from within the limits of the Nation.

Approved November 2d, 1881.

An Act to Amend an Act Relating to the Carrying of Deadly Weapons.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, after the passage of this bill, no person, excepting public officers engaged in the discharge of their duties, and persons traveling or hunting stock, shall be permitted to carry firearms within one-half mile of any town, political, religious, or other gathering, for pleasure or profit; and any person found guilty of vio-
lating this provision, or of discharging firearms at ran-
dom within one-half mile of any town or gathering, as
above mentioned, shall be fined in the sum of ten (10) dol-
ars, and shall be dispossessed of the weapon so used. The Light Horseman capturing such firearms shall be per-
mitted to retain the same or dispose of them for their
own profit; and the person giving information which
shall lead to conviction shall receive one-half of the fine,
the other half to be transmitted to the National Treas-
urer.

Be it further enacted: That any Light Horseman who
shall fail in the duty specified in this bill shall, upon
conviction, be fined in the sum of twenty-five dollars
($25), and shall be expelled from office. The Prosecuting
Attorney securing the conviction of such Light Horseman
shall receive ten (10) dollars of the fine, ten dollars shall
be transmitted to the National Treasurer, and the re-
mainding five dollars shall be paid to the witnesses.

Be it further enacted: That no property of any kind
shall be exempt from the payment of the above fine
specified.

Be it further enacted: That any licensed merchant
selling a pistol or revolver of any description, shall be
fined fifty (50) dollars for each and every pistol or re-
volver so sold.

Be it further enacted: That all persons found carrying
concealed weapons at any gathering, as above mentioned,
shall be fined the sum of fifty (50) dollars for each
such offense.

Be it further enacted: That in case the Light Horse-
man is unable to keep peace by being overpowered by
armed men, he shall have power to call on other citizens
of this Nation to aid him in carrying the above law into
effect; and in case of the refusal to obey the summons
by Light Horsemen, without good reasons for such re-
fusal, such citizens shall each be fined in the sum of five
dollars. This law shall take effect from and after December 1st, 1881.

Approved Nov. 2d, 1881.

Be it enacted by the National Council of the Muskogee Nation: That, from and after the passage of this act, all marriages between citizens, who are now living together as man and wife, are hereby legalized.

Be it further enacted: That, after the passage of this act, no new marriage shall be contracted whilst either party has a husband or wife living, nor between parties who are nearer of kin than the third degree.

Be it further enacted: That marriages may be solemnized by any of the Judges of the Courts of this Nation, or by any ordained minister of the gospel in regular communion with any religious society; and any marriage, contracted in writing, or in the presence of two or more witnesses who shall sign the marriage contract as such, shall be lawful.

Be it further enacted: That a divorce from the bonds of matrimony may be adjudged by the District Court of the district where the parties, or either of them, reside, on application, by petition or complaint, of the aggrieved party.

Be it further enacted: That actions for divorce shall be conducted in the same manner as other actions in Courts; and the Court shall have power to enforce its judgments as in other cases; and when a judgment of divorce from the bonds of matrimony is granted in this Nation, by a Court of competent authority, such judgment shall fully and completely dissolve the marriage contract as to both parties.

Be it further enacted: That the bonds of matrimony may be dissolved for either of the following causes, viz.: Adultery, willful desertion and neglect for the term of one year next preceding the filing of the complaint or petition; extreme cruelty, whether by violence or other means.
Be it further enacted: That, in granting divorce, the Court shall, in all cases where there are minor children of the parties divorced, make such order concerning the custody, care and maintenance of the children as it shall deem proper and just, having due regard to the age and sex.

Be it further enacted: That when a judgment of divorce has been granted, and the parties shall afterwards intermarry, the Court, upon their joint application, and upon satisfactory proof of such marriage, may revoke all judgments or orders of divorce, alimony and subsistence, which will not affect the rights of third parties.

Be it further enacted: That all acts or parts of acts in conflict with the provisions of this bill are hereby repealed.

Approved Oct. 22d, 1881.