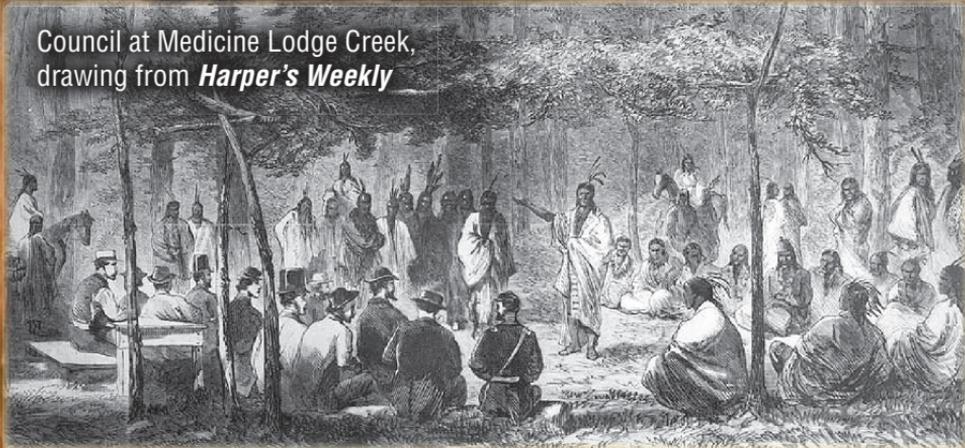


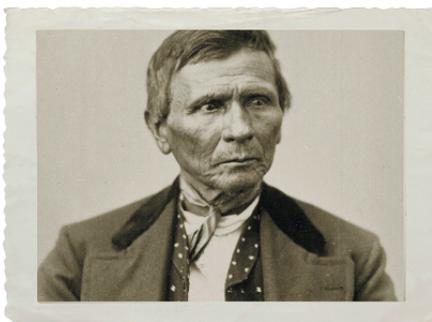
Council at Medicine Lodge Creek,  
drawing from *Harper's Weekly*



# NATIVE AMERICAN

## Heroes & Legends

In October of 1867, more than 7,000 Native Americans gathered in Medicine Lodge Creek, Kansas to witness the signing of the Medicine Lodge Treaty. The treaty encompassed five tribes including the Arapaho, Kiowa, Cheyenne, Apache and the Comanche. Black Beaver (Suck-tum-mah-kway), a representative of the Delaware Indians, was invited by these tribes to assist in negotiations. His ability to negotiate with the U.S. Government, and the respect he garnered from both the Comanche and the Kiowa tribes, made him instrumental in acting as a mediator during the Medicine Lodge Treaty negotiations.



**Black Beaver**

This treaty sought to eradicate the original plan of relocating all of the tribes to a continuous Great Plains reservation and instead required all of the tribes located within the Plains to relocate to Western Oklahoma onto a reservation with clear boundaries. As a result, any member of a tribe living outside of the designated reservation would be in direct violation of the treaty and would fall subject to forced removal by the U.S. Government by any means necessary.

As a concession to the tribes, this treaty promised them a large reservation with ample supplies and it offered them the right to hunt south of the Arkansas River. The treaty also halted any new white settlements between the Arkansas River and the south border of Kansas for a minimum of three years.

### Do Your Research...

Do your research on the Medicine Lodge Treaty and find answers to the following questions:

1. Why did the white settlers want to relocate the tribes of the Great Plains from the continuous reservation to the designated reservation in Western Oklahoma?
2. How did members of each of the tribes react to the treaty?

Do your research on Black Beaver (Suck-tum-mah-kway), a leader of the Delaware Indians, and answer the following:

1. What other historically significant events did Black Beaver participate in that lead him to develop strong relationships with the U.S. Government?

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