Mrs Atkinson’s Ottawa University History

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(hole in the paper) I was requested to work XXXX XXXX an XXX and History of Ottawa University

In Feb1860 and act of incorporation under the XXX XXX incorporate the Roger Williams University was passed by the Legislative Assemly of the then Territory of Kansas XXXXXX XXXXX the Baptists of Kansas arranged for the purpose of founding a denominational institution of learning

In the Summer of 1860 the first meeting of the Kansas Baptist Convention was held in Atchison. At the meeting Rev John T Jones generally called Tauy Jones was present and made a statement that his people meaning the Ottawa Indians were very anxious to provide for the education of their children and would gladly help to enwo a school in xxxxx xxxx with the White Baptists of the State.

XXXXXX of the statement during the following xxx a committee of xxxx was chosen by the Trustees of the Roger Williams University consisting of Rev. I S. Kalloch, R C Brown xxxxx xxxxxby invitation of the Ottawa Indians this committee attended a consul meeting which was called for the purpose of consulting with these white brethren in regard to the founding of a school of higher education in which the Ottawa children might be educated under Baptist influence xxxxx xxxxx xxxxxx xxxxxx The Ottawa tribe of Indians in Council assembled at the school of the nation on Wednesday the 5th day of December 1860

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A resolution suspending the bill in question United congress met and the university had a fair xxxxx with this and other words we refused to surrender xxxxx xxxxx the commission xxxx the sea that I would not give up possession and there was no way by which they xxxxx for a xxxxx until congress would meet, so after finding a xxxxx or more in our midst during which was conxxxxx xxxx themxxxxx txxxxx them lost great kindness as xxxx but refusing to recognized them as xxxxx authority to xxxxx me from Ottawa University ad its property they finaly left.

We then got up a xxxxx petition requesting congress to refuse the obnoxious bill, this petition was signed by thousands of citizens of Franklin Co and when the next congress met we presented this petition with a bill for refusal in these words.

Whereas the act of congress approved June 10 1872 entitled an act for the relief of certain Indians in the central superintendency directed the seizure and sale by the United States of the entire property of Ottawa University in Franklin County Kansas without making compensation on to said xxxx for Kansas without and judicial condemnation said property and whereas said act cannot be carried into effect because the Trustees of said University on in legal possession said property and refuse to surrender the same xxxx falim the act of congress is unconstitutional and void before be (fragment of page 2 left)

Xxxxmake the following statements and agreements. They xxxxx xxxxxx issues for the education of their children. It is their unanimous and earnest wish that when their xxxxxxxx (broken) Page 3

Able to discharge the duties of American citizens they therefore believing that this good object can be best accomplished through the aid of the Roger Williams University do agree to give that University $200000 acres of their land of average quantity with a fair portion of timber and water privileges provided that in two years from the ratification of the Treaty the said Trustees shall have expended $10,000 in buildings and otherwise towards this enterprise and also that from and after that time they shall board, clothe & educate a number not exceeding fifty of the Ottawa children every year for thirty years, the age of said children to be between four and fourteen years and also that after the expiration of the thrity years the Ottawas shall be entitled to ten scholarships in the said university forever”

The Trustees xxxx on their part through their committee thereby agents fulfill the above conditions and also in every way possible to assist the Ottawas in the improvement of their condition and the education of their people. To this agreement all the counselmen of the nation 14 in number signed their names also xxxx committee of the Roger Williams University xxxxxx I S Kalloch, EC Brant, Benj Luci in the presence of J S Embry as witness.

