



## Excerpt - Cherokee Nation Supreme Court Records (Oct. 18, 1833):

Cherokee Nation, North Carolina.

This will certify that we, the under sined Cherokees of the State of North Carolina, were Residents of the Nation at the time that a white man and an Indian Trader who had a Cherokee woman for wife but who, by his usage of her in Beating and other wise mistreating of her when in a State of pregnancy, died. The clan or Tribe to whom she belonged determined to kill the said white man by name of Sam Dent [or Dend] who to appease them and satisfy said Tribe or clan went off to Augusta in Georgia and did then purchase a Female slave by name of Molly, and brought Female into Cherokee Nation and did offer her to the clan [as] remuneration for the wrongs he had done. A town Council & talk was then had at Chota Old Town on Tennessee River, and the said Female was then and there received by Deer clan and by the authorities agreeable to the Indian Law and usage in the place of the murdered wife of the said Sam Dent [or Dend] and has by herself and descendants been ever since Recognized by Said Nation or clan as a Cherokee.

Said Molly and her descendants, now who are the only descendants of said Molly, had been and are claimed to be the property of one Molly Hightower, who has come into the said Nation and set up claim by Bill of Sale for said Sam Dend [or Dent] to said Hightower's Father, who was also an Indian trader and who lived many years near the descendants of said and never advanced or set up any claim to the said descendants that the present petitioner Chunestutee, alias Isaac Tucker, and his mother Chickawa was aware off in these fore mentioned natives, as we has ever be conscious. The Council and authorities of the Cherokee Nation as also we the subscribers, members of the same clan, ask and require of our council and head men for assistance and for Council to resist this oppression and illegal wrong attempted to be practiced on our Brother and Sister by the Hightower in carrying into slavery Two of whom have ever been and considered native Cherokee. We feel that the attempt is of cruel grievance to us and ask of your honorable bodies redress in the protection and defence of the two a fore mentioned members of our clan and your petitioners will ever pray & &c

The Doctor
The Ola thegh his mark
Chunestutee alias Bucks Horn his mark
Isaac Tucker his mark
Chickaw ne Molly her mark
Charles Buffington
Chickedincuan his mark

This Day appeared before me Daniel McCoy, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the Cherokee Nation, the Big Half Breed, John Watts, the Tiger and the White Path who being duly sworn and saith that to the best of their knowledge and belief, that the mother of Edward & Isaac

Source: http://teachinghistory.org/best-practices/examples-of-historical-thinking/23417



## **Primary Source**

Tucker, Molley, was surrendered and delivered up when a girl some time previous to the Revolutionary War by a white named Samuel Bend [Dent or Dend] to the authorities of the Cherokee Nation for certain important considerations, & that said Molly was then emancipated and adopted into the clan composing the Deer family, agreeably to the then existing usages & customs of said Nation, & since that time she has continued in the Nation & enjoyed the liberty of freedom & that her two sons Edward & Isaac Tucker were born at the beloved town called Echota on the Tennessee River & has ever been free & resided in the Nation.

Sworn to and subscribed to before me at Red Clay this 18th October 1833.

Daniel McCoy Signed

Big Half Breed his mark

J. S. Court White Path his mark

Jno. Watts his mark

Tiger his mark

I certify that the above to be a correct copy of the original handed to the said Isaac Tucker.

18th Oct. 1833 Charles Vann, Clerk, Supreme Court

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