

COMMISSIONER  
OF  
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AFFAIRS



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FOREMAN  
TRANSCRIPTS

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In the office of the  
COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OKLAHOMA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
(CHOCTAW)

Compiled from original records  
selected by

GRANT FOREMAN

1930

*Foreman*

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Choctaw Nation Februry 7<sup>th</sup> 1830

Friend & Brother.

Your letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> ultimo was received - and I am glad you wrote me, and exprefs your views on the most friendly terms, on the matters I wrote you, our little difficulty is at end, some<sup>time</sup> since, among ourselves. Therefore we have berry it, under our feet, and think of it, no more.

I think the answer, which Mo, sho, la, tu, bbe rece<sup>d</sup> from the Sec- is such one he ought<sup>to</sup> recieve, no doubt you have a good idea about him, and my opinion is he never can be a chief, among these people, because there are hundreds of other men, among us who I hope are better quallefied to be a Ruler then he is.-

I will just remark to you here, I have promise the Choctaws in open council last fall, that I want to go and explore the Choctaw Country the west of Rever Mifsi and it has given a great satisfaction, that I should take a tour. as soon as I can - and I should be glad to be aided in fun, by the General Gov<sup>t</sup>. to defray the expences of the Tour. I can be useful, I hope in some measure, cause the Choctaws, in that country, to come and settle ~~me~~ on some particular plase, so that they can be benefit<sup>it</sup> by doing so. - And the discription of the country, that I would bring to these people here, they would take my worde for the truth. - I shall ingadge few<sup>of</sup> the Educated Choctaws to go with me, Mr. George Harken for one, I am entirely oppose to the Choctaw emegretion, and oppose to the Treaty. as ever- for Choctaws to sell and treat their land away here. But Yet give me time to breathe. and let there be little help be extended in fun. and

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I will be able soon<sup>to</sup> know what to do for the hapinefs for my  
people -

If I had fun. I would go about the last of March - but  
if these can be no and be procured I must wait tell Oct. next.  
You can act in that way - which you think it best with<sup>the</sup> War  
Depart. so that their might be an appropreation be made -.

Please to write me, and tell me what can be done.

I am dear sir your friend & Brother

David Folsom ✓

Hon R L. N. Johnson

N.B. I would be glad to receive any communication from you.  
Respecting Red people generally.

OKLAHOMA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Jackson (Mifsissippi) March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1830

Dear Sir:

Upon my return thus far yesterday from the Council lately held in the Choctaw Nation, I found in the Post-office, your favour of the 9<sup>th</sup> February (Ultimo) together with the accompanying documents.

Before this reaches you, you will have known the result of that Council. Let me be candid. I view the haste and precipitancy with which a few of the leading men hurried their proposition through the Council, as ominous of the future fortunes of the Choctaws. I anticipate confusion, distrefs & bitter repentance on the part of the many,- permanent satisfaction and profit on the part of but few. The nation, in my opinion, has been taken by surprize; the Council itself was taken by surprize: But few were in the secret (I was not of the number) and the governing motives of at least one leading man are too palpable to be misunderstood. But while I feel it to be imperiously my duty to say this much, I wish to be distinctly understood. I was for prudent delay, enquiry, reflection, mature deliberation. I had been among my friends two or three weeks previous to the council. I explained my views to them distinctly and candidly, and I wished them to explain and enforce the matter in the same candid manner to others. I wished the whole nation to act with their eyes open, and with a full perception of the difficulties around them and before them. I wished the Choctaw country west of the Mifsissippi thoroughly explored. I wished three or four intelligent men to be appointed to visit the President, and learn from him distinctly and fully what terms would be granted to the Choctaws; - and then, that a Treaty should be framed with

the utmost care, and with provisions the most full & explicit. Every individual with whom I conversed previous to the council, concurred with me in these views, and had they been adopted, there would have been a Treaty next Fall with the full knowledge of the Choctaw nation, and with a fair prospect of their future prosperity, and happiness. I yet think I was right, and I know that my motives were pure and disinterested. I shall personally gain more if the proposed Treaty is ratified, than if I had have had the framing of the Treaty myself. I was called in to assist in framing the articles; I found them ready framed to my hand, and I was able to effect but few changes. A reverend gentleman (a Methodist Missionary) is entitled to the credit of having prepared the Articles of the Treaty.

What think you of the kingly power which is vested in the chief? You may say it is their own business. If the Choctaws choose to make slaves of themselves, it is their own fault. - True, but I say they were entrapped into it; not one in ten understands it, nor, if left to their free will, would they sanction it.

What think you of the neglect with which the Presbyterian Missionaries are treated - men who have laboured in the nation for years so faithfully, so diligently, under difficulties of the most trying nature? Will they be permitted to go West with the Choctaws? It depends, you see, on the will of the chief. Should they be permitted to go West, will their situations be made uncomfortable and pleasant? I tell you, No, Sir, unless it is made to depend on the will of the President, and not on the will of others. Previous to this visit, I had not been among the Choctaws since the close of the year 1826. I see many changes for the better, but I think I

see religious intolerance gaining ground, and I have been told of certain doctrines inculcated from the pulpit which have filled me with astonishment. - Let me come to a close, however.

Many articles of the proposed Treaty I am much pleased with, others I greatly dislike. It is believed by some that the President will not sanction it. If he should not, I hope he will see the necessity of so framing a substitute that the nation at large shall be clearly and permanently benefited. Especially I hope the President will see (& provide accordingly) -- That all the power ought not to be in one man, nor all the money at the control of a few. Let the President make an ample & judicious revision, and I have no doubt the Choctaws will ratify it.

Yours with respect

J. L. M<sup>c</sup>Donald ✓

Col. Th: L. M<sup>c</sup>Kenney.

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Postscript. - In glancing over what I have written, I am afraid I shall not yet be fully understood. - You and I are, I think, governed by the same motives; - a disinterested desire to promote the permanent prosperity of the Indians. I could have wished that they might be permitted to remain here in peace; but that is now out of the question, and their removal is inevitable. All that I now ask for, therefore, is a good Treaty, - a Treaty that shall consult the permanent and lasting good of the whole, - and in this I have no doubt you will concur with me.

I have been strongly solicited by friends in the nation (of whom I have many) to embark my fortunes with the Choctaws, - and if the despotic features of the Treaty were abolished, I believe I should not hesitate.

I am open to advise from <sup>all</sup> my friends, and I have never ceased to rank you among the number.

J. L. McDonald. ✓

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws John L. McDonald. Opinion of late council.)



Choctaw Nation

Ap<sup>l</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> 1830.

To the Hon  
The Secretary of War

Sir

Inclosed are two Letters forwarded to me in haste from a Numerous Council of two Districts of the Choctaws in which they disdain the appointment of Col<sup>o</sup>. Greenwood Lafloor as Chief of the whole Nation. But have made other appointments for their Districts (viz) Mufhulatubbee as Chief to the N. East District and Nittukaichee as Chief of the Southern District. They are willing to receive propofitions and Conclude a Treaty for their Lands in Mifsissippi But protest against thofe proposed by the Lafloor & the Fulson parties, already forwarded to the Govern-ment. I shall apprise the Governor of this State by the Next Mail of the contents of those Letters &.c. as it is confeived that the Choctaws are under the protection of the State Government. By the next Mail I shall apprise you of the further proceedings of the Counfil.

I have the Honor to be

Yr Moft Obdt Servt

W. Ward Ag<sup>t</sup> C. N. ✓

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Agency) Wm.Ward Dissension in the Agency.)

Doaks Stand Mi

July 13<sup>th</sup> 1830

President Jackson

Sir

I have not visited the Choctaws in their own country as yet, owing to the health of my family I have <sup>seen</sup> ~~saw~~ several influential men from the nation, and received several letters from citizens of the nation. on the subject of a Treaty. and I cannot hear of a man that is willing to send a deligation to Tennefsee. it would be imposible for apart of the nation to conclude a Treaty that would be sattisfactory to all. if the Treaty is concluded in the nation every man, woman, & Child. can be present, that has a wish to be.

I have been invited to a large Council that is to meet at or near the Factory, on the Tombigbee in a few days, and had not sicknefs in in my family prevented me I should have been present. it is to be hoped. they will settle their form of Goverment shortly and adopt a constitution, by which they will be governed when they arrive at their new home on the Arkansaw, & Red River. Should they continue under several chiefs of equal power so loge they will continue disunited and in afew years would become separated into different bands. the Goverment should act on this point with precaution, they may be forced to submifsion while east of the Mifs, but when in the mountains and barrens of the west, it w would in all probility cost money and the lives of valuable soldiers to keepe them at peace. now is the proper time to get things settled in afriendly manner. there will be aform of a constitution submitted to them shortly. perhaps on the 27<sup>th</sup>

inst<sup>t</sup> as there is to be a council at that time in the centre of the nation. which council I will be at.

There is awish that you would send your commifsioners as soon as posible. a suppy of provisions may be furnished in afew days at the centre of the nation say at Wilsons stand on the Robinson Road. and if you cannot finde a more proper hand to undertake to furnish supplies I will do it.

dont give yourself any uneasinefs about the disputes between the parties in the nation, as they will come to a good understanding, I hope in a short time, if let alone and not<sup>be encouraged</sup> by persons who are not their real friends.

I have the honor  
to be your ob<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>  
D. N. Haley ✓

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) D.N.Haley Endorsing claim of Gen. Gaines etc.)

Franklin 24 July. 1830

Friends & Brothers

Yr talk of the 2<sup>d</sup> June directed to me at Washington, has been forwarded, & has just reached me at this place. It is matter of surprise & some regret to find, that you are desirous to <sup>make a</sup> visit to the country west of the Mifsi, before you are prepared to decide <sup>as to the propriety of</sup> upon a removal. The experience of the past has abundantly shown, that you cannot reside peaceably where you are. The laws of Mifsi ~~will be-extended~~, subjecting you to a differant govemet, than ~~that-te-~~ <sup>to,</sup> which you have been accustomed, & which will restrict you to the usages & customs & rule to which your white brothers conform, <sup>are already extended over year</sup>

This your great Father cannot prevent; & repeatedly he has told you so. Are you prepared to submit to this state of things, & to become citizens, for such must be <sup>the</sup> ~~case?~~ <sup>so prepared,</sup> If you are, then is it unnecessary to say more, or to <sup>speak</sup> ~~tell~~ to you further on the subject. These matters have been discufsed <sup>already</sup> long enough; & it is high time, there should be an end of the argument, & a decision had whether you will remain where you are, surrounded by the whites & made subject to their laws, or ~~peaceably~~ remove to the west, there to live on your own soil, under your own ancient wayes and customs, & free from those interupters which now on every side beset you. One or the other you must resolve upon. Further delay is not only unnecessary, but is attended with hazard to your best interest.

Why should you solicit time to visit the country which has been assigned you to the west. Already you are well advised, that it is secluded in a pleasant agreeable clime, even more so, than that you are about to leave; & in all respects ~~is~~ equally fertile. Bounded by the Arkansas to the north & <sup>by</sup> Red River to the south, &

embracing nearly twenty millions of acres, it is country infinitely  
& larger in extent  
more desirable, than the one you occupy. All the information pos-  
sessed shews this to be the fact

Of your own accord  
~~When~~ during last winter, you forwarded to your great Father  
entire  
a treaty ceding your country. He laid it before his great Council  
the Senate; but in doing so, he told them of your differences

& discontent; & that while a portion of the nation, desired the  
agreed  
treaty to be approved to, another was of a contrary opinion The Sen-  
ate did not approve what you did. One reason was, that the terms proposed

were too extravagant; but another and a strong one was, they did not  
desire any arrangement to which the entire nation was not assenting.

with general approbation assenting The same language is now  
I-held The-same-language-to-you disclosed to you- We want no dis-

satisfaction - no heartburnings to abide after a treaty shall be  
made. Your great Father is satisfied, that your peace, prosperity  
& happiness, depend upon your removal; but he will take no course  
which shall not be entirely satisfactory to his red children. He  
does not merely desire their removal, but he desires it to take  
place under such circumstances, or shall conclusively satisfy them,

that justice & liberality are the terms upon which their departure  
is solicitous for them to remove, tho still under such circumstances  
is asked Beyond the Mifsi, he, as shall retain them as his chil-  
dren & friends; a result which he is persuaded is to be obtained  
only by suffering them to depart, with a full conviction that their  
interest has been regarded & their happiness as a people consulted.

But these things cannot be so fully explained at a distance.  
Mgr Naley your friend & agent, was so informed, & he was instructed  
to tell you, that with a view to a perfect understanding of every  
thing the President and the Secy of War, would be in Tennessee this  
summer, near to you, and face to face would confer with you. Now

that they have come, instead of meeting ~~them~~, to enter into an arrangement for <sup>a</sup> your removal as your previous acts & conduct had ~~on-your-part~~ <sup>on your part to do</sup> indicated, a disposition <sup>you propose</sup> an examination of the country, - information ~~which~~ already ~~is~~ sufficiently possessed, whereby to defer longer, doing that, which every sensible man in the nation perceives must happen ~~must-be-here~~, if you would preserve yourselves ~~as-a-nation~~.

Frends & Brothers - your great Father will not attempt ~~to~~ disguise - he will <sup>in nothing</sup> deceive you, ~~in-nothing~~. He will not now ~~attempt-to-do~~ <sup>do,</sup> <sup>former</sup> what in all his <sup>former</sup> intercourse with you, he never ~~yet~~ attempted. Truth & justice are his object, & they are the great land marks, which <sup>in</sup> to intercourse with you he would carefully pre-serve & maintain. In a spirit of frankness then, he <sup>assured you of</sup> ~~told~~ what shurely you cannot but discover, that it is vain & idle for you to expect to dwell ~~in-peace~~ <sup>in peace</sup> where you are. Difficulties & severe trials must & will be yours. Surrounded by the whites on all sides - made subject to their laws, & to customs so varrant from your own, it is not to be expected that you can dwell under them with any thing of security or quiet to yourselves - Yr own reflection & reason cannot fail to teach you the certainty of these suggestions. Now you shall conclude to act is for yourselves to decide. We shall do <sup>no</sup> more than to persuade, not coerce you, to what yr intent requires-

A just regard to your happiness demands of you to pursue the course that has been suggested. Why then defer it? Why not at once arrive at a conclusion which reason & experience prove, is the only sure one to which you can arrive. It cannot be accounted for on any other principle, than that you are deceived & imposed upon by designing men, who would persuade you to error,

and to a course which cannot fail ultimately to involve your nation in ruin. I warn you, to be on your guard against these intruding & obtrusive advisers, who disregarding your true interest <sup>would advise</sup> ~~are advising~~ you to a course, of which in the end, you may ~~will~~ have cause for deep & lasting repentence. I urge you to beware of <sup>such</sup> these evil counsellors, if they have any other object <sup>welfare</sup> ~~these~~ before them, than your <sup>adverse to you,</sup> ~~good~~; On the other hand, what matters <sup>can</sup> have influence with the President. In past times, you have known him to be your friend, & he will not now be different from what he has been. While as Chief Magistrate of the Country he will on all occasions consult the happiness & prosperity of the whites, I take occasion to assure you that he will never do so at the expense of his red children - no such course <sup>will</sup> ~~be~~ demanded of him by the people <sup>of this country</sup>.

Friends & Brothers. Your great Father is here, not distant from you, where it was understood you would gladly meet him, to treat for a final removal to a home, which promises to you greater happiness than <sup>you can possess where you are</sup> ~~that which you have~~. A country which will be yours, not on the principle of mere occupancy, but one which your gr Father will <sup>give</sup> you to hold forever, as his white children <sup>possess</sup> ~~held~~ their lands - a country where being to yourselves in it & at a distance from the whites ~~people~~ there will be none to disturb or make you afraid - where he can & will protect you from all interrupters. Such an opportunity in furthering your interest may <sup>no more</sup> ~~not again~~ occur. Your Great Father & his Secretary of War are here, to hold council with you, to extend to you terms liberal as can be admitted. Hereafter this may

not be the case! He may be constrained to send his com-  
 missions to see you, & then the advantages <sup>now presented</sup> ~~you-new-pofsefs~~  
 may be impaired. We It is in his power <sup>at present</sup> to pay all the ex-  
 penses of your removal, & to take care of you at your new homes  
 for twelve months until your Crops can be made. He may not have  
 it in his power hereafter to do this, <sup>inasmuch as</sup> ~~for~~ Congress may change  
 that policy which they have adopted, & thereby place it out of  
 reach <sup>in</sup> his ~~power~~ to do, what at present it is <sup>in</sup> his power to effect.  
 The whole scheme of emigration, if it be now deferred, may  
 require hereafter,  
 to be carried into effect thro your own means and at your own  
 expense - Then <sup>you</sup> may call for help, when the power to extend it,  
 may not be pofsefsed -

Under these considerations your great Father has instructed  
 me to send his friend, & your friend, Mr Jn<sup>o</sup> Donnelly, to converse  
 freely with you, & to tell you, in detail more than I have time  
 to write. Listen to his counsel, for he comes from your great  
 Father & will not deceive you. He comes to tell you the truth  
 - to point you to your true condition, & to warn you, of what  
 experience <sup>in a</sup> short time will convince you, that to remain where  
 you are, happy, & preserved as a nation, is what no sensible  
 & reflecting man can look to, or hope for. Where now are the  
 tribes of former years - the Tuscaroraws - Six nations, &  
 others which once, were numerous & powerful. Easy to learn  
 the vices, but slow to acquire a knowledge of the virtues &  
 morals of the white brothers, they have gradually <sup>disappeared</sup> failed, until  
 now ~~they-are~~ scarcely <sup>are they</sup> known as a people. The same fate must be  
 yours; & reflection & observation should convince you of the



correctness  
truth, of the assertion. To escape, is in your power; but defer  
y<sup>r</sup> removal for a time, & the great expectations which are now  
within reach may fail you, no more to return

These things have repeatedly been brought to your consider-  
ation. A long time ago, your great Father, who at this time  
presides over the affairs of the Country told you truly what  
your condition would be, - what, the certain result that awaited  
you. Then, as now, you heeded not his opinions, but listened  
to the advice of bad men, who had no regard for you; & where  
object was to deceive At present you may not, but by & by, <sup>when</sup> &  
probably it may be too late for you to be benefited, the  
truth of what he has asserted may be perceived - To discuss  
the matter longer is unnecessary: it is a waste of time & words  
to repeat, what so often has been told. Decide then fully in  
reference to the merits of your case & let that decision be  
final. Either you must make up your minds to become citizens  
of Mifsissippi, subject to her laws & her govemet, or conclude  
to remove, to the Country which has been assigned you beyond  
the Territory of Arkansaw: Already you have had ample time to  
deliberate upon this subject; & if further consideration &  
deliberation shall be necessary, your great father cannot  
undertake to promise, that any provision will be made <sup>by the Govemet</sup> for your  
removal & support, as is now the case. The people of this  
& liberal  
Country already complain~~ing~~ of the ample <sup>&</sup> provision which has  
&  
been made for the Indian brothers, <sup>&</sup> may induce Congress to  
& your own necessities  
forbear further assistance and hence when circumstances <sup>shall</sup>  
compel you to remove, it may be at your own expense, & upon

your own resources - The governmet then may not supply the means of afsisting you to your homes. How important is it, then that you should serously reflect upon these things, & at once decide & act: it may presently be too late foryou to do so.

Yr frend & brother

J. H Eaton ✓

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws Hon. J.H.Eaton to Chiefs & Col. Arbuckle  
 Rel to Exploration & Protection of Party)

Jackson Mis

July 24<sup>th</sup> 1830

Sir

I have just returned from a short visit to the nation, and it is with much satisfaction I can inform you the Choctaws have settled all their disputes, and are now prepared for buisness. I often stated to you while in the city that Leflore wants and should rule the nation he is the only man they have that can keep them united and promote them to a state of civilization when your commifsioners meets them and sees Leflores men by the side of the other districts they will at once acknowledge the fact. I leave home tomorrow to visit Leflore and the Choctaws on the Yazoo. and on my return I will write you again and at what time will suit the nation best to meet in council. though about the first of September will be the most proper time, as <sup>new</sup> ~~new~~ corn can be used by that time- your commifsioners must come out liberal in the out set of the negotiation. in a manner that all parties will be satisfiyed. for should they conclude a Treaty and apart of the nation should take it in their head to object to it. you will know two thirds of the Senate would not approve it. and any treaty that is made in the bounds of Equity and agreed to by the unanimous body of the nation will be approved of by the Senate and the appropriations made by the house without difficulty.

I have the honor to be

Your ob<sup>t</sup> Servt

His Ex<sup>cy</sup> A. Jackson  
President of the  
United States

D. W. Haley ✓

Choctaw Agency Aug<sup>t</sup> 7th 1830

Col<sup>o</sup> R M Johnson

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 24th Ult<sup>o</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> this day. You did not say whether Rob<sup>t</sup> and yourself had settled the matter in which it seems, I shall have to be a party at all events, nor have I heard one word from Robert, -- I have been from home 8 or 10 days since, I returned from the Old Trading house, paying of two Districts Annuities Mushulatubbee's & Netteachagee's, at that place. I met Robt. Jones and had the subject of sending of more Boys to Ky. school, but failed in doing any certain as I found it was likely to be opposed by Folsom, Leflour & Geo. Harkins. In my absince Rob<sup>t</sup> Jones was here and wrote me that the number could be made up by the two In<sup>d</sup> chiefs if opposed by the half Breeds &c. I have thought it best to defer the matter as they were in great confusion and bitter anemosity; with all parties about who should be chief Folsom or Mushulatubbee; At the annuity Leflour marched about Eight Hundred men armed and equiped in Military Style, agains the two In<sup>d</sup> chiefs and their friends, After being with F. and his party in camp some time Folsom addrefsed a note to Mushulatubbee ordering him to come out immediately and acknowledge Leflour chief of the nation or him Folsom chief of his district or if he did not Col Leflour would advance upon him in 2 Hours.

Mushulatubbee returned in writing for answer that he never would acknowledge either let the consequences be what it might --

That evening the Hostile party came dow to the House

whare we were and marched up in platoons to the old Mingo who was in the middle of the yard within six paces and halted untill all was formed, when the cowardly commander was told they were without arms but name the day and place and they should have a fight to his satisfaction his reply was that he did not want to fight only to restore peace and that he had nothing agains him the chief Nettuckegeee &c. &c. So he went away with his party and reported they made Mushulatubbee run which was faulse to my own knowledge, a greater Tyrent and coward I never have seen than this man Lefloure. He has now found that the Indians will not have him as King for life over them and he wants an excuse not only for his attempts upon their rights but is the first to oppose any Treaty, Gen<sup>l</sup> Jackson has sent on M<sup>r</sup> Donnelly to try and get them to meet the Sec<sup>y</sup> of War at Franklin Ten. and we are doing our best, but Lefloure will oppose every thing unlesfs he can get all his everesious heart is set on. I have not time to give you a full detail of the opposition to the Treaty, The Mifsionaries, have come out purty fully in opposition to a Treaty.

Respectfully your friend

W Ward ✓

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Hon. R.M.Johnson Wm. Ward Reports of movements)

Council Ground. C. N.

Augst 10. 1830

Friend and Brother

We have received your talk by Maj Donly, and after much thinking and consultation we are sorry that we cannot comply with your request. Although we know it is the talk of a friend, we cannot go on the grounds that you wish us. The warriors are violently opposed to any of the officers going to meet you at Franklin for the purpose of making a treaty -- The lives of the Chiefs and head men of the nation would be in great danger if they would comply with your request and go for the purpose of selling the country. Although we should be very happy to see you and converse with you face to face, but still we cannot go, as the nation is opposed to our going, There has been a great deal of confusion in our nation since we made our proposition to the general government to sell our country; in consequence of the United States interpreters, reporting falsehoods, and poisoning the minds of our people. They have been circulating and reporting falsehoods, until they came very near getting our people to shedding each others blood-- We cannot expect to live in peace and harmony, without those Interpreters are removed, or something is done with them-- We hope you will do something with them, for we cannot meet commissioners with the same satisfaction of mind, that we could otherwise, if they were removed and others put in their places. We cannot pourtray to you in language sufficiently on this paper to tell you how meane and improper those Interpreters have acted in

our nation -- by making Inquiries of Maj Donly, he will tell you of all the perticulars that appertains to the confusion in our nation.

1 George W. Hawkins	25 Uppullarter
2 Anthony Turnbull	26 Muttubbee
3 James Choat	27 Punnercha
4 Nicholas Cochmanen	28 Tuschertubbee
5 Robert Folsom	29 Ispemamastubbee
6 Thomas Leflore	30 Posontolerbee
7 Jerry Folsom	31 Tohoker
8 Lewis Durant	32 Tegbonerbee
9 David Sexton	33 Hicherpotubbee
10 William Hayes	34 Tunnupecheeffen
11 Punnissaw	35 Halbertubbee
12 Pestubbee	36 Hotarbee
13 Narharbee	37 Upberterger
14 Meety	38 Hussawerkeyen
15 Chartermatahaw	39 Larfeter
16 Alfred Wade	40 Bullertubbee
17 John Wade	41 Metubbee
18 Lumeteah	42 Hason Willestson
19 Pullaha	43 John Q Adams
20 George Laman	44 Offahomah
21 Nerchubbee	45 Phillotubbee
22 Orwaschubbee	46 Chochubbee
23 Samuel Byington	47 Tunnuphocher
24 Isaac Folsom	48 Teasoway

49 Nershoberwah	76 Benjamin Leflore
50 Tecnubbee	77 Benetubbee
51 James	78 Jack Hayes
52 Hoshahomah	79 George Nelson
53 Mometubbee	80 Levi McAfee
54 Netterchachy	81 Lerwatubbee
55 Isterbee	82 David Bell
56 Ontortohubbee	83 Tishsho
57 Owachubbee	84 Silas Bacon
58 Shugherhomah	85 Easman Lomen
59 Istunnerharcher	86 Lewis Frazier
60 Tomehager	87 Holubbee
61 Warshahopeah	88 Sunny
62 Chochymingo	89 Metubbee
63 Ochiyen	90 Onnertubbee
64 Toccolarchubbee	91 Sherhognubbee
65 Micheley	92 Pesterbee
66 Tuhomen	93 Cheyen
67 Israel Ripley	94 Onnocfield
68 Lewis Perry	95 Tunnup
69 Chillater	96 Istertubbee
70 Thomas Wilson	97 Octocubbee
71 Barna	98 Buschertubbee-
72 Locisfacha	99 Ollertubbee
73 Erwantubbee	100 Erthapen
74 Ornerchubbee	101 Shobolehomer
75 Moses Frazier	David Folsom ✓

Approved Augst 10. 1830

Greenwood Leflore. Chief

(O.I.A.: 1830 Choctaws Wm. Ward Chiefs Result of a council to consider removal to the West. NOTE: All of the names handwritten)





and Father wishes that you would do him the honour of preserving Leflores letter that he may see what they have written against him and that he may have a <sup>fair</sup> chance of saving his character and the honor of his family from the disgrace which Leflore would in his vilnefs bring upon them. I have

The honour Dear Sir  
of Subscribing myself  
Your friend & Brother.  
P. P. Pitchlynn

P S.

The reason of my not going to the Council is I am making preperations to hurry of the Delegation should the Council agree to send one, I have the meins within my power to funish them with horses and any amount of money to defray their expences, and should the Council determine to send a Delegation they shall not be delayed for the want of convayance &C &C.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws P.P.Pitchlynn to Hon. J.H.Eaton. Defending character of interpreters, etc.)

Honb.<sup>l<sup>e</sup></sup> John H Eaton

Dr Sir

I rec<sup>d</sup> your favour an agreeably to your request - commu-  
nicated the wishes of the President to the Choctaws. I endeavoured  
to cause a general meeting, but the Southern District did not at-  
tend at all.- They are to have a meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> to take the  
subject into consideration. The whole nation is in a state of con-  
fusion - and it is difficult to obtain anything at present like  
the voice of the nation -

Major John Pitchlynn has promised to forward the resolutions  
of the approaching meeting early as pofsible-- From the conversa-  
tion I have had with some of the Principle men (say Greenwood Le-  
lore, David Folsome & Major Pitchlynn, it would be the unanimous  
wish of the Choctaws to have commifsioners appointed and send on  
to them immediatly to treat with them on their own Land- by this  
means entire & general satisfaction would be given & no doubt the  
object of government would be effected-- You will perceive by the  
enclosed Letter the state of affairs at present - this is owing  
to, no doubt, many misrepresentations== It would be most satis-  
factory that Gen Coffee & yourself be the Agents, but in the  
event of your not being able to attend, to appoint Mr Geo. S.  
Gaines and to attend to the Duties immediatly by comeing forward:  
there appears no objection to a treaty but the Indians are affraid  
to leave the nation- I expect to see you in a few days & will then  
communicate to you on the subject more explicitly--

There might be a very satisfactory change made by the re-  
moval of Mr Mackey One of the present interpreters the Indians

have not confidence in him - and more than that he refuses the duties imposed on him - You will be surprised to hear that he refused to come forward in the present Case to interpret- The appointment of Col David Folsome would have a happy effect, in conjunction with the old & faithful Interpreter, Major Pitchlynn- I am satisfactorily informed that this change would tend greatly to harmonize all parties -- It is not my wish to implicate any one particularly in thwarting the views of the government by holding out false & unfavourable impressions to the Indians.- this makes it the more essential for the U States to send on her commissioners that they may see & hear & discover the intrigue that I fear is working

Very respectfully

Your Obt Sert

John Donly ✓

Columbus Augst 14<sup>th</sup> 1830

Choctaws

(OIA: 1830/ John Donly to Comr. Eaton rel to treating for removal West)

Choctaw Agency Aug<sup>t</sup> 19th 1830

Sir

Agreable to the request of Maj<sup>r</sup>. Donley I did attempt to collect a general Council near the center of the nation at a place appointed to pay Leflours District Annuity. I had sent one of the Interpreters to notify the Southern Chiefs and Headmen. but to my supprise I found they refused to afsemble at any place in Leflours District but appointed a council at a different place whare both the Inte<sup>r</sup>s attended, Maj<sup>r</sup>. Pitchlynn who will be the Bearer of this letter will give you a detailed account of the Council. At the request of some of the Colberts & Checkraws Pitchlynn has agreed to go on to Franklin Ten. to see you and the President of the U. States, who will be able to give you much infermation relative to the views and parties of the Choctaws which you will find no doubt to correspond with my former communications. Also It is expected that Col Dan<sup>l</sup> W Wright will be in Nashville about the same time, and I have requested him to call on you. Col Wright has lived on the Boundary line for many years, and his profefsion calls him to pafs through the nation three or four times a year and has been an eye witnefs to the whole course of the views of the Choctaws, nearly as much as my self, and as I am unable to see you myself on account of Bad helth. I have requested Col. Wright to call on you & Pres<sup>t</sup>. Jackson and enjoin you of the Best way to get these unfortunate people to consent to remove beyond the Mifsifssippi River.

I say unfortunate people and what in part makes them more so they have had bad advisers, who no doubt are ~~try~~ing opposed to the best Interest of the Indians and a righteous policy of the government and their only true friends. I presume that Maj<sup>r</sup> Donley has sent on the answer of Leflour and Folsom and a few of their followers, which answer you will readily see goes to implicate the old Interpreters as being the cause of the division of this nation. when in fact it originated with the Indians not being willing to come under Leflour as the only chief of the nation.

I have the Honor to be very

Respectfully your

M<sup>o</sup> Obd<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

W. Ward Agt. C N ✓

Hon John H. Eaton  
 Sec<sup>y</sup> of War.

Franklin 26. Aug. 1830

Friends & Brothers

of the Choctaw Nation

The talk of the Chiefs, Captains, and warriors of the North Eastern, & Southern Districts, of the Choctaw nation of Indians in full council assembled, has been presented to me by your trusty friend Major Pytchlynn. I have listened to your complaints, - feel for your distrefs, & will immediately appoint trusty and faithful friends to you & me, to see, & to confer with you. If possible the Secretary of War, will come, to explain fully every thing for me, as if I myself was present. Your old and tried friend, Gen<sup>l</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Coffee, & his Excellency gen<sup>l</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Carroll, in whom I have every confidence, will be present with you as Commifsioners to speak my sentiments, & advise you to your true interests. Confide in them. They are charged to act justly towards you, & see, that no wrong is practised. They will be instructed to meet in the nation and make a treaty with you in Council, that those of the Choctaws who have a desire to remove, may have the means afforded to them of doing so. They may then settle upon lands, given to them by Grant, which shall be theirs, & their Childrens forever

Friends & Brothers

I have directed my commifsioners to receive & acknowledge as medal chiefs, those who have been elected & acknowledged such, by the warriors within their respective Districts. It is the right of a majority to rule; and those who are so appointed, ~~are~~ in reference to the rights of the people <sup>are</sup> to be respected

Friends & Brothers

Hear well, & listen! The time appointed for my commifsion-  
 ers to meet you is the 15<sup>th</sup> of September, at Dancing Rabbit Creek,  
 near to where the trace croses it, leading from the agency, to  
 the Coosha Towns, where from the talk sent ~~him~~, your Father expects  
 you all, both medal, & the other chiefs to meet ~~him~~. There he  
 hopes a treaty may be made, which shall make you happy, & settle  
 you finally on land west of the Mifsifsiippi, that shall belong to  
 by  
 you grant always, & make you happy forever

Brothers Listen

You must now make a voluntary choice: remove - seek a home  
 beyond the Mifsifsiippi, or else remain, where you are, under the  
 laws of the State, & as good people endeavour to conform to them.  
 No other alternative is presented!

Andrew Jackson

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws The President, Andrew Jackson Talks to  
 Chiefs. Letter to Sec. of War. To Comrs. Eaton & Coffee. All  
 autograph.)



Franklin 27. Aug. 1830

To Gen<sup>l</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Coffee )  
                                      )  
& Jn<sup>o</sup> H Eaton                 )

Being about to leave the State of Tennessee for Washington City, & not knowing what business may arise with the Choctaw & Chickasaw Indians in my absence, I do hereby appoint & authorize you to arrange not only what has been confided to you; ~~by~~ but any other business which said tribes may desire to transact, you are authorized to arrange & settle fully, & make report of the same

Given under my hand at Franklin

Andrew Jackson

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws The President, Andrew Jackson Talks to Chiefs. Letter to Sec. of War. to Comrs Eaton & Coffee. All autograph.)

P. S. Instruct M<sup>r</sup> Donnelly to appoint a day that the chiefs will be at Franklin - or if they will not come, but give assurances that they will treat, to appoint a day & place in the nation I want the chiefs to come here - Laflour can influence the Cherokees, & as soon as we make arrangements with the Choctaws by sending Laflour to the Cherokees, he can bring a delegation to meet us on our way to Washington in East Tennessee.

