

Mountville- Moheagain- Indiantown- March, 28 1836

To the honorable Senate & House of Represent

-atives in jeneral Court Assembled-

We your humble petitioners beg leave to say

That we in common with all our race feel

much aggrieved in consequence of our citation,

a citation to be deplored by every intelligent

being on earth, and as things now are it can

not be helped all the overseers in the world

could not better our condition – and nothing

can effectually remove the foul blot of degra-

dation from us but the abrogation of the Laws

which bind us to be State paupers- which open

a door for the convenience of unprincipled

white men to rob us of our temporal rights

and the more respected our natural rights-

But, we cannot but think but those Laws were

intended of good in the first instance- but we

fear there was not Love enough in the hearts

of the white men to think of raiseing any

of us to be equal with them selves in commoⁿ

rights., Because we were Indians, Tho Your

Fathers were willing enough to put them

Selves under the protection of Uncas our

Chief until they were able to protect them

Selves. And our chief never deprived the white

man of his rights, as we have been by the

white man[^] [illegible crossout] deprived of ours Tho we must acknowledge that

we ought to be thankful for the least favor

for when we pafs the beautiful plains of

Norwich and spy those lofty Temples and

Shining spears and decorated fields, one spread

with fine marble buildings and realize it was

Uncas our noble chieives posefsion, and that

he presented it to our white friends in token

[verso: blank

[folio 2:

of his friendship and that of his tribe forever

and in return we see our Sachem's grave ^{5B}

so beautifully decorated with a fine costly

granite just out of the Quarry in all its

natural qualities, doubtless to keep in

remembrance his natural looks But

to be never forgotten doubtless was the aim

we however requested that his granite was

not polished on one side so as to show the

polished arts of our white brethren

by cutting his age and death, But we
feel very grateful as it is. You will
understand from this however that
we have a desire to advance a step
from the natural Quarry of the gran-
ite, and become citizens and enjoy our
rights in common with our white friends
We should think ~~that~~ the state could
have no objection of giving us a trial
at least, to take care of our selves for
we know that no one can feel that that inter-
est in our affairs that we ~~feel~~ do.
And we can not believe that you would
willingly opprefs us for we do not know
why you should unless some feel that
it is a disgrace to acknowledge an Indian
to be a man and own [*crossout*] as such, ^{be treated}, but
this ought to be nothing in the way
for we cant help our creation. you must
setle that with the author of our ex-
istence and bring him before your

[verso: blank

[folio 3:

honorable body and question him and not
us and we should thing ^{it} more proper ^{5C}
if you can do it in your high court
to degrade him then us, and we have
so good opinion of the great spirit
our father that we do not believe
he wants us in this situation. But we
sincerely hope that there is not one in the
court that wants to degrade us any
longer - and we would suggest one
thing while you are making laws for
poor Indians ask your self this Question
Should I be willing to live under such
laws and regulations as is made for
the Indians, and do you make such
laws for your selves, ^{No} Showing of cour-
-se that you would not- Then do unto
others as ye would that they should do
unto you
But we can not see why we should
not have our rights as well as the
Cherokees you recollect how high
the excitement was in this state
upon that subject and every man

apparently felt indignantly upon
that subject and cried Shame Shame
But, it is true we are but few in num-
-ber yet liberty to us is as sweet as it
could be to the Cherokees, at any rate
we feel that our fathers has done
more for the good of Conn then all

[verso: blank

[folio 4:

the other Tribes put together. you
are willing the African should enjoy
his right,^{of takeing care of him self} in any part of the state, but
you are not willing we should^{enjoy} ours.
People coming from other countries
may come here and enjoy all the
rights of citizens do their businesfs
nefs in their own way; and^{yet} never
assisted you atall-
But we who have done all we
could have not had the least pri-
-vilege, not even to sell a basket
with out being called to account for
it if the laws were enforced.
And we are tired of such living.
But we would under present circumstances
wish to be rightly understood, we do not
ask for permifsion to sell our lands, or have
it so it may go out of our hands we want
it all divided & each one to have his right
& hold it in fee simple & that portion of
of us that are able either male or female
have the management of it our selves
& if there is any that cannot we are
willing that that portion of our tribe
should be seen to & we are willing to do
what we can for them. But as the laws
now are the Idle have as good a law as the
industrious, But you do not make such
laws for your selves, & if wish our
wellfares we are sure that you will do
something in fulfilling the promises

[verso: blank

[folio 5:

your fathers made to our fathers years ago

And we ask what use is it to educate our 5E
children & bring them up in this way
to be seavalges from their cradle to the grave
You must say as we say none atall we
have it to say we are thankful for our
Meeting-House & school house, & and our
good friend Mr Gleason our present
mifsionary who also has expresed a
willingnefs we should rise & become
honorable citizens in this Commonwealth
and is doing what he can for us & we hope
that as the laws are in our way as they
now are you will remove the obstickle
out of the way & give us & our Mifsionary
a fair trial to recover
And as in Duty bound will ever pray

Moses Paul	Francis Fielding
Hannah Wyyougs	Alpheus Marthers
Jacob Cooper	Rachel Fielding
Mary Miller	Henry Marthers
John Tante quigg ^{on}	Lemuel Miller
Sally quig ^{gen}	David Cooper
Jacob [] fowler	Lucy Cooper
Barthena Hoscott	Peter Cooper
SynthiaHoscott	Lucy Cooper
	Barthiwlemew Smith

[verso:

John TanteQuiggen
& Others

Petition to divide
Tribe lands

Enterd May Session
1836

No. 149
RK Hinman
Secretary
H Reps 1836
Referred to joint
Com^t on Judiciary
Wm P Burall Clk
In Senate 1836
Concurred
R S Hinman Clk