For the purpose of carrying this agreement with xxxx an effort was made by both Indians and this committee

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made the following statements and arguments. They xxxxxx xxx issues for the education of their children. It is there unanimous and earnest wish that when they grow up they shall assume the habits and customs and be able to discharge the duties of American citizens they therefor beliving that this good object can be best accomplished through the and of the Roger Williams University do agree to give to that university $30000 acres of their land of average quarterly with a fair portion of timber & water privileges provide that un two years from the ratification of the Treaty the said trustees that have expended $10000 in buildings and otherwise towards this enterprise and also that from and after that time they shall board, cloth & educate a number not exceeding fifty of the Ottawa children every year for fifty years, the age of said children to be between four & fourteen years and also that after the expiration of the thirty years the Ottawas shall be entitled to ten scholarships in the said university forever.” The Trustees on their part charged the committee hereby agents fulfill the above conditions and also in every way passable to assist the Ottawas in

The in xxxxxx of their condition and the education of their people

To this argument all the counselmen of the nation six in number put their names also the committee of the Roger Williams University being I S Kalloch, R C Brant & Benj Luci in the pxxxxx of J S Emory as witness

For the purpose of xxxxx this argument xxxx an effort was made by xxxxx Indians & this Committee to secure a Treaty between the Indians & the US which Treaty was secured in 1862

In the 6TH ARTICLE OF THE Treaty xxxx made for setting apart 20 000 acres of average land for endorsement and 640 acres on which to erect suitable buildings

It was not until 1865 that a building was secured and a school for the Indians started.

A word of xxxplantation as to change in name form Roger Williams to Ottawa University

Xxxxx the above argument between the Trustees of Roger Williams University and the Ottawa Indians was to be incorporated into a Treaty Judge Usher of Lawrence the Sec of the Interior suggested that to become the passage of the Treaty it might be well to drop all appearance of a denominational school as the US could not will xxxxxx such, but in as much as the Ottawa Indians were Baptists & wished to have their children education and Baptist influence this could truly exxxxx by appointing a Board of Trustees of Baptists which would be self perpetuating. This was done by naming in the Treaty 4 Baptist Indians 7 one white Bpatist and authorizing these five to elect two others which was done 7 this two were Baptists

It was then that Roger Williams was dropped for Ottawa xxxxxxxx

Between 1865 7 1868 there was but little xxxxx started progress made. The management of the proxxxxx was in the hands of Rev. I S Kalloch & CC Hutchinson. Much dissatisfaction was xxxxx from time to time by the Indians for want of a school for their children xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

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Although there had been a school for a time in existence in a building down in the village of Ottawa but for want of means it had to be suspended from time to time. During the interim between 1865 and 1868 xxxxxx of what is xxxxxx as the old building had been erected the roof put on, in 1867

Kalloch & Hutchinson, presented to the Baptist Home Mission Soc. Bills amounting to $50,000 which they claimed they had advanced acct of their prexxxxxxx xxxxx for the erection of the building, xxxx 4xxxxx of the Indian School xxxxx they claimed then was a large & valuable property which they had been therxxxxxx instrumental in securing, which entitled them to xxxxx encumbered by the Baptist Denomination.

This calim was taken under consideration by its Home Mission Dxxxxx a very excellent & capable brother a business man in New York had business at seven xxxx which he was coming out to look after. He was engaged to come to Ottawa xxxxx into this claims & the general condition & management of the university as it was then alleged.

The brother made a hasty xxxx dom to Ottawa and became well satisfied the bills of Kalloch and Hutchinson were carried to the management xxxx satisfactory. He brought back with him a xxxxx many xxxx of xxxx by there xxxxx but the xxxxx was far from xxxxx satisfactory to the xxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxx

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to xxxxxx xxx xxxx to go acct to Kansas sssss university as to there bills & xxxxx I had been urged several times before but declined the xxxxx lessons, but now the Home Mission Board would not take my refusal but insisted on my going for it with Dr J Backus & E.E.L. Taylor agreeing to see my pulpit was supplied in my absence xxxxx xxxxxx & come out