I have just rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from Major Borsy, all is well in the Department of War- Having just rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from Genl Coffee who says he will be at Franklin on the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> I will be there with Judge Overton to see him - present me respectfully to your lady, mother & Doctor Brother & Lady, & excuse the haste in which this is written

A. J.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws The President, Andrew Jackson. Talks to chiefs. Letter to Sec. of War. To comrs. Eaton & Coffee. All autograph.)

Dancing Rabbit Creek

Wednesday 15 Sept 1830

John H. Eaton and John Coffee, commissioners to treat with the Choctaw nation of Indians, this day arrived at Dancing Rabbit Creek. At the agency today, they instructed the Agent to address a note to the missionaries, suggesting it to be improper, and requesting that they would not attend at the treaty ground, which was done by the agent accordingly.

Thursday Sept 16<sup>th</sup> The Commissioners issued the following general regulation for the distribution of rations

"The contractors will have deposited with them, the number of each Captain's Company, the district in which he lives - the women and children must also be stated and from day to day, be corrected, as additional persons may come in. The ration will be as follows; one and a half pounds of beef, until further orders be given; one pint of corn, and one quart of salt to the 100 rations The quantities issued to any one Captain may be delivered together, in one or two pieces, by them to be arranged and divided-. The agent will cause the rations to be faithfully delivered, and to report any just cause of complaint that may arise --

J. H. Eaton

Jn<sup>o</sup> Coffee

Friday Sept 17<sup>th</sup> A correspondence, as follows took place between the Commissioners and the missionaries attending at the treaty ground --

Treaty Ground Choctaw Nation

17 Sept 1830

To the Hon

Jn<sup>r</sup> H Eaton, Sec: of War &

Gen<sup>l</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Coffee, Com<sup>r</sup> of the U S

Gentlemen

The undersigned, mifsionaries under the patronage of the A. B. C. F. M. respectfully request the privilege of being present at the encampment, during the pending negotiations for a treaty with the Choctaw Nation -

Many of the people, for whose good we, in connexion with the government of the U. States, have for a number of years been laboring, have afsembled at this place, and have requested that we should be with them; that they may enjoy the advantages of religious instruction on the Sabbath, and at such other intervals as circumstances may present.

It has also occurred to us, that questions may arise, affecting the interests of the mifsion under our board, and which would render it proper, and necefsary, that one or more of their mifsionaries should be present.

We should not have thought of troubling you with this note, had it not been suggested to us, from a quarter entitled to our respectful attention that it would not be desirable for us to be present; but as we can perceive no reasonable objection, the above request is respectfully submitted by

Your obedient servants, Cyrus Kingsbury  
Cyrus Byington  
Loving S. Williams  
Calvin Cushman  
(P.S.)

P.S. We are aware that public rumor may have produced the impression, that we, if on the ground, would interfere with the particular object of the present meeting. We do hereby assure you gentlemen, that we shall studiously avoid any such interference. Should any questions arise, affecting either ourselves, or the interests of our mission, it is hoped we may have the privilege of having the subject considered by the Sec: of War and the commissioner of the U States, if it should be thought of sufficient importance --

Treaty ground

18 Sept<sup>r</sup> 1830

Gentlemen

Late last evening, we received your letter of yesterday requesting "the privilege of being present at the encampment, during the pending negotiation for a treaty with the Choctaw Nation"--

We cannot but consider the application a strange one, inasmuch as, two days ago, a letter was addressed to M<sup>r</sup> Byington, politely requesting, that none of the missionaries should attend at the treaty ground. This information he was requested to communicate to others, and no doubt did. It was 24 miles from this place and near to his residence, that this communication was addressed. With<sup>all</sup> this knowledge, your letter is now presented, asking leave to do, what you had before requested not to do --

Again as soon as M<sup>r</sup> Tally, another missionary was known to be here, for reasons of supposed correct policy, he was requested to retire. His answer was that he could not. These circumstances combined, show a determination on the part of the

mifisionaries to be present, and to mingle with the councils here, at all hazards, regardless of our requests or instructions.

Treaties with Indians are carried on at great expense to the Government. The Indians and none others are invited, who may come or not, as they please. No man without the consent of the representatives of the government, has a right to be present at the treaty ground. For the time being, the place and all its privileges, are theirs, and the privilege of none else without consent. Such has been the uniform & acknowledged practice, at all treaties held with Indians.

Much as we commend the laudable, and praiseworthy vocation in which you are engaged, the improveing and civilizing the Indians - and teaching them the necessity of true and evangelic repentance and forgiveness, we cannot reason ourselves to the belief, that the present is a proper time, place or occasion for such undertakings. The whole population of the Choctaw Nation does not half equal any one of our settled counties. Two years <sup>have</sup> ~~have~~ you been with them, and afforded repeated opportunities to preach to, and instruct them. The few days assigned for our object, which we believe to be of higher importance than any act of a temporal kind, that ever had occupied their attention, surely cannot impede the benevolent march of mind and morals that lies before you. Your religious exercises may interfere, will interfere. At any rate time will be consumed, and large increased expenses will be the consequence. The civilized man cannot serve two masters; - the untutored <sup>savage</sup> still left can do so. He should have his mind altogether free and easy at such a moment

as the present, and fully to be applied to the whole subject matter that is before him. We approach the subject with distrust, resolved only upon one thing, that we will act candidly, fairly and liberally toward the Indians, and save them from the ruin which is anticipated to invade them

We beg leave to say, your request reasonable as it may appear to you, cannot be acceded to. The reasons which are offered by you are insufficient. It is a great public matter and an expensive one in which we are engaged, Every practised diversion tends to delay us in the completion of our businefs.

If you have anything of mifsionary businefs, which is considered material to be attended to, a written communication from you, shall receive our attention if found to be consistent with a discharge of the public trust that is confided to us. Your presence, far as we are concerned will not make your application either better or worse. We shall adopt nothing into the treaty if made, that we may not consider right and proper. We must therefore decline consenting to the request you have made, and ask leave to exprefs a wish that you will retire from the treaty ground and from the neighborhood of it. We repeat the same wish to D<sup>r</sup> Tally, and ask theyfavor of you to make it known to him. We solicit an immediate answer, whether, or not, you will comply with the request. We have the honor to be

Very respectfully  
(Signed) J. H. Eaton  
J. Coffee

Camp ground

18 Sept 1830

To the Hon

Jn<sup>o</sup> H Eaton Sec<sup>y</sup> of War &

Gen<sup>l</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Coffee, Com<sup>r</sup> of the U.S.

Gentlemen

We have just received your communication of this morning, and regret that our request of yesterday should have been considered "a strange one". We also regret that the impresion should have been made, that there was "a determination on the part of the mifisionaries to be present" We afsure you there was no such determination on our part.

As we are constrained to believe, that our motives in coming to this place are not understood, we beg leave again, respectfully to state, that as it respects any influence, which we could, if disposed, exert, as to the result of the present negotiations, we should have had no motive to have left our homes on this occasion. We did think, the request of the members of our church that they might injoy the privilege of religious instruction on the Sabbath, a reasonable one, and that the Commifisioners, when they came to understand it would not deny them this privilege. We did not suppose, that this, could in the least, retard the businefs of the present meeting, or create the least pofsible expense.

Another reason for our being present on this occasion, and we believed would be deemed a valid one,.was, that we, as



the agents of the Choctaws, and of the American Board of Commissioners for foreign missions, have disbursed a large amount of money in the school and missionary operations in this nation, and have now under our charge, large and expensive establishments in different parts of it. We supposed it would not be considered improper, for one or more persons representing these interests to be present on this occasion. At the treaty of Doaks Stand in 1820 the Superintendent of this mission, was present, and received the most respectful treatment from the Commissioners, and especially from the present chief magistrate of the U States.

It has been reported, again and again, to the Choctaws, that no great men in the U States are religious and that they are not in favor of the Choctaws becoming religious. If, while men of every other grade and colour are permitted to be present, the missionaries alone are prohibited, we think it would tend greatly to confirm the above report. We cannot believe that the Hon Sec: of War and the Commissioner of the U S. now present, would willingly do any thing to confirm such an impression

It is doubtless known to the Hon the Sec: of War, and the Com<sup>r</sup> of the U States, that there are various reports in circulation, among a portion of the nation, as well as among white people, prejudicial to the missionary character, representing us as speculators &c. We did hope, that the present would furnish us with a convenient and suitable opportunity of presenting correct and full information on this subject; and would

result in such explanations and arrangements, as the case might require. And we repeat the assurance, that the above are the motives, and the only motives, which brought us to this place

With this explanation of our views, we comply with the injunction contained in your communication, and prepare to leave the ground immediately, unless we receive intimations to the contrary.

We have the honor to be with respect

Your obedient servants

C Kingsbury

Cyrus Byington

Loving S. Williams

Calvin Cushman

P.S. Dr Tally has received the information you requested to be given to him.

18 Sept 1830

Gentlemen

We have received your joint letter: business with the council prevented a reply until now. We cannot request your stay. We prefer that you should go away; and in saying this, we intend nothing of disrespect to you, and most certainly nothing to the cause of religion. Our reasons we have already offered - it is that your labors here under all the circumstances which are presented, cannot be profitably employed. Of this you must yourselves be satisfied. A more unpropitious moment, and a place less promotive of religious results could scarcely be dreamed of. Your absence may aid civil purposes greatly - Your presence cannot, we are persuaded, advance the

cause of religion in the least. We must therefore insist upon it, that you, and every other person engaged here, in mifsionary purposes, leave the treaty ground. And in saying this, we again beg to state, that nothing disrespectful or unkind, to any of you, is intended. We request this to be received as our final answer on the subject.

(Signed) J H Eaton  
J. Coffee

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup>. On this day, at 11 O'clock the commifsioners met the Chiefs, Captains and Warriors, in Council, at the council house, and thereupon delivered, and caused to be interpreted, by John Pytchlyn, U. S. Interpreter, the following talk.

Treaty ground, Dancing Rabbit Creek  
Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> 1830

To the Mingoos, Chiogs, Captains  
and Warriors of the Choctaw Nation  
Friends & Brothers

While it afford us great pleasure to meet you, it is with deep regret we learn, that differences and disturbances prevail amongst you. These should not be. The tendency of them, if not corrected, must be, to marr your happinefs, and eventually, to destroy you. All jealousies and strife amongst you, ought to cease, and your rule of government established, that those quietly shall rule the country, who are the choice of ~~the~~ a majority of the people. That is our rule, and that we recommend to you. No one has a right to govern his fellow men by force. If any

one attempt thus to act he proves himself an enemy to liberty and to principle.

Brothers; we offer this as matter of advice, merely; for we come not to interfere in your home affairs but rather to persuade you to be at peace, one with another, and to live as brothers should, that your nation may be tranquil, and your people happy. Act differently and you cannot fail soon to be rendered miserable and to become degraded. Every man should be left free to determine who shall be his rulers. Attempt not by violence and force to influence his opinions, and his choice, but leave him to his judgment, and to his freedom of action. Reason and persuasion are rightful resorts, to induce men to think and act, but compulsion never. Rulers whom a majority of the people prefer and choose ought to govern to the extent the laws authorize, but no further. Be this principle regarded, and peace, and quiet and good order, cannot fail to be the consequence to any people who are not absolutely depraved and vicious.

Brothers:- You have missionaries amongst you - pious and qualified men, we hope and believe. Fail not to attend on, and regard their admonitions, while they seek to instruct the minds of your children, and to point you to the paths of moral duty and religion; but the moment they attempt an interference with your general, government relations, reject their counsels. These are subjects with which they have no right to meddle, and indeed should not interfere. They are matters which belong to the government, the Chiefs and the people, not to the mission-

aries, who are placed amongst you for higher and nobler purposes- for Christian, not political ends. It is the peculiar duty of the Chiefs, for they are responsible to their people, carefully to watch over the affairs of the nation, not those who have no responsibility, no interest whatever. Through error of their advice, they may lead you on to a state of political wretchedness, of which, though they might hereafter repent, it will never be in their power to repair.

Brothers: We have come a considerable distance to meet you, under the direction of your Great Father. He had invited you to meet, and shake hands with him in Tennessee, that as a friend and father he might speak with you. He was informed at Washington City that you desired it. Arriving at home he sent Major Donly to you, with news of his wishes, of his desire to converse with you on matters of deep and lasting interest to your nation; you refused to come, and returned for answer that you could not. Well might your Great Father then have said "I will no more try to preserve you, but leave you to live as you can, under the laws of the States." When thus he was about to determine, to leave you, and no more persuade you to a course of happiness, a messenger reached him, bearing from two of the three districts of your nation, a memorial, entreating that commissioners might be sent. Anxious still for those who had fought by his side in behalf of his country, he determined to yield to that request, and to send those who would speak his wishes, freely and candidly, and thereby prove the desire he entertained to preserve you, notwithstanding his previous friendly offers had been rejected.

Brothers: By the direction of your Great Father, we have come amongst you. It is not your land but your happiness that we seek to obtain. Much delay and much talk, about a matter which all of you well understand, is needleft. We have not time to be tedious; one of us, the Secretary of War, must very shortly return to Washington City. Here he cannot long remain, nor is it proper, or necessary that he should. You all know the important matters that are to be considered and settled, and can readily decide upon the course you intend to take. Speedily answer then, and say what you will do. Are you willing to remain here, and live as white men? Are you willing to be sued in courts, there to be tried and punished for any offence you may commit? to be subjected to taxes - to work upon roads, and attend in musters? for all these you must do. If under this state of things, it is believed you can be contented and happy, then dwell upon the lands where you live. But if you are satisfied that under such a condition of things you cannot be happy, consent to remove beyond the Mifsissippi, where you will be away from the white people, and from their laws, and be able to live under your own. You are called upon to say, whether or not you will remain for if this be your determination, then let us be done with the subject, and disperse to our homes. On the other hand if you shall choose to remove, so declare that, at once we may proceed to some definite understanding and arrange a treaty. This we are willing to do, and upon terms that shall be liberal. We seek no advantages; we will take none. Your Great Father would not approve such a course. He has sent us,

not as traders, but as friends and brothers, and to act as such, We will thus act, be assured. We come not to practice imposition upon our Choctaw friends, but to extend to them justice. This we will do.

Brothers: Hesitate not,- determine what you mean to do. On this important occasion, record the votes of your head men, and let us know who amongst you are willing to remove, and who are opposed. The sense of the nation will thus be correctly ascertained, and the question which has so much agitated you, be finally put to rest. Say it is your determination to remain, and the subject is done with. We shall then trouble you with our talks no more. But decide to remove, and liberal provisions will be made, to carry you to a country where you can be happy, and where already a portion of your fathers and brothers have gone in peace to reside. It is a desirable region, doubt in extent to the one you occupy, and large and fertile enough for twice or three times the number of people you have. There your Great Father can be your friend; there he can keep the white man's laws from interrupting and disturbing you, and there, too, he will guard you against all enemies whether they be white or red. There, no state or territory will be erected, and he will have it in his power to protect you fully, in your usages, laws, and customs. Here he cannot do these things, because neither he nor Congress possess authority to prevent the States from extending their jurisdiction over you, and throughout their limits.

Brothers: - In the country to which you go West, the U States will protect you from enemies. Their object will be to

preserve you, at peace with yourselves, & with all mankind;- to perpetuate you as a nation and to render you a happy and a prosperous people. Here you cannot be so: it is idle to indulge such dreams of your fancy;- dreams which are entirely deceptive, and from which nothing of pleasing reality can ever, ever come. Every days observation, shows that wretchedness and distress will be yours to remain where you are. The kind & friendly feelings of your Great Father will be insufficient to preserve you from these inevitable results.

Brothers:- A portion of your nation sensible of these things, and anxious by removing to get rid of them, sent a treaty, during last winter, to their Great Father, but it is such a one as he could not agree to. He laid it, however, before his great council, the Senate for consideration, and they too refused to ratify it. It asked more than could be granted, and introduced principles which could not be recognized. Your Great Father, while he is willing to be kind and generous, and even liberal, to his Choctaw children, cannot concede to them, terms which would be considered exorbitant. The Senate would not consent.

Brothers: In 1820 by a treaty made with you at Dokes Stand, by your present Great Father, an extensive and fine country was given to you, for the use of your people. It was a gift to you; for the country you ceded to the United States was fully paid for. It was the understanding at the time that the Choctaws would remove; and on that account was it, that a large, saleable, and fertile country was provided for your nation, and your people. Ten years have passed by, and you are still here. The country intended for you, yet remains,



wild and uncultivated.

Brothers; A fertile country beyond the Mifsifsiippi, and another pofsefsed here, is more than you should expect If you will not remove, other Indian tribes may desire to do so, and when they shall select to settle, a home must be furnished. Others wanting it, the country should not remain a desert. You must decide which you will take, and which you will live upon. both countries you cannot pofsefs, it is unreasonable to expect it. If you prefer to live under our laws and customs, remain and do so; and surrender the lands afsigned to you, West of the Mifsifsiippi, or otherwise remove to them. Then your Great Father can protect you, and there, undisturbed and uninterrupted by the whites you can enjoy yourselves and be happy now and for years to come. Rest afsured, you cannot be so here. But if you think differently, then, continue where you are. After the present time, we shall no more offer to treat with you. You have seen commifsioners in your country for the last time. Hereafter you will be left to yourselves, and to the laws of the States within which you reside; and when weary of them, your nation must remove as it can, and at its own expense. Whatever you may determine upon, whether to remove, or to remain, our earnest and sincere wishes are, that you may be happy and content- ed. For you, we have the best feelings; our complexions are different, but our hearts and our nature are the same. The Great Spirit above is our common father. He has made us all & we are all his. Your friends & Your brothers J H Eaton

Jn<sup>o</sup> Coffee

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept: The Commissioners were notified of the readiness of the Indians to meet them in Council. At 11 o'clock, they attended.

A dispute arose between the Chief Leflore, and some of the Captains, upon the subject of referring all matters first to a committee of twenty persons, to be selected from each district. Leflore insisted, that having most men present, and within the bounds of his district, he should have the largest number on the committee. A quarrel was likely to ensue, when the Secretary of War addressed them; urged the necessity of their preserving peace, & harmony, at so important a crisis, and painted the necessity, if they would preserve the nation, of acting cordially together, and throwing aside all their differences, and strifes, and, as brothers, to consult and act together. The Council broke up. In the afternoon, the respective chiefs and warriors met, and agreed to be reconciled, and take the talk, and the business that had brought them together, into serious consideration --

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> The Commissioners were desired by the Chiefs to submit the terms they intended to offer, that they, their Captains, and Warriors, might understand the matters to be acted upon fully. Whereupon the Commissioners consented that they would offer them terms, such as they hoped would be considered liberal. That the next day, at 10 o'clock they would meet the Chiefs Captains, and Warriors, and speak to them freely, as to the terms they would propose. --

Wednesday 22<sup>d</sup>. The Commissioners met the council at 10 o'clock. The Chiefs and their Captains present, except Nutakachee, who was reported to be sick from the bite of a spider. Order and silence being had, the Commissioners proposed for their consideration and approval, the outlines of the treaty they were willing to enter into. It is as follows.

The following terms are offered, as the basis of a treaty with the Choctaw people -

Land reservations to be afsefsed at the price at which the U States shall sell their choice & best lands. (to wit)

4 sections to each Chief is

2 do to D Folsom.

2 do to R Cole.

2 do to J Pytchlynn.

2 Sections to J Juzan

1 do to Makay

1 do each to 39 Captains. 13 to each district. 39

$\frac{1}{2}$  do to 90 Captains & principal men 45. (30 in each district)

#### Sections

Sections	acres
----------	-------

Reservations	or	--
--------------	----	----

Do to others who may probably not remove, say 150 persons at 640 acres is 96,000 acres

Annuity 2,500 for 20 years.

Removal and support of Indians for one year

Education of 40 Choctaw boys, by Sec. of War, under the direction of the President 20 years

Cattle, purchase of

Council house for the nation at the agency	3,000
3 Churches, one in each district, to be used for schools	3,000
House for each Chief at	3,000.
Teachers and preachers for the nation for 20 years,	50,000
1000 guns and ammunition	
1000 blankets and kettles	
1000 axes, ploughs & hoes	
1000 wheels and cards & 400 looms	
3 blacksmiths, one to each district for 16 years	40,000
1 millwright for 5 years	
Suit of clothes to 100 Captains, and swords, as outfit	
Pay of Captains for 4 years, at 50 dollars	20,000
Pay of each chief for 20 years	20,000
Compensation to those who have no reservations, - for improvements	50,000.

The Chief Ledstone, inquired, if the present treaty was to be considered as retaining former treaties, and their provisions, or as repeating all former treaties; and the present one only to be relief on. The answer was, that it was desirable fully to embrace every thing, that the present might be considered the only treaty that was to be looked to. That excepting former annuities, all previous treaties were to be considered as revoked and set aside. The council then seperated --

Thursday 23<sup>d</sup> This morning, the Commifsioners were informed that the Indian committee, appointed to consider the terms proposed, were about to reject them, and refuse to treat That it

was represented to them, there was but one spring and only one, in the country west of the Mifsissippi, and that the laws of a state had been already extended over the Cherokees who had removed there -

The Commifsioners returned for answer, that the representations were wholly incorrect - that there was no State near to where the Cherokees lived, or within many miles of them, or the country owned by the Choctaws. That the information was by evil minded persons, intended to deceive and to prejudice their minds-- and requested that they would meet to receive their explanations. The answer was, that at 12 o'clock they would again meet in Council, and desired the presence of the Commifsioners --

12 o'clock. The Commifsioners attended at the Council house, and received through the Chairman of the Committee, Peter Pytchlynn, their determination and report. They stated their great surprize at being informed, their Great Father had understood they were in distrefs and difsatisfied; and were surprized at being informed they could not retain the lands which by the treaty of 1820 had been secured to them. That they had concluded not to treat for a sale of their lands. The report being received; the Secretary of War rose, and made an addrefs to them verbally, before the council - told them of their situation and condition, and of the impofsibility, on the part of their Great Father, to prevent the operation of the laws of the-State over them. That they had been badly advised, and were putting reliance in persons, who, while they profefsed to be their friends would be sure to forget them in the hour of

difficulty and trial. Their object, he well knew was to obtain the best bargain they could, and the Commissioners were prepared to give them one in all respects liberal, to the extent that they could hope the Senate of the United States would ratify. The government intended this as the last treaty, ever to be held with them, and it certainly was the last time that Commissioners would ever appear in their nation, to talk with them, on this subject. They had come as friends, and at their own request, to protect them from injury, not to cavil with them about prices. As for their lands the government cared nothing, for they had enough. Their object was merely the possession of the country without regard to any thing of value or profit to be obtained from the sale of them. He called their attention to a printed letter to the War Department from two of the three of their districts, and which two of their principal chiefs had signed, in which they had said most feelingly, that they were distressed, and could not possibly live under the laws of the state, and begged that Commissioners might be sent to their nation, to conclude a treaty. For them now to state differently, showed their insincerity, and deception. That hereafter, their complaints would not be regarded, because they could not be confided in. The Secretary of War requested them to understand, that their removal was to be a matter for their own reflection and judgment. Unless they really believed, in consenting to emigrate, their happiness could be promoted, he begged them not to think of removing. That they must go freely, and of their own accord, or not at all. They had to day declared that they were unwilling

remove. He supposed they had arrived at the conclusion that they could remain where they were, and live under the laws of Mississippi, and of course the commissioners had nothing more to say, or to advise. They would now take their leave and go home. It was matter of regret, he said that their judgment had erred so much, in the decision they had made. Throughout, the language of all of them had been, that they could not live under the white man's laws. If such was not their deliberate opinion, why had they avowed it, and why did they solicit the President to send commissioners to treat with them, when they could not but know, it was attended with great expense. He said, he well knew that many of them could live any where, where he could, their education & intelligence authorized him to say and believe so; but the common uneducated Indian could not. For them to live under laws which they could neither read, nor be able to understand, was expecting too much. And what are they to do, under the decision just pronounced? Will they resist the laws? The Sheriff must enforce them - will they oppose him with their guns and tomahawks? While the Choctaws could raise one warrior to resist, there would be found 100 or 1000 to oppose that resistance and to enforce the law. These are things which seriously they should have considered, before their decision was pronounced. The Commissioners, he said, had nothing further to remark, but to take leave of them, and go home, and accordingly they retired from the Council.

Shortly afterwards, they were waited upon by several persons, of the committee, with a request that they would not leave the treaty ground. That they had considered of the remarks which had been made to them, and had no doubt, if the commissioners

would remain a few days longer, that a treaty could. To this the Commifisioners assented.

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> 9 o'clock. The committee on the part of the Indians, handed in a plan, presenting the grounds on which they were willing to treat. It contained various objectionable features; and amongst others a proposition to create a perpetual stock of \$500,000, at an interest of 5 pr cent, but redeemable at the pleasure of the Choctaw nation after 20 years. The Commifisioners returned for answer, that the terms offered had been fully considered, and that some of them were inadmissable but that at 11 o'clock they would meet the chiefs & Warriors in council and state to them, there, what they were willing and disposed to do.

11 o'clock. The council met, present the Commifisioners, the three Chiefs, Captains and Warriors of the nation, when the following terms were proposed and interpreted.

Choctaw proposals for the basis of a treaty in lieu of those heretofore proposed. They are offered, from a full consideration of all the circumstances and from a desire that ample and entire justice and liberality, may be extended to your Choctaw brothers. If approved a treaty to be made out in form.

Removal to take place within two, or two and a half years from the ratification of the treaty, and the treaty to be binding from the date of ratification upon the following terms. -

Lands reserved, and the value at the lowest government prices only.

4 sections to each of the three chiefs 2 to include improvements is . . .

12 sections



	<u>/sections/</u>
4 sections to Col D. Folsom, 2 to include improvements is 4 "	4 "
2 to R Cole, & 2 to J Garland, former chiefs	4 "
2 Sections to the Speakers of east district.	6 sections
2 to J. Pytchlynn & 2 to J Juzan	<u>4. -</u>
	30.sections
1 Section to 13 Captains, with others to be named and to be placed in a supplementary treaty	50 sections

And that others, not provided for above and who will remove, may be provided for, there shall be reserved  $\frac{3}{4}$  of section to each head of family who during the present year may have had in actual cultivation, a farm of 30 acres, and a dwelling house thereon; said reservation to be bounded by quarter section lines, contiguous and adjoining, and to contain the part of the improvement on which the dwelling may be situated; and which, with the consent of the President of the United States, the owner may sell; the number not to exceed 500 persons.

And to those who may have had in cultivation as aforesaid, a farm of 20 and less than 30 acres a reservation of 2 quarter sections, to be bounded by quarter section lines, and to be contiguous & adjoining; and to include the dwelling, and subject to the condition of the preceding clafs of cases. The number not to exceed 400 persons.

And to those who may have had in cultivation as aforesaid, a farm of 12 acres, and not more than 20 acres, a reservation as aforesaid, under the conditions and restrictions aforesaid  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a section of land. The number not to exceed 450 persons.

And to those who may have cultivated, as aforesaid, a farm of 4 acres and less than 12 acres, a reservation under the restrictions and conditions aforesaid, of one eighth of a section. The number not to exceed 350 persons.

And any Captain, the number of whom shall not exceed ninety, who shall fail to obtain, under any of the provisions, less than a section, he shall in that event, be entitled half a section, additional to join his other reservation. In making sale of any part of it, he shall be subject to the conditions before stated.

Children of Choctaw parents residing in the nation, a list and proof of which shall be filed with the agent, within six months after the ratification of this treaty, who have neither father nor mother, shall be entitled to a quarter section of land to be located under the direction of the President.

Also such persons wishing to become citizens, and who are heads of families, shall be entitled, for himself or herself, to a section of land; and having lived upon, and having cultivated the same for six years after the ratification of this treaty, shall receive a grant in fee. The location shall be bounded by sectional lines, and include his or her dwelling.

Likewise for each unmarried child, residing with him or her, on notice and a request made with the agent, in six months from the ratification, of such intention, said child shall be entitled, if over ten years of age, to half a section; if less than ten, to a quarter section, to adjoin the parents' location--

Say that only 200 remain. - is	200 sections
That 200 children are over ten years	100 "
200 do under ten years	50. "

Annuities under former treaties, amounting to \$11,200 which would expire in 1836, to be continued -

Present annuity offered, was \$25,000. It is, on account of the large reservations, reduced to \$20,000. for 20 years.

Removal, expense of, and support one year

Education of 40 Choctaw boys, 20 years

Council house, Churches, and houses for Chiefs

Teachers and preachers for 20 years

1000 guns & ammunition, blankets & kettles

1000 axes, hoes, & ploughs.

1000 Wheels, cards, & 400 looms.

/torn/Blacksmiths, for 16 years.

/paper/Wheelwrights, for 5 years.

Suit of clothes, and sword to Captains. also 4 years pay at \$50.

Pay of Chiefs for 20 years.

Cattle, purchase of, at valuation of persons appointed by the Government, and to be delivered at two or more appointed places, to be paid for; or the same amount of cattle furnished across the river, at the election of the President

The foregoing having been read and explained, the three Chiefs, and other principal men, addressed the council, and urged the acceptance of the terms which were offered. The explanations being made the council broke up.

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Some conference at the Commifisioners quarters took place this morning, between the Chiefs and some of the Captains, and head men, in which several alterations and additions were made, to the terms proposed. They insisted to increase the number of guns, and blankets, agreeably to the promise which was made to them in the treaty of Dokes Stand made in 1820.

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> A meeting at the council house took place today. The treaty was drawn up, was submitted, interpreted, and explained; and at one o'clock it was signed.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws Coffee & Eaton, Comrs. Journal of Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek. Copy.)

Copy of a letter to Col. Arbuckle at Cantonment Gibson.

Franklin 5. Octr. 1830

Sir

The Chickasaw & Choctaw Indians here concluded teaties recently with the US, & a delegation of each will shortly proceed to an examination of the country west of the Mifsifsi You are requested to furnish such facilities as may be in your power. At Fort Smith or at your garrison it is believed Rifles are in Deposit designed for the Indians. You will furnish ~~each/of~~ each the deputation with a Rifle taking his recpt for the sane, & forwarding a copy of the whole to the War Dept. They will require amunition also which will be stated in the recpt; also any supplies of provisions which they may require you will furnish and take a recpt from the persons who may be in charge of the deputation

Very respectfully

J. H. Eaton

Franklin 7. Octo 1830

Col. Reynolds & Gaines in charge of the Delegation

For the use & benefit of yourself & Col Geo S Gains who probably may go with the Choctaws I send you this Copy of a letter written to Col Arbuckle commanding officer at Cant. Gibson. Salt provisions & salt which may be needed on your advance into the wilderness can there be obtained- Afterward the Forest must supply yr wants until yr return. ~~There~~ Rent of some additional pack horses may be required. Economy & frugality on this trip I must enjoin upon you Every thing of extravagance is to be avoided Wines cannot be allowed at the public expense - -

Respectfully

J. H Eaton

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws Hon.J.H.Eaton to Chiefs & Col.Arbuckle Rel.to Exploration & Protection of Party.)

Demopolis Ala

14<sup>th</sup> October 1830

Sir

I received on the 12<sup>th</sup> Inst your favor dated Agency 29<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 30; and on the same day a letter from Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffee written at your request & dated Florence 2<sup>nd</sup> Inst.

I lost no time after the receipt of the above mentioned letters to commence preparations for the journey which I have been invited to perform by dispatching Exprefses to Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleur and Mingo Mushulatubbee with letters desiring the first to be in readinefs with four of his most intelligent Captains by the 30<sup>th</sup> Inst: to set out for the new Chaktaw country west of Mifsifsiippi; and desiring the latter to select four of his most intelligent Captains and have them in readinefs to join the exploring party at Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleur's by the same time.

Netuckeicha was fortunately with me when I received your letter. He will be ready with his four Captains in due time.

It is reported here that Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleur was hastening his preparations to set out on the 15<sup>th</sup> and would probably <sup>not</sup> wait for ~~the~~ other Chiefs to join him -- In that event we have only to hasten our movements and overtake him.

I think however that Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffees letter written by your direction will have stayed him until he receives mine and that we shall all travel together.

I am about to dispatch a man to the Chickasaw agency by advice of Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffee for Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds plan of march. -- We

shall appoint a place of meeting on the Arkansas. -- Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffee coincides with me in opinion that it is of no importance that we two exploring parties travel together.

I expect that my messenger will return from the Chickasaw Agency by the 20<sup>th</sup> Inst before which time I hope to receive your instructions which Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffee informs me will be forwarded me from Franklin T.

I beg to remind you of your promise to send to my care a copy of the Treaty for Netuckeechee. If in your hurry to reach Washington you have omitted to send the copy I would respectfully suggest that you cause it to be forwarded immediately to care of Allen Glover of this place.

So far as I have had opportunities of conversing with the Indians they appear better satisfied than I could have expected: I however hear daily of some dissatisfaction: but it is for want of correct information upon the various provisions of the Treaty.

I have the honor to be

Your obed<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

Geo. S. Gaines

The Hon:

John H. Eaton,

Sec<sup>y</sup> of War.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo.S.Gaines Asks for instructions,etc.)

To the Honorable Major John H. Eaton, Sec. of War.

Friend & brother,

We the undersigned Captains of Six-towns, Hajowanee and Chickasawhay with the voice and consent of the warriors assembled in council, have unanimously elected Joel H. Nail to be our chief and ruler. And so soon as any arrangement can be made, for the emigration to the land west of the Mifsissippi we will look to him to lead us on, and to no other man.-- Therefore we give this early information through your goodnefs to be laid before our father the President, and that he might give us his afsurance of his accepting our new elected chief to be considered by him as such, and that he will be pleased through the Agent to send us <sup>our</sup> ~~the~~ answer.

We are respectfully your friends & brothers

- Sheshemataha, Speaker, his x mark
- Cpts -- Nukpulla -- his x mark
- John Brewer (1) his x mark
- Eahishtubbee - his x mark
- Sheekopa, lukna his x mark
- Nakommastubbee (1) his x mark
- Nakommastubbee (2) his x mark
- Cpts -- Meyashotta -- his x mark
- Pisetachahabbee his x mark
- Ahokletubbee -- his x mark
- John Garland his x mark
- Koope his x mark
- Elatahlahopie his x mark
- Pashishtubbee his x mark



John Brewer (2) his x mark

Ayapullubbee his x mark

Likewise a Secretary appointed by the council, Noel Gardner.

Done in Council )  
at Yakne achakma, )  
Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> 1830 )

The above signers, are presiding Captains over a population equal to three thousand.

Israel Folsom, Clerk pro. tem pore.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Captains in council Joel Nail appointed chief)

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Captains in council. Joel Nail appointed chief.)

