



Mr — Squires
Montauk Indians,
Amityville,
Long Island,
New York.

Return to James E. Wadsworth
Chief of Montana Indians. Little Rock. L.I.

ANNUAL TRIBAL MEETING OF THE MONTAUK INDIANS

Sag Harbor, Long Island,

Sept. 8, 1914.

At the Annual Tribal Meeting of the Montauk Indians, held at Sag Harbor, Aug. 29, 1914, the following questions were discussed and agreed upon—

Ist. The Montauk Case, which has been before the Courts many years and is now awaiting the decision of the Judges of the Appellate Courts, should in pursuit of Justice be carried to the highest courts of the U. S. if necessary. *Case will go to Court of appeals*

II. Owing to the length of the battle and other causes, some have become discouraged, and ignorantly or intentionally cut themselves away from the tribe, thus depriving themselves and heirs from enjoying the privileges according to tribal laws. It was agreed upon that another and last opportunity be given to those to enroll and join with us for the common good.

III. For the past two or three years, the expense of this great and just cause has been met by a few, while the benefits would be enjoyed by many. In justice and large-heartedness which has ever characterized the Indian, the few have decided to give another and last opportunity for all enrolled to show their interest in the Tribe and Cause. During the past two years, the expense of nearly seven hundred dollars (\$700) has been met by a few. It has been decided to take up again the annual fee of three dollars (\$3.00) or monthly dues of twenty-five cents. This goes into effect at once.

IV. For the enlightenment of those who may have forgotten the tribal laws of 1899, the Council has deemed it wise to insert this in the letter.

(a) If a person is enrolled under the rules and agrees to pay a fixed amount at enrollment and monthly, in order to entitle that person to a portion of the award, must he make his payment good? Answer—Yes. It is an entire contract which is entered into and neither the party nor the council can change or alter it.

(b) Can we drop from the tribal rolls those who have not kept their payments as by their contracts? Answer—Yes. It can be done.

This letter will be to those to whom these notices are sent a legal notice. All persons enrolled on the tribal books or lists must pay their annual dues of three dollars, or twenty-five cents per month, or be dropped from the rolls. This rule or law made by the tribe will be strictly followed without regard to any member of the tribe.

V. Those desiring to be enrolled at this late day can do so by complying with the Tribal laws, paying their dues and enrollment fee of \$3.00.

VI. The time in which this enrollment may be done is limited (unless the Council should deem it wise to change) to Monday, November 2, 1914.

To all, the Council sends greeting. While there has been much to discourage and little to encourage, yet the justice of the cause, the loyalty of brother to brother, the knowledge that we are of one blood, should bind all Montauk together in a union as our fathers would say that as long as grass grows, water runs and there are stars in the heaven nothing could break.

By order of the King,

WYANDANCH PHAROAH, AND COUNCIL,

James E. Waters, Little Neck, Long Island. Walter C. Halsey, Sag Harbor, Long Island. Mrs. M. L. Cuffee, Islip, Long Island. Israel Quaw, East Hampton, Long Island. Christopher Cuffee, Hartford, Conn.

*Kindly get into touch with me as soon as possible.
James E. Waters.*