Harris, Colonel Johnson  (1856–1921).  Printed materials, 1892–1922.  .66 foot.  
Indian chief. Typescripts of newspaper articles (1892–1922) on Cherokee Nation governmental 
issues such as allotment, the Dawes Commission, land transfers, and tribal politics during Harris’s 
tenure as chief of the Cherokees and his service in the Cherokee senate.

Box H-55
Folder:

1.  *Indian Chieftain* -- March 17, 1892: "Editorial on C.J. Harris" re: criticism of the editorial opinion of the *Muskogee Phoenix* that the dispute between the Cherokees and the Cherokee claimants over the Cherokee strip be settled by compromise. The editorial maintains that Boudinot and Sayre, appearing before a committee in Washington, DC, opposed any compromise.

2.  *Cherokee Advocate* -- August 24, 1892: "Letter of C.J. Harris to the President" re: land west of 96* and the 26th article of the Treaty of 1866, and violations of that treaty with action against intruders.

3.  *Cherokee Advocate* -- September 14, 1892: "Letter of C.J. Harris to the Hon. John Brown", Principal Chief of the Seminole Nation. Harris asks for action from other nations in support of the Cherokee Nation. Harris believes that some of the delegates in Congress are "hostile."

4.  *Cherokee Advocate* -- September 14, 1892: "Letter of C.J. Harris to the President", transmitting an act of the National Council regulating the practice of medicine and surgery in the Nation.

5.  *Cherokee Advocate* -- September 21, 1892: "Editorial on Letter of C.J. Harris" re: concern over the attitude of the delegation, state issues, non-citizens and intruders.

6.  *Indian Chieftain* -- September 22, 1892: "Protest of C.J. Harris" pertaining to the "Democratic Territorial Convention Call", warning Cherokee citizens not to participate in such a convention. "The Chief’s Warning" contains the editor's comments on Harris' articles.


8.  *Purcell Register* -- September 30, 1892: "Editorial on C.J. Harris about Quack Doctors"
supporting the chief's efforts in securing the removal of "quack" doctors from the Cherokee Nation.

9. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council about Patsy Rollins, who had complained that she had been left off the rolls at the last per capita payment, asking the National Council to inquire into this case, and that of Susan Schultz, November 22, 1892. Enclosed with the Chief's letter is Patsy Rollins' letter to the Chief with her complaint, and a list of persons testifying that Patsy Rollins is a Cherokee citizen by blood, November 15, 1892.

10. Letter from C.J. Harris to the National Council, asking for the appropriate action of funds to the Executive Department to buy stationery for use in the various district offices, the National Council, and the Executive Department (November 25, 1892).

11. Brother in Red -- December 1, 1892: "Message of C.J. Harris", discussing the jury law, land question (anti-allotment ground taken), tax system, town lot monopoly, intruders, schools, public debt and executive expenditures.

12. Cherokee Telephone -- December 8, 1892: "New Laws, Passed the Present Session of the National Council" by C.J. Harris, including: an act fixing the compensation of officers and for other purposes; an act authorizing the compilation of the laws of the Cherokee Nation; a new jury law; an act to amend an act the National Council approved, in relation to lawful fences; an act authorizing the Treasurer to furnish clerks of the several districts with blanks for issuing permits and for other purposes.

13. Letter of C.J. Harris to the Senate, appointing and nomination of W.W. Hastings and Martin V. Benge to represent the Cherokee Nation before the departments of the general government at Washington DC. This letter asks for the Senate's confirmation, December 21, 1892.

14. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council re: cooks, matrons and a hired man be employed at the Cherokee Male and Female Seminaries and that they be paid out of the appropriated monies for current expenses for the next year, December 21, 1892.

15. Cherokee Telephone -- January 12, 1893: an act providing for a revenue to be derived from a tax on foreign cattle being brought into the Cherokee Nation.