Southern Dêstrict C. Nation, Oct. 22<sup>d</sup> 1830

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> John H. Eaton

Friend and Brother.

We the principal Captains of <sup>the</sup> Southern Dê-  
 strict of the Choctaw Nation have recently understood that Israel  
 Folsom a brother of Col David Folsom has been in some parts of our  
 Dêstrict encouraging the Captains to elect a Chief and to cause us  
 to get ~~us~~ divided. Our Chief Nittucachee has received a letter  
 from several of the Captains stating that they had elected Joel  
 H. Nail as their Chief. Sixteen have signed many of them are  
 not known to be Captains. You will understand by this that con-  
 fusion is going on by the influence of Israel Folsom and John  
 Garland. We <sup>are</sup> accused of having had money given to us by you. Some  
 of our lives have been threatened verry much. Particularly  
 Hopicunchahubbee a principal Captain of Chickasawha, and  
 Onnahubbee a principal Captain of Sixtowns. We wish you to write  
 on immediately and let us be cleared if innocent which we hope we  
 are. We still hold our Chief and will never forsake him. We have  
 nothing against him. We have all told you he was our Chief and  
 we still hold him. We the head Captains are still in favour of  
 our beloved Chief Nittucachee. A few of the smaller Captains  
 particularly the more ignorant have been influenced (as we have  
 a strong reason to believe by Israel Folsom to elect a new man  
 for their Chief. We write you about our difficulties because  
 we told you we would. We wish you to give us answer as soon as  
 convenient. We have no more to say on this subject. We have no

Copy of the treaty We do not understand it well. We wish you to send us a Copy as soon as possible and direct it to the agency or Demopolis. We have been looking for a Copy some time but have never received it. We are sorrow that one of the Destrict has been better provided for with reservation than this. We would be glad if all were equally benifited. -- We are your Friends and brothers --

Iyacherhopia his x mark  
Speaker of the Southern Destrict  
Onnahubbee his x mark  
Hopieanchahubbee his x mark  
Hopiahommah his x mark  
Hopiatubbee his x mark  
Ticberunchahubbee his x mark

Pierre Juzan

P S. When we sold you our country we did not sell our old reservations that were given to us in a former treaty We wish you to give us authority to sell them to any person we may please. You know we did not say we sold it to you. Write us on this subject as soon as pofsible. The reservations are in this District (Southern) we remain

Your friends & Brothers

Iyacherhopia his x mark  
Onnahubbee his x mark  
Hopicunchahubbee his x mark  
Hopiahoomah his x mark

Pierre Juzan

Nittucachee his x mark  
Chief of Southern District

We the undersigned Lawfull electors being now in office having met in general council on this the 23 day of Oct 1830 on Chufocto Creeke for the purpose of enquiring into into the propriety of continuing G Leflore our present chief in office we believe that it is our indispensable duty to remove G Leflore from office he having recently gone contrary to the position instruction of this district we do therefore appoint George W Harkins chief of the northwestern District of the Choctaw Nation to succeed G Leflore removed who is hereby vested with all powers vested chiefs of this district

Testimony whereof we have herewith subscribed our names is this day and date above mentioned

/ 86 signers./

(OIA: 1830. Choctaws. Wm. Ward. (Choctaws satisfied with Treaty & country. Troops not required. Change of Chiefs.)

(A similar paper to above is signed by 150 persons; also one with 39 signers; also one with 27 signers; also one with 95 signers; also one with 30 signers; one bearing no captain, but containing signatures of 122 persons. See next page.)

We the undersigned and lawful Electors being in office having met in general council convened at Wolf Creek Northwest-ern district this 3rd day of Nov 1830. For the purpose of tak- ing into deep consideration the propriety of electing another chief to superced Greenwood Leflore and after mature delibera- tion come to the following resolutions

Resolved 1 -

that all hold Greenwood Leflore totally unfit to rule a free people who having forfeited his head by breaking a law he made him- self in open council on the Robinson Road that he would not sell his country

2ndly Taking up arms and marching with an armed band of warriors to a council convened at Wilson's Stand and there severely pun- ished by whipping some of our most peaceable Citizens 3rdly

He having expended the money unnecessarily such as purchasing powder, lead, plumes, drums and other unnecessary articles with- out the consent of the people of said district to the great in- jury and oppression of the poor and distressed warriors and

women. 4th and his taking up arms and marching with an armed force of four or five hundred warriors into a peaceable quar- ter of the nation against the chiefs Mushalatubbee and Nittucka- chee

5th His selling the country against the known wishes of a large majority of the people in said district and disposing of said lands in such a manner as to deprive the warriors generally of any immediate benefit. &co and making laws the most oppressive and degrading to the great mass of the people and also endeavor-

ing to establish a sort of Monarchial Government and furthermore threatened to destroy the property of the Citizens Living on the Yellubusher creek and some of its tributary streams if they did not submit to his arbitrary and unjust laws after making well the above we the subscribers do believe it our indispensable duty to remove said Greenwood Leflore our present Chief from office and appoint George W Harkins principal chief to succeed ~~Green~~ said Leflore removed for the term of two years or during good behaviour and furthermore that said George Harkins shall receive the same salary as the other Chiefs of said Nation during his continuance in office. The U. S. agent will transact business with George Harkins as principal chief of the North western district as he is elected by the majority of the same after the date of this article he will not hold Greenwood Leflore as a chief

/ 39 signers/

(OIA: 1830. Choctaws. Wm. Ward. Choctaws satisfied with treaty & country. Troops not required. Change of chiefs.)

(See preceding paper.)

Yazoo

at Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleurs

6<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1830

Sir

Your favor dated Frenklin 7<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> Postmarked 12<sup>th</sup>, reached ~~my~~ my residence at Demopolis on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. - The copy of the treaty inclos<sup>d</sup> for Netuckecchee was immediately forwarded to him.

On the next day I set out for the Chaktaw nation to collect my exploring party & proceed to explore the new Chaktaw Country west of Mifsissippi, leaving orders to be followed by the confidential person mentioned in my last, who I had sent by Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffees advice to the Chickasaw agency to obtain from Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds such communications as might have been confided to him by yourself and Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffee for our joint goverment; and also the Col<sup>o</sup>s plan for our meeting some where on Arkansas River. I was not overtaken until the 27<sup>th</sup> ult. the messengers horse having failed on his journey. He brought me a letter from Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds Sub. advising me of the Colonels departure and saying that he would forward my letter by Exprefs. He brought also a letter from Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffee dated 18th ult. written by your instructions authorizing me to draw on you for one thousand dollars for the outfit and expences of my exploring party and urging me to proceed without further instructions.

Having had with General Coffee before we parted at the treaty ground a lengthy conversation on the subject of the mif-sion since intrusted to Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds and myself in which he

imparted to me in confidence his views & opinions on that subject, and knowing that there will be no difficulty in meeting with the other party on the Canadian Fork when the Colonel & myself can act together understandingly, I determined to proceed on the tour at once.

I passed near Netuckeechees residence bringing with me Capt: Twyan: also by Mushulatubbees residence, and hastened to this place where I arrived two days since in the hope of finding Col<sup>o</sup>- Lafleur & his Captains ready for the tour -- I have been joined by Netuckeechee and his Captains and Mushulatubbees Captains. but I am grieved to <sup>be</sup> compelled to inform you that Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleur declines to proceed with me, and thereby redeem his promise to you. He says that the 19<sup>th</sup> article of the late treaty imposes upon him a duty as chief which must be performed before the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> next, or his warriors would lose the advantage of relinquishing their Reservations of land at 50 cents per acre, to the ~~the~~ United <sup>States</sup>, secured to them by that article. I assured him that he might delegate in perfect safety to his principle officer the the power of deciding upon the persons to be rejected in the event of his farming warriors belonging to the various classes exceeding the limits of such classes; and that I saw no other duty which at all required his stay. I have repeatedly reminded him of his promise to you; and in a word, I have left nothing unsaid which I could say to induce him to go: but all to no purpose. He really seems to think his presence absolutely necessary and seems seriously to regret it.

This strange & unexpected determination of Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleur, <sup>not</sup> to



accompany the party agreeably to his promise to you places me in a most embarrassing situation.

The deligations from the other two districts are not at all disposed to give up the trip; And the question whether all the objects expected to be accomplished by the intended tour of exploration are likely to be accomplished without the party having with it the influential chief Lafleur is difficult to answer.

The next question which occurred to me was what effect will our turning back contrary to the wishes of the two Eastern Districts have upon the murmuring hundreds of ignorant Indians who are daily counselling among themselves with a view of obtaining a majority of the nation to join them in asking the President & Senate to return them the treaty. This question is not difficultly to answer: The effects would be very unfavorable both to speedy emigration from this nation and possibly from others, and to the great work of removal generally.

Discontents have lately appeared in portions of all the Districts: but most alarming in this, and hence I presume is the true cause of Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleurs unwillingness to leave home -- indeed his friends think there is much probability of his removal. In the Eastern Districts all is becoming quiet; and the nation at large as the treaty becomes better and better understood will I venture to predict become well satisfied and remove speedily-- My journey so far I flatter myself has done some good toward the accomplishment of this prediction

I have under all the circumstances concluded to proceed.

- Col<sup>o</sup>. Lafleur proposes to send his brother and two or three other Captains, and is now gone to bring them in. I hope to enter the Mifsifsippi Swamp tomorrow, and meet Col<sup>o</sup> Reynold about the 25<sup>th</sup> Instant some where on the Cannadian Fort of Arkansas

A great number of emigrants are gone and daily going from this neighborhood to their new country

I have the honor to be

very respectfully

Your obed<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

Geo. S. Gaines

The Hon: Jn<sup>o</sup>. H. Eaton

Sec<sup>y</sup> of War.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo. S. Gaines Special Agent Report of exploring party to West.)

Mifsissippi. Natchez 10 Nov 1830.

Sir

It may not be considered an intrusion to drop you a line.

Since writing you on the state of public feeling in the Choctaw Nation, I have received a letter from Co<sup>l</sup> Leflore assuring me that no fears need be entertained, as to the opposition to himself or the treaty, in his district. I have also received a letter from a particular and influential friend, assuring me that the excitement produced by M<sup>r</sup> Smith was rapidly giving way to a more reasonable feeling, - that several of the Captains who had manifested their dissatisfaction, had publicly acknowledged their error, and regretted their course.

Co<sup>l</sup> Leflore informed me that a number of his neighbours, with their families, had set out for the Choctaw lands on Red River, and expected me to meet them at the site of Cantonment Towson, on the Kiamisha. My friend from the center of the District, writes me that my interpreter with a number of emigrants is on his way, and expects to meet me at the post of Washetta in four or five days.

Co<sup>l</sup> Leflore appears to calculate with certainty on the ratification of the treaty. I expect to cross the Mifsissippi tomorrow.

Most respectfully Alex Talley

(Above letter is addressed to John H. Eaton, Secretary of War.)

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Alex. Tally Nation will not oppose a treaty)

Choctaw Agency Nov. 14th 1830

Sir

I advised the President of the U. States that some difficulties were likely to take place since the Treaty.

Upon learning from what quarters this mischief was supposed to be made I lost no time, in inquiring into the matter. I found that Jerry Folsom (who you may recollect spoke against the treaty) and P. P. Pitchlynn were getting up a scheme with Mr Williams one of the Missionaries to modify or Brake the Treaty by sending on McDonald & Peter to Washington with a protest signed by the warriors to brake the Treaty &c.

I had up Williams and he got alarmed so all blew up at that. Then it was said that they only wanted to Brake all the Chiefs that signed the Treaty, Before I new any thing about it they succeeded in the Southern <sup>Dist.</sup> Nuttechegee's also Laflours was partially removed by the memies of the Treaty. I have ordered Rev<sup>d</sup> Smith out of the nation with his Interpreter Ellifs. Mr Tatley has gone over to Arkansas to see the In<sup>d</sup> Lands. Mr Geo. S. Gaines has left here several days with a party of Indians. to explour the Choctaw lands west.

If funds were given to take of a party a great number are now anxious to go of.

As soon as Congrefs meets and the Senate is full it might be as will the Treaty were ratified as there are some poor retches will always be meddling with the Indian subject untill it is put at rest.

I cannot believe any person from this part of Country will again attempt any thing as they find they must leave the nation if any other attempt be made.

M<sup>r</sup> McDonnold was much opposed to the treaty and was to have been up in this nation at a great council appointed at Dancing Rabbet but he failed to attend it is to be remarked that as soon as it was known what this meeting was for but few attended. So you may rest afsured that every thing is going on smoothly in this nation

I have the Honor to be very

Respectfully your M<sup>r</sup>

Obd Servt

W. Ward Agt C N.

Hon. John H. Eaton

Sec<sup>y</sup> of War.

P.S. I have just seen Jerry Folsom who says he is done with his opposition and will go of as soon as he can be provided for. Also wants to make an entry of his choice &c.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Agency) Wm. Ward Informs of some opposition to treaty by chiefs & missionaries.)

Little Rock A T

18. Nov<sup>r</sup> 1830

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that I have progrefsed this far with the Choktaw exploring party.

I have only time to apprise you that I have drawn on you at sight viz:

In favor of Maj. Haley for	125
do do Johnston for	60
And Jno M <sup>c</sup> Lean for	<u>500</u>
	\$685

amounting altogethger up to this date to six hundred & eighty five dollars, which drafts I hope will be duly paid.

I will write you again so soon as I overtake Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds who I trust will have explored the vacant land between the Arkansas and Canadian Rivers, and be ready to join me on the south bank of the Canadian

I have the honor to be

Respectfully

Your obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Geo. S. Gaines

The Hon

J. H. Eaton

Sec<sup>y</sup> of War

Big Land Choctaw Nation

Nov 19. 1830

Hon J. H. Eaton

Sec<sup>y</sup> War &c

Dear Sir,

In my last communication to you I stated that active preparations were making for a removal west of the Mifs. River -- I now have the pleasure of informing you that about seven or eight hundred of the Indians are already on their way & many more expected to start in the course of a few days -- There is a degree of Emulation among the Emigrants to be the first to arrive in their new country & thus have the advantage of making the best selections of land -- For those who have gone, many of whom will probably arrive there about the first of January, there should be some provision made as early as practicable -- A considerable proportion of them are poor & leaving with means hardly sufficient to sustain them on their journey, will reach the place of their future residence in a very destitute condition -- I have thought it best to urge the removal of the Indians as fast as possible that they escape the evils of intemperance which are flowing in upon the country on all sides & have caused the death of a considerable number since the administration of the Choctaw laws was arrested-- I am however by such a course assuming a fearful responsibility should not the U.S. Government sustain me by speedily making a comfortable provision for the new settlers -- If those who first migrate find the country a good one & receive early attention from the U.S. Government they will send back

such a report as will induce a speedy emigration of the rest & at least all who are friendly with me will soon be there -- Five or six of my most influential Captians have gone over with their warriors & I expect my Speaker will soon follow to take charge of them there -- Although there has been some dissatisfaction in the country on account of the treaty, occasioned principally by the white men residing in it, there appears now to be a general disposition to acquiesce in the course that has been pursued & to approve of it as necefsary & proper -- I have been compelled to request of the Agent the removal of two or three persons who I thought were endeavouring to create discord by imposing upon the minds of the weak & ignorant-- In this district the people are generally satisfied and I understand from Col. Fulsom with whom I lately conversed that they are so in the district where he resides-- Should however any reports reach you in relation to this matter which do not correspond with my statements I hope you will inform me. that I may furnish you with the proof that they can have no other foundation than malice & ignorance --

I remain your

Obt. Serv.<sup>t</sup>

Greenwood Leflore  
 Chief of the North west  
 Destrict Choctaw Nation



Big Land Choctaw Nation

Nov 19, 1830

Dear Sir,

I think I can venture without an apology to ask your influence in favour of a people for whom you have always shewed a true friendship - You are too well acquainted with the condition of the Choctaws, & with the history of recent events, urging them to the conclusion of a treaty, for the disposal of the country they now occupy, to require any additional information at this time - The dissatisfaction which arose in some parts of the country, soon after the treaty was signed, through the interference of some white men, who acted from mistaken views or evil motives, has principally subsided and the people now appear generally disposed to acquiesce in the course which has been pursued, & are making pretty extensive preparations for removal -- Many, indeed, perhaps seven or eight hundred have already started & should those who have gone find the country a good one & receive the early attention of the U.S. Government the emigration will be rapid until all are removed - I consider it very important that the treaty should be ratified as soon as possible & I hope you will use your influence with your friends in the Senate to hasten this measure - Many of the people who are emigrating are poor & will suffer in the country of their future residence unless timely aid be extended by Government - The same causes which appeared to render it necessary that the Choctaws should treaty for the disposal of their lands & remove west of the Mifs. make it necessary that their removal should be accelerated as much as possible - They are exposed while they remain to all

the evils they so much feared as to be willing to sell their country and the sooner they can be reorganized in their new country under their own peculiar laws & regulations the better -- With these views I have urged their removal as fast as possible & I hope I shall receive the prompt & effectual aid of the U.S. Government -- Should any reports reach Washington which are calculated to retard the ratification of the treaty you may be assured that <sup>they</sup> have no good foundation & if suffered to have any effect will but injure the cause they may be pretended to support - Most of the men of influence & correct principle in the country are warmly in favour of a speedy removal - Relying upon your influence in favour of what I sincerely believe to be the true interest of the Choctaws

I remain Dr Sir

Your Ob<sup>t</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>.

Greenwood Leflore  
 Chief of Northwest  
 District Choctaw Nation

To Sec of War,  
 Honbl  
 John H. Eaton  
 Sir

I send you a letter just rec<sup>d</sup> from Greenwood Leflore with whom I am intimately acquainted he having spent 3 weeks at my residence in Ky. He is a very able man & the letter is genuine

Rh: M: Johnson

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Greenwood LeFlore On the subject of removal.)

Nashville Novr. 26, 1830

Hon<sup>r</sup> John H Eaton

Sir

I arrived last night at this place from the lower Choctaws. I left Leflour about the 18th inst, and he has authorized me to say to you that the Indians are in motion, soon after the treaty some dissatisfaction prevailed, but when the Indians were made acquainted with the terms of the Treaty and it properly explained every thing was quiet and the Indians satisfied and pleased. There are now between five and six hundred familys, and many of them with their stock on the march to Leflour, to whom he has given letters to the ferrys at Vicksburg and Point Checot to Crofs them free and the ferage would be paid. Many hunters are out a large portion of them will crofs to their new Homes and remain; in fact they are doing all in their power to get off as soon as pofsible--

Laflour has pledged himself that the Secretary at War, will provide provisions at some point, convenient for them early next spring.

I have seen Col Fulsome on my way up, who informs me that Mushulu<sup>t</sup> District will all be off by next fall. that they are making every preperation and that Col Gaines is now hone out with a party laying out the District and Laflour has sent a Confidential agent to select a place for him Mr Fulsom has been expecting the appointment of interpreter for some time which was promised him but has heard nothing father on the subject.

It appears that the P. M. General has refused to make any allowance to me for the difference between the government repairing the road and having to do it myself agreeable to my bid I am

confident that if the P M General understood this Question as well as you do, no difficulty could exist and I must beg your kind services in giving him an explanation of the whole matter, or I am ruined by it -- at the same time I would be glad that you could understand from Mr Bary if it is probable that the department will soon place four horse stages from Tuscumbia to Natchez-- The Legislature is now in sefsion and much feeling prevails on this subject.

Yours very respectfully

John Donly

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws John Donley Choctaws ready & anxious to remove. LeFlore has promised provisions in new country.)

Fort Smith A. T.

29<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1830

Dear Sir

Knowing that you feel great interest in the progrefs of the Chaktaw exploring party committed to my charge I ought to have written you sooner: but really I have hardly had time since the receipt of your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> ult: which overtook me in the nation on the <sup>th</sup> of the same month, after I had set out on my journey and too late to enable me to negotiate a draft on the Hon Sec<sup>y</sup> of War <sup>in Alabama</sup> which I supposed I should find no difficulty in doing at the Post of Arkansas or Little Rock - To either of the places I supposed that my own pocket money would carry us.

The confidential person I had sent to the Chickasaw Agency did not make an expeditious trip & Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds had set out on his journey with the Chickasaw deligation before he reached the Agency, consequently the communication expected from him was not received.

I was compelled to pass through the neighborhood of Netuck-cichee & Mushulatubbee and thence to Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleurs to collect my party, and determined to push directly through the Mifsissippi swamp to the mouth of White River in the hope of overtaking Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds at this place or at Cantonment Gibson, but my party being difficult to collect, my progrefs was necefsarely slow--

Col<sup>o</sup> Lafleur declined coming himself and appeared to experience some difficulty in procuring a respectable representative -- I waited upon him three or four days before he succeeded in finding two respectable captains willing to accompany me -- This delay increased my anxiety to come direct and as fast as pofsible,

and we entered the Yazoo Swamp with a pilot at his house who brought us after near five days travel to the Mifsissippi River 30 miles above the mouth of White River -- by the bye there is some of the finest land I ever saw between Lafleurs and the Mifsissippi river The whole distance say 80 to 100 miles is swamp or bottom land: all rich but only a part elevated above high water.

My party being badly mounted and thinly clad had more wants than I could supply; and before I reached Little Rock my pocket money had fairly run out. Previously I could only dispose of two small drafts amounting together to \$185. At the Little Rock with the aid of Judge Fulton after trying the Receiver of public monies and all the merchants I succeeded in selling a dft. for \$500. discount 5 per cent -- This is a sad state of the credit of public agents!

I arrived here yesterday having travelled about 600 miles counting from my residence. An exprefs who I had sent ahead of me to Col<sup>o</sup> Arbuckle of Cantonment Gibson requesting him to forward six weeks provisons for my party to some point on the Canadian has just returned and I am much cheered to find that Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds was there fitting out for the woods and to hear that we shall meet on the Canadian in a few days

Here all the wants of my party must be supplied -- Blankets clothing and some horses must be purchased several of their horses having fairly tired down. These things were not thought of by the Hon: Sec<sup>y</sup> of War when directing you to limit my drafts

for my outfit expences to \$1000: and such disbursements do not properly belong to that account, yet the situation of the party make them necessary, and by aiding them to exchange their tired horses for fresh ones or purchasing fresh horses when required & found necessary some hundreds of dollars in the way of their per diem will be saved to the Government. Before I leave this place I will take receipts for such advances as I may make on account of their pay & forward them to the War Department

Col<sup>o</sup> Reynolds & Arbuckle have both written me advising me to provide a pack horse for every two men of the party otherwise we could not carry a sufficient quantity of provisions for the rout in the woods.

I mention these particulars to you that you may see that the \$1000 for which I have been authorized to draw although perhaps sufficient for the actual expences of my tour will fall far short of the sums I must necessarily disburse both on account of our expences, and the pay of the members of the delegation to supply them with clothing & fresh horses before we reach home, in order that you may request the Hon: Sec<sup>y</sup> of War, <sup>to pay</sup> such drafts as I may draw on account of advances of pay ~~te-the~~ as well as the drafts already authorized to be drawn by your letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> ult:

The exploration should in my opinion be carefully performed calling the attention of the deligation particularly to the fine bottom lands on the Arkansas Arcadian & Red Rivers and their tributaries within the Chaktaw tract - and much time should be spent busily in viewing those lands and travelling to every

point where they are to be found so as to give the deligation some correct idea of their vast extent and capability of supporting a very large population. This will lay the foundation I hope for an arrangement removing the difficulties which Col? Reynolds writes me alarms him more & more as his stock of ~~the~~ information relative to the unappropriated country west increased.

I beg you to write to the Secretary without delay as I may be compelled to draw for pay advances tomorrow, & the draft may go by the very mail which carries this letter

I doubt not of giving intere satisfaction relative to my management of our travelling expences

I remain respectfully

Your friend

Geo. S. Gaines

Gen<sup>l</sup> John Coffee

Florence

(CIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo. S. Gaines Special Agent  
Report of exploring party to West.)



Fort Smith A. T.

1<sup>st</sup> December 1830

Sir

I arrived at this place with the Chaktaw delegation for exploring their new country three days ago and have since been busily engaged in preparing for the woods. Col<sup>l</sup> Arbuckle will send provisions for our use to a point on the Canadian a few miles above its mouth, The delegation will receive each member a rifle at this place, - Col Reynolds will <sup>meet</sup> me with his party at the point where we are to receive our provisions, and proceed in company with us up the river.

In directing Gen<sup>l</sup> Coffee to limit my drafts for the outfit and travelling expences of my party To \$1000 -- I am sure you did not think of the great poverty of the Chaktaw Captains -- They set out so badly mounted and clad, that I have been compelled to aid them in exchanging their rited poneys for fresh ones and in some instances in purchasing when they could not swap, and also in purchasing clothing and Blankets for their comfort -- For the amount advanced in this way to each member of the delegation -- I have taken his receipt as a payment on account of his per Diem Allowance.- Duplicates of which are enclosed together with an account of the several <sup>advances</sup> ~~allowances~~ made on account of pay amounting -- up to this day two hundred and ninety five Dollars and fifty seven cents for which sum I have taken the liberty to draw on you this day in favour of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Colville & Coffee at ten days sight. -

I have thought proper to render you an account now of my advances on account of pay to the members of the delegation as doubtless such advances were not considered <sup>necefsary</sup> by you., but I feel confident you will approve of them under the circumstances as above mentioned; and would have ordered them had you known how unable some of the most influential men of the nation are to provide for a long journey.

Duplicate of the vouchers for my outfit purchase and travelling expenses I will for safety transmit to my family, up to this day, and after my return home render you an account of the Whole.

I will write you from the Canadian after meeting with Col. Reynolds, and hope to be able to make my letters more interesting in future. -

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

Geo. S. Gaines

The Hon

John H. Eaton

Sec<sup>y</sup> of War. -

December the 8<sup>th</sup> 1830 Choctaw Nation

Col W Ward

Dear Si<sup>r</sup>

I have Rec<sup>d</sup>. your note Requesting me to give a true detail of all that passed at the treaty Ground Relative to the conduct of the Com<sup>s</sup>. of the US towards the Indians. Si<sup>r</sup> I being one of the Int<sup>r</sup>s for the treaty that was made and concluded at Dancing Rabbet between the Hon Secretary of War and Gen<sup>l</sup>. John Coffe ~~en-the-one-part~~ Commifisioners on the one part and the chiefs head men and warriors on the other part. I was present and heard all the propositions that was by the Com<sup>s</sup>. of the U.S. to the Chocktaws which were all made on fair and friendly terms I saw nor heard no threats ~~er~~ nor Saw nor heard anything like forceing the Indians to Sell their country there was about five thousand Indians on the treaty ground where I heard but very few Exprefs any Difsatisfaction in alusion to the treaty Some people has made some very Incorrect Statements about the Indians being gone home before the treaty was sign<sup>d</sup>. which I know to be untrue for there was upwards of 5000 Indians on the treaty ground and I know that one half had not gone home when The treaty was signed there were two propositions made by the Commifisioners and the Indians took them to their <sup>camps</sup> for Days and Nights and were Read and Interpreted by many Capable persons as well as myself. there could be no Misunderstanding on the subject as it was Desired by many (I well know) to Sell the Country also the agent Does know that what I say is true I have seen some of the writings or publications in some of the Newspapers and beleive they are from the pens of

the Mifsionaries that have been patronised by Goverment and the  
 (the Mifsionaries) been  
 Chiefs of the Chocktaws these people have here upwards of 12 years  
 and have not shewn the first Scholar able to transact any businefs.  
 the whole truth is that the treaty as Entered into with the Chock-  
 taws was as fair as any Treaty I ever saw and I have seen many as  
 I have been a Residenter in this Nation forty five years and U.S.  
 Interpreter ever since the year of 1798 I am with Respect your  
 Most obedient Servant

M. Mackey U.S.  
 Interpreter

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws Wm. Ward Agent John Fitchlynn M.Mackey  
 Commending course of the Treaty Comrs. etc.)

Choctaw Nat. Decr.. 11<sup>th</sup> 1830

Col<sup>r</sup>, W<sup>m</sup>. Ward

Dear Sir I have just received your epistle requesting a detail of the subject mater in relation to the conduct evinced by the com<sup>s</sup>. on the part of the U<sup>s</sup>. towards the Indians I as one of the <sup>princ</sup> United S- In<sup>ds</sup> was present at the treaty made and concluded on the dancing rabbit creek by the Ho<sup>n</sup>. Secretery of War and Gen<sup>l</sup>. John Coffee commisioners on the part of the U<sup>s</sup>. and the Chiefs head men and warriors of the Nat., of the other part and do certefy that I was present and heard all the propositions that was made by the commr<sup>s</sup>. on the part of the US to the Choctaws which were generous and amicable they sought no unwarantable advantage over this people on the contrary they set forth their situation and elucidated the metter in such a manor that the Indians were perfectly satisfyed with propositions made by the Com<sup>r</sup>. on the part of the US.-- as it respects the statments made by some persons in relation to the dissatisfaction of the Indians before the conclusion of the treaty and they retireing from the ground without assigning the treaty is false there must have been at least 4000 people<sup>Inds</sup> on the ground when the last propositions were assigned which can be proven by the publick returns as it respectig the propositions that was made by the commi<sup>s</sup> on the part of the U<sup>s</sup> to the Indians not being thorrally investigated by them is not so for all the subject matter was in their possession 2 days for their investegation when the propositions were returned with few alterations and they were satisfyed to close the treaty

Yrs Respty

John Pitchlynn

Choctaw Agency Dec<sup>r</sup> 13th 1830

Hon John H Eaton

Sec<sup>y</sup> of War.

Sir

Your letter of the 13th Ult<sup>o</sup> has been duly Rec<sup>d</sup> requesting some information respecting the Commifisioner's conduct, towards the Choctaws at the late Treaty held with said Choctaws at Dancing Rabbet creek on the 15th Sept last. -- I have no hesi-  
 tation in saying that the Deoportment of the Com<sup>s</sup> towards the <sup>Choctaw</sup> In-  
 dians was of a friendly nature entirely. Honorable to Them-  
 selves and the Government they represented, and respectfull to  
 the Indians so far as I saw., I was on the ground at the com-  
 mencement and end of the Treaty and saw no One sign the Treaty  
 by any persuasion from any party nor did here but one man on the  
 Ground (a half breed) oppose the terms, last offered to them;  
 But they came forward Chiefs & Captains & signed the Treaty  
 freely which no One can deny. It is true that many had gone  
 away say one half or nearly Out of upwards of 5,000 who did attend;  
 yet All the Chiefs and Ex Chiefs that had been removed were pres-  
 ent and the great part if not all signed the paper in my pres-  
 ence.-- The proposeals made to them could not but be will un-  
 derstood; and I believe nothing would ever have been said or wrote  
~~but~~ against the Treaty but for some designing white men; who I  
 fear are wolves in sheep Clothing. -- I heard a report that  
 one of the Mifsionaries had gone to the south to see the man that  
 spoke against the Treaty to try and get up a Council or signers

against the Treaty and remonstrance to Congress to Brake it or prevent Its ratification. As soon as I heard the report and some threats, I went to the Mission School near me and told them what I had heard. I told them that if I heard of their attending any Councils or were any way opposing the views of government I would order men out of the nation. fourthwith. Since then all is quiet and peace throughout the nation.

I herewith enclose to you Maj<sup>r</sup> Pitchlyms and M<sup>r</sup> Mackeys letters. which will no doubt contradict these evil fabrications which see going the rounds in the newspapers

I have the Honor to be very

Respectfully your

Mo Ob<sup>dt</sup> Serv --

W. Ward U.S.Ag<sup>t</sup> C N.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws Wm.Ward Agent John Pitchlym M.Mackey Commending course of the Treaty Comrs, etc.)

South Fork Canadian

17th December 1830

Dear Gen<sup>l</sup>

We are encampt on this river about 15 miles from its mouth and Co<sup>l</sup> Gaines with his party joined us on yesterday and all is well and in good spirits and seem to proceed cherfuly. we have as yet traveled sloley and have examined the country minutely takeing care to keep on the best land old Levi seems to be on his guard but as far as I have been able to learn the party is pleased with the country the land is truly fine upon the water-cources with a sufficiency of timber we shall leave here on tomorrow and proceed up the Canadian about 100 miles or to the Crofs timbers where we shall turn south to the Foe Washataw and then examine the Red River and its waters I think we can return to Cantonment Gibson in five weeks. When I lernt at the Cantoonment that Leflore was not of the party I was at greate lofs how to proceed but as the greater portion of the expence had been incured and we had bean in the country some time I determined to proceed and set about collecting all the information within my reach and as far as pofsible to leade the Chickasaws through the most interesting parts of it that they might see that thare was a good and sufficient country for them & the Chocktaws of which I cannot have a doubt but how it is to be obtained of the Chocktaws is yet to be devised- the Chocktaw seem well pleased with the Arkansas & Canadian and if they are not better pleased with the red river (which I hope they will) I feare they



will not sell this section of thare country The party is in fine health & spirits and our horses are in fine plite for the trip none has failed

They have harrassed me much on the subject of thare expence and I have told them that I had no doubt that the Goverment would treat them in same maner they did the Chocktaw deligation which I have made as light as pofsible

I write in greate hast as the mefsenger is in waiting. Co<sup>l</sup> Gaines sends his respects to you & would rite but for want of time

With Greate Respect

Your Obt Svt

Benj<sup>n</sup> Reynolds

Gen<sup>l</sup> John Coffee

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Benj. Reynolds Location in the West.)

December the 30<sup>th</sup> 1830 Chocktaw Agency

To the Hon John H Eaton Sec<sup>t</sup> of War

Friend and Brother

Si<sup>r</sup> I am the Same as I was

when we concluded the treaty I am well satisfied with the arange-  
ments that we and agreed on at that place as to my own part but  
there appears to <sup>be</sup> Some Dissatisfaction among Some of the people  
of the Destrict not my own friends the true Republicans but David  
Folsom and a few of his followers who are all ~~unde~~ under the  
Direction and controle of my Enimies the mifsionaryes a few of  
them has appointed David Folsom Chief and says if they cannot  
turn me out they are Determined to <sup>have</sup> two Chiefs in ~~whic~~ the same  
Destrict which never has been and I know never can answer a good  
purpose the fact is this the object is to get me out of office  
that Folsom or Some of his friends may get all the benifits that  
is to arrise from the treaty that is a house built when they go  
west of the Mifsifsiippi and \$250 annually as long as they Remain  
in office which I think is very unfair as I have been friendly to  
making the treaty I think I ought to keap the benefits arising  
therefrom untill my term of <sup>office</sup> Exspires if no longer as I have always  
been a true friend to the Amarcans both in war and peace in the  
late War I turned out at the first call and Remain,d till the End  
of the war and am still a friend to you and the Goverment of the  
UStates, the Destrict I comand being in Debt to traders that was  
Licenced to trade in the Nation by the agent I wrote to my  
friend the Secretary of to make Some arangement for me to pay  
their Debts that is the only charge they have against me I have

no more but my best Respects to you and my old friend the president of the US

Mushuletubbee

Chief of the NE

Desriect C N

N B As Si<sup>r</sup>

As our true old friend M. Mackey was Entirely Neglected at the treaty I Request the fayvour of you if to what you can to get him one floating Section of land as he Did more in behalf of the goverment and the Choctaws than any other man likewise two of my sons Hiram and Charles King was Neglected I want you to Do Something for them

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Chief Mushuletubbee Opinion of last treaty.)

