

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>

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

Cherokee Nation } This will certify that
North Carolina } we the undersigned
were Residents of the Nation of the } of the State of North Carolina
Name that a white man and an Indian }
Trader who had a Cherokee woman for }
his wife but who by his usage of her }
in beating and other severe mistreatment }
of her when in a state of pregnancy }
died the clan of Tabe to whom she }
belonged determined to kill the said }
white man by name of Sam Dent }
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 unto }
the Cherokee nation and did offer her }
to the clans remuneration for the wrongs }
he had done, a Town Council of Tall was }
then had at Chataho Town on Tennessee }
River by ~~S. Dent~~ and by ~~the~~ }
off and the said Female was }
then and was then received by D. Blom }
and by the authorities agreeable to the }

his wife but who by his usage of her
in beating and other severe mistreating of
her when in a state of pregnancy
killed the child of the tribe to whom she
belonged determined to kill the said
white man by name of Sam Dunt
who to appease them and satisfy said
tribe or clan went off to acquire in Georgia
and did then purchase a female slave by
name of Molly and brought female unto
the Cherokee nation and did offer her
to the clans remuneration for the wrongs
he had done, a Town Council of Talk was
then had at Chata old Town in Tennessee
~~held by D. Blount and by the Cherokee~~
and the said female was
then and was received by D. Blount
and by the authorities agreeable to the
Indian Law and usage in the place
of the murdered wife of the said Sam
Dunt and has by her self and descendants
been ever since recognized by said
nation or clan as a Cherokee the said
Molly and her descendants now where

The only descendants of said molly had been
and are claimed to be the property of one
molly Hightower who has come onto the
said nation and set up claim by Bill of Sale
for said Tom Dand to the Hightowers father
who was also an Indian Trader and who lived
many years near the descendants of said and
~~was~~ never advised of or set up any claim

to the said Descendants that the present Petitioner
Chenestuta Alias Isaac Tucker) and his
Mother (Chickana) were one of the
mentioned natives as we have ever considered.
The Council and other ones of the Cherokee nation
as also we the subscribers members of the
same can ask and require of our Council
and head me for assistance and for Council
to resist this oppression and illegal wrong attempted
to be practised on our Mother and Sister by the
Hightower in bearing in to Slavery Two of whom
have ever been and been Indian native Cherokee
we feel that the attempt is one of cruel tyran-
ny to us and ask of your Honorable body
Prayers in the Protection and defence of the
members of our

to the said Deendants that the pursuant Petitioner
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 Mother (Chickana) were one of the
 mentioned names as we have been considered.
 The correct and authorities of the Cherokee nation
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 and head men for assistance and for Council
 to resist this oppression and illegal wrong attempted
 to be practised on our Mother and Sister by the
 thoughtless in bearing in the Slavery Law of whom
 have been and been named native Cherokee
 we feel that the attempt is one of cruel tyran-
 ny to us and ask of your Honorable body
 the aid in the Protection and defence of the
 two above mentioned members of our
 clan and your petitioner will ever pray
 &c. the Doct^r

Charles Tucker alias Isaac Tucker
 Chickana ne mally
 Charles Buffington

The old th^g
 Bucks Horn
 checked in
 man

This day appeared before me

James McCoy one of the Judges of
the Supreme Court of the Cherokee nation
the Big Half Breed Jm. walls the tiger
and the white path who being duly sworn
and hath that to the best of their ^{own} know-
ledge and belief that the mother of Edward
& Isaac Tucker molly was surrendered
and delivered up when a girl some time
previous to the revolutionary war by a
white man named Saml Bend to the
authorities of the Cherokee nation for
certain important considerations &
& that said molly was then emancipated
& adopted into the clan composing the
our family agreeably to the then existing
customs & 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
Chota on the Tennessee River & has
ever been free & resides in the nation
known to & subscribed to before me

and the white path who being duly sworn
and saith that to the best of their ^{recollection}
knowledge and belief that the mother of Edward
& Isaac Tucker mally was surrendered
and returned up when a girl some time
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continued in the nation & enjoyed
the liberty of freedom & that her two
sons Edward & Isaac Tucker were
born at the beloved town called
Chota on the Tennessee River & has
ever been free & resides in the nation
born to & subscribed to before me
at Red clay this 18th Decr 1833.

Done all Coy Sign? Big Help Freed +
I, Robert White Path his mark
Mr. Mathy his mark
Sign his mark
ma 10

I Certify that the above to be
a correct copy of the original
handed to the said Isaac
Sucker by Charles W. Vann
18th Oct. 1833. Clerk Supreme
Court.