

James A. 543  
Holmes & Black  
Kansas City, Mo.  
Feb 29, 68

Submit protest a-  
gainst approval of  
pledge for the deputed  
widow of Samuel  
Biggs wife, a Shaw-  
nee Indian, now  
deceased, to James  
B. Abbott

Almont

Am<sup>2</sup> Mar 12/68



Kansas - City Mo. Feb<sup>y</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1868

C. B. Taylor Esq.  
Comr Indn Affairs Washington City D.C.

Dear Sir. We write  
to protest against the approval of  
a Deed. we understand to be in your  
office for approval from the reputed  
widow of Samuel Bigknife, a Shawnee Indn  
now deceased. To <sup>James P. Abbott</sup> the Heir of said  
Samuel Bigknife, of 200 acres Patented to  
him by U.S. in his lifetime, or a part  
thereof, against the approval thereof State  
the following facts. To wit

In the fall of 1860. one John Peyton  
received a Deed from the Brothers & Sisters  
of said Samuel Bigknife. Dea? To the South  
half of SW 1/4 Sec 27. also NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of  
Sec 34 Township 11. R 25 in Wyandotte County  
120 acres. the Chiefs of Shawnee Council -  
Certifying that said Brothers & Sisters were the sole  
Heirs of said Saml Bigknife. also certifying to their  
competency i.e. Asst. Neudome. then acting agent  
taking acct of Deed. & appending Certificate  
as required. by the then rules. By some misund-  
-standing said Deed was not forwarded. & is possibly  
lost. said John Peyton paid said Heirs. the  
sum of \$1800. in Gold for said 120 acres of land  
\$15. <sup>per</sup> acre - the same being at the time

considered an Exorbitant price. About July  
25<sup>th</sup> 1863. after the loss of the original  
Deed, the same was made to said John  
Peyton, a Citizens Deed in usual form  
to same 120 acres. which Deed was duly  
Recorded in Wyandotte County in Deed Book  
G. Pages. 253 + 254. on 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March  
1863. said John Peyton for consideration of  
\$1850. conveyed same Land to Edw. B. Peyton  
which Deed was duly Recorded in Deed Book G  
Pages. 254. + 255. Edw. Peyton made lasting  
& valuable improvements thereon. & on April  
27<sup>th</sup> 1866 conveyed to one Erastus B. Duncan  
for consideration of \$4000. same 120 acres  
of Land. which Deed was duly Recorded  
May 30<sup>th</sup> 1867 Book G. Pages. 501. + 502.  
on 4<sup>th</sup> day of Dec said Duncan having made  
further improvements. sold same Land to  
Sarah J. Campbell for sum of \$4550.

As to the fact of the Heirs of Saul Bigknife  
to wit his (Brothers + Sisters). being at the time  
& now. considered the sole Heirs. of said Samuel  
Bigknife. by the Chief men of Shawnee  
Tribe. we are told most ample proof can  
be made. Can also prove by a number of unexcept-  
ionable witnesses. of the making of said Deed  
by John Peyton in 1860 & of the payment of  
\$1800. in Gold to said Heirs. by John Peyton

Our Clients are confident. they can establish that the Brothers & sisters of said Saml. B. Dix are the only heirs. are equally confident. that the Rep<sup>ts</sup> widow. of said Saml. Big Knife. who made the Deed to Jas. B. Abbott. & which is now seeking approval in your office. was never the wife of said Dix. was not recognized as such. by Dix. nor known as such by the immediate friends of Dix.

If you desire or require it we will procure affidavits to prove all the facts stated.

We desire to protect as an act of Justice. to our Clients ~~get~~ the approval of the Deed from the <sup>reputed</sup> ~~widow~~ of said Dix unless. your office will allow us. to revive original Deed. from Brothers & sisters of said Dix. <sup>Not with approval also.</sup> So that we can go into the Courts on equal Terms. or <sup>or 2<sup>d</sup></sup> that your office will. authorize an investigation in any way your sense of Justice may indicate as proper.

please acknowledge receipt of this. as also state if we shall get up affidavits to prove facts as stated

Yours Truly

Holmes & Black.  
+ Bartlett + Hale  
Attys for Parties