Friends & Brothers

I have received your talk - being an answer to my address to you of the 23<sup>rd</sup> instant-

It has been laid before me by the commissioners I had directed to treat with you. It is such, as I had calculated to receive from my Chekesaw children. It shews that they have deliberated well, and are mindful of their true interests, and willing to do what in all future time shall prove a lasting benefit to their children.

Brothers

Your great father does not desire to place you in a country, where you will not find soil and climate equal to the one you leave. He will never consent to place you where you would be in a worse ~~condition~~ situation: his great desire is to make your condition better,- not worse.

Brothers - Bad men have said; and they have told his red children, that it was the intention of their great Father to drive drive them from their lands - to compel them to seek a new home; and in the wilderneys, to leave them to suffer. Believe not these idle tales - Your father has the frost of many winters upon his head. From early <sup>youth</sup> he has lived near to ~~the~~-his red children- He has slept with them; toward them, he has always entertained feelings of strong regard; and will not fail to be their friend, if they shall permit it, and repose confidence in him,- He will ~~seek~~ <sup>have sought</sup> for them a good home! & one large enough for all their purposes. He wants no land west of the Arkansa Territory for his white children, they will have enough without it- all that region of country west

of it, he desires his red children to live upon, & be happy - each tribe to have enough for all reasonable purposes, to be defined by certain, & fixed bounderies,- no more to be interrupted or disturb- No laws of <sup>a</sup> State of Territory, will be permitted to operate over them, but <sup>they will be</sup> left subject to their own - no wars will there rage. The Red man, in peace & friendship with their great Father, will have his favor, & protection, from all enemies & bad men.

Brothers. Go on then, & conclude a treaty with the commif- sioners, I have appointed, on the principles you have stated, Have confidence in what they tell you - and hear what I now repeat to you, that a country every way desirable, and as good at least as the one you leave, shall be surveyed and laid off for you, & your children forever; and if on examination you find it not such, then will your great father make amends to you for any inferiority or deficiency it may be found to contain.

Brothers. Businefs calls your great Father to the city of Washington- He leaves his commifisioners with you, to conclude this important Treaty as relates to your welfare, happinefs, & perpetuation as a nation - and prays that the great spirit above may take you in his holy keeping, & guide, & direct you always

Andrew Jackson

Cant. Gibson Jan<sup>y</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1831

Sir

I have just returned from accompanying Co<sup>l</sup>. Reynolds & Co<sup>l</sup>. Gains in their exploring the Chocktaw lands, we were prevented from ascending the Canadian as far up as was contemplated in consequence of not being able to subsist our horses,

The Indians were all returning from their fall hunt and had as is their usual custom burned all the praries and River bottoms, there is no cane on the Canadian above the South Fork, we were consequently compelled to change our course and strike for the head waters of the rivers putting into Red River, we pafsed the dividing Ridge and struck the Muddy Fork of Boggy, the inclemency of the weather compelled us to direct our course so as to camp each night where cane was to be had for our Horses, we continued our rout to the Fause Ouachitta then turned down that one days journey, crofsted the prarie to the Leau Blus and travelled one day down that most beautifull River, the lands of which are particularly rich free from inundation and well timbered, I can truly say that the whole country is much <sup>better</sup> suited to sustain any kind of population than has hitherto been represented the Chocktaw lands are ample for them and the Chickasaw, and I think from what I saw & heard, they are disposed to make a treaty to that effect rather than remain where they are, In justice to Co<sup>l</sup>. Reynolds & Co<sup>l</sup>. Gains I feel compelled to say they manifested great zeal and a perfect knowledge of Indian character, or they must have failed in their attempt. the Chickasaws were very reluctant to procede and urged every probable & pofsible difficulty, to continue the route those Gentlemen were equally fertile in resources to effect the object.

They will at the earliest moment after their return <sup>furnish</sup> you with a detailed report which I think will be entirely satisfactory, Lt Dawson with eight soldiers and myself who had been ordered to accompany the delegation parted from them on the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst on Leau Blue and directed our course N.E for the Head of the South Fork of the Canadian, the inclemency of the weather and difficulty of procuring subsistence for our selves & Horses compelled us to change our course for the Kiamichi Valley and return by way of Fort Smith notwithstanding every exertion, we were compelled to leave two Horses one public and the other mine, we used every industry to get in on account of Cap<sup>t</sup> King who had been very ill all the trip and was scarcely expected to <sup>survive</sup> ~~get-ever~~, he is however here (Note: torn paper) mend and will take the first conveyance by water for home, I would be glad to know whether I am not entitled to pay for my horse under the circumstances and also transportation as I furnished myself, I will esteem it a favour to receive your advice on the subject, please offer my kindest regards to Gen<sup>l</sup> Jackson & Major Barrey I am, Sir Y<sup>r</sup> Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. W. Baylor Afs<sup>t</sup> Surg<sup>n</sup>

U S. Army

Hon. John H Eaton

Secretary War

Washington City

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigr.) Dr.J.W.Baylor Is he entitled to pay for horse lost on exploring expedition.)

Yazoo Choctaw Nation

March 10<sup>th</sup> 1831

Dear General

You are no doubt apprised of a party in Col. Leflores district who became opposed to him on account of his having made a Treaty.- This party has lately met and elected Mr. George W. Harkins as their chief and says they will not recognize Col. Leflore as chief for the time to come. Capt. Harkins is quite a promising young <sup>man</sup> and may be useful to his people when they get <sup>west</sup> of the Mifsissippi, and he ~~gets~~ arives to a proper age to administer to the wants of a neady people. but at present he is calculated to injure them as a <sup>large</sup> part of the district will not acknowledge him as along as Col. Leflore will serve.- and I hope for the prosperity of Mifsissippi, and the good of the unfortunate and ignorant Choctaws. that you will inform them they have no power to make chiefs within the limits of the State of Mifsissippi and advise them to dispence with it untill they get to their new home in the west. by their late act they have laid themselves laable to a fine of \$1000 - and 12 months imprisment and should the law be enforced it would ruin every man of them, as it is known they are opposed to the Treaty.- I am informed that Capt Harkins tells the indians if they can hold out for four years (I suppose he aludes untill you go out of office) they can then hold their country. Such talk is calculated to distroy the ignorant part of the nation. if Col. Leflore is dismifsed from office by the goverment there will be at once a general opposition to the Treaty. Should the Treaty fail to be ratified by



the present Senate a strate talk from you to the fractured party will at once silence them.-

You will finde Col. Leflore to the end a firm high minded honorable friend.- this is all in confidence.

I have the honor to be

Your friend & Obt. Servt.

D. W. Haley

(1831 Choctaws D.W.Haley to the President. The Choctaws have elected G.W.Harkins as chief. Urges speedy removals. Suggests he be appointed to receive & sell cattle belonging to Choctaws. etc.)

Aprille the 1<sup>st</sup> 1831 Choctaw Agency

To his Excellency Andrew Jackson president of the US  
of Amaraca

Si<sup>r</sup> I adrefs you as my father friend and brother to In-  
form you that I myself and all the warriers women and children  
that lives within the limits of my command has made up their  
minds and Determined ~~te~~ to Stay at their homes and I wish you to  
write and let me know whither we have to come under the laws of  
the State wherein we Reside or not. we wish you to Do all you  
can for us and make us as happy as pofsible. any and all the  
warriers that wishes to Stay and come under my banners I shall  
take them by the hand and protect them as far as I pofsibly can  
I want you to let me know what Quantity of land you will allow  
for me and my people we<sup>I</sup> have always had about two hundred warriers  
at my command and they have the most of them wives and children  
more or lefs I have nothing more to say but I hope our great  
<sup>above</sup>  
father<sub>A</sub> will blefs and protect us in our own country if it pleases  
our great Father feiend and Brother to let us Remain in peace  
where we are no more but I remain your son & friend and Brother--

Hopiaskitenah or little Deader	his x mark
Hopiahthlocko	his x mark
Nockhatah	his x mark
Anumbula	his x mark
Iahocautubbee	his x mark

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws Little Leader to the President. Wishes to remain in the East with his party.)

Choctaw Nation April 4<sup>th</sup> 1831

Dear Sir

My object in writing to you is to know, whether the supplement, to the Treaty was also confirmed - I have seen in papers that the Choctaw Treaty was Ratified.- but have been at a loss to know whether the Supplement, that was granting to Certain persons, reservations, was also confirmed. You will please to be so good as to inform me of all the particulars respecting the Treaty - It is the wish of my people, that I would, move them. Well, and furnish them with provisions on their way to their new homes; - I would be willing to move one thousand if government would pay me well for my trouble.

I have explored the country west of the Mississippi River, and find the distance to be about Five hundred miles from our Country to the other--

What do you think, government would allow me for each Choctaw, If I would move them to their new homes and furnish them with plenty of provisions?- I believe I can move one thousand from my district as cheap as any body, and I know I could give more satisfaction than any other person, as I am part Choctaw myself, and have been raised among them - The most of the Choctaws will go off very well satisfied if they have good leaders to conduct them over to their new homes; but if they cannot be allowed the liberty of selecting whom they please for their head men, the Choctaws will never go west, I believe they will finally go to destruction if they cannot have things as they want it.

I will now draw to an end by hoping to Receive an answer from you before long.

Your friend

George W. Harkins

(Note: Above letter was addressed to John H. Eaton, Secretary of War.)

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigr.) Geo. W. Harkins Was supplement to treaty ratified. Would like contract to remove 1000 Choctaws, etc.)

At C. Jezan

May 22th 1831

To Mr G. Gaines.

Dear Sir

This is to inform you that we the people of the Southern district wish you to do the business for us. although Chief, Nithickachee himself will be at your house and see about the business which we want you to do for us - But he has no interpreters for him - Therefore we think it proper to send the letter to let you know - He was about to take Capt. Pierre Jezan with him, when he goes. But himself is now unwell on the account of shooting himself by an accident he was after the wild cow in the swamps and the cow was very shy and dangerous therefore she ran up to him attempt to stab with her horn - Then he was determined to shoot her but the pistol was unloaded then he began to load the pistol on the horse he just finished the loading she fired off and wound his right hand between thumb and little fingers, and one of the little fingers, bone is showing. On this account he could not come there and interpret he could not use his hand and write with I saw Col. W<sup>m</sup> Ward at the council ground 5 days ago. 2 Miles on the North from the place which last treaty was held He says he is directed by the Sec. of war to inform us that he wants to let us have annuity in money, or if we paid the freight ourselves then he would let us have in goods-- But I told him that I could not say anything without I see you what you think therefore I wish to know whether you would be willing for us to pay the freight ourselves or not -- He says it would be

cost us about 100\$ for each district to the lowest price - We consider you as a great friend to us therefore you might not charge us any thing - This was our reason we did not say anything about it untill we know we whether you would charge us - We should like to have annuity soon as possible we can --

I am directed by my own warriors and Captains to inform you they are determine to go west in next fall on this reason - they wish you to finish them with Blankets, Lead Powder and the Cloth to make tents with -- which will be paid on the other side of Mississippi -- We wish to know <sup>whether</sup> you could furnish with provisions for us -- And in fact we want you to let us know at where we shall get our provision according to the Sec. of War, s promiss-- We are now still wish you to be our agent and do the things for us -- you relect that John H. Eaton promised that he would furnish us with wagons and steamboats. and now we should like to know where we are to have wagons and steamboats at. We want you to inform us about all these things -- We the people of the Southern district have appointed me to <sup>be</sup> their Chief ~~last~~ in the year ago ~~last~~ spring and now they are still with me --

Yours very sincerely

Nittuckachee

Chief of the Southern

Dear Sir

I want you to send me a qr- of paper for we are now out of paper and we need very much

U Your friend and well-wisher

Mr G. S. Gaines

Pierre Jezan <sup>u</sup> (Chizon)

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigra.) David Folsom Wishes Deringer rifles for emigrants from his nation.)

Choctaw Nation June 16<sup>th</sup> 1831

Hon. Sec<sup>y</sup> of War

Friend and Brother

We take the liberty to write to you in our own names, as we believe that you will receive a few lines from us your Red Brothers. We wish to let you know that one of us say Nittucachee has been to see our land west of the Mississippi and am fully satisfied with our bargain as made by treaty with Mefs<sup>rs</sup> Eaton and Coffee. We are now ready to remove and give up our Country here and comply with all the conditions of the treaty. Now we request that you will on your part as soon as convenient comply with all the provisions named in the treaty. In the first place we were promised good and faithful persons to take care of our old men and woman, Now our old Agent says he will never go beyond the Mississippi and we wish you to appoint George S. Gains to conduct us to our new homes, also we wish the guns to be given to our warriors as the place they may cross the Mississippi. also our cattle as many as can be drove that may desire it. We wish that arrangements may be immediately made respecting providing for our Journey. It seems to us right that the agent might let all those people who were entitled to Land under the cultivation provision of the treaty enter their names now as some were neglected and the time has expired and Col Ward thinks he is not at liberty to make further entries after the first of January. We wish you to give us directions about this matter also your general views on the different parts of the treaty. It appears that but few clearly understand some parts of the Treaty, and we want every thing right. We can sell our claims to the white people but some difficulty is about the President

approving of the sales- We think that now more than one half the nation will go of this fall if they can get away before cold wether. We wish you to send Nittucachee a medal, and small arms for each Captain who is to have a sword. Also 3 larger for each Speaker to the districts. We have agreed that Col Leflors, district is to settle on the East Side <sup>of</sup> Kimbisher, Nittucachee on the ~~South~~ <sup>west</sup> side Mushulatubbee on the Arkansas River. The Sect. of War promised Nittucachee a sword which he expects. It appears that more of us will go all the way by land if we can get of in time before the Waters rises- It is expected that some of us will furnish our own provisions in that case we expect that the U. States will allow us pay as much as it would cost government. Twelve of the 99 medals we wish one size larger than the Balance. It is the understanding that all the Captains in the Southern district wish that Mingo Nittucachee may continue their Chief beyond the Mississippi as well as in this Country, and desire the officers of the U. States may acknowledge him as such - We wish to know the reasons for your giving the agent directions that our annuity Transpotation is to be paid by us and not as heretofore, We wish goods and have given orders to Mr. Gains to purchase them which he has done and will give them to us as soon as corn <sup>is</sup> ripe. And the agent gets the money to pay for them. We wish the government may furnish us with the Black Smiths this fall in our new Country as we shall need much work for our farmers We must raise corn and not depend on hunting as we are accustomed to live like white people and cannot live by hunting wild game.



We find upon counting up the names registered in the Agents book there is 53 short of the Sixteen hundred provided for by the cultivation provision in the treaty which we wish to have the right to fill up the whole number We wish also for you to furnish us tents. We have the honour to remain your friends and  
 Brothers,

Test	Mushuletubbee	his x mark
M. Mackey US. Int <sup>r</sup> .	Netuckeche	his x mark
	Mingo Mu,shu,le,tub,bee	his mark
	Mingo Netuckeche	his mark
	Capt Hopeanchahabee	his mark

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigr.) Choctaw Chiefs. Pleased with lands in West. Request P.P.Pitchlynn be appointed to conduct them thither.)

Tuscaloosa, 18<sup>th</sup> June 1831

Hon<sup>l</sup>. John H. Eaton

Secretary of War.

Sir:

I have this morning parted with George S. Gaines Esq<sup>r</sup> and from a full conversation had with him I deem it my duty under the instructions given to suggest to the department the propriety of inviting ~~him~~ M<sup>r</sup> Gaines to accompany the indians from the east side of the river to their new homes. At the treaty it was understood he he should go ~~to~~ along to see justice done them and to prevent them from being forced or rashly pushed. as they say through the Mud, he does not wish to go but says he feels bound to do so: If invited, provided he can without too great a sacrifice. He says what is true that even if he could not go that the indians then would not blame the goverment without it a bad effect might be produced- the indians have been writing M<sup>r</sup> Gaines to know If he will go with them or not, every thing that has been done is approved of by M<sup>r</sup> Gaines - as to all the preparatory arrangements but he fears that without him or unless it is offered on the part of the goverment they will not go at least not so much satisfied, In this M<sup>r</sup> Gaines is too honest for any thing of self as he does not wish to or intend to be their agent at their new homes.

<sup>this</sup>  
I offer a suggestion with due defference for the consideration of the department, If approved of would it not be well for the agent to inform the indians through their chiefs - that M<sup>r</sup> Gaines had been invited to accompany them agreeable to the verbal understanding at the treaty-- and that he would take up the line of march the 1<sup>st</sup> of September - and that he would see

that good sound rations were furnished them and that every attention should be paid to their comfort, and that he was going, on the part of the indians, without having any labour to perform for the goverment, He would keep peace, it would have a good effect, with the other tribes-- and have a tendency to keep down ground-lefs clamour, from those opposed to their emigration--

I have this moment parted with Senator King he agrees with me as to the propriety of this course and says in a few days he will drop a line to the President, If approved. the sooner the order is given the agent the better, I will enter on my duties - in two days, fitting out at the factory

I have the honor to

be Your Obed. Servt

F. W. Armstrong

PS. Please addrefs my letters to the agency --

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigr) F.W.Armstrong Indians wish G.S. Gaines to accompany them to the West. Wishes agent directed to pay LfFlores A/C.)

## Post of Arkansas

27 July 1831

Sir

I arrived here last evening in the St: Boat Volant with the Indian subsistence for Little Rock, & owing to the shoalness of the river have been obliged to land the supplies & store them with M<sup>r</sup> Hewes Scull until transportation can be procured. I shall as soon as the storage is effected leave for Little Rock in order place the funds sent by me, in the hands of Supt Clark. During the low water period I know of no place more eligible than this for the disembarkation of Indians from Memphis & Vicksburg. They would with the aid of waggons now lying at the mouth of White River be able to reach the upper country by Little Rock & Hempstead C.H. with ease in a reasonable time. Should the Department make this place a landing for the emigrants, the provisions now in store here would be opportunely deposited & as this letter will go by the Steamboat to Louisville a different disposition might be directed in time.

The wagons are very strong well made & will be a long time serviceable in transporting provisions & stores-- About 20 to run from this place, <sup>to L. Rock</sup> 10 to Camp Phenix (old Fort Towson) & 10 to Fort Smith from Little Rock.-- It is very important that points of embarkation should be fixed & I beg to be permitted to recommend Memphis & Vicksburg for this point & Natchez for (Rapides of Red River) Alexandria or perhaps it would be more advantageous to send them all through this place I have heard

nothing of Leflore & have been unable to learn any thing respecting him from any person here or at White River. It is very sickly down the river & very few Steam Boats running so that some delay must be anticipated in my excursion to the Choctaw nation.

With an assurance of my best endeavors to facilitate & effect the removal of the Indians I remain Yr. very ob. Ser<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> S. Colquhoun

Spec<sup>l</sup> In. Ag<sup>t</sup>

P.S. I have to remark in relation to bond that on being furnished with a blank one, the necessary security will be given without delay.

Resply W.S.C.

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration Wm.S.Colquhoun Transportation.)

S<sup>te</sup> Genevieve M<sup>o</sup>

July 27<sup>th</sup> 1831.--

Sam<sup>l</sup> S. Hamilton Esq<sup>r</sup> )  
 Chief Clerk Indian Office )

D<sup>r</sup> Sir!

Your two letters of the 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March last came to hand in time, I have delayed to communicate on this subject up to now, so as to be the better prepared. The letter of W<sup>m</sup> Ward, Ag<sup>n</sup> for the Chactaw Indians to the War Department dated 28. feby-- 1831. a copy of which you enclosed me in your last letter, says positively that the chiefs & hedmen, acknowledged the fact of plundering my property and that the damage & outrage was committed by a party of their tribe under the command of the late chief Pushmattahaw, on the Arkansas River in the winter of 1806 & 1807. which exactly agree with what I had stated. M<sup>r</sup> Ward, goes still further, he says that the chiefs & hedmen of the nation acknowledge the fact, & that the transaction was notoriously known in the nation at the time & they remembered it well now notwithstanding the lapse of time. This, Sir, is perhaps the best evidence I could have that the amount of property lost by me, must have been large since it made, & still makes such imprefsi<sup>o</sup>n on the nation, considering the length of time & the distance from the Chactaw nation to the Upper Arkansas River. M<sup>r</sup> Ward, tells me in his letter of 28. February 1831. in answer to mine of 22<sup>d</sup> January last, and which you enclosed me in yours of 24. March last, nearly the same things as he says to the Department, but remarks that the Indians in acknowledging the fact of the out-

rage & damages and of being the aggressors cannot say to what amount there was property destroyed but Sir! the general tenor of both his letters to you & to me proves evidently that the amount must have been great. M<sup>r</sup> Ward, in his letter to me makes the following remark "If you know to what amount the Chactaws destroyed, it will be no bar against you not knowing the amount in this office, as all the hedmen acknowledge that they did destroy your property about the time you mention, but do not know to what am<sup>t</sup>."

I have now in my possession affidavits which establish the amount of property lost at no less than six thousand Dollars. I have also a certified copy by the proper officer, of the bond given at the time for the faithful performance of the condition of the Licence granted at the time to trade with Indians on the Arkansas River, The original Licence having been taken away with my other papers at the time of the outrage.

The amount of property lost by me at that time was no less than Six thousand Dollars, besides good many other articles, and the property of the expedition which would have amounted to at least three thousand Dollars more, making in all none thousand Dollars; This sum would at the time barely paid me for my property, and (Note: A seal over some words) is justly owing to me.

I wish you would be so good as to inform me what I am to expect, what I have to do, and how I shall proceed. I am assured that yourself & the honorable Secretary at War will admit that this claim is one of the most just and equitable ever presented to the government.

I will ask of you to be so kind as to make <sup>me</sup> an answer as soon as convenient.

I am Sir

Your very humble serv<sup>t</sup>

Joseph Bogy

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws James Bogy Old claim.)



## Little Rock

4 August 1831

Sir I arrived here this morning with the funds & subsistence for Capt Clark & as soon as possible shall proceed hence to Vicksburg the nearest point on the Mississippi to communicate with the Choctaw Agency. At that point I beg leave strongly to recommend the principal embarkation for this route. The transportation to be made in small steam boats; the landing to be as high up this river as practicable towards Fort Smith. The waggons to be employed with such parties which may land at the Post of Ark! and at this place through Hempstead C House to the Choctaw country. The road recommended by M<sup>r</sup>. Gaines to be opened to Helena is impracticable & the route by Memphis is extremely difficult & much out of the way. The fact is that the heavy Pennsylvania waggons purchased for the service would never be useful in the low swampy country of the Mississippi

It is believed that to facilitate the emigration & effectually accomplish it, that steam boats drawing a light draught of water should be chartered & the Indians in convenient number rendezvoused at Vicksburg Natchez or Memphis & landed on this river, where land transportation & provisions <sup>may be in readiness</sup> I shall write more full on this subject from Vicksburg where I shall remain a short time & where I shall expect letters to reach me.

The season is very sickly & I do not think any time is lost by delay growing out of a want of decision as to the route as later in the season the want of water & the oppression of hot weather will not be felt & a more mature disposition of the move-

ment established. By tomorrows mail I will forward my receipt for the funds with which I now stand charged at the Treasury individually

Hoping to receive at Vicksburg further communications,

I remain

Very resply

Yr: ob: Ser<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup>. S. Colquhoun

Gen. George Gibson

Comy Gen of S

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration) Wm. S. Colquhoun transportation)

Florence Ala 21<sup>st</sup> Augt. 1831.

Sir

Although the enclosed letter is addressd to me, as one of the U. States Comm<sup>r</sup> in holding the late treaty with the Choctaw Nation, and perhaps not intended by the writer M<sup>r</sup> Lyon to be sent to you, yet I deem it most proper to enclose it ~~to~~ ~~you~~ least perchance the address of Col. Gaines did not reach you--

It is correct that Major Eaton the late Secretary of War, and myself did propose and urge Col<sup>l</sup> Gaines to accept the app<sup>t</sup>mt of traveling Agent with the deligation of Choctaws, who were to examine the country west of Miss<sup>s</sup> and determine the place for the nation to settle on &C. and it is also a fact that Col<sup>l</sup> Gaines was induced to believe that he would be appointed to a further agency with the Choctaws, either in removing them to their new country in the west, or of being located there with them after their removal, he expected the influence of the Secty of War to that effect with the President, and under those impresions I presume he has committed himself with the Indians of the deligation, further than he otherwise would, or might have done, and which is probably the cause of their continuing to urge him, to procure them full payment for that service-- It is very desirable that those accounts shall be paid as early as pofsible, and the Indians provided for in their journey of removal, so as to draw them off from their present country to the new one, and thereby carry with them many of the Chickasaws who are inter-married with the Choctaws - we shall thereby get the influence of all who are thus connected of both nations, in bringing

about an agreement for the Chickasaws to settle on the Choctaw lands upon some terms or other - Col<sup>l</sup> Gaines is a very influential man with the Choctaws, they have generally more confidence in him than in any other white man, they urged Major Eaton to appoint him their traveling agent, and their permanent agent - and in that way he promised to use his influence with the President, and which seems to have been a disappointment to him - but of this he does not, nor has he any right to complain, the President has the right to appoint any person he prefers, notwithstanding the Sect<sup>y</sup> of War recommends some other person - but inasmuch as Col<sup>l</sup> Gaines has not been app<sup>t</sup>ed to any further service with the Choctaws, I would respectfully suggest the propriety of speedily relieving him from his engagements while on the exploring tour, &C.

Pursuant to instructions from the President I have been endeavouring to effect an arrangement between the Chickasaws & Choctaws, whereby the former may be settled in the Country allotted to the latter on some terms which may be agreeable to both nations-- I am as yet unable to say what will be the result. to obtain that desirable object it is necessary to do every thing we can to quiet their minds & keep them in the most friendly feelings towards the U.States. You shall be kept advised of all information I obtain on that subject from time to time, as I receive it--

I have the honor to be Sir with great respect

The Hon.

Your obt. Svt.

Sect<sup>y</sup> of War

Jn<sup>o</sup> Coffee

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigr.) Hon. John Coffee, Comr. Rel. to pay for Gaines & exploring party to the West.)

Demopolis, Alabama

3<sup>d</sup> September. 1831.

Sir,

The Commifsary General of Subsistence has transmitted to me the appointment of "Special Agent of the War department to Superintend the Collection of the emigrating Chaktaws, and their removal and subsistence to the West bank of the Mifsissippi."

Had this appointment been made shortly after the ratification of the late Treaty with the Chaktaws I should have accepted it with pleasure, as then, I should have been Confident that the ample time afforded for preparation, would have ensured a performance of the duties of the trust to the satisfaction of the Indians and the government -

I need not conceal from you sir, that in accepting it at this late day, I feel a reluctance, which nothing but a sense of duty, and the necefsity for the immediate services of an authorized agent of the gov't in the removal of the Indians, would enable me to overcome-

I am sensible of the great importance of putting the emigrants in motion so as to enable them to reach their new Country before the winter sets in - and am aware that lofs would accme (sic) to the gov't, and that much embarrafsment and confusion would be the consequence of delay in removing a portion of the Indians this fall- I am also sensible that the happinefs and prosperity of the Indians would be consulted by their early removal and settlement beyond the reach of the jurisdiction of the State and Territorial government.-

These considerations induce me to forego my own interest and inclination and undertake to discharge the duties of the appointment- I cannot however, promise to spend more than two months of my time in the woods this fall, as I had, under a belief that the gov't had lost sight of the intimation given the Indians at the late Treaty, by your predecessor, that they would be removed under my superintendance, made engagements to spend the ensuing winter in Mobile - I can however with convenience spend the latter part of the next summer and fall in this service-

I hope, that, with the aid of the Troops on the Yazoo to open the road thro' the Mifsissippi Swamp, the emigrants desiring to go this fall may be crofsted over the Mifsissippi early in November- I would respectfully suggest that orders be immediately transmitted to the commanding officer there to open such roads as may be required-

I will request him today by exprefs to have the Mifsissippi Swamp examined with a view to roads leading from the Chaktaw Agency to Helena, and from the neighborhood of Col Lafleurs on the Yazoo to a point on the Mifsissippi near or below the mouth of Arkansaw- you are aware that to open, roads thro' the Mifs. Swamp will be an arduous duty the swamp being from 50 to 80 miles wide, and I know of no means of opening the roads except by aid of the Troops- There is no time to be lost, and I undertake the superintendance with the fullest reliance upon the most liberal support from the War department-

With great respect

Yr obt St

Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Lewis Cafs

Geo. S. Gaines

Secy of War Washington

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo.S.Gaines, Supt. to Cross River. Appointment.)

Demopolis, Ala-

3<sup>d</sup> September 1831.

Sir,

I have duly received your favor of the 13<sup>th</sup> ult. with its enclosures and hasten to reply to it-

The appointment of Special Agent of the War department to superintend the collection and removal of the Chaktaw Indians as far as the West Bank of the Mifsifsippi River" enclosed with your letter. I have been induced to accept with no small degree of reluctance: but this reluctance will not in the least interfere with the zealous and faithful performance of the public service required of me to the best of my judgment and ability--

The service will be attended with great difficulties: but with the aid of your liberal instructions, and of the troops stationed on the Yazoo River in opening roads through the Mifsifsippi Swamp, I hope to overcome them so far at least as to send Cap<sup>t</sup> Clark as many emigrants about the 1<sup>st</sup> November as he can move to their new Country before the winter rains render the roads difficult to pass with waggons and families--

I am informed that Mingo Mushulatubbee and his adherents have decided to emigrate to the Arkansaw part of their tract- They I think should collect at the Chaktaw Agency and proceed by Memphis or Helena--

Those residing in the Southern part of the Nation and composing more than two thirds of the population desire to emigrate to the Red River part of their tract and insist they ought to cross the Mifsifsippi lower down,- perhaps below the mouth of

Arkansas - Intelligent half breeds who have travelled from Lafleurs on the Yazoo through the swamp to a point on Mifsissippi below the mouth of Arkansas and thence by Washington to old Fort ~~Fewson~~ Towson insist that they ought to be removed by that rout. I will despatch an exprefs today to M<sup>r</sup> Colquhoun at Rankin Mi. and to the Commanding Officer of the Troops said to be stationed there or near that place, requesting the latter gentleman to have the two routs mentioned examined immediately and to take measures for opening roads and preparing ferries for waggons to pass both as soon as possible- This you are aware will be a considerable work and could hardly be accomplished in time by any other means than by active Troops- I should think that a sufficient force after the ground for the road shall have been fixed upon & marked out could open them in time for the emigrants by having ten days start of the waggons- Some sawyers and carpenters would have to be sent forward however to build ferry Boats at one or more deep water Course, to be found on the lower rout in the Mifsissippi Swamp- The emigrants should if practicable enter the Mifsissippi <sup>swamp</sup> by the 15 of October: but I shall not fix upon the times and places of Collecting them until my exprefs returns from Rankin with such information as M<sup>r</sup> Colquhoun may be able to give me in relation to the roads desired to be opened through the Mifsissippi Swamp, the prospect of obtaining waggons & subsistence there and other useful information-

I shall however, immediately employ two temporary assistants to visit the principal settlements in Mingo Mushulatubbee &



Netucheichee's districts for the purpose of disseminating the information contained in your circular which you have directed me to address to the chiefs and others, and to ascertain as nearly as may be the number who may wish to emigrate this fall, and shall charge Mr Colquhoun to have the like service performed in Col Lefleurs district without loss of time-

It has been suggested to me that the Yazoo River would perhaps admit of Steam Boats ascending as high up as Lafleurs, and that the emigrants could be carried from thence in Steam Boats to the West Bank of the Mississippi or perhaps to old Post Arkansas, but I doubt of the fact of the Yazoo being navigable during the fall months for Steam Boats. It has been further suggested that perhaps it would be better than to attempt to carry them through the Mississippi Swamp to take them in waggons down to Vicksburg and thence in steam Boats up the Mississippi to Point Checot or old Post Arkansas- Mr Colquhoun will be instructed to collect and forward me all the information in his power also upon these suggestions, and you may rely upon my adopting the routes and modes of travelling which in my judgment may be the least expensive to the government and most agreeable to the emigrants in conformity to the late Treaty- I incline at this moment however to believe that the road mentioned through the Mississippi Swamp ought to be opened immediately in any event, as even should the Yazoo be found navigable in the fall months for Steam Boats, which I very much doubt, the roads would notwithstanding be indispensable for the accommodation of such as may choose to go their own way, and over which to drive their stock & Ponys--

So soon as I obtain the necessary information to enable me to make estimates of the probable expenditures for removal this fall I will make and forward the same to you- It would be well to have five thousand dollars placed to my credit in the office of the Bank of the United States at Mobile and a like sum in the State Bank of Mississippi at Natchez, <sup>immediately</sup> as the provisions will be principally purchased from Indians and the money must be paid as the provisions are received.

I shall keep you constantly advised of my operations-

I write in haste - and have the honor to be respectfully

Yr obt Servt-

Geo. S. Gaines

Col: Geo. Gibson

Commissary Gen<sup>l</sup>

of Subsistence

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo.S.Gaines, Supt. to cross river. Appointment.)

Choctaw Agency 4<sup>th</sup> Sep. 1831

Sir

I wrote by last mail since which time I have conferred with Mushulatubbe & Col. G. Leflore in person. They have both agreed to move in Waggons to Vicksburg & to Manchester the latter 60 miles up Yazoo River - excepting those who wish to pack & march through by Chicot. Col. Leflore does not wish any conductors appt<sup>d</sup> - he advises that I should be stationed at Vicksburg as soon as all the arrangements are made. He wishes the march <sup>take place</sup> to ~~be-made~~ immediately. It is desirable that the allowance to those who move over on their own resources be made known to them. Mushulatubbe has recommended three conductors to be appointed in his district; these men to go along & to attend to the furnishing of the parties with provisions & conducting them through. I have requested the Chief to organize the people to be moved in Companies of 100 persons large & small with a Captain for each to whom will <sup>be assigned</sup> ~~fall~~ the task of receiving & distributing the rations. I think two or at most three waggons to each company will be required. Meshulutubbe recommends Peter P. Pitchlynn Thomas Wall & Sam<sup>l</sup> Garland as the three conductors or agents he wishes to be employed - they are very intelligent smart young men & can give any amount of security as they inform me.

