

AN INDIAN PETITION

What the Omahas Have to Say in Relation to the Imprisonment of the Poncas.

They Demand That the Poncas Shall be Permitted to Make Their Own Living.

A Few Facts That it Will be Well For Mr. Schurz to Consider.

The following petition was received at THE HERALD office yesterday, accompanied by a note from Chas. P. Morgan, (who is a full blooded Omaha,) in which he said: "I enclose an appeal from the Omaha Indians to the friends of the Poncas, now imprisoned at Omaha, which we will be very thankful if you will print it in THE HERALD." The petition is in the handwriting of Mr. Morgan, and is a thing which he had in his mind when in Omaha, saying, that he knew there was not a man in the tribe but who would do all in his power to help get these Poncas on the Omaha reservation. They were all anxious for them to come. The following is the petition *verbatim et literatim*:

OMAHA AGENCY, April 21, 1879.
To the OMAHA HERALD,
To the friends of the Poncas now held as prisoners at Omaha barracks:

We, the undersigned, Omaha Indians, for ourselves and on behalf of the Omaha tribe, wish publicly to declare that in consideration of the relationship existing between our tribe and those Poncas, and under a sense of the dictates of common humanity to our race, we are anxious for their return to our reservation, and are willing to share with them our lands and to assist them until they can, by their industry, support themselves. They are our brothers and our sisters, our uncles and our cousins, and although we are called savages we feel that sympathy for our persecuted brethren that should characterize Christians, and are willing to share what we possess with them if they can only be allowed to return and labor, improve and provide for themselves where they may live in peace, enjoy good health, and the opportunity of educating their children up to a higher state civilization. They came here to our reservation about the first of March, from the Indian Territory, and as they believe from the jaws of death, even bringing sickness with them. We received them kindly and hospitably, and afforded them such assistance as we could in the way of land to raise a crop this summer, and they were preparing to go to work to sow and plant when they were arrested and taken from us by soldiers without any just cause or provocation that we or they know of. Having learned with thankfulness that the good people of Omaha, and the friends of humanity and justice deeply sympathized with and enlisted in the cause of those Poncas, we feel encouraged to appeal to you for a continuance of your efforts in their behalf, unless their right to live among their friends and brothers and enjoy the fruits of their labor is restored to them:

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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Fire Chief, | Standing Hawk, |
| Yellow Smoke, | Hardwalker, |
| Gl-he-ga, | Shon-ga-akab, |
| Paw-nee-aum-puzsho | Du-ba-mo-ni, |
| Ta-o-ka-hsh, | Um-pa-tun-ga, |
| Wah-ha-wa-ne, | Mo-wad-da-na, |
| Num-ba-cu-h, | Hog-ga-mo-ai, |
| Wah-ke-a-mo-ai | Wah-jap-pa, |
| Wah-ke-da, | Nah-ha-wa-ka-b, |
| Mah-pe-a-heg-ga, | Ta-noc-ga. |

THE PONCAS.

An Order From Judge Dundy Granting a Hearing, on Motion for a Writ of Habeas Corpus.

The application for a writ of habeas corpus in behalf of the Ponca Indians now confined at Fort Omaha, was presented to Judge Dundy yesterday morning at Lincoln, and the writ was granted as prayed. Hon. G. M. Lamberton, United States Attorney, represented the respondents. There was no argument on the case, but the matter was submitted on the papers. The writ is made returnable at Lincoln within ten days from date of service—but by consent of counsel the argument will take place in Omaha. The writ is against Geo. Crook, brigadier of the army of the United States, and commander of the Department of the Platte, and Deputy United States Marshal Bierbower came up and served it yesterday.

Hon. J. L. Webster and A. J. Poppleton, to whom this matter was suggested by a resident of Omaha after the recent statements of Ponca chiefs, volunteered their services, and if they are right in their opinion as to the law, there is a strong probability that the entire Indian policy of the Government will soon be placed on a different basis.