

4777

Quida Ind  
of Wis.  
mch. 21 83

Petition to be  
Court Citizens  
manage their  
affairs

and me, 18/5<sup>3</sup>  
L1311/13

Drawn to S May 9<sup>th</sup> 83  
W. C. W.

12  
C 78

13/13

Onida Dec 30 1883

We the undersigned members of the Onida Tribe of Indians at Green Bay Wisc. would respectfully present to the consideration of the authorities at Washington the following facts:

A great number of our community are educated people & by being in contact with the civilized people around us as they have been in a great measure well informed as to the progress the different duties of civilization the same as white people, that we feel that our history & course of conduct in managing our own affairs, not only as a nation but also as individuals, shows we are perfectly competent to manage our own business, and care for ourselves. That we are well aware that there are some who are entitled to control their own affairs, among us. But there will be in every community & especially in one where the people have no more formal civil rights than of their own affairs, to visit individual ambition than we have had.

We desire that our system should be changed, so much to become established from

our title. We wish to become citizens:  
if the Government do not deem it advisable  
to divide up the land in allotments to all  
the members of the tribe we desire to  
have our share set off to us, & the balance  
of the title remain as now without any  
division or singularity. We do not wish  
to all our portion of the land. We have  
worked a great many years & wish to  
pay ourselves home, with many acres  
of land cleared & under cultivation,  
& good comfortable houses & outbuildings  
& wish to hold these places for ourselves  
the remainder of our line. For this reason  
we are opposed to sale of land or other of  
our lands until after a division.  
We desire this to be done without further  
delay if possible under the present laws  
& arrangements of the Department. If  
impossible we wish to know if it  
be possible we wish the Department to  
obtain a commission to superintend  
the formation of the land.

You will please send all answers or  
further communications to Elijah S. Connelley  
Before Brown Co Wis

Names of Real Families & Number of Members of each

Charles Seward	x 3
Elizabeth Anderson	x 10
Levin Seward	x 3
William Stiles	x 6
Ernest Seward	x 3
Jacob Cornelius	x 2
Thomas Seward	x 9
Martin Seward	x 6
John Seward	x 5
Simon Seward	x 8
Jacob S. Cornelius	x 1
Joseph Smith	x 3
John Seward	x 4
Joseph Seward	x 3
Jacob Seward	x 1
Jacob S. Cornelius	x 1
Cornelius Seward	x 4
Thomas Seward	x 7
Thomas Seward	x 6
Joseph Banks	x 1
Everling Siles	x 2
Levin Seward	x 1
William S.	x 1
Elizabeth Seward	x 1
Elizabeth Smith	x 6
Elizabeth Smith	x 3
Joseph Cornelius	x 1
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