Capt Joel Nail who is here from Nethuckhadjers district is willing to engage to remove out of that district east of Pearl river any number of emigrants to Vicksburg at a fair price. Will you please say whether you will permit that mode

& how much you will allow for each company of 100 persons - He will furnish waggons & provisions. A majority of Nethuckcad-jies district will be about 150 miles from Vicksburg. Capt Nail requires no advances but would expect to be paid at Vicksburg on the embarkation of the emigrants from that place. I am of opinion the mode proposed by Capt Nail (who is fully capable of the performance) a good one & will save infinite trouble I therefore have to request whether you will permit similar arrangements throughout.

Col. Leflore informs me he has written fully to you on the subject of removal. His letter to me in answer to mine is herewith enclosed. The chiefs are at this moment here & harmony seems to prevail - the people are all anxious to go and will wait with great impatience for the marching order to be given.

As Col. Ward is under bonds already to the Government & very willing to engage in the business he would be a safe depository of the funds & of their proper disbursement - I do not however shrink from any part of the duty & as I have before stated am willing to do any <sup>thing</sup> I am directed. The Indians expect the waggons to go round to their houses, to rendezvous at points on the main road & proceed in a body to Vicksburg. Persons both Indians & white men are anxious to contract for waggons, for Beef & Corn it will therefore as the time is growing short be necessary to give every facility to the means & authority required.

Those parties who pack & go through with their horses by Chicot must have a disbursing agent. I beg leave therefore to

request instructions to that effect. I have just been informed that the Chiefs & headmen & warriors of the nation have recommended Major F. W. Armstrong for their Agent to the President & ~~requested him to be ordered here to aid in the removal~~. This need not I presume prevent any arrangement with Col. Ward who will be invaluable with his services, arrangement, responsibility & acquaintance with this Country in the business I shall write by every mail & present for your consideration every suggestion which may occur to my mind relative to the concern & close this communication by barely observing that until the spring of the year the greater part of the Cattle cannot be herded for valuation & sale- Be pleased to inform me whether if the Choctaws will be allowed the same number & description of Cattle in Arkansas that they give up in this Country. M<sup>r</sup>. Douglass who was appointed to value & sell the Cattle is here very sick. The sale of them after the manner of his instructions would result in a total loss to the Gov<sup>t</sup>. it is respectfully suggested therefore that a party of Indians be employed to drive them to Arkansas where owing to the emigration a great increase in the price of beef must necessarily be expected. A contract might be entered into in each district for driving them over. The request made in my last for tents & Blankets & hard bread to be sent to Vicksburg I have again to repeat & hope it will be complied with. 5 or 600 Bbls bread I do not think will be too much.

I calculate on their Rendezvous on the road to Vicksburg. The first Mushulatubbes at this place. Col. Leflores near Doaks Stand & Nithuckcadjies at or near Jackson in the State of Missis-

sippi 100 miles south of the agency. The waggons to be at those points loaded, the Rolls made out & provisions issued. Myself or some other person to go ahead & have the steam boats ready. &c

I am Sir

Yr. very ob. ser<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> S. Colquhoun

Special Indian Agent

Gen. Geo. Gibson

Com. Gen. of S

I have written to Capt Clark to have Boats for ferriage & a supply of provisions ready at Point Chicot.

W.S.C.

(OIA: 1831 Choctaw (Emigration) W.S.Colquhoun and G. LeFlore Transportation.)

S.<sup>te</sup> Genevieve M<sup>o</sup> 18.<sup>th</sup> Oct.<sup>r</sup> 1831.

Hon<sup>ble</sup> Lewis Cafs.)  
 )  
 Secretary of War )

Sir!

Permit me to address <sup>you</sup> these lines on the following subject. When I was a resident of the Post of Arkansas and while in the winter of 1807. I was trading or on the point of begining to trade with the Osage Indians on the Arkansas River by virtue of a Licence granted by the then authority, I was met by a numerous parti of Chactaw Indians at peace with the United States who Robbed, destroyed & took away all and every piece of property I had, & left me in that then wild - wilderness destitute of every thing.

The original papers affidavits &<sup>c</sup> concerning my claim were some years afterwards lodged in the Indian Office at Washington city. The officer at the head of that Bureau wrote that they were sent, or to be sent to the Chactaw Agent, for information & for him to report, but several years having pafsed away without any report being made, notwithstanding my inquiries, and being myself at Washington city last winter I made the necesary inquiry & found that those papers had not been sent to that agent or if sent not received by him, and were entirely lost or mislaid. I then requested M<sup>r</sup> Hamilton to write to M<sup>r</sup> Ward the agent for the Chactaw, for information concerning those papers and also in relation to the Plunder committed on my property by the Chactaw Indians, & wrote myself to M<sup>r</sup> Ward, concerning the transaction & gave him the time & place where the outrage was committed. The result,

was that the chiefs & headmen of the nation in council acknowledged themselves to be the aggressors & admitted the fact of Robbing me at the time & place stated by me, & even named the chief (Push-mattahaw, a leading chief, now dead) under whom they were, & that the transaction was still fresh in their memory notwithstanding the length of time, but they could not say the amount of property destroyed or taken away.

This, in substance is the answer of M<sup>r</sup>. Ward to me in his letter through the Department of War, and also to M<sup>r</sup>. Hamilton, the letter to that Gentleman being I suppose on the files of the Indian Office. I since wrote to M<sup>r</sup>. Ward, but had no answer, & M<sup>r</sup>. Hamilton writes me in answer to a letter I had the honor to address him, that he is no more at the head of the Indian Bureau.

Therefore Sir, I am compelled to trespass upon your time & ask you the relief which in such a case I am entitled to. I have been deprived for a great many years of my just demand owing to the lost or mislaid of my papers without my fault, but sir the Indians themselves, their chiefs & headmen make the acknowledgement and say the transaction is still fresh in their memory notwithstanding the length of time, & that it was of public notoriety with them. I have in my possession now again proper affidavits which establish the amount of property lost by that plunder to no less than six thousand Dollars, but according to my own knowledge of the amount of property I had with me, I think nine thousand would not be any thing to much, but possibly the amount stated in the affidavits will be the only amount which I shall be entitled to claim, though the sum of nine



thousand Dollars is justly due me. Be assured that the amount of property lost must have been large since it was of such notoriety then, and even now after so many years.

Will you be so good as to give the proper directions for my relief & let me know the result and what further steps I have to take. The persons who can testify in this case are getting scarce by reason of the length of time since the transaction took place, & my former papers having been mislaid are the reasons why I ask you if certified copies by proper officers, of the affidavits in my possession will not do as well as the originals?

I have also a certified copy by Gen<sup>l</sup> Clark of the bond for the Licence granted at the time, the original Licence having been taken by the Indians.

I hope & depend Sir! on your high Reputation & love of Justice for the relief so justly due me after so long a detention & that you will honor me with an answer.

I am Sir very Respectfully

Your obedient & humb<sup>l</sup><sup>e</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Joseph Bogy

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws James Bogy Old claim.)

St<sup>e</sup> Genevieve 25<sup>th</sup> Oct.<sup>r</sup> 1831.

Gen<sup>l</sup> Char: Gratiot.)  
 )  
 Washington City. )

Sir!

Under date of 18<sup>th</sup> Instant I took the liberty of writing to the hon<sup>ble</sup> Secretary at War concerning a claim I have against the Government for damages committed in my property by a party of Chactaw Indians, on the Arkansas River in the year 1807. (I was then a resident of the Post of Arkansas) I take now Sir, the liberty to address you these lines, to inlist your good wishes towards me, and to ask you to be so kind as to speak to the hon<sup>ble</sup> Secretary in my behalf. Be assured Sir, that this claim is one of the most just & equitable ever presented to the Department, and that every thing stated in my letter to the Secretary is nothing but positive truth. Being an entire stranger to M<sup>r</sup> Cafs, this is the reason why I should feel happy if you would speak to him, & ask him what further steps I have to take. This claim has been pending in the Department for many years, but the Indians themselves have last winter made a full & complete acknowledgement of the whole transaction.

Excuse me for the liberty I take in so trespassing upon your time.

I am Sir

Respectfully

Your very obed<sup>t</sup> & hum<sup>ble</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

& country man.

Joseph Bogy

Little Rock, A T

Octr, 31<sup>st</sup> 1831

Sir

I am just informed that 1000 of Mushulatubbees District are assembling & will cross the Mississippi at Memphis, also 200 others, under Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jeremiah Folsom, will cross at Helena, the former are to be supplied, with subsistance, to their new homes, the latter avail themselves of the Commutation Allowance; both of the above parties are expected to cross the Mississippi, between the 1 & 10<sup>th</sup> Novr inc,

This information is obtained from Col. Gaines, under date of the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst-- at Doaks Stand.

The Road from Memphis, through the swamp, is horrid in the extreme, and cannot with safety be passed, consequently the Agent (Dr. Fulton), sent to that point to receive & conduct the Emigrants is directed to procure Transport, if possible, & convey them to the mouth of White River, or to the Post of Arkansas. Should there be much stock along it will be sent through direct to this place,

No further intelligence of the Movements, of Emigrants,

Very Respectfully

I have the honor to be

Your Ob Servt,

Brigr. Genl. Geo. Gibson

J Brown Capt, U.S.A.

Coms<sup>y</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> of Sub.

Supt. Rem<sup>l</sup> & Sub. of Indians

Washington D. C.

(OIA: 1831 Choctaw (Emigration) Capt. Jacob Brown. Reports.)

Vicksburg Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1831

Hon. Lewis Cafa  
Sec<sup>y</sup> of War.

Sir

I have Rec<sup>d</sup>. a communication from Gen<sup>l</sup>. Coffee of Alabama of the 8th Ult<sup>o</sup> requesting me to convene the chiefs and head men at the Agency as soon as practicable, as He Gen<sup>l</sup>. Coffee and Maj<sup>r</sup> Eaton late Sec<sup>y</sup> of War had some busenefs of importance to communicate to them.

I have to enform you that previous to the ~~the~~ Receipt of this letter the Headmen of the nation had left their homes on the way to the West. There is at this place about 3,000 at this time on their route to Arkansas and will be probably six thousand of this fall. Col David Folsom Mingo Nuttechegee and others are not here and have seen and explained to them, the desire of the Pres<sup>t</sup>. of the U. States that the Choctaws meet Coffee & Eaton.

The Answer of those who are here is that they are now on their Journey to their new homes and cannot be turned back. The chiefs will return to the old nation next spring and will here any thing that may be then offered from those gentlemen.

I will observe that I write to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Coffee & Eaton, that Mingo Mushulatubbe and Greenwood Laflour, had not removed and would be in the nation untill next Spring. If it was deemed advisable, these Two chiefs and some Captains could meet at any time that be named hereafter

My opinion is that no emportant businefs can be done untill next spring, as all the nation is in commotion at this time.

However I have advised Gen<sup>l</sup>s Coffee & Eaton to let me know what was expedient to be done, and due attention should be paid to their Orders.

I have the honor to be

Respectfully your

M<sup>o</sup> Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

W. Ward Ag<sup>t</sup> C. N.

(CIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration) Wm. Ward Preparations for removals, etc.)

Vicksburg

Dec<sup>r</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 1831

Sir

I am just out of a sick bed confined for a few days with bilious fever. The weather is now colder here than it was ever known before & the rains for sometime past have been incessant. The St. Bt. Reindeer which I intended for Little Rock put the Indians out at the Post. She immediately took in Col. Many and 100 troops. I had contracted for her to go to the Rock, so that the waggons would have been clear of loading but the ass<sup>t</sup> Ag<sup>t</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Norwood against my express orders gave her up & discharged her. This error has thrown together Folsoms & Netuckachies parties likewise the Memphis party altogether about 2300. I understand they have no other means of transportation than the 40 waggons & the roads are impassible. Their situation is distressing & must get worse, they are gen- very naked and few moccasins are seen amongst them. The snow has now been on the ground here without diminution since yesterday morning and the party just arrived & embarking on the Walter Scott for the Cote au Fabre are in the most wretched condition. I enclose you a statement of my accts to show what disposition has been made of the funds which have come into my possession.

It would seem that Steam Boat hire was very high & indeed it is too true, but I assure you every exertion by advertisement & otherwise has been resorted to in order to procure them on better terms. The disgusting sight of a vessel loaded with human beings under no control or regularity,

leaving their evacuations in every direction through the whole range of the Cabins & deck, would create in the mind of any one an additional allowance for the transportation. This party now embarking of Fishers consisted of 200. they are a wretched set of beings nearly naked & have marched the last 24 hours through a sleet & snow barefooted if I could have done it with propriety, I would have given them shoes. I distributed all the Tents & this party are entirely without

Col. Gaines left me this morning for home via New Orleans. He does not intend to return. He speaks of raising a party at Mobile, but I do not agree with him my opinion is that somewhere near Doaks. Stand or any where in the nation is better. I am yet quite unwell & hardly able to walk - I have not been out of the house for a week & regret the absence of every ag<sup>t</sup> but myself with so much on my hands. I have been obliged to obtain a room large enough for an office & bed room. It has been thronged for the last 3 weeks & even during my severe illness I was constantly beset. Small parties have been crossing in the trail of those moved by the Gov<sup>t</sup> & tickets ferriage & provisions (this being considered a depot) furnished them I have done without every thing I could dispense with & hope when I render my acc<sup>t</sup> it will be deemed reasonable & correct.

Hoping I may not disappoint your confidence in me I remain

very respectfully

Yr: Ob: Ser<sup>t</sup>

Gen Geo. Gibson

W<sup>m</sup> S. Colquhoun

C. G. S

Spl In. Ag<sup>t</sup>

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration) Wm.S.Colquhoun. Transportation)

Jany 19th

Nashville

3<sup>d</sup> January 1832

Genl- Gipson (sic)

Dr Sir

I have just seen a Memphis newspaper and have concluded to enclose you the Editors remarks on the weather as a reason for my still being here which really astonishes me as much as it will you.

I have prevailed on my brother William to go to Arkansas with me. The truth is- I preferred confidential company because the small sized <sup>notes</sup> ~~water~~ in the proposition directed by your letter makes the <sup>money</sup> ~~moving~~ quite a bundle and - the rapacity of the Mifsissippi <sup>settling</sup> ~~settles~~ about the swamps makes me feel the risk- greater than I thought it was when <sup>in</sup> ~~at~~ Washington-- you see a few days ago a set of villians boarded while <sup>around</sup> ~~at~~ the steam boat "Toronto" <sup>Favorite</sup> (?) and plundered & burned her--

Two Armstrongs are better than any insurance officer I a most satisfied that in a few days all will be delivered safe

There never has been any thing like the season thus far. All the old women. went for a freshet at the change of the moon, which was yesterday at 9- P.M. and it is now as dry as a powder horn -- so much for weather cocks

To morrow - we are off. because there is some hopes now that we be able to get over the Mifsissippi by the time we get to Memphis If we can get acrofs by the 15- this Inst Capt Brown will have your supplies --

Please inform the Hon<sup>bl</sup> Secretary of the Subsistence of  
scrawl - I am with great

Respect your obt Servt F.W.Armstrong

Genl. G Gipson

Commifsary Dept



(Clipping attached to foregoing letter.)

The Weather, for the last three weeks has been so excessively cold, that travelling of all kinds has been rendered nearly impracticable. The Mississippi river, though not completely frozen over at this place, has been, and is still, so obstructed with ice, that no flat boats, and but very few steam boats are able to make their way through it. The Ohio, Tennessee, Cumberland and Upper Mississippi, have been frozen over, and are yet nearly, if not utterly impassable for any kind of water craft. Owing to the bad state of the roads, and the freezing of the water courses, there has been several failures of the mail from the eastward.

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong Reason of delay at Memphis, Wm. Armstrong will accompany party over Mississippi.)

Vicksburg 12 Jan. 1832

Sir

Enclosed is a statement of my account showing the balance of funds in my hands at this time. The vouchers will be forwarded when I close the business here, which will be when the Steam Boats Walter Scott & Talma are paid off. The amt<sup>t</sup> due them is \$5,000 -- 2500 to each boat -- It is important that these payments be not delayed; so that when boats are wanted again implicit confidence may be relied in the faith of the agents. I have rec<sup>d</sup> no letter from the dep<sup>t</sup> since about the 5<sup>th</sup> of December. Col. Gaines is either at Mobile or at home near Demopolis. Capt Cross is at Point Christ

I rec<sup>d</sup> a letter from Capt Brown desiring to know our authority for the issue of a quart of Corn to the Ration & forage to the "Pack horses" I replied to him that Col. Gaines had rec<sup>d</sup> instructions relative to Pint of Corn extra. & that I had rec<sup>d</sup> a letter allowing Corn to the "Pack horses"

The Mississippi is rising & boats began to pass up & down, heretofore obstructed by the Ice. This place by the neglect of the Mayor & Council is infested in every direction with the Smallpox. I left the tavern I was staying at when I last wrote, owing to two cases of sml. Pox in the house - The most perfect reliance may be placed in Vaccination & I beg leave to suggest as an act of humanity, that an appropriation be made for vaccinating the Choctaw nation & indeed all those who are liable from their intercourse with the whites to take the disease.

The death of M<sup>r</sup> Geo. B. Crutchen receiver of Public monies at Clinton (Mount Salus) vacates the appointment - I mention the

fact which is very recent so that if the app<sup>t</sup> is not made before the arrival of my letter you may have it in your power to aid in conferring it on some one worthy of it.

I am Sir Yr. ob. Ser<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> S. Colquhoun

Spl. Ag<sup>t</sup>

(Note: Above letter was addressed to Gen. Geo. Gibson.)

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigr.) Wm. S. Colquhoun Details of progress of party thro the swamps & by boat.)

Little Rock. A. T. 26 Jan<sup>y</sup>. 1832.

Hon<sup>l</sup>. Lewis Cafs

Secretary of War.

Sir

I reached this place on the 22<sup>d</sup> inst. and found a party of about fourteen hundred indians with Nit-acachu their chief encamped in the neighborhood of this place.

The Rifles & forwarded for Fort Smith passed here a few days since on board the steamer Reindeer- the ploughs it appears are yet at the mouth of the river Arkansas- which river is low. and somewhat doubtful whether the Boat - above named will reach her destination with the present tide. There are perhaps five hundred Indians who intend to settle on this river being the party named on board the steamer Reindeer. You have no doubt been apprized of the other party headed by Col Folsom that passed through this place some time since- as well as those that embarked at Vicksburgh belonging to Lafloors district. both of which last named parties have probably reached their new homes-

I have employed a Blacksmith and striker and purchased a set of Tools to take on to Fort ~~Smith~~<sup>Towson</sup> - so that no complaint can be made by the indians. I shall be able to make ploughs and have them stocked cheaper perhaps than those already purchased and of the description that will please the indians

The commutation indians will be promptly paid on their arrival say about 400. in Number. I have handed over to Capt Brown thirty five Thousand dollars and forwarded his receipt to Gen<sup>l</sup> Gibson agreeable to his instructions -

Some legislation it would seem will be necessary in order to carry into effect the Choctaw treaty should this be the case I hope to reach Washington in time to afford some information which will be important in governing the whites that are intruding amongst the Choctaws - and who cannot be effectually reached by the present intercourse law.

Respectfully your

Obt. Serv.<sup>t</sup>

F.W.Armstrong

C.A.W.M.

Hon.<sup>l</sup> Lewis Cafs.

Secretary War.

(OIA: 1832 Choctaws (Emigr.) F.W.Armstrong Rel to Emigrated Choctaws. Has appointed Maj. Langham Asst in removals. 4 letters.)

Fort Smith 8- Feby 1832

Honb. Lewis Cafs

Secretary of War.

Sir

Although I have not been able to reach this place within twenty days of the time contemplated on by me when I left your city still I am in time for the correct performance of all <sup>the</sup> ~~my~~ duties connected with my agency. My delay has been occafioned by the unexampled severity of the winter. Such as has never been felt in this country before.

The emmigrating party of Chactaws that will settle on this river this season have not yet arived- they are now about one hundred miles off The river within the last four days has risen sufficiently high for the steam boat which is look<sup>d</sup> for in two days. She will have on board articles belonging to the Chactaws - left at the Rock, alfo the ploughs - from Montgomerys Point-

I flatter myself that on my return about the last of March it will be in my power to answer satisfactorily every Question connected with the Chactaw removal. and at the same time furnish important information to the Subsistance department as to the cheapest & best mode of putting supplies on Red river ~~for the~~ ~~Indians~~ ~~and~~ ~~troops~~ ~~both~~. I am promising information and making observations that can be relied on - as to the actual resources & facilities of this country--

It will not be necefsary to commence opening the contemplated road- from this to red river untill April or May

Col Arbuckle I learn will be in Washington by the time I get back. and after conversing with him I will be enabled to give the precise point from which the road will leave this river

I have heard nothing of the last Rifles ordered from Phil<sup>ea</sup>

I leave here day after tomorrow for Red river.

I have the honor to be with high regards

your Ob<sup>t</sup> s<sup>t</sup>

F. W. Aarmstrong

C A W. M

(OIA: 1832 Choctaws (Emigr.) F.W.Armstrong Rel to Emigrated Choctaws. Has appointed Maj. Langham Asst in Removals. 4 letters.)

Miller C. H. Ark. Ter March 30<sup>th</sup> 1832

Col. A. H. Sevier,

With diffidence I write to you because of the high station you occupy in the estimation of your friends.

I would ask your indulgence a moment relative to the Choctaws removeing themselves; upon which subject you have been addrefsed, perhaps before this time.

It seems improper from my observation upon the subject; that the indians should travil through the country without agents, which is generally the case with those who come on their own footing. They prefs heavy, too heavy upon the charity and liberality of the inhabitants of the country through which they pafs. They must not, they will not starve, when they cannot procure a subsistence by beging, They will have it by stealing. There is little or no game on their route; and thus the people are injured and opprefsed by the Emegrants. -- Theas remarks are offered for your consideration that you may, if you think proper, give some attention to the subject before you leave Washington for the good of your constituents; as I have no doubt the matter is before the heads of Department at this time; -- I disclaim all petentions to dictate; & write this purely by way of suggestion.

I know of nothing true against your popularity -- Desha can in my opinion never again run so well as he did last year.-

May you prosper

Respectfully John H. Fowler

(OIA: 1832 Choctaws (Emigration) John H. Fowler Gives his views on the subject.)



Rankin May 22.<sup>th</sup> 1832

Dear

Sir

I embrace this oppertunity to rite you a line to inform you that I have Recd your letter by <sup>the</sup> hand of M<sup>r</sup>. Tyson I should like to do all <sup>in</sup> is, my power to assist you in giting the Choctaws to emmegrate to their new home. I am on my way to the west I shall be gone two months when I return home I will rite you. then I will be at your service. I hope you will vissit our section of contry come and see me I would be glad to see you at my house anny time you can make it conviniant to call at my house

I remain your Friend

Greenwood Leflore

Capt Colquhoun

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) Wm.S.Colquhoun Relative to accounts, etc.)

On board the Steemmer - Hunter of Tuscaloosa

May 23 - 1832

Capt W. S. Colquhoun

Dear Sir

I Landed at Mobile on the 30 of April; know on my way have I traveled by water 15 hundred miles to New Orleans then across the Mobile. I started from my new home on the 11 of March & have been much detaind - I have maid <sup>it</sup> much my buisness to Inquire about the Differant roughts for the emigration for the present year. I have thought that my District on the Southern had Better Land on the Mississippi at Natchizes or some convenient Point Near that place. as the great boddy of the Sixtowns on that District Lies Near the boundry Line or nearly sow; When we Rondavooze near the senter of the body of the People we will be nearer Natchezes then to Vicksburg by several miles & would Travel through an old settled Part of the contry which I Must think Provisions can be obtained for Lefs money If sow it will bee a great Saving to Government & a Shorter distant for the Indian to Travel; at the Mississippi there can bee Steam Boats Employed to carry all heavy plunder & old Lake & children the boat can run up to Monrow in about 2 days & discharge her Load the stock can gow thru to Monrow; as I have Been told that can bee <sup>had</sup> a good summer road throe to Monrow or to the Post of Washataw There there is a good road to Genr Halls Where we Intercected from Ecorapaba you can Look at a Map of the contry, & you will find it from the Southern district to bee the Shotes rought. I saw Col G. S Gains & we talked about the rought I have stated above to you - he thinks favourable and wish to state to you

as I stated to him If this will meet your vews I have no doupt  
but all party will bee sattesfyed. I have no doupt but you  
have been thinking about the differant roughts; your oppinion  
on the various roughts I should Like very much to hear; your  
early reply will meet a Lasting favour of your friend

Joel H. Nail

Capt W. S. Colquhoun

N-B If my friend Capt. Crofs is in reach pleas Inform him of  
my return to my old home or nearly sow & Inform him that I am  
well & harty and wish very Much to see him

Your obt Srvt-

Joel H Nail

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) Wm.S.Colquhoun Relative to  
accounts, etc.)

## Western Choctaw Agency

23<sup>d</sup> May 1832

Dear Sir

Agreeable to promise and duty also, I now devote a few moments to give the news of the Choctaw Agency West. We are getting on tolerable smoothly the greatest difficulty with me at this time is the want of money, it will require nearly five thousand Dollars, to defray the expences that has and will accrue at this agency up to the last of June which amount you will <sup>please</sup> have forwarded as early as practicable, as I have strained my credit by borrowing money to enable me to get on with the businefs of this agency. the Steam Boats claim pay at this place for transportation of Choctaw Rifles and stores to Fort Smith

I have been obliged to buy Powder, Lead, and steel; there is not Lead to be had, at this place to make an Ifsue. the two Pounds of Powder and Lead per man is much needed, it will be found to be very troublesome to make half Ifsues.

I have made one trip with the <sup>Public</sup> waggons to Red River and am now on the way with the second loads, the weather being so warm and the flies getting bad, I fear that I will not be able to make any more this season, for that reason I have hired two private teams to take one load each at four Dollars per hundred pounds, Should the flies not prove bad I will try another load in July.

The Troops have not yet completed the Road. I will travel the new rout this time as far as Kiamesha and then fall into the old Road.

Co<sup>l</sup> Bean is here with me and will set off to join the Road cutters on tomorrow, Lieut Rains and myself will accompany him back of Cavanole mountain and to the mouth of Frish Maline for the purpose of looking out a Road from that place to intersect the one the Troops are now opening, back of the Cavanole mountain I will then proceed on after the waggons to Towson

Co<sup>l</sup> Bean said the Road from Fort Smith to Red River can be made an excellent one, but that Cap<sup>t</sup> Stewart said his orders will not suffer him to causeway any of the marshes it will be of great importance to have all the Boggy places causewaed, without I fear waggons will not be able to pass at certain seasons of the year, When I return from Red River, I will be better able to give you information on this subject as I will travel that Road on my return. Co<sup>l</sup> Bean said the navigation of Kiamesha will be good from the mouth of Jacks fork to the Red River, and Jacks fork I think a good situation for a ware House

The Choctaws are very anxious to get the number of cattle they turned over to the Government in the old nation. and money for the Lands they relinquished please instruct me on that subject

Enclosed is a petition from Nittuccachee and his captains

I have heard it mentioned by some of the merchants below the line that they would petition to have Lieut Rains removed from fort Smith, they can have no other objection to him only that he watches them closely and tries to suppress the vending of spirituous liquors to the Indians, and adheres to his duty strictly. suffice it to say that there could not be an officer, sent to that post that

would do it the same justice that Lieut Rains has and will do.

With sentiments of Respect

Your Obt Humb<sup>l</sup> Servt-

D. M<sup>c</sup>Clellan

Sub A, C, W,

Maj<sup>r</sup> F. W. Armstrong

C A. W.

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigr.) F.W.Armstrong D.McClellan Rel  
to Choctaw cattle, etc.)

Washington

24 July 1832

Genl. G. Gibson:

Commsary. De.pt-

Sir

I have the honor to enclose you the letter of Capt. D. McClellan Sub agent for the Choctaws west.

It refers to the cattle due the Indians and shows their great anxiety to get them. Allow me to suggest the propriety of your secretary, Lieut Stephenson, to fill the certificates held by the Red River Indians and let Lieut Rains fill those in the hands of the Indians settled on the Arkansas river-

The certificates are complete describing precisely the cattle to be furnished. A receipt taken on the back of the certificate - that the number and kind of cattle has been received signed by the owner- will be a sufficient voucher to enable the Lieuts.

to abstract them proper for settlement

The expenses spoken of by the Lieut. to the amount of five thousand dollars- for Transportation of articles furnished the Indians under treaty stipulations and for expenses in employing teams &c. to take these articles from Fort Smith to Red River, will also be paid- I presume by your disbursing officer now there

The relinquished land I have estimated for and the payment will take place on my getting west - in the fall

The other expenses are I presume properly reported to you, for your action on the same. Under these views I have felt it my

duty to make this communication

I have the honor

to be your

Obt Sert.

F. W. Armstrong

S. A. W.

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigr.) F.W.Armstrong D.McClellan  
Rel to Choctaw cattle, etc.)



## War Department

Sept 1. 1832

Sir.

Col. Arbuckle has represented to the Department, that some Choctaws had applied to your Sub agent M<sup>r</sup> McClelland, to build houses on a point of 12 or 15 acres, below the mouth of the Cotou.

Col. A. thinks it important that the U. States should reserve, or purchase if they do not own, land in the vicinity of Fort Smith, necessary for a military establishment, & he speaks of the land of John Rodgers as being a desirable acquisition.

Whether the Government has a right to reserve any tracts, you can determine by a reference to the treaties of '30, '25 & 20; & you will report to the Department whether it be advisable to act in conformity with Col A's suggestions. I presume any necessary arrangement may be made by you with the Chiefs, without difficulty.

I am Sir

very respectfully

Your obt. Svt.

John Robb

Major F. W. Armstrong

Actg. Secy. War

(OIA: Western Supt'y. J 563. Washington. 1840.)

Rec<sup>d</sup> 17 Sep

New Choctaw Agency

Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 1832

Sir

I have the honor to report to you that I arrived at this place on the 30<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup>. I should have been here two weeks earlier, had I not been detained by sicknefs. My services however have not yet been required, nor will there be any thing for me to do before the 5<sup>th</sup> of the present month, by which time the Special Agent will probably ascertain the number of Indians who are going West of the Mifsifsippi, this year.

I acknowled also, the receipt of your communication dated 23<sup>d</sup> of July last, informing me that you had directed ten thousand dollars to be placed to my credit in the Branch of the United States Bank at Nashville.

Respectfully

Your Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. P. Simonton

Disb<sup>g</sup> Ag<sup>t</sup> Choctaw Removal.

Gen<sup>l</sup> Geo Gibson

Com<sup>y</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Sub

Recd 19. Nov

Memphis, Oct<sup>r</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 1832

Sir--

The party of Choctaw Indians emigrating to the west, consisting of about 1000 in number, reached here yesterday. Most of the waggons & Indian horses have been crossed today & about 400 of the party - the precise <sup>number</sup> I have not been able to ascertain, as a greater portion of the detachment will leave here tomorrow in the Steam Boat (R. Deer) for Rock-Row on the White River. The public Teamsters to this place have been paid off, as 8 or ten waggons belonging to the Indians will be employed to transport just sufficient provision for themselves & forage for their horses as will suffice to go through the swamp. To avoid unnecessary ~~it~~ expense these teams will transport the provision & forage by furnishing to the waggon horses ~~the~~ as much of the latter as is authorized by the regulations.

There is great alarm here of the cholera, & the Indians themselves have evinced great apprehension of being attacked. I am almost certain it will get among them; & if it does, I dread to think of the destruction of human life which must inevitably be the consequence of its appearance among the Choctaws. Col. Armstrong has made several attempts to procure a Physician to accompany the Indians, but has not yet succeeded. Our exertions to leave the place in the present excitement of this disease, will prevent me from rendering the necessary papers for this month until I can get to a place of greater security.

The Miss<sup>!</sup> Swamp is no doubt in very bad state for travelling, as it has been raining hard here for the last twenty four hours.

The party to which Capt. Page & Col. Rector are attached (consisting of about 1800) will reach here tomorrow.

The Indians of our party generally, are in very good health.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obt Servt

J A. Phillips

Disbg Officer

Choctaw Indians.

Brig. Genl. Gibson

Washington City

D C

in haste.

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigr) Lt.J.A.Phillips (Oct. 31st. 1000 emigrants crossing river at Memphis.)

Choctaw Camp, mouth of Rockroe  
 White river, Munroe County  
 Arkansas Ter<sup>y</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1832

Sir,

I am at this place as Afs<sup>t</sup> Superintendent charged with the duties assigned me by my principal Maj<sup>r</sup> F W Armstrong and some special ones, by Cap<sup>t</sup> Brown p<sup>l</sup> D Agent.

I daily expect to be superceded by Col W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong whose arrival is expected. But as the mail passes today, I deem it my duty to report that on the 5<sup>th</sup> 141 of the U States teams & those hired in the service had arrived, a number within 15 of the whole required for the Choctaw removal.

On the same day the S Boat Reindeer arrived with a party of 455 Choctaws conducted by M<sup>r</sup> Irwin. The physician of the boat reported cases of cholera and since here Doctors Fulton & Rayburn agents in the service, and who have attended the sick are divided in opinion, Doct: Fulton not believing it cholera -- Number of cases from the 3<sup>d</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> on the Voyage from the mouth of White river 8 or 9 deaths 2 - number of cases since their arrival from 5<sup>th</sup> to this the 8<sup>th</sup> 53 - deaths 12 (twelve)

This disease has caused so great and so general a panic that the consequences cannot be calculated - 17 Teamsters U. S. service have left-- Three of the hired wagons & teams have gone and it is reported that those which had not arrived on the 5<sup>th</sup> would not come

I have permitted the Teams to disperse in the neighborhood to situations, which the Drivers may deem safe from contagion. They have mostly done so.

Until this calamity the Agents of Government had cause to congratulate themselves that their arrangements had been fortunate as well as judicious. Much will devolve on the Maj<sup>rs</sup> Armstrongs and it cannot be hoped that they can be fortunate -- I do not think that Wagoners will haul the baggage and particularly the sick, if the migration should be resolved on- and should it be attempted there is a probability that the civil authorities of the Territory may prohibit their passing through the country; - or the people of neighborhoods may withhold supplies or destroy those that are provided -- It is certain there will be much excitement.

This information is intended to prepare you for the communication of Col: Armstrong. I am well convinced that he will require all the advice & assistance which your department can afford him.

Y<sup>r</sup> Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

A. S. Langham As<sup>t</sup>. Sup<sup>n</sup>

The Com: Gen<sup>l</sup> of Subsistence

&c. &c

Washington City

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigra.) A.S.Langham Reports panic caused by cholera among 455 emigrants brot by steamboat Reindeer.)