I reached Ottawa in the fall of Dec 1867 xxxxx xxxxx school for the Ottawas children and no means to sustain a school. There was much dissatisfaction on the part of the Indians on this account as after consulting with both Indians 7 Whites found there was no foncidence in the management of the school. There was mujch dissatisfaction on the part fo the Indians on this account as after consulting with both Indians management of the school. The Indian Tribes insisted that I must remain with them & help them to get a school for their children—Mr C C Hutchinson who was Sec & xxxx of the Board of Trustees had left the country as an absconding agent of the Ottawa & Chippewa Indians the amount of his debtness was $3600 this money he secured from the sale of trust lands belonging to the Ottawa Indian which he sold as government agent. There was a vacancy on the University Board made by Hutchinson’s resignation. The Indians insisted on my being put on the board to fill this vacancy. A meeting was called for this purpose & I was put on & elected Sec & Tr as these two officers were made to be held by xxxxxx persons by the terms of the Treaty. This gave me authority & rights that a mere visitor could not have decided to make a systematic and thorough investigation of its school & lands cont. from the beginning. This took me about 30 days I was greatly aided in this work by my neighbor friend a fellow citizen Hon. H F Sheldon who was then recorder in this.

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Co & by one John C Richman who was very familiar with all the lands in the 20,000 acres. xxxxx with the beginning of the records of the co I xxxx a large amount of land had been sold without the knowledge or authority of the Trustees; there were other lands called Trust lands. When the Ottawa Indians became citizens their Reservation was divided up into what was called ‘severally” this is each Indian was called so much for himself (if he was head of a family) & so much for his children. Then the 20,0000 acres of college lands were set afoot the balance of the Reservation which was called trust lands were put upon the market for sale of these lands the trustees bought about 7000 acres at government price which was about $2.50 per acre. There lands had all been appraised by a government agent & the average price was $2.50. Some pieces was much more than other pieces xxxxxx xxxxxx. I found that Kalloch had sold large quantities of there land & by charging him which appeared xxxxxxxx found it amounted xxxxxx a few dollars $24,000 which was the amount his claim made to the Home Mission Soc.

Mr. Kalloch had spent a large sum of money in the erection of the college building & for other purposes the xxxx was sxxxxxxxx had not from credit for the land he sold. After I found out the true status of things I called on

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On Mr Kalloch and I showed him the list of lands which he had given deeds for & the prices, and asked him what he had to say. He recognized the fact that he had sold their lands, but was unconscious there was so much of them, By explaining that in short times there were great demand for cheap lands & often when he would go East he would sign in blanck a bundle of deeds leaving them with clerks he had & he supposed there clerk had not reported to him on his return all the sales made. Such an explanation to those who knew that Kalloch would sound very natural, as he did business a very loose way

I told him the university aught not to loan its property through his loose way of doing business & that I would have to charge him with the amount as found their lands were worth, this claim to xxxx $300 this I would pay him if he would recipt his bill & resign his place on the university board & thus sever his association with the school & do this in a kind & friendly spirit as I did not propose to have any unfriendliness with him & at the same time I proposed to do the right thing with the denomination. To this Mr Kalloch consented in the most pleasing way, recinded the official retr xxxxxx of one of the long friends of Ottawa University, xxxxx Kalloch was a man of a xxxxxx of spirit, but of very loose business habits

After I had obtained all the fact connected with

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The school so far as I could get him. I went home and met in a called meeting the mission xxxxx. I presented those facts together with Mr Kalloch’s receipt in xxxx & his resignation with a letter from Mr Kalloch in which he expressed himself well pleased with the manner in which I had treated him & pledging himself to remain the friend of Ottawa University that he did so far as I know up to his death.

From the data I had gathered from the records I was able to show that Mr Hutchinson’s bill of $2000 could be settled in the same way which was done about two year afterwards. Is this true xxxx xxxxx the evidence!