16. Letter from C.J. Harris to the National Council re: Martha Stewart's application for citizenship, February 1, 1893.

17. Cherokee Telephone -- February 2, 1893: "Proclamation Signed by C.J. Harris" calling for an extra special session of the National Council.

18. Cherokee Nation -- April 18, 1893: "Message of C.J. Harris" to the National Council calling for an International Council of the Five Civilized Tribes to draw up a united effort to prevent land allotment by the United States government. Formation of a new state to be discussed.
19. *Cherokee Telephone* -- May 25, 1893: "Letter of C.J. Harris to R.W. Walker" informing Walker that he was appointed Attorney General during the absence of W.W. Hastings, who had been sent as a delegate to Washington. Walker is notified that Hastings has returned from Washington in this letter.

20. *Duncan Banner* (two articles) and *Cherokee Advocate* -- June 17, 1893: From the *Duncan Banner*, an editorial on C.J. Harris in which Harris explains failure to get money for a bond issue. Politics are involved. Dick Wolfe wants to be chief. Another editorial stating that the merchants are the losers if the bond issue fails. It would probably be paid in small installments annually if won. The Cherokee Commission is trying to buy the Ponca land in the Strip. From the *Cherokee Advocate*, a report from the Late Delegation to Washington, DC to negotiate a loan on the Strip debt.

21. *Purcell Register* -- June 23, 1893: "Editorials on C.J. Harris" re: concern over the sale of the bonds of the Strip Land and the effect it is having on the merchants. Harris is quiet on the subject.

22. *Cherokee Advocate* -- September 9, 1893: "Message of C.J. Harris to the People", explaining that a special session to discuss the failure to sell bonds would not accomplish anything. "An Act Signed by C.J. Harris" re: erections of structures built on public domain prohibited as all lands and such improvements are to be disposed of by the National Council.

23. *Indian Chieftain* -- September 14, 1893: "Ultimatum of C.J. Harris to the People" re: the petition for a special session which the Chief thinks will accomplish nothing.

24. *Cherokee Advocate* -- November 11, 1893: "Message of C.J. Harris" to the National Council, reporting on the finances of the government, education, the asylum and prisons, the judiciary, public domain, counterfeiting, allotment of lands and the census.


26. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council, wanting a competent person to accompany the Board of Appraisers in their valuation of intruder improvements in the several districts (November 24, 1893).

27. *Chickasha Express* -- November 24, 1893: "Editorial on Message by C.J. Harris", referring to the questions of statehood. Also brings up land allotment.


29. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council concerning appropriations which need to be
made before the adjournment of the extra session—schools, national prison, the insane asylum and the Executive Department (December 11, 1893). A similar letter of December 7, 1893 asks for appropriations to buy stationery for the various offices and for a contingent fund for the Executive Department.

30. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council, explaining that the law makes no provision to furnish the National Council or the officers of the Nation a book of the laws gratuitously, December 8, 1893.

31. *Cherokee Telephone* -- December 14, 1893: "Editorial on C.J. Harris" re: charges of misdemeanor and malfeasance in office against Harris. The lower house sustained impeachment charges against Harris by a vote of 22 to 10--over 2/3 votes.

32. An act making an appropriation for the Executive Department Bond printing and for the men in office, December 15, 1893.

33. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council re: two accounts for the Insane Asylum which should be considered, December 16, 1893. Also, the account of Turner and Boseman and the sum due them on the insurance on the Insane Asylum, December 15, 1893.

34. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council re: the claim of Joe Heinrich against the Insane Asylum. Claim paid. A letter to Joe Heinrich re: his claim to be repaid for buying groceries. Also, a letter of C.J. Harris to R.M. Wolfe, President of the Senate, asking to be furnished with copies of the impeachment charges against him (Harris) (all letters of C.J. Harris dated December 19, 1893).


36. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council, submitting a telegram from J. Edward Simmons, President of the Fourth National Bank in New York. Another letter transmits the request of Bennie Adair for a warrant on the general fund, both dated December 30, 1893.