St Francis County Arkansas Ter  
at Strongs 42 miles from Memphis

10 Nov 1832.

Sir.

The emigrating Choctaws have reached, thus far, through the Mississippi Swamp- the late incessant rains had made the swamp almost impassible.- I endeavoured to persuade the indians - more especially the women & Children and such as had no horses to take passage in the boats and meet us at the White River landing - they were averse to going on board the Steam Boats - and in these Cholera times I felt unwilling to coerce them- but left it to their own choice - I succeeding in persuading about one thousand - to go by water- We are now in fifty miles of the White River landing - the place where all the indians are to meet = the front or Folsoms party is two days ahead of this we finish issuing tonight and in the morning I will hurry on to the landing and endeavour - to have the first party - (Folsoms) organized with their waggons & teams - and under way before the arrival of this party -

I hope to meet my brother at White River- <sup>from Vicksburgh</sup> I understand from a traveller of respectability - that about Thirty Teamsters with their waggons & teams have left the landing in consequence of cholera reports- and I fear we are to have a serious time in getting on.- if we escape here and the cholera is at White River with the Vicksburgh party I will endeavour to keep this party separate- We have however had seven deaths since we left Memphis- which is in part pronounced cholera- I do not my-

self believe we have as yet a case - but that those that have died - so suddenly- were produced by severe exposure.

The swamp for thirty miles was from knee to waist deep.

I understand that at Rock Roe the White River landing - the provision & ferage will thereafter be furnished by contract we are purchasing beef here at  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ per pound and corn at fifty cents - a bushel - I am very clear in the opinion that a great saving would of been effected by Capt Page & the disbursing officers - continuing on.- and furnishing as they did on the east side of the river- the corn contract I learn is at 93 cents a bushel for 140 or 150 teams it will cost the goverment a large sum--

Respectfully

I am acting here as  
Assist. to T W Armstrong

Your obt. Ser<sup>t</sup>  
W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong Supt.  
on the East Mig<sup>r</sup> Cho<sup>c</sup> Rem<sup>l</sup>

Genl George Gibson  
Comm. Genl Subs.

Washington

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration Wm.Armstrong Indians arrived at St. Francis by land and water.)



On Board U.S. S<sup>t</sup>Snag B<sup>t</sup> Helepolis

Montgomery Pt Nov<sup>r</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1832

Dear Sir

I rec<sup>d</sup> yours of 19<sup>th</sup> Inst, last night from Capt Hinkley, and as you request, will proceed to state as near as I can what took place on Board the Helepolis on the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst, between yourself, and M<sup>r</sup> Colquhoun, also your conversation with the Chief Ne li.ca.che. relative to the Indians receiving Blankets at this p<sup>t</sup> -- The Chief with an Enterpreter came to my state room Door at the time you were writing to Capt Shreve in s<sup>d</sup> Room, and spoke something of Blankets, the Chief I think said, that he had understood that Blankets would be ifsued to the Indians at Montgomerys P<sup>t</sup> and you explained to him that they were not to be ifsued at this, but some other p<sup>t</sup>, the name of which I do not recollect-- The Chief then went away, and as I thought appeared satisfied-- Very soon after the Chief left the Room, M<sup>r</sup> Colquhoun came to the Room apparently much agitated, you were at that time I think, copying the letter to Capt Shreve -- M<sup>r</sup> C- said something about Blankets but I do not recollect precisely what it was, and you began to explain to him that this was not the time, nor place at which the Blankets were to be ifsued-- M- C- then became very violent, and abusive in his language-- It was about this time I think, that you said to him, that you could, or would give him a Paper that would relieve him from any further duties -- M C- continued his abuse in a still more violent manner - Saying that he had worshiped you, but that now he considered you, or viewed you as a tyrant-- I am not certain that you then said that he, C- was

drunk, but C-- immediately came over the Words Drunk; Drunk; - and then repeated Sober, Sober by the Immaculate God - immediately after those words I heard the report of the Pistol - I was in the Room when he fired, and did not see him, immediately on the report of the Pistol, you arose from the Table at which you had been writing, and Colquhoun met you at the Door, and struck you twice on the head with the Pistol -- You quickly succeeded in wresting it from him, and threw him on Deck where you gave him repeated blows on the head and face with his own Pistol-- The Ball passed through the Bulkhead of my Room, immediately over my Cot, and went into the Kitchen.

Your letter to Capt Shreve, with my report &c &c, I sent off this morning in the Archemedes

Very respectfully Your obed serv<sup>t</sup>

John Sowers

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong to the Sec'y of War. Relative to suspension of Colquhoun.)

Rock Roe. 31. Nov 1832.

Hon. Lewis Cags.

Secretary of War.

Sir.

I have the honor of referring you to my letter to Genl. Gibson per. progress in the removal of the Indians,

I now become my unpleasant duty to inform you that I have put Mr. W<sup>m</sup> S. Colquhoun Asst Agent in the Choct. remov. &c- on shore at the mouth of White river - after first informing him that he was suspended for the present from his duties until the decision of the department--

It is due to Lieut. Simonton and all others concerned to state that Mr Colquhoun has done all in his power to retard the emigration

After I joined them at Vicksburgh he held such opinions in direct opposition to your instructions - and as I conceived the interest of the government - that I was forced in the presence of Lieut Simonton & Montgomery to check him in strong terms-- and indeed to inform him that an agent expressing the opinions he did ought not to expect to remain in service and that he ought to leave it

from that time he became troublesome so much so that I had determined to suspend him at this place and so expressed myself to the Officers along.

On reaching the mouth of White river we were detained a short time- the weather extremely bad. Mr. Colquhoun learned the treaty-blankets were at the mouth of White river- he pre-

vailed on Chief Nituchachee to - insist that the blankets - that  
 his party would be entitled to- should then be issued- thereby  
 detaining - four boats - and the cholera then pressing hard on  
 us,-- with difficulty- I satisfied the Chief,- that at all  
 events the blankets &. should not be issued - until they reached  
 their new homes-- a short time after Mr. Colquhoun came in to the  
 Clerks room on board the Helioplis - where the Capt of the boat  
 and myself were settling our business Mr. Colquhoun demanded  
 that the indians should receive their blankets - charged me  
 with being a tyrant & cruel -- he so astonished me that <sup>I informed he</sup> him might  
 consider ~~me~~ himself out of service-- that he had nothing to do  
 with the blankets - and that he ought first to have come to me -  
 before he soured the minds of the indians - by going to the  
 Chief to make a noise - he became outrageous in favour of the  
poor indians and was so excited that I told him to get sober  
 before he came to me - on this business - he was evidently un-  
 der the influence of liquor. I then set down - and began to  
 fold a letter to Capt Shreve - and was directing it - not  
 noticing him nor supposing him he meditated my life - the  
 first thing I heard was the report of a pistol - I jumped up  
 and he made at me with the Pistol Clubbed-- I knocked him  
 over. and took the pistol from him - and broke it over his  
 head.- stuck the brich into his head and beat him until I  
 thought I had killed him - believing that from the distance  
 he fired - and the blood flowing - freely, that he had given  
 me a mortal wound - in this as yet appears I was mistaken the  
 ball entered near the middle of the head and passed along the

~~skull~~ skull making two holes in the skin of the head glanced upward and lodged in the boat-timber I have requested Capt Sowers of the Heleoplis to give all the particulars-- who was present -- on his getting his statement I will forward it forwith - to you.

I consider the attack of Mr. Colquhoun as a cold blooded attempt to murder.- and cannot doubt for a moment that the Dept. will - fail to sanction my course--

Respectfully

Your obt. Servt.

F. W. Armstrong

S. A. W

Honl. Lewis Cafs.

Sect War.

please excuse both the bad writing &. as it is done under unpleasant feelings

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong to the Sec's of War Relating to suspension of Colquhoun.)

St Francis 50 miles  
from Memphis Dec. 17 1832

Sir.

I arrived here on the 15<sup>th</sup> on my return from Nashville-  
I have in charge the funds for F W Armstrong

On my way to Nashville I understood at Memphis that there  
was encamped within about forty miles of the latter place a num-  
ber of Choctaws emigrating on their resources depending upon re-  
ceiving accommodation on their arrival west.- they had encamped  
and turned out hunting- I despatched a messenger to bring them  
in- and furnish them bacon & flour sufficient to bring them  
through the swamp to this place intending to return from Nash-  
ville & arrive in time - to enroll them and have them taken on  
by the goverment- I am enrolling them and will leave on the 20<sup>th</sup>  
with the party organized amounting to about four hundred & fifty.-  
after they get fairly under way I shall hurry on to Fort Smith  
with the money - as I know it is wanted for the Agency.

The indians now agree with me- that they are not capable  
of moving themselves and regret their not having taken my counsel.  
- I consider it very questionable whether or not this party would  
of left their encampment until spring - and that numbers of them  
would of scattered off-- they are in good health -- and I will  
have them hurried on to Fort Smith their place of destination  
with all speed.

They consider themselves entitled to some compensation  
- up to the time & place I received them I have informed them  
that I would state to the Dept- their wish - and ~~that~~ altho.

the goverment was now taking them in charge - as an act of  
humanity - yet the department would - if they judge it right  
make them some allowance -

Respectfully.

Your obt servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong Supt

Choct. Removal

Genl. George Gibson

Commis<sup>y</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Su<sup>bs</sup>

Washington.

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) Wm. Armstrong Relative to  
delays of Indians travelling on commutation.)

Choctaw Agency West

Dec<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1832

To

Honb<sup>l</sup> Lewis Cafs

Secty. of War

Sir

In obedience to your instructions I have the honor to report that I have had seized and left in the care of Lieut Rains, at the Choctaw Agency, four bbls of whiskey one of which is about half full.

This whiskey was detected in the hands of Cherokees named Reinfallen and Witch Graves, the latter a son of Thomas Graves nominal or read head of the Paint family Cherokee Nation West.

These men say that these four bbls of whiskey were delivered to them by Capt. Rogers of Fort Smith, for the purpose of being transported to John Drew, merchant in the Cherokee Nation, but from the fact that the Choctaws had just arrived at their camping ground, near the Choctaw Agency, and within a mile of the point on the Arkansas River where the whiskey was seized, I think it probable that it was intended for the especial purpose of retailing to the new emigrants.

I felt much gratified in thus being enabled to prevent the bad effects, which this liquor would have produced in making our muster difficult and subordination to proper authorities impofsible, & am induced to think that the method taken by the War Department to stop the introduction of whiskey, under the Act of Congrefs of 9<sup>th</sup> July, has been and will be a great



blefsing not only to the officers of Government connected with the Indian Department but to the Indians themselves, in fact the good effects already are evident and generally acknowledged.

Capt. Rogers the gentleman here charged with furnishing the whiskey, is the same person whom I have recently reported to you in detail, concerning certain facts connected with his occupying and building houses upon the Indian land at Fort Smith, and to remove whom I have desired the means.

The seizure of the whiskey was made on December 15<sup>th</sup> 1832. opposite the Choctaw ware house and ifsuing Depot. within two miles of the Choctaw Agency near the Cherokee shore on the Arkansas River the persons having charge of it having fled from the Choctaw side of the River to that of the Cherokees, to avoid detection. Six miles below this place these persons had sold to men employed on the Public Boat in the transportation of Indian provisions by Lieut. Rains - two Gallons for which the men employed under John Walker Captain of the Boat acknowledged to him that they had given \$3.00 per Gallon which was reported by him.

Very respectfully

Your mo. ob<sup>t</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>

P.S. Since making the seizure of the whiskey I called on Captain Rogers and stated to him the particulars to be embraced in this report. The Captain admitted unequivocally that he had delivered the whiskey as stated, That it was consigned to him to be forwarded to M<sup>r</sup>. Drew and that he had complied with his instructions.

Therefore you see we have a man doing commifsion businefs,

living on the Indian land and knowingly violating the Law. If the military have the Jurisdiction of this landing, as was understood by me at the time we conversed about it at Washington, I have nothing more to say, If however the Agent have the control of the old Fort or place where Rogers lives; the means required to carry into effect the Treaty, the intercourse law, and your instructions must be furnished.

I have the honor

to be most Respectfully

Your mo. ob<sup>t</sup>. Servt.

F. W. Armstrong

C A M

(OIA: 1833 Choctaws (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong Report etc.)

Muster Roll of a Company of Choctaw Indians who have emigrated West of the Mifsissippi, under the direction of Lieut. J. Van Horne, U. S. Disb<sup>g</sup> Agent for Removal and Subsist<sup>ce</sup> of Indians, and on this 18 Dec<sup>r</sup> 1832, turned over to Lt J. R. Stevenson U. S. Disb<sup>g</sup> Agent near Kiamichi River - - -

Names of Heads of Families	Number and Ages of Indians							Total number	Remarks
	Males				Females				
	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	
Itotohooma      Capt	2	1	1		1		1		6
Chikasehooma	1			1	1	1	1		5
Tishoharcho			1		1		1		3
Holitanokubbee	1	1	1		1	2		1	7
Tikbaba	2		1	1		1			5
Hoyopahoma	1	2	1			1	1	1	7
Okahooma	1	2	1	1		1	1		7
Punshohekubbee	1	1	1	1	2	1	1		8
Yokimentubbee			1			1	1		3
Noatubbee	1				1	1			3
Impotubbee	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	7
Mullechubbee			1	1			1	2	5
Amila	2	1				2	1	1	7
John	2		1	1			1		5
Illaballihooma		2	1		4		1	1	9
Pakashonistikubbee	1	2		2	2	4		2	13
Pakanuttah	1	1	1		1		1		5

	Males				Females				
	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	
Okchanahooma	1	2	1	1	1		1	1	8
Tanuppaiya		2	1			1			4
Anchatika	1	1	1		2		1		6
Chieffahoma	2	1	1			1	1		6
Immahaya		2			1	1	1		5
Chillebahooma	3		1	1	1		1	1	8
Tushkekahacho	2	4		1	1	2	1	1	12
Shankobaiga						1		1	2
Ibanokubbee	1	1	1		1	1	1		6
Tishoanchhubbee	1		2		1	1	1		6
Onabaiga					2		1	1	4
Hoshishihopaiga	1	1	1		2		1	1	7
Abbitcocha	1	2	1		2	1	1		8
Okletubbee		1	2			2			5
Chilletubbee		1	1		1	1	2		6
Illatahli	1	2	2		1	2	1	1	10

	Males				Females			
	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50
Ahhokletubbee/ Capt	1		1			1		3
Abemohtubbee	1	1	1		1	1		5
Pahooma		1		1		2		4
Chaffatubbee	1	1	1			1		4
Tupenohika	1	2	1		1	1		6
Ishtonakahooma		1	2		1	1	1	6
Aiakambe	1	2	1			1		5
Nokimachubbee		2	2		1	1	1	7
Chapotubbee			1		2	1		4
Tikabanchechubbee	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	8
Hotekubbee			1		1	1	1	4
Ohlatimastubbee	1		1		1	2		5
Hoyopanchika		1		2	1	3	1	9
Ahoyo	1	1			1	1	1	5
Pashtonubbee	1		1		1	1	1	5
Shikopochaiga		1		1				2
Kanimonta	2		1		2	2	1	8
Imanoubbee	1			1			1	3
Imaatha	2					1		3
Poshimastubbee	1		1			1		3
Oklanoubbee	1	2	2		1	3	2	12

## Males

## Females

	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	
Kahlitambe	2	1	1		1		1		6
Ishoahambee			1		3		1		5
Tushkatuckle	1	1		1		1		1	5
Anchatenubbee	3		1		2	1			7

	Males				Females				
	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	
Timmahalubbee Capt.	3	2	3	1	2	6	3	1	21
Kirshonokihaiga		3		1		1		1	6
Filleba	1					3	1		5
Hashonaaka		2			1	1	1	1	6
Maoona		1			1		1		3
Hotambe		2	1			3	1		7
Tikbaheka	2	2	1		1	1	1		8
Immahoyo	1	2			2	1	1		7
Hoshishahooma Capt.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		7
Sinbihoollo		1	1	1			1	1	5
Tushkiakambe	2		1		1		1		5
Ubbetanowa	3	2		1		2	1		9
Ahtobatooma	1	1	1		1	3	2		9
Tushkahooma	1	3	1	1	2	1		1	10
Miohuntutubbee			1				1		2
Shikopoehaya	2	2	1			1	2		8

		Males				Females				
		Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	Under 10	Of 10 and under 25	Of 25 and under 50	Over 50	
William Babice	Capt		3	1		3	1	1	1	10
Chatahooma				2	1		1		1	5
Shikopahooma		2		1		2	1	1		7
Illanata		3	3	2	1	2	3	1		15
Kanupitubbee		1	1			3	2	1		8
Illeburna				1	1				1	3
Jahistambe				1	1	2	1			5

Robert W. Nail

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1

J. Van Horne 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut 3 Inf.

Dis.Agt.Ch.Rem.



Route from Rockrow on the West bank of White River 7 miles below the mouth of Cache river, to the Choctaw Agency near fort Smith Arkansas river

To Grue	14 miles	1 <sup>st</sup>	days march	
" M <sup>rs</sup> Blacks	14	"	2 <sup>d</sup>	" & ifsuing Station N <sup>o</sup> 1
" Head of prairie	10	"	3 <sup>d</sup>	"
" Irvines	10	"	4 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 2
" Crofs Roads	10	"	5 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Palarm bayeau	15	"	6 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 3
" Military road	15	"	7 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Cadron Crofs <sup>g</sup> ferry				
Plummers	7	"	8 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 4
" Fletchers or Ellis'	12	"	9 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Crofsing p <sup>t</sup> Remove				
Ferry to Blunts	3	"	10 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 5
" Logans Gallack	12	"	11 <sup>th</sup>	"
" South side of Arkan-				
sas river Crofs <sup>g</sup> ferry	8	"	12 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 6
" Shoal Creek	18	"	13 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Caney Creek	8	"	14 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 7
" 6 mile Creek	13	"	15 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Big Creek	12	"	16 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 8
" Greggs	11	"	17 <sup>th</sup>	
" Choctaw Country	"		18 <sup>th</sup>	(sic)

Route from Rockrow on the west bank of White River, 7 miles below the mouth of Cache river, to fort Towson Red river

To Grue	14 miles first days travel			
" M. <sup>rs</sup> Blacks	13	"	2 <sup>d</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 1
" Evans'	17	"	3 <sup>d</sup>	"
" Arkansas river	15	"	4 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 2
" 5 mile Ck	5	"	5 <sup>th</sup>	days march after crofsing ferry
" Herricane	13	"	6 <sup>th</sup>	days march & ifsuing Station 3
" Lockhart	10	"	7 <sup>th</sup>	days march
" 10 mile Creek	10	"	8 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 4
"Ouechitta	10	"	9 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Bayeau de Lisle	15	"	10 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 5
" Callaway's	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	"	11 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Hignights	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	"	12 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 6
" Antoine	12	"	13 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Old Still house	14	"	14 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 7
" Washington	12	"	15 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Johnstons	9	"	16 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 8
" Mine Creek	10	"	17 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Saline Creek	10	"	18 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 9
" Coratot	10	"	19 <sup>th</sup>	"
" Little River	15	"	20 <sup>th</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 10
" 6 miles West of				
Little river Saline	12	"	21 <sup>st</sup>	"
" McCanns old place	14	"	22 <sup>nd</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 11
" A place, from McCanns	17	"	23 <sup>rd</sup>	" & ifsuing Station 12
" Fort Towson	17	"	24 <sup>th</sup>	" &-ifsuing-Station-12

(OIA: Choctaws (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong, A.L.Langham, J.T.Fulton to Capt.J.Brown, Disb.Agent, Arrangements for meeting & disposing of parties, routes, appointments, requisitions, etc. Copies of 5 letters and papers.)

Washington City

March 22<sup>d</sup> 1833

Dear Sir-

You request me to peruse M<sup>r</sup> Colquhoun's journal, of the late Choctaw emigration, and to state, as far as my knowledge extends, how far his assertions with respect to yourself are true or otherwise.

I have not had an opportunity, since I received your request of perusing the journal in question - but have some recollection of its contents which I heard read some few days since in the department --

With respect to the charge that it's well known you are disposed to overbear and tyrannise, doubtless, upon such a subject, those who know you, will feel themselves quite as well qualified to judge as M<sup>r</sup> Colquhoun - As it regards my own sentiment in relation to that matter, I am free to say that the association with you in the performance of a common duty, gave birth, in my own breast, to feelings personally friendly to yourself-- which probably would not have been the case had I have assigned to you the motives and character which it seems M<sup>r</sup> Colquhoun has done --

I was present at a conversation between yourself and the person above alluded to-- but heard no charge alleged by you against M<sup>r</sup> G. Goins, late Sp<sup>l</sup> A. C. R of fraud and corruption-- I did hear you, however, say, that during the previous year, the Choctaws had been so much indulged ~~that~~ they were spoiled. They now looked for much more than, under the Regulations, they could be allowed.--

M<sup>r</sup> C. expressed himself dissatisfied with those Regulations -- and contended that the Indians did not receive the privileges which their late Treaty guaranteed-- Your reply was, in substance, and I believe in the very words, that, an Agent holding such opinions and expressing them publicly had better leave the service-- This early expression of your disapprobation seemed to me, to influence his subsequent conduct--

M<sup>r</sup> C. and myself differ most materially with respect to the propriety and expediency of running our boats during the night -- I esteemed that measure highly beneficial to the public interest, and enabled us to perform the steamboat Transportation in less than one half the time it would otherwise have required -- and of course largely economised both time and means-- and enabled to terminate the emigration in time to avoid the unpleasant and inclement weather that set in immediately after the emigrants had reached their new homes --

At the time M<sup>r</sup> Colquhoun made his attack upon you, or attempt to assassinate you, at the mouth of White River, he was intoxicated, and I was told by M<sup>r</sup> Miller, who said he knew well M<sup>r</sup> C's. peculiar disposition, that it was his opinion, (previous to the affair, alluded to, having taken place,) that M<sup>r</sup> C. had put himself in that condition in order to have a quarrel with somebody, which, perhaps, would seem must have been the case, for his proposition to you in relation to the blankets, - which were then in store at Montgomery Point, subject to your command- did not necessarily involve any personal difficulty between you and himself--

Very Respectfully Your Ob St.

Major F. Armstrong

W P Montgomery

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) J.W. Armstrong to the Sec's of War Relative to suspension of Colquhoun.)

Washington City. D. C.

March 31<sup>st</sup> 1833.

Gen. G. Gibson

Sir.- I have the honour to lay before you the enclosed letters from Gentlemen of the Army and Captain Sowers.

Was it not for the attempt that Capt. Colquehoon makes to create a difference between Maj. Gaines & myself, I would not notice his statement, but leave this matter to rest on the enclosed letters.

It is due to myself to state,- that I never did make any charge whatever against the integrity of M<sup>r</sup> Gaines - I have always considered him as honest a man as ever lived,- In conversing on the conduct of the Indians, I did say that I thought that they had been spoiled the year before,- that the Agents under M<sup>r</sup> Gaines had, according to their own account, promised every thing to the Indians to get them to emigrate,- that they said they would haul even their dogs,- that Mr. Gaines had been trading among them many years,- that they owed him large debts before he became Superintendent and that the indulgence and course taken in the movement operated against us; because we had specific regulations from the Secretary of War, to govern us. I also stated that the Secretary of War had told me that he was not satisfied at the payment of the Indians at Vixburg with goods and that he would not sanction it.

I refer now to the Hon. Secretary of War to prove that my Brother & myself did both object to engaging in the Choctaw removal, because M<sup>r</sup> Gaines might feel, that we had not acted like

Friends towards him, and we were not willing to forfeit the friendship so long enjoyed by us, and which I now cherish with great interest

I wish the Journal alluded to, together with this communication and letters enclosed, to be open to the perusal of all who wish to examine them. Please cause these documents to be filed with the ex-Captain's Journal, now in the office of emigration and removal.

I have the honour to be

with respect

Your Obt. Servant

F. W. Armstrong

C A

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong to the Sec'y of War Relative to suspension of Colquhoun.)

Fort Smith

Rec<sup>d</sup> May 4<sup>th</sup>April 5<sup>th</sup> 1833Gen<sup>l</sup> Geo. GibsonCom<sup>y</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Sub.

Washington City, D.C.

Sir. Herewith I have the honor to forward rolls of the Choctaws in Arkansas District, comprising the late Emigrants only, which have been made in triplicate according to instructions from Capt. Brown who receives a copy.

Your communications of the 12<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1832, the 19<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Jan.<sup>y</sup>. and 11<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup>. 1833 have been duly received.

The remarks in yours<sup>o</sup> of the 31<sup>st</sup> Jan.<sup>y</sup>. relative to buying cattle for those relinquished by Choctaws in the old nation, have certainly a correct bearing upon the case, as would probably occur in this country; for there has scarcely been one contract of any description whatever published in this section of country, that there has not been some combination or evident attempt of fraud upon Government among the bidders, The same spirit of dishonesty goes with them in filling their contracts, so as to demand the utmost vigilance to prevent the unlettered Indians from being cheated. To fill these cattle tickets and defeat improper doings among bidders I can see no plan more feasible than to have them purchased in private bargains, or both plans might be tested leaving to the Governmental Agent in the advertisement the power of superseding all public bids by any private contract which he may make more advantagious to Government.

The Old Emigrants of 1831, whose time of drawing provision has expired (most of them having raised no crops last year) are now begging for provision to keep from starving,

sacrificing their annuity for about one sixth of its value for the same purpose, and must fare worse if possible. I can recommend nothing to relieve them, for I believe were they supported another year the same again would happen, though the situation of widows and orphans is to be lamented.

I am Sir --

Very respectfully your

Mo. Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup> --

G.J.Rains Lt. & Dis Agent

(OIA: 1833 Choctaw (Emigr) Lt.G.T.Rains Rel to the purchasing of cattle for Choctaws & the starving condition of Emigrants of 1831.)



Rec<sup>d</sup> June 21<sup>st</sup>Gainesville 15<sup>th</sup> May 1833

(postmarked Clinton Ala June 6, 1833)

Sir

I enclose to you articles of Agreement between Govt and individuals employ'd in removing Capt<sup>s</sup> Geo: W. Harkins, Silas D. Fishers & Co<sup>l</sup> Joel H Nail Parties Emigrant Choktaws from Ecor Fabrie Fabrie A T. to the new Choktaw country-- These articles were put into my hands by Capt Sam<sup>l</sup> T. Crofs Spc<sup>l</sup> Agent for the remv<sup>l</sup> & Subs' Indians with instructions to enroll the waggons as fast as they arrived at the encampment. he afterwards instructed me to proceed with Col. Joel H Nailles Party, to the new Choktaw country, and there report to Col Rector Spcl. Agent &<sup>c</sup> west of the Mi. river -- When I arrived at Clear Creek in the new Choktaw Nation, there was no Agent there, to settle with the Wagoners, consequently, I discharged them on the 30<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1832 with Certificates for the Amt<sup>s</sup> due them after deducting the Amt<sup>s</sup> due Boyd & Belding contractors for furnishing the teams, see Artcles filed Jn<sup>o</sup>. McClinton & W<sup>m</sup> Trimble -- when I returned by way of Little Rock I handed these inclosed Articles to Cap<sup>t</sup> Brown Sup.t. Remov<sup>l</sup> & Subst. Ind. west Mi but when I left, he returned them and told me to keep them until call. upon for them -- I have concluded to forward them to you

Respectfully

Genl. Geo: Gibson

Your. Obt. Servt.

Washington

A.W.Everett

M<sup>r</sup> J. D. M<sup>c</sup>Gee I warn you & BenJamin Moor Juneyear to attend  
at Capt Willinghams on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of this inst by 12 oclock  
with each of you a gun and aminniton for the purpose of De-  
fending the rites of our Country now invaded by the Indains

J. B. Shetford Warner

by athorety

this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of Nov 1833

(OIA: 1833 Choctaws (Agency) F.W.Armstrong. Orders to Military.)

Agency 20<sup>th</sup> Novr' 1833

The Capt of the Light Horse is hereby required to give notice to the People of this district that they are exprefsly forbidden from hunting below the line on the Lands of the Whites, and he is further ordered to inform them that Col. Rector Afst. Agent Chactaw removal & Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Lellan Sub Agent with two Interpreters will proceed tomorrow direct to the Hunting camps of the Indians below the Line, for the exprefs purpose of getting them to return to their Homes (with all the means in their power)

He will say to the Indians through the district that I was informed verbally through Col. Arbuckle that the Militia were forming to drive the Choctaws to their own country in consequence of their killing the stock of the inhabitants.-

If any of them wish to hunt their Horses below the line, they must come first to the Agent and get a written permit setting forth the object of their visit (leaving their guns at home) this done they will no doubt be kindly treated by the Citizens of the Territory while in pursuit of their property

F. W. Armstrong

C A

(OIA: 1833 Choctaws (Agency) F.W.Armstrong. Orders to Military.)

Agency 21<sup>st</sup> Nov' 1833

Col. Whorton Rector

Afst. Agt. Choctaw Removal.

Sir

I have just been informed through Col. Arbuckle that many of the Choctaws are now hunting below the line, in the white settlements, and that the citizens of Crawford County are organizing themselves to drive them back to their own Country in consequence of the Indians killing the stock of the inhabitants,-

You will please therefore proceed forthwith accompanied by Capt M<sup>c</sup>Lellan Sub Agent with Interpreters Fulsom & Goodall direct to Crawford County, and there ascertain where the Indians are to be found, visit their camps and urge them by all possible means to return with you to their homes.

Accompanying this Order you will receive one given the Capt. of Light Horse of this district, The object of which is to satisfy the citizens that every effort will be made and is now making to confine the Indians within the limits of their own Country,-

Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Lellan will keep an exact account of all expences incurred in the performance of this duty.

On your return you will report all the particulars which you may become possessed of in the performance of this duty

F. W. Armstrong

C A

Col. W. Rector

Afst Agt. Ch. Removal

Choctaw Agency

25th Novr. 1833--

Sir

In compliance with your instructions of the 21st. Inst. I proceeded to Crawford County, to where the alleged depredations should have been committed by the Chactaw Indians.-

I made inquiry of the most respectable citizens of that vicinity and could learn from none of them that there had been more than a half dozen Chactaws seen in the neighborhood and that they had not been in the least wise troublesome

My opinion is that the report of Indians being in Crawford County and plundering the citizens was put into circulation by designing persons for the purpose of affecting a certain object which is now on foot.--

Very respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

W<sup>h</sup> Rector

Afst. Agt. Rml. Indians

Major F. W. Armstrong

Choctaw Agent.

(OIA: 1833 Choctaws (Agency) F.W.Armstrong Orders to Military.)

(COPY)

Choctaw Agency W. T.

Sept 22, 1834

Capt Clarke

Commanding Fort Towson

Sir

I must request the favour of you to read the enclosed letter addressed to Chief Laflore; and at the same time request you to take the prisoner and keep him in the Guard House, for the reasons stated, until we are advised as to further proceedings in this case, by the Department.

Should the Nation carry their sentence into execution there is no remedy; and the life of a human being might be taken away, by a wrong tribunal; and although it would be just towards the offender, for the crime committed, still it ~~might~~ would prove a melancholly occurrence, and one greatly to be regretted.

I am with high regard

Your Obt Servt

(signed) F. W. Armstrong

C. A.

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West (Agency) F.W.Armstrong Papers in case of slave confined for murder.)

Choctaw Agency Oct 9th 1834

Gen. George Gibson

Com. Gen. of Subsistence

Sir

It becomes my duty to report to you that Mr Baker has failed to deliver the 250 wheels and one hundred Looms on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June last.

It is due however, to Mr Baker that I should state that the uncommon and continued low stage of the river has prevented him from getting up his Irons, which were procured at Cincinnatti. He has, I believe, his timber well seasoned, and is now progressing with such parts of the work as can be done without the Irons.

I do not feel myself authorized to make the arrangement for the remainder of the work to be done on Red River, until I hear from you, that further time is allowed for the completion of the first part of the contract. I do not consider that the interest of the Indians has suffered as yet, for they have not raised but very little cotton (if any). I recommend therefore, under all these circumstances that further time be allowed Mr Baker. Besides the great disappointment growing out of the low stage of the river, during the past season, he has had a good deal of sickness among his hands, indeed every body in the country has been more or less sick, as far as I can learn.

I have the honor to be Your obt Sert.

F. W. Armstrong C A

(OIA: 1834 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong Baker could not deliver wheels & looms, advises he have farther time.)

Little Rock, A. T.

Octr. 11<sup>th</sup> 1834.

Sir:

I left this on the 2<sup>d</sup>. ulto. for the Western Territory, with Funds to pay the Indians their Annuities and to meet Treaty stipulations, as far as could be accomplished under the then arrangements with the Acting Superintendant. But his recent return to the Territory and other duties intervening, prolonged the period of making the payments beyond the time practicable for me to remain and superintend personally, consistent with other duties, the distribution of the money. I therefore made the necessary preparations, placed funds in the hands of my Agents to pay the Choctaws, Cherokees and Creeks, and returned to my station, which I reached this evening.

The Funds taken to the Frontier consisted of specie \$16,000, and the residue in small Bills of \$5 & \$10, payable in New Orleans, and consequently as good as silver.

As the Choctaw Annuities are paid to the heads of Families, it became necessary to enroll the whole nation, preparatory to, and before payments could be made. This I have done, and personally attended to the entire enrolment, and have had the Pay Rolls written up, ready for making the payments, whenever the Agent shall direct. The enrollment of the Choctaws, I found to be no small moment of labor, inasmuch as I had to traverse the greater part of their Country to prepare Rolls for, and muster 119 companies occupying over two hundred sheets of Pay Rolls of Folio Post size, which, (for want of Blanks,) had to be ruled, captains written, &c.



The payment of the Ten Thousand Dollars to those Families that did not receive any Land Benefits in the Old Nation, is deferred until the payment of next years Annuity. This was found necessary for the purpose of getting a correct list of such claimants prior to making payments, which could not well be done at this payment. This duty is attended to by my Agents, and the 31<sup>st</sup> of January next is fixed on for closing the records.