At this point I naturally supported my mission was ended and I would return to my church & pastorate---I had reported that the finishing of the college building & the payments of debts contract by the management of the school would from the first I could learn/ xxxxxxxxx $3000, that xxxxx $1000 of proceeds from the endowment lands miss used and would have to be raised & put in mortgage in Franklin Co in order to keep the Treaty good thir $5000 was raised in a very short time among the members of the Home Mission xxxxxx many of them giving $1000 xxxxx, then came the mission that xxxxx had accomplished so much already I must remain with the txxxxx until the building was finished and the debts paid and the school fairly started to. After much hesitancy I yielded and returned

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and got a building committee of citizens organized of which Dan Deford was Treasurer. This committee finished the material having received all the endorsement & recommendation necessary I started on this part of the mission. I vested a good mnay xxxxx & individuals last & xxxx xxxxxxx xxxxxx the lumber needed donated to us in xxxxxxx & all the hardware, glass, nails &c donated in Pittsburgh during the xxxx summer of 1869 (school opened in Spring 1869) the building was finished & every dollar of the debts paid and accomplishments made to open the school in the new building to when low & behold the brigh sum of place was turned into a xxxxxxx cloud of storm. I had been in the East on business & got home a cold Dec day---when I was informed that Mr Huchinson the defaulting Indian agent had returned and he made up friends with the Indians (For they were very made with him when he had defaulted) and that I had better go & see Mr Jones at once---I went to Jones that evening & found he had joined the other Indians, Hutchinson in a xxxxx to sell and the whole concur the episxxxxx for inxxxxx to pay Hutchinson default action $360 xxxxxxx Hutchinson had joined the Spxxxxx Church in Lawrence & represented Bishop Vaill of W xxxxx there never was fewer xxxxxx xxxxx in Kansas the Baptists xxxxxx xxxxxx to xxxxxx the xxxxxx to pay the amount the property & if the Eps would take the school &

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Pay this debt they could have it. This and many other misinterpretations he made. Bischop believing all this to be true made application to xxx xxxx tp the great bankers of Philadephia for the money. I got the promise of it. How shall the Episcopalians be put in xxxx of the property? Rhe man was to have a meeting of the Trustees called there were the only 2 white trustees, M Bats & myself. Kalloch having resigned there were 4 Indians with Mr Jones. They were to meet & one after another of the Indian Trustees would xxxxxx & an Ep first in his place & thus leave 4 Ep & 2 Baptists as consisting the board of Trustees this was the plan, how xxxxxxx to head this off xxxxx the question the first thing I felt must be done was to xxxx Bro. Jones back to act with & for the Baptist interests I found him in xxxxx whne I got to is xxxxx and his Indian nature had got the mastery of him. He was a strong Baptist & a good xxxxx at other times, but now I fnd him retisent xxxx he would not tell me if the plan formed nor wanted to give me any promise he would stand by his xxxxxx promises to be true to the Baptist interests in the school I worked with him until it was midnight but could get no expression of a change of mind. I became disxxxx under his and other pledges of loyalty I had congronted and read over $40,000 to pay debts; xxxxx xxxxxx & referred xxxxxx xxxxxx & had xxxxx the most xxxxxx assurances to the xxxxxxx at xxxxxxx this many that it was safe xxxxx as & to think that the whole thing is to be flushed out of our hands xxxxxxxx

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I coxed him I denounced him as an xxxxxxx and got some pen & ink & wrote two letters onto Dr Backes of the Home Mission Soc xxxx xxxxxxx of Brother Jones the other to Dr A D Gillet a classmate in Madison U when Bro Jones loved as he love his own life I xxxxx xxxxx then xxxxxx what xxxxxx Jones was & what he was going to do, I read him there letters, when the xxxxxx moved him. He got out the bill & xxxxxx xxxxxxxx really xxxxxx to send several letters. I told I send as sure as there was a God in xxxxxx xxxxx he reported and gave me full assurance of his change of mind. He did report thanks be to God & got down on his knees and pledged God & his wife (who was always true) and me that he would do as I wanted him to. A meeting of the Trustees had been called to meet in Lawrence the following Tuesday to make this transfer by a treaty stipulation. No legal meeting of the Trustees could be held without 2 white Trustees there present, I had business in St Louis, & I decided to go there Monday---this is now Saturday night that I am at Bro. Jones, I wrote out notices & served them on all the Indian Trustees that I could not be at Lawrence con xxxxx no Tuesday & postponed the meeting one week. According to the Treaty of 1867 the Sec. of the Interior and the Senior Sec. of the Home Mission Soc were made members of the University Board xxxxxx xxxxxxxx to vote by proxy xxxxxx on a availed myself of his help xxxx Secy the Interior was a member of the Conservatory