37. *Cherokee Advocate* -- January 2, 1894: "Memorial of C.J. Harris". Harris comes out strongly against statehood for Indian Territory.

38. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council asking for a raise on the salaries of his secretaries because of warrant discounts, January 10, 1894.

39. Two letters of C.J. Harris to the National Council. One asks that per-capita money of 1880, 1883, 1886, or 1890 be reimbursed, and in amounts to cash warrants, occasion justifies the loan and will save the discount of allowances already too small. The second letter returns with approval a bill making an appropriation of $5000 to pay the commission appointed to appraise Indian improvement and advise that the bill be changed, both are dated January 10, 1894.
40. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council giving his idea of how the census taking should be executed. The treasurer should be the keeper of his own vouchers for the payment of money, January 12, 1894.

41. *Muskogee Phoenix* -- January 11, 1894: "Editorial on C.J. Harris" re: a resolution passed in the lower house of the council withdrawing the impeachment charges against Chief Harris. Seems to hinge on the bonds and the successful sale of them.

42. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council re: the recommendation of Indian Commissioner Browning and James H. Slade, Chief of the Finance Division, as agents to be appointed by the National Council to help with paying the money due the Cherokees, January 12, 1894.

43. *Cherokee Advocate* -- January 17, 1894: "Reward of C.J. Harris" for the arrest of Walker Bark and William T. Hewett. Both are charged with murder.

44. *Cherokee Advocate* -- January 17, 1894: "Act Signed by C.J. Harris" re: improvements on public domain to be considered to be the property of the Cherokee Nation. Warns citizens from purchasing improvements.

45. *Alliance Courier* -- January 25, 1894: "Message of C.J. Harris". Strongly against statehood for the Indian Territory.

46. *Cherokee Advocate* -- January 31, 1894: "Council Bill No. 2 of C.J. Harris". An amended bill setting the specific terms for the commencing days of the court sessions in each district that the judges shall hold.

47. *Cherokee Advocate* -- January 31, 1894: "Special Election Proclamation of C.J. Harris" to fill the unexpired term of the deceased member Tickeater in the National Council.

48. *Muskogee Phoenix* -- February 1, 1894: "News Item of C.J. Harris." In lieu of the passage of a bill for a commission of five representatives of the Cherokees to meet and negotiate with the Dawes Commission, Harris suggests that the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and Seminoles appoint representatives to meet in an international Council at Checotah for the purpose of laying out some definite line of action in regard to the Dawes Commission.


50. *Alliance Courier* -- February 15, 1894: "Editorial on C.J. Harris" urging the unity of action on the part of the Five Civilized Tribes in their meeting with the Dawes Commission.

Box H-56
Folder:
1. *Indian Journal* -- February 22, 1894: "Meeting of Representatives of Five Civilized Tribes" re: meeting held at Checotah for the purpose of listening to the Dawes Commission and discussing the allotment question.

2. *Muskogee Phoenix* -- March 22, 1894: "Editorial on C.J. Harris" re: the burning of the Executive Mansion of the Cherokee Nation at Tahlequah. Harris escaped, but his hands were badly burned.

3. *Cherokee Advocate* -- April 18, 1894: "Special Message of C.J. Harris", informing the Cherokees that $6,740,000 has been placed on deposit in the U.S. Sub-Treasury for and subject to the order of the Cherokee Nation. Census verification must come to final termination, as must the method of payment or distribution of said money. Recommends that Intruders be paid for improvements. Reserve held to take care of the ones left off the Census rolls. Recommends that the Delawares, Shawnees and Freedmen withdraw their suits against the Cherokee Nation.

4. *Caddo Banner* -- April 20, 1894: "News Item of C.J. Harris" re: special session to notify Cherokees that $6,740,000 was deposited in the Sub-Treasury in New York, subject to the order of the National Council.

5. Letter of R.L. Fite to the National Council, asking for back pay for his services as the Medical Superintendent for the Male and Female Seminaries. He had not been paid his annual salary of $500 between November 1892 to November 1893 (April 25, 1894).