The Statement for the distribution of Annuity Funds, and funds for the salaries of Agents, Chiefs, &c. furnished me while at Washington, shows the salaries of but one of the Choctaw Chiefs is to be paid the present year. The Treaty provides for three = one for each District. Two of the Treaty Chiefs Emigrated at an early period, and are with their People in the New Country, and a third one was Elected. (Thos. Lafloore, in place of Greenwood Lafloore, not Emigrated,) 7<sup>th</sup> July last; and all expect to receive their salaries. Believing that the statement above referred to, intended to include salaries for two Chiefs, I have directed the payment of same to be made to Mu-shu-la-tubbee and Na-ta-ca-chee; and have requested the suspension of the payment of salary to Thos. Laflore, (the newly elected Chief,) until I hear from you, and get your instructions in relation thereto. I also find that the Statement puts down the pay of Sub-Agents for the Choctaws and Cherokees, at \$500, each, per annum, which doubtless is also a mistake, as the late "Law for the organization of the Department of Indian Affairs," fixes the compensation at \$750. per annum. The item in the Statement for the Cherokees stands thus: "Pay of sub-Agent 5 mos. at \$500. per an. \$208.33, and for the Choctaws, do. of do. 7 mos. at \$500. pr. an. \$291.67.

I placed funds in the hands of Lt. Van Horne, Dis. Agent for the payment of Annuities to the Cherokees, and to meet Treaty stipulations for that Tribe, as well as for the Creeks with instructions in relation to making the payments; and the same will be made whenever the Supt. or Agent shall require it to be done.

By the time the Quapaws shall have reached and established themselves in their locations West, I shall either go myself, or send the Funds to pay them and the Sennicas their annuities, and to make the delivery of Goods to the Osages, provided they shall have reached the nation at the time the above annuities are paid. In relation to the Quapaws, I perceive that the debts of that nation are to be paid, and the sum stipulated therefor (\$4,180.) is included in the Funds received for the payment of Annuities, &c. for the Western Territory, but as no instructions in relation to such payments have been furnished, I am at a loss how to proceed in the execution of that part of the duty. I have therefore to request to be informed who the claimants are, the nature of the debts, and the evidence that may be deemed necessary for the payment of them.

I had ere this expected to have received several sets of the "Regulations concerning superintendencies, &c. and the Regulations concerning the payment of annuities, together with Blank Forms, adapted to the various objects of disbursements. If none has been forwarded on the receipt of this communication, I must request of you to forward six sets of the Printed Regulations, a complete set of Forms, and also the Book containing the late Indian Treaties.

The late period of the passage of the act of appropriation for the payment of annuities, rendered it absolutely impossible to transport the funds to the frontier, make the payments, and get the accounts to Washington for settlement within the time specified. I am in hopes, however, to forward you the vouchers for the payment of Annuities to the Choctaws and Cherokees, on or before the close of this month; and for the other tribes, (with the exception of some items of Treaty stipulations) on or before the close of the present year.

Very Respectfully

I have the honor to be,

Your Ob't. servt.

J Brown Capt. U. S. Army

S.W. Dis. Age. Ind Annuities

Elbert Herring Esqr.

Comr. of Ind. Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

(OIA: 1834 Choctaws Capt. Jacob Brown, U.S.A., S.W. Disbursing Agent of annuities, etc.)

Head Quarters U S Dragoons

Fort Leavenworth Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> 1834

Sir

I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 27th Ult<sup>o</sup>. I am much gratified that my Conduct in relation to the Council held with a number of the Chiefs of the Western tribes of Indians at Fort Gibson in September last has been satisfactory to you. Although I had not received instructions from the War department on the subject of Holding Councils with Indians I felt the necessity of assuming the responsibility of Convening the Chiefs of the friendly tribes to hold a Conference with the Indians that accompanied me on the return of the expedition from the Indian Country I had consulted Gov<sup>r</sup> Stokes and fortunately on the first day of the Council Major Armstrong arrive I found that gentleman an efficient Colleague

It is a source of great gratification to me to know that my Conduct and that of the Corps I have the Honor to Command on the late expedition Has the approbation of the President

I have the Honor to be with  
great Respect your ob<sup>t</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

To The Honorable

H Dodge Col

Lewis Cafs Secretary of War

Commdg U S Dragoons

Washington City

Choctaw Agency

January 10th 1835.

Elbert Herring Esq<sup>r</sup>

Com. Indian Affairs

Sir,

The enclosed papers will put you in pofsefsion of a claim made by Lewis Evans, a white man; and a licensed trader in the Cherokee nation, against John & Lewis Rogers, native Cherokees. In comformity with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Section of the late Act of Congrefs, I notified the parties to be at Fort Gibson at the time stated, prepared to investigate the complaint of Evans ~~against~~ against Rogers. The accompanying papers will shew the entire proceedings; and it now becomes my duty to give my opinion in this case; after which the same will go before the President, for his final decision.

It will be seen that evans complains that Rogers has forcibly taken pofsefsion of a quantity of salt, which said Evans contends had been delivered to him by Keener, in the presence of Rogers. The complaint filed and marked N<sup>o</sup> 1, in the accompanying documents will shew the ground upon which he rests his claim.

The articles of agreement between Evans and Keener marked N<sup>o</sup> 2, will shew in what way Evans became interested with Keener. In support of the claim proof is offerred to show that Rogers stood by and connived at the delivery of the salt by Keener; and further that Lewis Rogers even aided in marking and putting up the salt in barrels. It is therefore contended that Rogers

should have made his objection to the sale of the salt by Keener at the time; otherwise he (Rogers) could not sustain a claim, if any he had, to said salt, in as much as he failed to make the demand for the salt in due time, therefore he lost his right, if any he had. A reference to the Article of agreement or lease between Rogers & Keener, N<sup>o</sup> 5, will show Roger's claim & right to the sale in question.

Lewis Evans & his counsel urged that it was the duty of Rogers to demand his rent salt if any was due at the time he was present & saw Keener disposing of the salt to Evans. That the very fact of his remaining silent must be taken as acquiescing in the contract & sale by Keener to Evans. This ground I consider a good one in all cases between parties where there is no written contract to govern the case in question, and unless this was the case under the law the right of an innocent person who might be a purchaser, could never be safe or protected. Was A. to put a horse in possession of B. temporarily; and not with a view that the horse was to be considered the property of B. but merely on a loan; and B. was to offer the horse for sale to C. in the presence of A; and A was to stand by and hear the bargain made; and see the horse delivered by B. to C. and afterwards attempt to regain the horse, he could not do so, because it would be considered a wilful fraud practiced intentionally by A & B. on C. an innocent purchaser, in this light Mr Evans wished his case to be placed.

But after a full examination of the agreement between Rogers & Keener; and the fact shown by the testimony of two

witneses that M<sup>r</sup> Evans did know that Keener and Rogers the rent salt amounting to 1660 $\frac{1}{4}$  bushels of salt as proven by M<sup>r</sup> Evans own witnefs (Smallman) In answer to a question by Rogers to witnefs, he stated that Evans had actually audited the settlement between Rogers & Keener; and had made the entry in his own hand writing in Keeners book; showing that Keener did at that time owe Rogers 1660 $\frac{1}{4}$  bushels of salt. It is also in proof that M<sup>r</sup> Evans, before he bought the salt from Keener now claimed, sent his witnefs Smallman, to look at the contract between Rogers & Keener. Therefore he cannot be considered as having purchased innocently, because he did ~~not~~ know that Rogers had a preference by the terms of the lease for the rent salt from Keener; and also that Keener owed Rogers then by his own settlement more than the 1660 $\frac{1}{4}$  bushels of salt now claimed. From the terms of the lease or agreement it was optionary with Rogers at what time he should demand the rent salt; and I do not consider that he would have been justified in interfering in Keeners sale to Evans, until the last moment when he saw that the rent salt was going off; and self preservation required that he should seize on the salt to secure his rent. Rogers too, it will be seen by the lease to Keener was not authorized to sell salt at the Saline more than what was barely sufficient to purchase the necefsary supplies for the use of his family.

To close this case I am clearly of opinion that Rogers had the right, under his lease to hold the salt. It will be recollected too that Rogers is a native Cherokee, and that all he looked for was his rent. If M<sup>r</sup> Evans had advanced the amount

of the salt in question to Keener, they were both white men; and Evans has his remedy.

I therefore conceive that a perusal of the lease or agreement by which Hugh Keener got into possession of the Saline from Rogers puts it out of the power of Keener or any other person whatever to deprive Rogers of his rent salt. The salt never was taken from the place where it was made; and was of course bound for the rent.

It is important to the parties that this case should be decided as early as practicable, by the President, as the amount involved is considerable.

I have the honor to be

Your Obt Servant

F W. Armstrong

A. S. W. T

(CIA: 1835 Choctaws West (Agency) F. W. Armstrong. Claim of Lewis Evans against J. & L. Rogers.)



Choctaw Agency Jan 29, 1835

Elbert Herring Esqr

Com of Indian Affairs

Sir

Enclosed are copies of a communication and accompanying letters sent you on the 25th Sept. 1834. The length of time that has elapsed since; and no answer having been received, has led me to believe that they have miscarried. The importance of the subject makes it necessary that instructions be given me as early as possible, as the slave will remain in confinement until I hear from the Department.

I have the honor to be

Your Obt Servt

F. W. Armstrong

A. S. W. T.

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West (Agency) F.W.Armstrong. Papers in case of slave confined for murder.)



Fort Coffee

Choctaw Nation West,

20<sup>th</sup> August 1835.

Sir,

At the death of Maj. F. W. Armstrong Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and Agent to the Western Choctaws - I took charge of his public papers Appertaining to Indian affairs, principally with a view to their preservation since which time several letters have been received from you and opened, one of which, dated 14<sup>th</sup> of July 1835, desires information in relation to a Betsey Beans of the old or Eastern Choctaw Nation, which information cannot be given from this quarter, it is pofsible however that M<sup>r</sup> John Millard now in Washington City, can throw some light on the Subject, as I think he was with Major Armstrong, when the Choctaws of Mifsifsippi were registered - Another one of your letters dated 22<sup>d</sup> July on the Subject of M<sup>r</sup> Aldrick a rejected Mifsionary in the Cherokee Nation, has been received, and a copy thereof forwarded to Capt. Vashon Sub. Agent of that Nation. An other of the same date, on the Subject of Sending "one or two Chiefs of each of the Wild Tribes of Indians to Washington City," has been received, and a copy of it forwarded to Genl. Arbuckle, and Governor Stokes (Commifsioners.)

I have taken on myself for the time being the duties of Agent to the Choctaws residing north of the mountain, Comprising Mu-sha-la-tubbee's District, and have informed Col. Vose at Fort Towson of that fact, whom I suppose will in like manner take upon himself the duties of Agent to the other two Districts

comprising that portion of the Choctaw Nation South of the Mountains.

It is a matter of question with the Disbursing Agents of the Indian Dept., whether or not the claims of Blacksmith Strikers &c. employed in the Choctaw Nation can be paid or accounts authenticated by an Officer Acting as I am, as the Law requires that the accuracy of those accounts be certified to, by an Agent or Sub Agent of the Indian Department, and as the most of those persons have pay due them for six months, and upwards, and will in all Probability apply for it, I will thank you for your early decision on that point.

In consequence of the Scarcity of Springs of Water in that portion of the Choctaw Nation, between the Arkansas River and the Mountain, some of the School Houses recently erected are said to be destitute for good and wholesome Water, from which cause some of the School Teachers have applied to me to have Wells dug, but not feeling myself to be authorized to do so, Respectfully request your decision on that Subject.

I have continued in Service M<sup>r</sup> Clark who has been heretofore employed by Maj. Armstrong as a Clerk in the Indian Department, at a Sallary of Five hundred Dollars per annum, which course I hope will be approved of by the Department, in as much as his services will be very essential in the Settlement of Maj. Armstrong's Public accounts, he being better acquainted with their arrangement than any other person - his knowledge of the unfinished businefs of the Office, may also be of benefit to the person who may hereafter be appointed to succeed the late

Superintendent and Agent (Maj. Armstrong.)

I have the honor to be

Sir

Very Respectfully

Yo. Obt. Servt.

John Stuart

Capt. 7<sup>t</sup> Infy

Comdg. Fort Coffee

Choctaw Nation

Elbert Herring

Commifsioner of Indian

Affairs --

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West (Agency) Capt. John Stuart, Acting Agent, Misc. letters.)

The country occupied by Meshulatubbee district of Choc-taws, lying between the Arkansas river, and the Ozark Mountain; which divides the waters of the Arkansas and Red river, is considerably broken by hills and mountains, which have a general range nearly parallel to the main Mountain. Those ridges are often several miles apart; and are covered with a short-timber, principally of the oak kind and are more or less covered with sand stone and the soil poor. In the vallies between the ridges lies the tillable or fertile land through the centre of which, in every case, there runs a Bayou or water course, the borders of which, are for the most part, covered with a narrow belt or strip of timber; and the space between that and the ridges, is generally, prairie without much rock. In those vallies immediately on the water courses, are to be found the present Indian settlements, which are most commonly made near the mouth or confluence of the Bayous with other streams.

There are but very few springs of water within this district of country; and the water now made use of, by the inhabitants, is taken almost entirely from the Bayous, the most of which ceases to run for months together, during the summer & fall; but where the settlements now are, or in other words, near the mouth of many of those streams, water is to be found in pools or low places in the Bayous, during the driest times. But that is not the case nearer to their sources; and when the settlements extend higher up wells

will have to be resorted to, as the only means of procuring water, during the summer and fall months. The land immediately bordering on the Arkansas river is alluvial, and is equal in point of fertility to any soil in the United States. That bordering on the Poteau and other large streams, is also fertile, but is not so extensive.

The best and most valuable timber is confined to the river bottoms; & consists of Black Oak, Overcup Oak, Walnut &c, there is no white oak, or Poplar, in the country, Pine is to be found in the mountain only. Some parts of the prairie land is tolerably fertile; and will produce grain middling well, for fifteen or twenty years, after which it will require manure; one objection, however to the prairie land of this country, for cultivation, is that the whole surface, is broken by a kind of hillock peculiar to the prairies of the west, which are from one to three feet high, and from ten feet to thirty yards in diameter across the base, they are very much in the way in ploughing; and what is still worse, the rain that falls on them runs quickly off, on to the surrounding flat surface; and thereby gives the flat space an over-proportion of water, which it cannot absorb, and which if not taken off by small rills, remains on the surface untill evaporated by the atmosphere, which in some cases requires several days, and even weeks, during which time the soil is soft and often mirery. Those hills or lumps are irregularly planted over the surface; and are seldom fifty yards apart,

and are generally not near so much; and often in the course of their growth, two or more of them have become united together. They are dispersed over all the flat highland, both timbered and prairie, that is clear of stone and gravel. The timbered land, however, that contains those hills was originally prairie; and has been encroached on by the timber, which is advancing, by regular progression over all parts of the prairie land. It may be asked why the ridges & mountains are covered with timber before the flat portion of the country? The reason to me, is very obvious, the ridges are rocky and the soil poor; and consequently the grass & herbage is comparatively short & light; and the fires do not pass over it with such fury as it does over the fertile plain; & thereby gives the timber an opportunity to spring up.

There are various conjectures respecting the formation or cause of those hills. Some are of opinion that they were formed by the sea, others, that they are the work of human hands &c, but I am very clearly of opinion that they have been occasioned by a small animal of the mole kind, called the Salamander or Gofer, which lives principally under ground; and in place of breaking up the surface, as the mole does, in moving from place to place, they excavate their way by throwing out the clay into small hills; and in the fall when the weather becomes cool, several of them collect together, and excavate a hollow near the surface of sufficient capacity for winter quarters, for the whole party, into which they carry a large quantity of grass and other vegetable matter



for bedding. The next fall, this process is renewed at the same spot, which increases the bank of clay on the surface; and the grass &c, carried below being protected from the annual fires, will decompose and form earth, large quantities of grass are also covered and protected from the fire, by the clay which is thrown out on the surface. This process being carried on at or near the same place, by generation after generation of those animals for thousands of years, has formed the hills in question.

There are other small mounds in this country that no doubt are the work of human hands, but they are easily distinguished from those above mentioned.

One serious and lasting inconvenience to this district of country is the total absence of Limestone. I do not believe that there is a single particle of that stone to be found within the district.

There is some appearance of salt in many places, but no valuable salt springs have yet been found.

There are also some strong indications of stone coal, in the lower part of the district; and on the South fork of the Canadian. In the upper or western part of the district, it is found to exist in greater quantities.

I am Sir very respecty

Fort Coffee

Your Obt Servant

Choctaw Nation

John Stuart

1<sup>st</sup> October, 1835.

Capt. 7<sup>h</sup> Inf<sup>y</sup>

Actg Agent

(OIA: Schools (Choctaws West) Capt. John Stuart, USA)

Fort Coffee

October 1<sup>st</sup> 1835.

Elbert Herring Esqr.

Com<sup>r</sup> of Ind<sup>n</sup> Affairs -

Sir

Shortly after the death of Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs and Agent for the Choctaw nation, Major F. W. Armstrong, I took on myself the duties of Agent to that part of the Choctaw nation, north of the Ozark mountain, comprising Mechulataubbee district; and immediately informed L<sup>t</sup> Colonel Vose, the commanding officer of Fort Towson, of that fact, supposing that he would act as such for the other two districts, comprising that part of the Choctaw nation South of the mountain.

From your Circular of May, 1835, it is made the duty of Indian Agents &c, to make, immediately after the 30th of September, in each year - various reports & statements appertaining to the condition of their separate Agencies; but situated as I am and having so limited a knowledge of Ind<sup>n</sup> Affairs, as I have, am somewhat in doubt as to the propriety of attempting the task. I am inclined, however, to believe it to be my duty to make return and statements of such matters appertaining to this district, as are within my knowledge.

The paper herewith enclosed marked:

- A, is an Abstract of Licensed traders within the district.
- B, is a statement in relation to the seizure of spirits.
- C, is a List of persons employed in this district.
- D, is a Report of the Schools within the same.

E, F & G, are Reports of the different School teachers.  
H, is a description of the country.

There are two Post Offices within this district, one of which is at the Agency, and the other at this place.

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your Obt. Servant

John Stuart

Capt 7<sup>t</sup> Inf<sup>y</sup>

Acting Agent

Mushelatubbees District

(OIA: 1835. Choctaws West (Agency) Capt. John Stuart, Acting Agent. Misc. letters.)

(COPY)

Fort Coffee 25th Oct 1835

To Capt William Armstrong

Choctaw Agent

Sir:

We the undersigned Chief and Captains of Meshulatubbee District, have to inform you that we wish our annuity for 1836; paid to us in money; and we also wish the Disbursing Officer of the Government to pay us by heads of families, as usual.

Very respectfully Your friends &amp;c

(Signed)

Joseph Kincaid

Chief M. District

Meshula tub bee

Im a lee chee

Pis tam bi

Ko e ho ma

W<sup>m</sup> Bohannon

Ton a ha cha

Ho she ho ma

Ko e to ba

Ho pah ka no ah

Tush ca ha jo

Ah korch au tub bee

Hock loon tub bee

Ho she ho po ah

R. M. Jones Clerk

True copy

Attest Geo. W. Clarke

(OIA: 1835. Choctaws West. Wm. Armstrong. Report of proceedings of general council.)

Choctaw Agency Decr. 30th 1835

To the Honourable Elbert Herring

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Sir;

The undersigned are citizens of the Terrotry of Arkansas, and merchants at this place, and have been Licensed Traders among the Choctaws for the last three years, having, perhaps, more capital invested, than any other Traders in this Nation, and doing a heavy business; and for the first time in our lives have found it necessary, to make application directly, to our Government for the protection of our rights -

A strange, novel and oppressive system, is about to be established, and put into execution, and without the interposition of the Government, our trade is stopped and our characters traduced -- The case is this; on the 28<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> an Indian Council was held at the Agents Office and he personally present; when and where they drew up a paper which we have seen, but could not obtain from the Agent a copy; charging us with various crimes of a dishonest character - This Council was convened and set within the distance of four hundred yards of our store, and not the least intimation had we of the intent or character of it - By that Council, our characters, as men, were assailed and traduced, and our mercantile transactions put in great embarrassment - In the eving when the Council had adjourned, we, by accident, learned from the Indians, that we had been the subject of the Council, whereupon we immediately repaired to the Agents office, and requested that we might see the proceedings

of the Council, This the Agent complied with, and promised to send us the next morning a fair copy- The next morning we waited until after breakfast for the promised copy; But it being delayed much longer than we expected, according to the promise of the Agent, we again waited upon Capt. Armstrong, and requested him that he furnish us with it, in order that we could meet it and shape our defence -

He then told his Clerk to give it to us which he did,

After reading the charges we told the Agent, (Capt. Armstrong) that they were false and malicious, and that we could, and were ready to prove them to be so; and challanged and invited an investigation, And called upon him as the Government Agent, to protect our rights as Traders, and as American citizens, ~~to-protect-our-rights~~ and to investigate the matter fully, fairly and completely-

All of which, he positively refused, and said we had no rights,- We then offered him a written communication upon the subject, (which we herewith enclose) and asked that he would receive it and file it with the papers in his Office; And this, to our great astonishment, he also refused, and would not even suffer us to read it to him - Thus we have been tried and condemned by an Indian Council, an refused the comon right of defence, by the Agent,- He has refused us License, but granted us six months to wind up our business --

Under these embarassing circumstances we left the Office and proceeded only a few steps, when we were called upon to give up the copy of the proceedings of the Council, which before

had been given us, This we complied with, but think it extremely hard that we should be divested of the only paper that we rely upon to base our defence - We have no doubt the paper will be sent to you if so please send us a copy - One of the charges is, we recollect, that our measure is too small, (meaning our yard stick) Upon this point we herewith enclose you certificates, together with others,- One of the Gentlemen, Maj- Wall, who has furnished us with his certificate, is one of the most respectable Choctaws of the Nation, and now the Chief Clerk of the mercantile house at Fort Coffee,- The other Gentlemen are of equal veracity and standing -

Now Sir, we hope you will take this matter into consideration, and lay the whole before the War Department, that Justice may be done us, and our License be renewed for the usual term allowed by law -

Col- Sevier is acquainted with us and any information you may want respecting us, we refer you to him -

Wishing that we may hear from you as early as practicable,

We subscribe ourselves your Obt-  
and Humble Sevts-

Pickett & Gregg

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West Pickett & Grigg. Relative to a refusal of a license to trade.)

Being requested by Messrs. Pickett & Gregg, Traders, in the Choctaw Nation, to measure their yard-stick, which we accordingly did, and do hereby certify that is full three feet in length by the English rule -

/indecipherable/

Lewis Harmans

Choctaw Agency

Decr. 31<sup>st</sup> 1835

(OIA: 1835. Choctaws West. Pickett & Grigg. Relative to a refusal of a license to trade.)



Being requested by Pickett & Gregg to measure their yard  
stick; and do here<sup>by</sup> certify that it was a full yard in length.  
I do furthermore certify that I have in my intercourse and deal-  
ings with them have always found them fair and honorable in  
their business transactions and as far as my knowledge extends  
have full confidence in their justice and accuracy of their  
mercantile dealings

Thos. Wall

Fort Coffee

Decr 31<sup>st</sup> 1835

(OIA: 1835. Choctaws West. Pickett & Grigg. Relative to a  
refusal of a license to trade.)

Choctaw Agency Decr 31<sup>t</sup> 1835

Dr Sir

The Agent has refused us License, and suffered an indian council to pass Judgement upon us. and he carry it into effect, without given us any notice & denying us a hearing - we have <sup>been</sup> ar- ressed in our trade and our businefs greatly embarrassed for no other reason but the caprice of one individual - we Called upon the agent to investigate the matter fully which he refused and would not suffer us even to read to him a written Communication upon the subject - we told the agent that the charges were false <sup>we</sup> and <sup>prove them to be so</sup> Could & were ready to, and invited an investigation - this he refused & sayed we had no rights - this is the first time our lives that we have heard that American Citizens had no rights - and utterly refused us the right of Common defence - we have ap- pealed to our government & hope that you will use your best exer- tions to sustain us - we wish our License renewed for the usual Term of law - you will please let no time pass untill you see into the matter, for we afsure our all depends upon the ifsues and that we may hear from you very early - we remain your friends

& humb Servt

Pickett & Grigg

To the Honbe

A H Sevier

(OIA: 1835. Choctaws West. Pickett & Gregg. Relating to a refusal of a license to trade.)

I do hereby certify, that I have known Messrs. Ricketts & Gregg, Traders in the Choctaw nation, for a number of years, and for the last two years have had extensive dealings with them as merchants and have allways found them, honest, honourable and correct, and being situated immediately in their yard, am frequently in their store, and have never heard any difficulty between them and any other person, either Indian or whiteman about their accounts -

Consequently I have full confidence in the justice of their mercantile transactions -

/indecipherable/

Choctaw Agency

Decr. 31<sup>st</sup> 1835

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West. Pickett & Grigg. Relative to a refusal of a license to trade.)

Fort Coffee

Choctaw Nation West

1<sup>st</sup> February 1836.

Sir,

I had the Honor by last weeks mail to receive your letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> of December last, but your letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> of November acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings of the General Council of the Choctaw Nation, was not received until this day - a Copy of which however will be furnished Capt. Armstrong immediately on his return to the Agency.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Yr. Obt. Servt.

John Stuart

Capt. 7<sup>t</sup> Inf<sup>y</sup>

Elbert Herring Esq.

Commissioner of

Indian Affairs.

(OIA: Choctaw File. Fort Gibson, 2/16, 1836, Arbuckle, Gen. M. & Stuart, Capt. John. Rel. to Choctaw boundary and affairs generally.)

Fort Coffee

10<sup>th</sup> February 1836.

Sir,

I have the Honor in compliance with Order No 45, of the 5<sup>th</sup> November 1834, to report that Captain Fulsom one of the most respectable and influential captains in this District of the Choctaw Nation, has just returned from off a hunting expedition in the Western extremity of the Choctaw Country.

He started out in the month of October last, with 12 men, and made Coffee's Camp or Trading establishment on Red River west of the Crofs timbers, his center of action, he proceeded South and westward of that place something like 60 or 70 miles, at the same time extending his hunters over as wide a range of country as their number would conveniently cover, in which situation they frequently met with parties of the Commanchies, and Kioway's, and their intercourse with them was invariably of the most friendly kind, the Commanchies at all times expressed the kindest feelings towards both the Choctaws, Cherokees, and Creeks, but complained loudly against the Delawares and Shawnees, and say that the Shawnees some time in the month of December last, came to one of their hunting camps and killed four of their party, for which they say that all of the Western Tribes will in future consider the Shawnees and Delawares as enemies, and will treat them accordingly wherever they may find them; but will at the same time take the Choctaws, Cherokees and Creeks by the hand as friends and Brothers, nothing was said about the Osages.

Captain Fulsom further says that Mr. Holland Coffee informed him about the last of December, or 1<sup>st</sup> of January that

the Commanchies had in a formal manner notified him that he must remove from his present Trading establishment, or that they would compel him to do so by force of arms, to which he bade them defiance, and it is for time, to show the result, he is entirely ignorant of the cause of their being offended at him.

My informant Captain Fulsom says that he understood while out, that as the Wild Tribes who met the Commissioners in council last August were on their return home, they were very much afflicted with disease, and that all of their leading men except two, had died before reaching their respective homes, which was the cause of producing considerable dissatisfaction in the minds of the Indians towards the whites, as they were of the opinion, that the sickness and death of their chiefs, was occasioned by something given to them by the whites while attending the council.

Captain Fulsom further understood, that the Articles of the Treaty entered into between the United States Commissioners, and those Western Tribes, in August last, was not torn up by the Indians as has been represented, but was placed by one of their Chiefs, in the hands of a white Trader, for safe keeping.

Another Choctaw Captain whose name I do not recollect, was also out at the same time, and in the same range of country that Fulsom was in; and lost while there, two Boys of his party, and does not know whether they are lost in the woods or killed, he himself is still out on search of them, while the main body of his hunters, have returned home.

A considerable excitement prevails at this time among the Indians residing near the line of the Arkansas Territory, respect-

ing a report that has been put into circulation by the people of the Territory, which declares it to be the intention of Arkansas, when she becomes a state to extend her state Jurisdiction over all of that part of the Choctaw and Cherokee nations, lying within the original boundary of the Territory.

Some of the Indians are quite easy on the subject, and say that the Government of the United States has ceded that country to them and has pledged the faith of the Government to sustain them in the exclusive right of the occupancy and Jurisdiction thereof; except in cases set forth in Treaties, when Congress can enact certain Laws, for their Government, and they further say, that they will rely confidently upon the faith of the General Government to sustain them against all intrusion coming from Individual States.

While others are apprehensive that from some heretofore unexpected construction of the Laws they may again be required to undergo the distressing consequences of another removal.

I have made a brief statement of the last mentioned report direct to Mr Herring Commissioner of Indian affairs, as Capt. Armstrong the Superintendent is absent, but have not communicated it to any other source.

I am Sir                      Very Respectfully  
Your Obt. Servt.

Lieut. W. Seawell                      (Signed) John Stuart  
A.D.Camp & Act. Asst.Adjt.Gen.                      Capt. 7<sup>th</sup> Inf.  
South West. Frontier.

(OIA: Choctaw File. Fort Gibson, 2/16,1836. Arbuckle, Gen. M. & Stuart, Capt.John. Rel. to Choctaw boundary and affairs generally.)

Head Quarters S. Westn. Frontier

Fort Gibson Feby 16<sup>th</sup> 1836.

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to transmit (for the information of the Government) a copy of a letter received from Captain John Stuart the commanding officer of Fort Coffee, under date of the 10<sup>th</sup> inst, and I can add that it would give great dissatisfaction to the Cherokees as well as to the Choctaws in the event our Government should promise, or agree, that the Western boundary of Arkansas Territory as now established, should under any circumstances or at any time be removed further West.

The information Captain Stuart has received in relation to the comanche Indians, having ordered M<sup>r</sup> Coffee to leave his Trading establishment, or that they would remove him by force was received here late in December, except that it was not then understood that the comanches had notified M<sup>r</sup> Coffee that they would remove him by force, - and I am of the opinion that they have not threatened to do so, - as it is believed they have not visited the Trading House of M<sup>r</sup> Coffee since some time late in November or early in December last. The information received on this subject was communicated to the Honorable the Secretary of War on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December last by Governor Stokes and myself.

I am informed that two or three days since, a citizen of the United States of good character arrived in the Creek settlements near to this post from the Province of Texas who reports that Benjamin Hawkins, a half breed Creek, <sup>Indian</sup> (who left this with his family for Texas two or three years since) with an of-



ficer of the Mexican Government had of late endeavoured to induce the Indians, who have left our country and settled between our upper settlements on Red River and Nacogdoches, to commence war on the inhabitants of Texas, this it appears has been for the present avoided in consequence, of some of the Indians being opposed to it, and having notified the Inhabitants of the project of Hawkins, and the Mexican officer,- Hawkins in consequence of the failure of his plans, found it necessary to leave that country immediately, and is probably at present with the Creeks settled on the Canadian River. I have no doubt, from information that I have received, that there is an understanding between Hawkins and several of the principal Chiefs of the Creek nation, that they are to remove with their people to the province of Texas as soon after their arrival here as convenience will permit. In Texas they expect that an extensive tract of country will be assigned to them, or that if it is refused, they will possess themselves of it by force.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

M. Arbuckle

Brevt. Brigdr. Genl. Comm<sup>d</sup>

to

Brig. Gen. R. Jones

Adjt. Gen<sup>l</sup>

Washington City.

(OIA: Choctaw File. Fort Gibson, 2/16, 1836. Arbuckle, Gen. M. & Stuart, Capt. John. (Rel. to Choctaw boundary and affairs generally.)

Newport Ky

March 28<sup>th</sup> 1836

Gentlemen!

Your communication requesting a certificate from me, relative to your conduct as Traders in the Choctaw Nation, is received, and in reply I have to state my surprise, that it should ever have been made a question, and confidently assert my belief that it has been thro' the machinations of one Individual or more, who promise themselves to promote their own interests in your expulsion from the vicinity of the Choctaw Agency.

So far from supposing that you were guilty, at any time, of any impropriety as Traders among the Choctaw Indians, I have always thought that you furnished these people gratuitously with more, and gave them better weight and measure, for their money and peltries than other merchants similarly situated, and have no doubt but that R. Jones U. S. Interpreter, your former rival in trade (and as great a scoundrel as ever lived) is at the bottom of this business, assisted probably by no small ill will of the Agent, who doubtless would willingly dispense coming in contact with any of the connexions of the injured widow of Maj<sup>r</sup> McClellan, as a salve to an upbrading conscience.

You are at liberty to make whatever use you please with this letter, whose contents are founded upon an intimate acquaintance with you while dealing largely with you for nearly three years, and the Choctaw Indians, with whom you traded while I was U.S. Disbursing Agent.

I am Gentlemen

very respectfully Your Mo. Obt. Servt.

G.G. Rains Lt. U.S.A.

Mefs. Pickett & Gregg  
Merchants at Ch. A.

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West. Pickett &amp; Grigg. Relative to refused of a license to trade.)

Ho. of Reps 7<sup>th</sup> May 1836

The Hon. L. Cals

Sir.

A portion of the Choctaw Indians amountinf to some three or four thousand still remain in the limits of the States of Alabama and Mifsifsippi, a large proposition of whom are anxious to emigrate to the West, if the means were provided by Government.

Letters have been received by the Mifsifsippi Delegation stating that the Choctaws in Mifsifsippi are in a state of much excitement and have already burned several houses on the frontier. There is some reason to fear, that they may catch the war spirit now prevailing so extensively among the tribes of the South, and under this impression we respectfully call your attention to the matter and hope you will ask an appropriation for the removal of such as are willing to emigrate. The object is to introduce this appropriation into the bill to carry into execution the Chee<sup>erok</sup>aw Treaty, which will soon be

before the House.

I concur in requesting this-appropriation--

R. J. Walker

I also concur in requesting this appron.

J S Lyon

I have the honor to be,

Very Respfy.

Y. Mo. Obt! Servts,

David Dickson

J. F H Claiborne

M. T Black.

(OIA: Choctaw (Emigr) File 70. Washington, 5/7, 1836 (#70). Dickson, Hons. David, J.F.H.Claiborne & 3 others - Delegation. Requesting that an appropriation be called for, etc.)