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Of Dr Gillet’s church his wife Mrs Browning being a member of the church I wrote a full explanation of the whole matter sent one letter to Dr Gillet asking him to go xxxxx xxxxx get Mrs Browinings proxy for Mr Pratt & for Dr Backus to send me xxxxx to me both proxces were recinded in due time for the coming meeting. We met in the Baptist church in Lawrence the Indian Trustees and counselmen on hand with their Epis friends to receive Ottawa University as I xxxxxx xxx, of the Board I called the meeting to order and moved that Nro. Jones would take the chair which he did & opened the meeting by prayer. Judge Emory of the Lawrence church was invited to be present, whom we intended to put o the Board to fill Kallochs place. An effort was made by Mr Hutchinson (who was present claiming he had Mr Kallochs proxy) to have a seat in the meeting but we needed him xxxxxx & proceeded to elect Judge Emory to fill the vacancy then it was that Mr Pratt & I presented the proxces we held, up to this time the Indians never mistrusted us in getting these proxces and still supposing that Bro. Jones was with them they felt quite conflicted the were going to carry out their planed. But when the proxces were presented it gave us 4 votes to three Indians and the election of Mr Empry Mr Jones being in the chair did not have to vote. With Empry in the Chair as Pres we then opened out and exposed the villainous scheme that Hutchinson had xxxxxx orchestrated by which he hoped to xxxxxxx Ottawa University from its rightfull xxxxx whome the Epis. found and the xxxxx

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of the matter they felt greatly mortified.

The next trouble we had the meet was an attempt was made by some Lawrence men to displace the Trustees as an illegal body & elect in their places a new board with two new names in place of there of Kalloch & Hutchinson as originally the board was constituted. The treaty name the four Indian Trustees namely J T Jones Joseph King James Wind and William Hur & I G Pratt & authorized these 5 to elect 2 more which they did, this Lawrence acct for claimed that the language of the Treaty ment that the Indian counsel were to elect the remaining 2 Trustees whereas the 5 Trustees elected them hence the board as it was then constituted was not legal so they had the Indians elect Nelson Shanon and a man by the name of Blockedge.

This new board made application to the In- xxxxx Department to aust the old Board and reorganize xxxx new Board or for distinctiveness in the arguments befor the law department of the US the old board was called the Emory Board(he being chairman of it) an the new board was called the Shanon board (he being chairman of it) this claim an the xxxxx of this So called new Board pri xxxxxx a long a fierce struggle befor the Interior Department, the new Board was backed up by legal talent that was still in Lawrence the Old Board was defended by a lawyer in Washington by name of Henry Beard I furnished the facts a & he arranged them

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In an argument which covered 59 printed pages after carefull and thorough consideration by the Attorney General, Eckerman and Sec of the Interior, ex Governor Cox we were notified that the the Emory Atkinson Board was the only legally constituted Board of Ottawa University.

