

Black Hawk Newspaper Scraps

During Black Hawk's travels in the eastern portion of the Union, while a prisoner, in 1832-33, a gentleman in New York, presented the old chief with the *Cherokee Phoenix*, and explained to him that it was the first and only newspaper printed in the Indian language; that it was edited, and had been edited for the last five years, by Mr. Boudinot, a full-blood Cherokee; was ably conducted and was a means through which they could communicate freely their injuries, complaints and wishes. Black Hawk paid particular attention to the subject, and appeared highly pleased, said he was well acquainted with the tribe; but had never heard or seen of their establishing a newspaper. He requested the gentleman to write his name on the newspaper, which being done, Black Hawk folded up the paper and put it away with care and said he would take it home to his people and show it as a specimen of what was done by the Cherokees.

While in New York, after Black Hawk and his fellow prisoners had arisen from a dinner table to which they had been invited, they retired to an anteroom to seek repose. Among the gentlemen present, was one who requested an introduction, for the purpose of having a religious conversation with the sons of the forest. Young Black Hawk, sometimes called Tommy Hawk, had just thrown himself on a sofa, when the object of the visitor was made known to him through the interpreter. He smiled, and replied, saying, "I la-zee—I la-zee,"—covered his head with a blanket, and fell asleep.

Black Hawk's reception on his return to Rock Island, where he was met by Keokuck's band, is related by an eye-witness to the *New York Daily Advertiser*, under date Aug. 5, 1833:

The whole suite arrived here a few days since loaded with assumed dignity and costly presents.