6. *Indian Chieftain* -- April 26, 1894: "Message of C.J. Harris", advising that some money be set aside for the Cherokees who are not on the Census rolls. Suggests Tahlequah as a convenient place for distribution of the money.

7. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council, recommending a raise for the Executive Secretaries, May 3, 1894.

8. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council, calling attention to the need for a small penalty clause to the present permit law, May 4, 1894.

9. *Cherokee Advocate* -- May 30, 1894: "Act Signed by C.J. Harris" re: the census rolls are revised, corrected, approved, numbered and certified to serve as a guide and authority for the National Treasurer in making per capita payments. Parents of children born, but not registered, are authorized to make oath and report the same to the Principal Chief for payment. Also, "Message of C.J. Harris to the Cherokee People" re: the payment and distribution of the money.

10. *Indian Chieftain* -- June 21, 1894: "Chief Harris on Gambling". A directive to the sheriffs of the various districts reminding them of their duty to suppress gambling, and to report such gamblers to the U.S. Deputy Marshals.


14. *Claremore Progress* -- September 15, 1894: "Letter from C.J. Harris" to the Secretary of the Interior re: appraisement of improvements made by intruders in the Cherokee Nation proceed at once. Also a proclamation that no crops be planted or things be removed.


17. *Claremore Progress* -- October 27, 1894: "Interview of C.J. Harris" on his trip to Washington, DC in regards to the Intruders to the Cherokee Nation.


19. *Indian Chieftain* -- November 15, 1894: "Message of C.J. Harris". Harris' "State of the Union" address, pertaining to all aspects of the Cherokee government.


21. *Cherokee Advocate* -- November 21, 1894: "Reward by C.J. Harris" offered for the arrest and capture of Bill Cook, wanted for the murder of Sequoyah Houston.

22. *Cherokee Advocate* -- November 21, 1894: "Proclamation of C.J. Harris" designating November 29, 1894 as a "day of national thanksgiving".

23. *Afton News* -- November 30, 1894: "A Proposition Addressed to the Cherokee National Council" by Maxwell and Chase of Washington, DC asking for a contingent fee in Freedmen case. Since the sale of the Outlet, the Freedmen claim pro rata ("in proportion") share in funds and other common property. The government decided in favor of the Delawares and the Shawnees in the Outlet claim.

24. Letter of C.J. Harris to the National Council, suggesting that all unfinished business receive
undivided attention and be finished at as early a date as possible (December 13, 1894).

25. *Tulsa Review* -- December 28, 1894: "Editorial on C.J. Harris", which considers the last session of the Cherokee council as a "long eared a--".

26. *Afton News* -- January 4, 1895: "Senate Bill No. 34 Approved by C.J. Harris". This act requires those people re-admitted to Cherokee citizenship to permanently relocate within the boundaries of the Cherokee Nation.

27. *Talihina News* -- January 10, 1895: "The Indians Side" re: Chief Harris in Washington, DC as the dead of a delegation of Indians for the purpose of opposing any adverse action on the part of Congress which might spring from the extremely unfavorable report of the Dawes Commission.

28. *Minco Minstrel* -- January 11, 1895: "News Item of C.J. Harris" noting that Harris is to go before the committees in Washington to "beat off" the Dawes Commission and its report.


30. *Davis Progressive* -- February 22, 1895: "In Regard to Senate Bill #2734 by C.J. Harris" about the Cherokees' objection to this bill because they feel that it takes their jurisdiction in all civil and criminal cases from their control. They do not object to U.S. Courts in Indian Territory.


32. *Cherokee Advocate* -- February 27, 1895: "An Appeal of the Five Civilized Nations to the Congress of the United States" re: the courts in the five nations and the power taken over by the U.S. government.