While this fight was waged against the University in Washington this man Hutchinson brought suit against the Institution in Franklin Court Dis, court for the madest sum of $36000. The university was defended by Judge Thatcher of Lawrence & John W Deford of Ottawa, after an eloquent & logical presentation of the facts by these gentlemen we won the case.We then very naturally xxxx the xxxx over on the fort of there Indian lawyers who seemed to be hunkering after the life blood of the Institution but no a new and a different mode of warfare is employed. A Bill is gotten up & presented to congress in the last house of the Session of 1872 by a lawyer still living in Lawrence under the Guize that he was a professor in Ottawa University the title of the bill was “an act for the relief of certain Indians in the Central Superintendancy” this bill was passed on the last night of congress on Wednesday Thursday morning I got a Telegram from our attorney to come an at on xxxx as a bill had been passed the day before which certainly confiscated the whole of our school property. I left Thursday night reached Washington Sunday morning

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Saw and confessed xxxxx xxxx lawyer xxxxxx xxxx bill Genrl xxxxxx PresxxxxxxxSenatorxxxxxxx a warm friend of our school were xxxxx in Boston attending its first xxxxxx Jubilee—I returned to New York Sunday night committed with its friends of the Institution on Monday I left for Boston Monday night I first xxxxxxx Senator Pomroy showed him the bill & explained its meaning. He was xxxxxxx exercised over the matter xxxxxxx the fact he could have killed it in the xxxxxxxxx he had had any knowledge of its nature but he was assured it was just what the university wanted for.

The xxxxxx was to see Pres Grant & this was no small task as Boston was full of politicians but we found the Rev. Dr Barna Sears the Sup is the Peabody fund, was stopping at the same hotel Gnl Grant was & we decided to reach Grant through him. We reached Dr Sears xxxxxx told him our mission Dr Sears was fairly well acquainted xxxxx as to what Ottawa University was & might become for he gave me 20 minutes of his time in Boston at a Social Union where he was the Special guest of Speaking the evening but knowing of my presence from Kansas & the mission I was on very cheerfully introduced me to his audience to use xxxx of his time. He heard in enough of Ottawa University that night to interest him. He at once sent for Pres Grant who come to his room & after hearing from Senator Pomroy that a great injustice had been done in the last bill that was xxxxx &c He Grant said he could not stop to give the matter that night a hearing but if I write out the main facts I wanted down &

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leave the paper with Dr Sears who would meet him am tomorrow at a Meeting of the Trustees of the Peabody Fund, he would try xxxxx Dr Sears to know the facts in the matter. This we did & Dr Sears no doubt as well as Senator Pomroy(who stood near to Gnrl Grant) favorably impressed him with our xxxx of the case.

At any rate Genrl Grant went to Washington held a cabinet meeting at which he stated our request which was that the act xxxxxx xxxxx passed in the closing hours of the late session would be suspended until congress would meet, this request the Pres. recommended and the cabinet passed it. Thus ended the first act in trying to stunt schooling, Ottawa University by legislation—With the hope that the bill could not be repealed, the Sec. of the Interior sent a Commission to Ottawa in the summer of 1872 with the hope of gaining possession of all the property belonging to the University so as to be ready to throw it on the market when it best suited him. This Commission was composed of Messrs. Higley Williams & Seal. They came and made a formal demand for possession. I told them that I commandeered the bill under which they were acting was a prose grand fraud, unconstitutional and powerless that I was in possession by the authority of a United States Treaty and treaty would have to be repealed or at least that xxxx of it which made me the custodian of this property befor I would yield possession and I warned them to be aware of what they proposed to do, that Pres. Grant had got his cabinet to pass

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In Jun 1860 at the table of Mrs Atkinson in Atchinson, Tauy Jones suggested that the Indian & White Baptists must cooperate in establishing xxxxx a denominational school in Kansas. Those present besides Mr Jones were the Past or the Church Mr Alderson, I. M. Kalloch and some others. The suggestion was favorably received and a matter was presented to the State Convention there holding its first meeting in Atchinson. A Committee was appointed to confer with the Ottawa tribe of Indians. On December 5, 1860 an agreement was made between the Ottawa Tribe and this committee by which 20 000 acres of land ~~given~~ set apart for Education and for the functioning of a school in which both Indians and Whites may be educated. On June 24, 1862 a treaty was made which embodied the terms of the agreement made in December and xxxxxxx