

RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS , RG 75

ENTRY **236** (Estate of Doublehead)

Statement of Caleb Starr about the killing of Chief Doublehead:

Caleb Starr makes oath that he was very well acquainted with the Chief Doublehead and has often heard the Cherokees speaking freely of Doublehead's wealth and understood that he was well off at the time he was killed, & that he amassed a large quantity of personal property at that time. Affiant was at the ball ground the day before he was killed and on the same evening Doublehead got wounded, and it occurred as follows: Late in the evening a Cherokee came up to Doublehead while setting on his horse and seized the bridle's reins and said to him: "You are friendly to the whites and trying to sell our country, and you ought to be killed." Doublehead told him to let go the bridle for he was drunk and did not wish to be bothered with him. The Cherokee refused to let go, and then Doublehead drew one of his pistols and threw out the priming in order to snap it at his assailant and exterminate him, but there was not enough left to cause it to discharge and he shot the other Cherokee, who drew his tomahawk and cut off one of Doubleheads thumbs all but the skin which it hung. Then Doublehead struck the other with the cock of his pistol and sunk the cock deep in his skull and _____ he died. After ^h which we had _____ the thumb of Doublehead, he was shot in the jaw and he fell and one John McIntosh took him and concealed him where a school master lived near the place where the fort now stands. The next morning the Indians Ridge and Sanders found him and attacked him and Ridge shot him and Sanders used the tomahawk

and both of them finally after a long struggle killed him. Sanders struck the tomahawk in his forehead _____ across just above his nose and struck it so deep that Sanders said it took both of his hands to pull it out, and had to put his foot on the head to pull it. Affiant ran up the stairs and took him by the hand just as he was drawing his last breath.

John D. Chisholm was going to Georgia to collect money due Doublehead in Negroes. The number I do not remember. A man named Jos. Phillips, a small man and a keen land speculator came on with Chisholm and there was one other of the company came on besides Phillips and Phillips after told affiant that several negroes had been sent on the _____ road to the Musel Shoals to pay up for portions of the reservation, which was called and known as the Doublehead reservation and the negroes were called Doubleheads negroes, and all the _____ served to be in the name and for the benefit of Doublehead. Affiant knew Samuel Riley and knew he did not have more than two or three negroes before Doublehead's death and did not know of his having any more afterwards. Affiant understands from everybody that Doublehead kept a dry goods Indian trading store at the reservation and it was a great place to trade, for it was near to the Creeks, near to the Chickasaws, and in the Cherokee Nation, and a good supply of goods at that place, such as the place and times _____ without _____ have been equal to all the stores now in this place and it was when goods were sold to Cherokees for money and skins and no auditing.

Sworn to & subscribed before me,
11th of August 1838
James Widdell, Commissioner

Caleb Starr

[signature]

Caleb Starr makes oath that he was very well acquainted with the Chief Doublehead and had often heard the Cherokees speaking freely of Doublehead's wealth and understood that he was well off at the time he was killed, & that he owned a large quantity of personal property at that time. Affiant was at the ball ground the day before he was killed, and on the same evening Doublehead got wounded, and it appeared as follows: late in the evening a Cherokee came up to Doublehead, while sitting on his horse and signed the bill signs and said to him, "You are friendly to the whites, and trying to sell our country, and you ought to be killed!" Doublehead told him to let go the bridle for he was drunk and did not wish to be bothered with him, the Cherokee refused to let go, and then Doublehead drew one of his pistols and threw out the firing pin

order to stop it at his apartment
and intimidate him, but
there was enough left to cause
it to discharge and he shot the
other Cheaksee who drew his
tornahawk and cut off one
of Doublehead's thumbs all but
skin, by which it hung, then
Doublehead struck the ~~factor~~
the cock of his pistol and sunk
the cock deep in his skull and
and he died, - after we had buried
the thumb of Doublehead, he was
shot ~~and~~ in the jaw and he fell
and one John Whitash took him
and carried him where a
schoal water line near the
place where the fort now stands.
The next morning the Indians
Ridge and Sanders found him
and attacked him, and Ridge
shot him and Sanders used
the tornahawk and both of
them finally after a long struggle
killed him. Sanders struck the
tornahawk in his forehead and
across just above his nose and

struck it so deep that Sanders
said it took both of his hands
to pull it out, and had to put
his foot on the head to pull it
about ran up stairs and took him
by the hand just as he was leaving
his last breath. John D. Chisholm
was gone to Georgia to collect money
and Doublehead and returned soon
afterwards and told about that he
had collected some of the debt
and Doublehead in regard,
the number I do not remember.
A man named Jos. Phillips a
small man and a keen Land
Speculator came on with Chisholm
and there was one other of the
company came on besides Phillip
and Phillips, and told about that
annual regatta had been sent on the
thicket road to the supper hall
to pay up for portions of the
excursion, which was called
and known as the Doublehead
Excursion, and the regatta were
called Doublehead regatta, and
all the boating seemed to be

in the name and for the
benefit of Doublehead - Affiant
knew Samuel Riley and knew he did
not have more than two or three
negraes before Doublehead's death
and did not know of his having
any more afterwards - affiant is certain
from my knowledge that Doublehead
kept a very good Indian trading
store at the junction and it was
a great place to trade for it was
near to the Creeks, was to the
Chickasaws, and in the Cherokee
Nation, and a good supply of
goods at that place such as the
place and terms would warrant
would have been equal to all
the stores now in this place
and it was when goods were sold
to Cherokees for money and
skins and no credit -
I have testified before me 11th of
August 1858
James L. Liddell, Commissioner
Col. H. H. H.