34. *Tulsa Review* -- March 8, 1895: "Four Delegates Appointed by C.J. Harris", reprinted from the *Afton Herald*. Questions the work accomplished by the large delegations going to Washington. Huge sums of money are spent and the President vetoed treaty obligations. The courts were wiped out, and the Intruders still remain.


37. *Minco Minstrel* -- May 3, 1895: "News Item of C.J. Harris" re: the advisability of an international council of the Indian Nations. Fort Gibson is suggested as the meeting place. This action was taken because of the reorganization of the Dawes Commission.


39. *Wagoner Record* -- May 30, 1895: "Editorial on C.J. Harris" re: the meeting of a group of Cherokees at Tahlequah for the purpose of forming a colony in Mexico or Columbia.

40. *Wagoner Record* -- May 30, 1895: "Editorial on Call Issued by C.J. Harris" re: the convention that met to discuss the measures and decide upon a course of action re: the issue between the Cherokees and the United States, which is being represented by the Dawes Commission.

41. *The Arrow* -- June 14, 1895: "Election Proclamation" issued by C.J. Harris, stating the offices up for election, and the terms of each office.

42. *Fairland News* -- June 28, 1895: "Editorial on C.J. Harris". Bob Ross and George Benge are blamed for the problems of impeachment against the Chief, and other things.

43. *Claremore Progress* -- July 27, 1895: "The Chief Interviewed" re: the payment of Old Settlers is held up because of enrollment. The Census Rolls are to be taken for payment to the Delawares and Shawnees. The Freedmen case is to be appealed because of too many on the rolls that should not be. Harris' trip to Washington dealt only with Intruders.

44. *Indian Chieftain* -- September 5, 1895: "Proclamation of C.J. Harris" re: an act of the National Council. A provision that each and every station along the line of railroad passing through the land shall reserve to the Nation one square mile to be laid off into town lots and sold at public sale to the highest bidder who shall be a citizen of the Cherokee Nation.

45. *Vinita Globe* -- September 6, 1895: "Proclamation of C.J. Harris", calling for an extra session of the National Council to transact public business.


47. *Vinita Globe* -- October 4, 1895: "An Untimely Veto". Chief Harris vetoes the preferred warrants on the special legislation.

48. *Vinita Leader* -- November 21, 1895: "Message of C.J. Harris" which touches on the Dawes Commission, education, the judiciary, finance, public domain, citizenship, and intruders.

49. *Wagoner Record* -- December 13, 1895: "Instructions Given by C.J. Harris" to the
delegation in Washington. They must protest against and oppose measures for the establishment of a territorial government over the Indian Territory or the formation of a state into the union.

50. *South McAlester Capital* -- June 6, 1896: "Editorial on C.J. Harris". A council is called for the Five Civilized Tribes to meet at Fort Gibson. Not much was accomplished, since the tribes had not changed their views as far as allotment and statehood were concerned. The Choctaws were not in attendance.

51. *Claremore Progress* -- June 27, 1896: "Editorial on C.J. Harris". The Curtis bill has passed in the House of Representatives, and ex-Chief Harris thinks the Congress should prepare for allotment as it is bound to come.

52. *South McAlester Capital* -- January 14, 1897: "Editorial on message of R.M. Harris" referring to the allotment and statehood question. He is distressed over the situation.

53. *Claremore Progress* -- January 16, 1897: "Editorial on C.J. Harris" concerning the Dawes Commission and the Dawes-Choctaw Treaty. There is much dissatisfaction among the Cherokees over this.

54. *Claremore Progress* -- February 6, 1897: "The Chickasaw Commission by C.J. Harris". The Chickasaws disagree with the Choctaws over the Dawes-Choctaw Treaty. The Chickasaws think the treaty is without merit as far as they are concerned.

55. *South McAlester Capital* -- May 18, 1899: "Editorial on C.J. Harris" which is very complimentary to the ex-Chief.

56. *Claremore Progress* -- August 2, 1900: "Editorial on C.J. Harris", commenting on information from Harris relating to the law of having only one wife.
