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Creek Said No To Statehood Bill

The first statehood bill for Oklahoma was introduced in Congress Jan. 25, 1892. Other legislation and hearings followed.

Principal arguments for combining the Oklahoma Territory and the Indian Territory into one new state were made by Sidney Clarke of Oklahoma City and W.P. Hackney and Horace Speed of Guthrie. Arguments against were advanced by Elias C. Boudinot, Cherokee; Roley McIntosh and A.P. McKellop, Creeks; and Capt. J.S. Standley, Choctaw.

In his testimony McIntosh said: "I am a full-blood Indian. Indians, as you know, are hunters. I myself am a hunter. I like the chase. The educated man hunts sometimes. He has fine arms. His guns and weapons are of fine material and they do great execution. I myself, as a true Indian, do not know anything but the bow and arrow."

McIntosh then asked: "How do the United States look upon and what do the United States think about the Five Civilized Tribes down there?"

He responded to his own question by saying:

"I believe that the United States have realized that we are nations. The evidence of that, so far as I am concerned, is the fact that you have made treaties with us and, from time to time, you seem composed to comply with those treaties..."

"As I have told you, I am an old Indian and I know only one way. When you make a contract with me, I expect you to stand by it. I know that you have agreed with me, that is, with the Creek Nation, that in no time shall that country be included within the bounds and limits of any state; and I am perfectly satisfied that you will live up to that."