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History of Outagamie County Wisconsin

Steps to open the Oneida Reservation and the Indians made citizens were taken in Jan 1883 A committee of Citizens went to Green Bay and there conferred with leading Citizens of Brown County and also with delegation from the reservation consisting of A. P. Cornelius, Eli Skenandore, Joe Silas and E. J. Cornelius . It was determined to communicate with Congress and with the Sec of the Interior.

In Sept 1887 a protest signed by 800 Oneida Indians against the Allotment in severalty of their reservation was sent to Washington, about 400 others were also opposed to the Allotment. The protestants represented about two-thirds of the reservation. They claimed that because they were not to have absolute control of the lands alloted nor the rights of citizenship for twenty-five years, their present status would remain unchanged. They were willing to Allotment if these objections were removed.

Dana C. Lamb alloted the Oneida Reservation lands in severalty, the total number was 1,726 or 1,676 residents, about 1,200 resided within the limits of Outiagamie County , in the latter were five schools. The title to the land for twenty-five years was in the United States. The land was not taxable during that time. [The DAWS ACT or Allotment Act became law in 1887].

At the April election , 1910 Oneida was organized into a township and there after the Indians were required to pay taxes and were represented on the County Board. [Oneida Indians] Nelson Metoxen was the first county supervisor from Oneida. The other officers of the Township were James W. Cornelius and Richard Powless, supervisors, Oseao Smith, clerk ; Joseph M. Smith , Treasure; Cornelius Wheelock and Lehigh Wheelock, Justices; Eli B. Cornelius Josiah Hill , Constables; Josiah Charles and Jannison Metoxen accessors.

In Oct 1877, the Oneida's were paid their annuity of \$ 1,000 by Agent Bridgeman . The census of the Tribe showed 1,405 of all ages and sexes. The total acreage of the reservation was 64,000 of which 5,000 acres were cleared and 5,000 under cultivation.

In 1877 they had 800 acres in Corn , and raised 4,500 bushels of vegetables and 22,000 bushels of grain. They had 750 or 150 head of cattle and 600 hogs and sheep.

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(The Homestead Act became law in 1887 on the allotment Act)

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