At a Council begun and held at the Choctaw Agency the 27<sup>th</sup> June 1836 Present Joseph Kincaid Chief, Immeleeche, Hock a loon tubbee, Pis tamba, To ne hajuh, Ah none pis sub bee, Tan up ca homah, Hos she ho mah, Hah lah tah, John M<sup>C</sup>Kinny, Adam Fulsom, John Perry, Ko a to ba, Lewis Perry, Ko e ho mah, Fah lah mone tubbee, Tus ka ha jah, Hole bah, George Pusley, Jerry Kincaid & Charles Captains, present, convened for the purpose of investigating the charges preferred by a Council held on the 28<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1835 against Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg by order of the Secretary of War. John Gregg of the firm of Pickett & Gregg appears in his own proper person & defends

1 Capt<sup>s</sup> Pistamba & Pursley & others state that they informed Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg that they could not give them leave then to build a house that but few of their people was over - and when they did come if they were willing that they had no objection - that they knew the treaty give the government the right to license traders that they left the Agency for their location near Samboy fifteen or twenty miles, that when they returned again Some time after, their house was nearly finished

Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - Would you not of objected to any other white trader at that time - Answer - We would

2 Capt Ko e toba States that he is a poor man and has some times to go in debt that he purchased some time since two blankets from Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg; that they were thin & bad blankets that Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg threw the blankets out of the doore and shut it & told him the price was four dollars a piece that he went to his camp that night it rained & the blankets came

to peices, that he made a bill of sixty dollars with them that himself and brother in law made a hunt and returned with three hundred weight of Deer Skins & made a calculation and thought it would discharge the debt that some time after M<sup>r</sup> Pickett told him he owed a balance of sixteen dollars - he came in some time after again and paid twenty dollars which he thought discharged the old debt Some time after he came again and M<sup>r</sup> Pickett began to ask him for money and peltrys and to call over the old account for blankets &C he told them when he began trading he had dealt a great deal with white men and would continue with them unless he found them to deceive him, that he found they were cheating him and he would have no more ~~to~~ dealings with them, that he still owes them but calculates to have no more to do with them when he pays them up

Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - When was it you got the blankets

Answer - it was last winter was a year ago - and I was told at the Store at the time that the second day after would be Christmas

Question by same - at what time was your account Sixty dollars

Answer - I had a small account before - and at the time of getting the blankets it amounted to Sixty dollars

Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - When did you make the payment of the three hundred pounds of peltry you speak of to liquidate the debt of sixty dollars -- Answer - the first of the Spring following

Question by same - did you make any other payment shortly after that in peltrys to any amount -- Answer -- Shortly after

the time I made the payment of Sixty dollars, I sent by my Son-in-law peltrys to the amount of twenty dollars which when weighed by Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg amounted to twenty dollars

question by same - did you get goods from us after the council of 28<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> last -- Answer - I did to the amount of five dollars and sent peltry to pay it shortly afterwards

3 Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg to Joseph Kincaid Chief - You have been dealing with us for some time have we ever deceived you or charged you too much - I leave near to you and often sent to you for things without taking any account of, my company would get things and I found that my account amounted to more than I thought - the people of my company for whom I was charged would tell me that they had paid their own accounts, one of the persons I recollect to be now dead a woman named E lah pa oka the other I do not recollect - but as I first stated I was not then particular so as to remember their names at a council it was determined to give the Delewares then travelling here some presents the chief Moo shu la tub bee had the articles precured from you they were to be paid for by the nation, I found some time after that those articles were charged to my account, I objected to it and they were taken from it - I never told Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg of any difficulties about charges

4 Capt. Im me lee chee - States that he had an account with Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg. that he paid a dollar - & when paying the account some time ~~since~~ after he found that the dollar was not credited and he had to pay it again, that him and his company had an account with Pickett & Gregg of upwards of \$100.

that he went forward and paid it - but afterward an account of ten dollars was brought <sup>up</sup>, and rather than have a difficulty he paid it again, I was also charged with twenty five cents worth of Sugar which I had paid for when I got it, the spring some time afterwards the account was presented and when I insisted I had paid it, it was stricken off. It was at the annuity before the last that I paid the account of about \$106. I afterwards had to pay a balance of ten dollars which I had paid when I paid the account of \$106. at the last annuity I paid up all my accounts except ten dollars, which ~~has~~ <sup>was</sup> to be paid in peltry - Six dollars of which has been paid - and four dollars yet due

5 Capt Jerry Kincaid States that he purchased a dollars worth of Sugar which he was told was Six pound and a half - that he did not know anything about weighing with those round weights, he went home and had a pair of small stilyards and weighed the Sugar and found it two and a half pounds short - he purchased again and found ~~again~~ upon weighing it at home to be the same way - he then told the Chief that they were not fair dealers and wished him to inform the Agent he also sent his little boy to the store with a fifty cent piece of Silver for some coffee and sugar, the boy returned and told him that they only Counted the money for thirty seven cents. which was the amount of the Sugar - He came then to Capt M<sup>C</sup>lellan Sub agent and told him of it - Pickett & Gregg sent for him and paid him the other 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents - He was in the store and on the counter with some others, M<sup>r</sup> Pickett took down some goods and commenced ~~trading~~ <sup>beating</sup> them off. He thought then that they were not good men for Such treatment, He did not know whether or not Pickett was mad it was last Spring was a year He sent for the Sugar

6 Capt Hock loon tubbee States that when he first came to the country he viewed Pickett & Gregg as friends that he made an account of forty dollars - and at the annuity paid them thirty stating that in ten days he would bring the balance -- which was agreed to, that he had some money left and started to their store ~~at~~ that Pickett followed on after him and at the store door stopped him and told him he must pay the other ten dollars, that he done so - and reflected that he had dealt a great deal with ~~the~~ White men and it made him feel bad to be used so he determined then to deal no more with them, it was in 1834. when he received <sup>his</sup> ~~my~~ pay as Captain, He owed but the forty dollars at the time he paid the thirty -

Question - did you not buy from us Sugar Coffee & a bolt of binding on credit - Answer - I bought those articles and paid the money at the time

7 Capt Joseph Pickins States he was not present at the Council but he will say a few words, at the first annuity paid after we came over, it was paid in bills, I was present in the passage at the Store when the Indians would come to M<sup>r</sup>. Gregg and have the bills and say they would take half goods and the balance in silver that after some time M<sup>r</sup>. Gregg told them that his Specia had give out- but he would examine if he had more, and would take the bill into the house. and bring out a different bill - He was with another man who purchased at Tom Walls a pair of shoes at \$1.75 and came to Picketts and asked for shoes, at that price to Change Pickett told him he had shoes at \$250 and threatened to give him hell, to give him thunder he felt angry and thought it bad treat-





Gregg that he paid off the account and after he got home he found he had over paid them Six dollars and a half he returned and got Capt. Jones to go with him to Pickett and examine and found he had overpaid and received the six dollars and a half in part pay for a saddle, it was shortly after the annuity of 1834. I never returned but once with an account ~~overcharged~~ overpaid

10            States  
 Capt Adam Folsom - That last summer he sent an order by Adams for some goods amounting to Twelve dollars  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents - Some time after he came in and Pickett presented him with an account for thirty three dollars then we had a sharp dispute and Pickett turned off and left him - in 1834 when he was paid his Captains pay he paid off a former account and when he came in Pickett had charged it again in his account - question by M<sup>r</sup>. Gregg -- What amount did you pay at the time you speake of - Answer - I paid my account at different times and know I paid it off at the time I received my Captains pay - I never got nothing since I got the goods by Adams except a lancet which was given me. he has no recollection of owing any thing at the time Adams got the goods - in 1834, when he paid his account- except the Articles not recollected he says he has paid for the following articles, 7 yards of blue linsay at 75 cents per yard, / word blotted - probably balance/ on beads - (not recollected)  $4\frac{1}{3}$  yds twilled domestic at  $37\frac{1}{2}$  (not recollected)  $5\frac{1}{2}$  yds blue domestic at 25.cts per yd. one paid of brogans at \$2.25.- 1 small pockett book 75 cts. paid for - these articles were purchased about last winter a year ago -

11            Capt. Koe hoo ma - States, that at the last annuity he was very Sick - that Mr. Pickett prefesd him hard to pay him an account he owed them, that he took Goodall and an other Indian

with him to see him pay the account he done so and over paid them four or five dollars which was noticed by Goodall and refunded, he states he would of lost it, if Goodall had not of been <sup>had</sup> by- he heard before that they were in the habit of taking more than their accounts from others is the reason why he took Goodall with him he has not dealt with them since, he offered to buy a pair of leggins which they refused to credit to him

12- Capt. Lewis Perry - States he has nothing to say. Question by Mr Gregg - have you not and your Company dealt largely with us and have we dealt fairly by you - Answer my Company have never made large accounts - and have always paid them, I have dealt considerable with you, and never had any difficulty - the amount dealt was upwards of \$200. at one time - I was <sup>allways</sup> Satisfied except I thought the goods high, but when I went to Fort Smith, I paid there about the same

13 Capt Jones - States that Capt Hoo she homah came to him and he went with him to Pickett & Gregg and upon examination of the books it was found he had over paid Six dollars & a half which was paid him by Pickett & Gregg

Capt Jones Statement continued

Ho she ho mah further informed him, he had become responsible for his Company and that when they made accounts it was charged to him, that one of the Company paid his account & that when he went to pay - the whole account was charged to him,

Capt Ton nup o hoo ma - States that he was with his father who was a Captain but is now dead that he was knowing to his paying the account of his Company, but his father told him he had paid the debt and that he himself owed five dollars which he has

paid - but there is some in the Company who yet owe him - at the time the five dollars it was all the debt owing, by my father and me, when he Succeeded <sup>his</sup> ~~my~~ father as Captain, he told Pickett & Gregg to give him a paper in <sup>his</sup> ~~my~~ own name which they did and was paid being all the account charged to <sup>his</sup> ~~my~~ father,

14 Ben Camp (Warrior) States that he sent a dollar to Pickett & Gregg for Sugar, his bag weighed a half pound he understood the sugar to be selling at seven pounds for a dollar and when the Sugar came to him it weighed five pounds without the bag,

15 Capt. Pis tam ba - further States that he was present at the store of Pickett & Gregg and there came two Choctaws who had peltrys one sold but the other refused to sell, the peltrys were weighed the one who did not sell took his down to Tom Wall where they came to several dollars more than at the first weighing

16. A ba neen tub bee - (Warrior) States that he brought a fox Skin to the Store for another man to get a bar of lead, that Pickett ~~&/Gregg~~ looked at the skin and told him to throw it away which he would not do, after some time Pickett took the Skin and he purchased two dollars worth of domestic, which he put acrofs his Saddle when he went to start he found two holes made by the mice in the domestic, which he took back to Pickett, Pickett then gave him a half yard of domestic and told him to patch the holes - he refused to do so and took back his money

12 Capt. Jones questioned by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - you have known us as merchants for the last three years - you have been a merchant and are now so at this time here and are also United States Interpreter - answer - I have had considerable dealings with

you as merchants Some thing like five or six thousand dollars,  
 at one time you owed me upwards of four thousand dollars & I am  
 United States Interpreter at this time, which you paid me fairly  
 and honorably, <sup>There were</sup> ~~except~~ some small articles got by M.<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>c</sup>afee and  
 Charged to me which I paid - I have considered that you got a  
 liberal share of the Choctaw trade, I know nothing of the charges  
 refered to except what the Indians told me

18- Question by W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong to Capt Lewis Perry - did you  
 not object to Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg at a council held in 1835 -  
 Answer - I did. I sent my son for some things - and afterwards  
 found out that I was mistaken

19 Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg to Chief Kinkaid - What do you know  
 of the Charges made by the council against us. answer - I know  
 nothing but what the Indians stated to day which are the same I  
 always heard -- question by the same At what time did you hear  
 of the holding of the council of 28 the Decr. last - Answer - I  
 knew of it for some time as many complaints were made and I con-  
 cluded it was best to call a Council and lay the Complaints be-  
 fore the Agent all of which was done

20

28<sup>th</sup> June 1835

Ko e to ba requested to see his account, which was refused  
 by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - question by W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong - do you wish to see the  
 books for the purpose of aiding you in giving further testimony -  
 Answer - I wish to see the books for the purpose of paying my  
 account at some future time - question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg did we not  
 tell you to get some inteligent Choctaw to come with you and ex-  
 amine our books - answer - I never heard it.

21 Capt, Jerry Kincaid - states that not expecting to be called on - he had not ~~calyed/on~~/mentioned one thing which he will now do - he had a beef hide - and brought it to the store, which he had weighed with his own steelyards and suspecting them the hide by his own steelyards weighed twenty three pounds and by Pickett & Greggs twenty pounds - he disputed with them some time - until finally they offered him a dollar for sixteen pounds which he took and afterwards, quit selling hides to them - . Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - do you understand figers or English - answer - I understand weighing with a pair of my steelyards - I do not understand english - it was about two years since that I brought the hide - about the time there were three stores at this place.

22 question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg to Capt. Jones - What was the usual price given by the traders for hides - Answer - ten cents - two of these Stores were within thirty or forty yards of each other & the other, three or four hundred yards - Pickett & Gregg was close to the one nearest the Agency they were together

23 Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Kinny questioned by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - do you know anything of the charges brought against us by the Council - ~~absent~~ Answer -- I was absent at the time and know nothing of it, was sorry to hear of such a fuss ~~and/the~~ between you and the Choctaws - question by the Same - do you know anything of Captain Jones saying to the Choctaws to come to the Council, and stick to what they had said. I know nothing myself - question by the same - did Capt Jones state to you, <sup>at the Council</sup> that you had two traders here now and that the Agent had said as you now had two if you wanted no more, had you not better say so in the Council - Answer - he did.

24 Question to Capt Jones - did not the Agent tell you that as there was two traders here - if the Choctaws Council would request him not to licence more at this place that he would not do so - Answer - he did & this I stated to Capt MCKinny & Wall - the latter a merchant

Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg -- have you used your influence to have us put out of the nation as traders & what was your reasons Answer - I have used my influence to have you put out in consequences of the many complaints of frauds practised upon the Indians by you - in telling Capt MCKinny & Wall to request the Council to have but two traders here MCKinny made no reply Wall said he would have no objection but was afraid it would not do,--

Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg -- Previous to the Council did you make any arrangement with any person to enter into merchandising Answer - after the Council had been appointed I think I recollect of having some conversation with Wall about going into trading. I also requested M<sup>r</sup> Wall to attend the Council -

To Capt. MCKinney  
25- Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - What have you heard Mr. Clark the clerk here State about us - Answer - he asked me if I was going to support Pickett and Gregg, that he had often heard them abuse the Choctaws, and that if he knew as much as we did M<sup>r</sup> Millard & himself being present to whom we alluded - I stated that Pickett me and when I was friendly to a man & Gregg had been friendly to a man, I was so; at that time the Agent came in and observed that what I said was right - I never heard any others say you abused the Choctaws -

26 Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg to Capt Pursley do you know any thing about the charges brought against us by the Council Answer - I

know nothing except what I have heard - I have had considerable dealings with you but always paid for what I got and never had any difficulty, I was always satisfied you dealt fairly with me - Question by same - What did you believe or know of our dealings with the Indians - answer I never saw you cheating Indians question by the Agent - What have you heard the Indians say in relation to their dealings - answer - I have heard the Indians say they believed they had cheated - but I never saw it myself

27. Question by M<sup>r</sup>. Gregg - to Joseph Kinkaid - did you ever hear Capt Jones say that Pickett & Gregg had cheated the Indians. answer - I know nothing about it -

28 Question by M<sup>r</sup>. Gregg to the Agent - do you know any thing of Capt Jones talking to you about us -

Answer - Capt Jones being the Interpreter has frequently talked with me about Pickett & Gregg and I understood from his conversations generally that he had no confidence in them as traders - I do not recollect of his saying they ought to be removed from the nation, that was a question that I should of considered indelicate - I do not recollect to have stated that but one trader should be licensed here - yet I consider that there is not businefs for more than one trader and have no doubt said so.

29. Question to Capt M<sup>c</sup>Kinny by the agent - has Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg called on you at your house and who was with him - and what was his object - Answer - M<sup>r</sup>. Gregg came to my house with M<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Curtin and wished my people if any of them were his friends to come to the Council ground - I told him I would tell me people that were here to come to the Council they were absent many of



them. Question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - did I not tell you to tell the people all to come in and to speak out for <sup>or</sup> against us - Answer you did- I stated to M<sup>r</sup> Gregg that this was an inconvenient time to come to a council that it was a ~~contrast~~ <sup>contest</sup> between traders and traders and not the people themselves

30. M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Curtin Says. I went with M<sup>r</sup> Gregg to M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kinnys, I was at this place and we went up together, distance about twenty three or twenty five miles, you told me you had promised to pay a visit for a long time to M<sup>c</sup>Kinny. Pursley and Lewis Perry we went on up to gether you asked me to be your interpreter at the Council I told him that the Agent would object as I was not a sworn Interpreter you told me that you wanted all to attend at this council that the other was a small one and you wished all to come friends & foes and speak face to face

31. M<sup>r</sup> Bartlett questioned by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg - are you not now a trader and a Partner of Capt Jones - Answer I am now the partner - The day of the Council in the evening I passed here on my way to Towson - I met Capt Jones and he informed me that Pickett & Gregg would be ordered out of the nation that I ought to come here - I informed him that I had not the means M<sup>r</sup> Jones remarked to me if a man would do a fair business and on reasonable terms he could do a good business he then informed me he would write to me that he had known me for some time and knew my character as a trader with the Indians - nothing was said in the letter about no other trader coming here - after I returned from Towson and came over to see the agent to get a license I called on ~~Messrs/Pickett~~ M<sup>r</sup> Gregg. M<sup>r</sup> Gregg said he would be glad to sell out. I objected

stating that he would not sell me such goods as I wanted but if he ~~but if he~~ would sell me the Indian goods and the buildings that for the sake of getting the houses I would do so if we could agree.

32 question by the agent to Capt Jones - did I not tell you that if you and Wall did not sell goods upon fair terms to the Indians, that I would license traders that would Answer - you did.

33 M<sup>r</sup> Ring States that he saw Capt. Koehoma with some two or three packs of skins at the store. that he was dissatisfied with the weight, that ~~the~~ he (Ring) came up, and examined and found that the skins did not weigh more than Gregg had told him, he informed him that he had tried the scales with the Fort Coffee Scales and found them correct - that he understood Ko e ho ma to say he had weighed the skins at home - and they weighed more - that the scales were the same Gregg purchased of Lieut Moore disbursing agent -

34 Tup pa na hoo ma, In ne go a hoo ma, Lewis White, and I a neen tubbee, warriors of Capt M<sup>c</sup>Kinnys Company State that they have gone in debt and have dealt with those men and have never had any difficulty, and were Satisfied.

35 Capt. M<sup>c</sup>Kinny States that he always advised his people not to go in debt more than they could pay which is the reason he supposes they have never had any difficulty

36 Capt Hock loon tub bee - States that he offered to buy a blanket from Pickett & Gregg that they asked him seven dollars for it, he told them he had dealt with white men in the old nation and could get two such blankets for Seven dollars there, that they found he had money and was going on to Fort Smith, and

they finally sold him the blanket for six dollars, they requested him not to tell the Choctaws what he give for the blanket, that he thought as he did not Steal the blanket he had a right to tell what he give for it

37. Capt. Hock loon tub bee States that on yesterday he thought he owed Pickett & Gregg for a bridle but upon examination he finds it was for sugar and other articles to the amount of three dollars and not for the bridle he produced at the same time a receipt for fourteen dollars and 37½ cents 26<sup>th</sup> June 1835. up to that time which receipt is dated 19<sup>th</sup> of August 1835.

38 question to Joseph Kinkaid, did the Agent tell you that he had promised, the buildings occupied by Pickett & Gregg to Jones & Bartlett - answer no - ~~capt/folsom~~

39 Capt Folsom States that the Chief never told him so.

40 At this stage of the investigation the Indian Testimony being through, the Agent informed the Indians, that as the investigation was now through except the whites and the examination of the books, that he wished them to say whether or not they wished the license of Pickett & Gregg renewed. to this Mr Gregg objected as he had not had his books examined but if the Indians would not remain, he was willing for them now to say, yet wished the whole testimony, if they could not be kept, altho he wished books and every thing examined he was willing they should say now, to this the agent replied that it would take more time than the Indian would now give that the books would not alter their decifision

41 Thomas Wall States - that he asked the Chiefs permifsion to come to the Agency and sell goods he replied that he could

not come because the Agent had promised it to another person and that he was too late as the agent had told him so,

42 The Books of Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg were exhibited to prove in relation to the dead as stated by Joseph Kincaid, the same as stated to have been given by the Choctaws by the delawares then travelling - the books of Pickett & Gregg show that Joseph Kincaid is charged with beads as Stated on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 1834 and the books also Shew a balance due of \$123. with some other articles got since

43 The books of Pickett & Gregg show that Capt Hoek loon tub bee paid Nov<sup>r</sup>. 26<sup>th</sup> 1834 forty dollars leaving a balance of two dollars carried to his new account, the books further show articles got up to 26<sup>th</sup> June 1835. which was paid Aug<sup>t</sup>. 19<sup>th</sup> 1835. and a further account of three dollars which was paid 28<sup>th</sup> June 1836 in the presence of the Agent. and he thought he owed for a bridle but now is satisfied it was for the sugar & coffee which he paid

44 The Books of Pickett & Gregg show that Capt Ton ne ha jah did pay forty dollars on the 26<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1834 leaving \$12.81 $\frac{1}{2}$  which which is carried to a new account with some articles got since for which he owes as said books show amounting in all to \$17.06 $\frac{1}{2}$

45 The books of Pickett and Gregg show that Capt Hoo she ho mah. commenced dealing in 1833 and continued, on until April 19<sup>th</sup> 1836. at one time in January 16<sup>th</sup>. 1834 a balance appears in favour of Hoo she ho mah of \$687 $\frac{1}{2}$  and on the 25<sup>th</sup> Jan.y he is charged on the books with a saddle at \$12.00 - he then paid the balance and squared ~~off~~ the books which do not shew at any time after or before a balance in favour of Hoo she homah and

the books yet shew a balance of twenty<sup>odd</sup> dollars

46) The books of Pickett & Gregg shew that in 1834 Nov<sup>r</sup> 26 Capt Adam Folsom's accounts was balanced - and that none of the particulars charged therein are of the same discription and quantity of articles as stated by Adam Folsom except a pair of brogans at \$2.25. which by reference to the blotter dated Sept 17.. 1834 the books further shew an account commencing Nov<sup>r</sup> 28. 1834 - and the articles regularly charged, as stated by. Folsom in this account the brogans at \$2.25 are charged Nov<sup>r</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> 1834. the books shew a continuation of the account commencing 1<sup>st</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1834 and ending 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1835. amounting to \$22.81 $\frac{1}{4}$  which account was proven by David & Charles M M<sup>c</sup>Clellan to be correct they having sold the articles except 87 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents for powder & flints

47) The books of Pickett & Gregg shew that on the 24<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1834. Ko e to ba owed a balance of \$49.37 $\frac{1}{2}$  & Charles M M<sup>c</sup>Clellan states that Ko e to ba had a paper with that amount on it, that he also brought in peltries to the amount of \$32.81 $\frac{1}{4}$  for which he credited him with on said books as appears the peltries were credited at 20 cents per pound which was on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1835 - a further credit is shewn for peltries on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 1835 - of \$23.87 $\frac{1}{2}$

48) Statement of Capt. David M<sup>c</sup>Clellan late sub agent for the Choctaws - question by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg what do you know about the Council held here after the first emigration of 1832. in relation to licensing Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg - answer - In the year 1831 M<sup>r</sup> Pickett applied to me for license to trade, I answed him he could get a license if no change took place - which was previous

to the appointment as agent of F. W. Armstrong at the time of the application in 1831 - I was not then related by marriage to either ~~Meffrs~~/Pickett or Gregg - Mr Pickett in that year married my neice - after I had promised him the license, at the council spoken of I was on Red river and when I returned the Indians spoke to me and objected to white traders coming into the nation, I told the Indians that I could not attend to their request as the government had given the Agent the power to grant license - the license granted by me ~~were/granted/by/me~~ was sanctioned by the Agent and I heard no more of it. the law & Treaty was examined by Maj<sup>r</sup>. Armstrong and me, and when the Indians found that the Government had the right, I heard no more about it. The Chief upon his arrival expressed himself in favour of White traders in preference to half breeds - after Oak la no wa who was the principal man of the first emigration was informed of the rights of the Government <sup>to</sup> license traders - he appeared satisfied and friendly and dealt considerably with Pickett & Gregg indeed he appeared particularly so. and so. expressed himself In the year 1833. there were three stores located at this place and it is my opinion that Pickett & Gregg got two thirds of the trading done here on through the year 1835 - In the trade and intercourse with the Indians Pickett & Gregg always seemed courteous and friendly & I never heard any complaint from the Indians of any kind I know that when articles <sup>got</sup> were <sub>at</sub> from the store such as presents for to give away to other nations it was customary to charge them to the Chief such was the case with Moo shu la tubbee the old Chief - I have no recollection of Capt Jerry Kincaid coming to me about a fifty cents

worth of sugar which he states in his evidence

49) The books of ~~Oak/La/no/wa~~ Pickett & Gregg shew that Oak la no wa commenced dealing with them on the 17<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1832. and traded to the amount of \$221.25. up to the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1833 which account as appears was got at sundry times.

Charles M McClellan States that the above time of Oak la no wa commencing to deal was about the time Pickett & Gregg began to sell goods that there was no other trader here at that time, that he was present at the Council of 1832 when the Indians then in the nation objected to Pickett & Gregg or any other white traders coming into the nation Oak la no wa was then head man He stated that Col. Pitchlynn an inteligent half breed Choctaw told him to object to all white traders coming into the nation - that he often heard Oak la no wa exprefs himself the friend of Pickett & Gregg and said he for his part was anxious to have white traders--

50) Statement of Israel Dodge - States he has known Pickett & Gregg at the Choctaw Agency upwards of two years, that he is the blacksmith and resided within fifty or one hundred yards of the store - has been frequently at the Store has never seen any thing in them but what was friendly and accommodating to the Indians, never heard any thing of difficulties about accounts have been much at the store and have seen considerable of dealing with the Choctaws and every thing, <sup>appeared</sup> fair, question - by M<sup>r</sup> Gregg do you know any thing of our yard stick being tested or any other kinds of measures previous to the Council of 28<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> last answer I was in the store, when Maj<sup>r</sup> Armstrong the Agent came in and told Pickett his yard Stick was too short, he had a small stick in

his hand and took Picketts and measured it, and it was shorter I then told Maj<sup>r</sup> Armstrong that we would go into the Shop and measure his, we done so - and upon measuring we found that Maj<sup>r</sup> Armstrongs yard stick was about the 8<sup>th</sup> of an inch too long. we went into the store ~~and/done~~ and ~~paid~~ compared again and found them to be of the same length after altering Maj<sup>r</sup> Armstrong - after this Maj<sup>r</sup> Armstrong went on home - and I heard him exprefs no difsatisfaction - nothing was said further except that he said the yard stick ought to be ferruled to keep from wearing off I know nothing of any measures or weights being incorrect the half bushel I tried ~~it~~ by my own which was sealed and I have always been satisfied with the weight and measures - Of the particular charges made by the Choctaws I know nothing, but I do not ~~know~~ believe that Pickett & Gregg would be guilty of them --

51) M<sup>r</sup> John Victor states that Capt Dodge told him that the yard stick of Pickett & Gregg when compared with Maj<sup>r</sup> Armstrongs was about the 1/8 of an inch too short but when Maj<sup>r</sup> Armstrongs was measured it was found an 1/8 of an inch too long which made one too long and the other too short --

52) Capt Jones - States that Majr Armstrong informed him that he sent to the Store for some linnen for his negroes perhaps ten yards and that when he got it, it fell short of measurement a half yard - by his yard Stick

53) M<sup>r</sup>. John Griffith. States that he was in the porch of Majr Armstrong when some linnen which he had sent for to Pickett & Greggs store came home. that M.<sup>rd</sup> Armstrong measured it with her arm, and said it was not enough- that Majr Armstrong asked him



for a yard stick - he got him one made by M<sup>r</sup> Lowry and he measured the linnen and found it about half<sup>a</sup> yard too short, he then went over to the store, and when he came back he said the yard stick was about the 1/8 of an inch too short, and that he directed M<sup>r</sup> Dodge to make one and ferrel it so that it would not be whittled off as Mr. Pickett said was the case with his

54) Charles M McClellan States - That in 1832 when Pickett & Gregg came here as traders he was acting as clerk with Lieut Rains disbursing agent for the Indians, and continued so until the latter part of 1833. during which time Pickett & Greggs store was between the office & the house where he boarded, he was frequently in the store in passing, and frequently aided them in the store, in weighing, charging and in selling, Afterwards in 1835. in the month of February he became their Clerk and so continued until the last of July following, as to their general Character as traders he never saw any thing incorrect, neither in weighing, measuring or charging, He always thought they kept as fair & plain books as he had ever seen, and that he has the fullest confidence in their books they were always very kind and friendly with the Indians and I never knew of any difficulty, that he was present when the Choctaw brought the fox skin - and remember that he bought the domestic which had a hole or two eat by the rats, for which he was given in a yard or two, and went out well satisfied, but when the Indians began to laugh at him, he returned and demanded his money back and got it, from my knowledge of the books I never knew of any person being charged twice with the same article: that from his knowledge of the trade he would say

that he thought Pickett & Gregg got at least two thirds of the Choctaw trade at this place

55) The books of Pickett & Gregg - Show that on the 28th of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1834 Capt Imma lee chee paid sixty dollars which Closed his account of \$151.50 up to that time, the account goes on until Oct<sup>r</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1835 when he paid \$106.12 which closed his account except \$18.62 $\frac{1}{2}$  which is marked as having to be paid in Peltries, and carried to his account below which amounts to \$10.50. up to 21 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1835 which closes his purchases on the books, he is credited at different times with twenty four dollars and fifty cents which also closes his credits leaving a balance of four dollars and fifty cents now due as the books show -

The within is the evidence: so far as taken by me, 30

June 1836

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Choct Agent

(OIA: Choctaw File A19. Agency.)

Choctaw Nation

7<sup>th</sup> July 1836 - -

To Capt W. Armstrong.

Choctaw Agent

Dear Sir; It becomes my duty to inform you as our Agent, that I have been badly treated by M<sup>r</sup> Little mail rider on the route to Fort Towson, who takes advantage of his being U.S. mail rider, and has taken the liberty, to ride up to my house, and in my own yard, setting on his horse, abuse me, more than ever I was abused by a man in my life, and even threatened me with his horse whip, all of which, I had to submit to, on account of his being U.S. mail rider., And now sir; I apply to you for redrefs; However all that I ask is that he be removed from ~~from~~ the limits of my country, as soon as possible; or otherwise I shall be under the necessity of seeking satisfaction with my own hands, at all hazzards. He has fell out with me, because I stated to M<sup>r</sup> Clarke (Post master at the Agency) the facts in relation to the two fail-curs, he made on this route last Winter. He is a man of no respectability, as he has publicly taken up with a slave negro in the Nation for his wife; I do not conceive that such a white man ought to be countinenced in the Indian country; In conclusion I respectfully request that you adopt such means as to have him forthwith removed from the Nation

I am verry respectfully your

friend and Obdt Servant

Vaughn Brashears

## Choctaw Agency

8th July 1836

Elbert Herring Esqr

Com<sup>r</sup> of Ind Affairs

Sir

The enclosed communication from Vaughn Brashears was received this day; and I have felt it my duty to forward it to the Department, with a request that it be laid before the Postmaster Gen<sup>l</sup> - Brashears is a Half breed Choctaw, lives on Kiamechee about half way between this and Towson, is a respectable Indian of a numerous connexion; and knowing him as well as I do, I am astonished that he has submitted to the insult, complained of. If the mail rider should be killed with the present excited state of the public mind in this country, about Indian wars, it would no doubt be magnified into an open act of hostility against the Government, and perhaps troops sent out to inquire into it.

I have heard of Little the rider between this and Towson, making the attack on Brashears; and to avoid any difficulty, I would request the Post Office Dept to have him dismissed as a mail rider, by Caffrey & Holoway the present contractors.

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Choct Agent

(OIA: Choctaw File (A21-23-34-63-80). Agency. A23.)

(COPY)

Head Quarters, Army of the South,  
Tuskegee, Ala, August 8<sup>th</sup> 1836

Sir:

Since my letter to you of the 31<sup>st</sup> ultimo I have received the inclosed instructions by which you will perceive that the Choctaws to be removed are those within the State of Mifsissippi- You will accordingly confine your measures to those only whome you may find within the State --

The Indians, I am informed, will probably be dispersed over the Country in the house of a fort!night, engaged in picking cotton- it is not probable, therefore, that any considerable body of them can be collected during the cotton harvest- It is desirable, however, that arrangements be made with as little delay as possible, to ascertain their disposition and inclination as to emigrating - You will take the necefsary measures through the proper Agents to obtain the information desired: and in the mean time you are authorized to arrange your accounts for settlement - after which you will repair to the State of Mifsissippi, and enter upon the duties afsigned you, and carry into the execution of them all your accustomed energy -

Report to General Gibson in order that if the Instructions which I have given to you, if not approved by him, may be countermanded.

I have the honor to be- Sir,

Your Obt Servt

(Signed) Tho S. Jesup

Major General

Comg Army of the South

Captain J T Taylor  
Superintendant of  
Choctaw Emigration

Montgomery, Alabama-

(OIA: Choctaw(Emigr)File T 38-45-48-54 #86. No number on this letter.)

Chocchuma Mifs Aug<sup>t</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> 1836

D Sir

I find that an appropriation has been made for the removal of the Choctaw Indians West of the Mifsissippi River, should the contract not have been taken, please communicate to me the requisitions of the Goverment &C on the subject, and I have no doubt that from my Experience of Indian carrestor & therrough acquaintance with the Country generally that I shall be able to take the contract on such terms as will be sattisfactory to the department

for. Ability &C allow me to refer you to my friends E. B. Grayson Esq<sup>r</sup>. Honb<sup>l</sup>. Jno L Irwin Esq<sup>r</sup>. Speaker Ho Rep. Mifs. or Genl. Greenwood Leflore former Chief &C

Respy Your Obt. Serv<sup>t</sup>

Jno, J. Nicholson

Honb<sup>l</sup>. C A Harrifs

Secretary of War.

Washington City

over

Chocchuma Aug. 16

Dear Sir:

I have had the pleasure of an acquaintance with M<sup>r</sup> Nicholson since last December, and from that acquaintance I can reply reccommend him to the Dept as a proper person to carry into effect the object of the Government for which the \$50000 was appropriated viz - the removal of the Choctaws west of the Mifsissippi. M<sup>r</sup> Nicholson is the post master at this place, and has every way a fair and respectable standing. very Respectfully

Yr obt. Servt & friend E B Grayson

(OIA: Choctaw(Emigr) File #7. Chocchuma, 8/12, 1836(#7) Nicholson, John S. Proposes to take a contract, etc.)

Choctaw Agency

16 August 1836.

Carey A. Harris. Esqr.

Commis<sup>r</sup> of Ind. Affrs

Sir

I have been anxiously expecting to hear that the annuity for this year to the indians - had been forwarded to Capt Brown, - the season of the year for fall hunting is close at hand and the indians are extremely importunate to receive their - money before they set out on their fall hunts - I hope soon to hear that it is on the way. In looking over the appropriations - for the indian Dept as advertised in the newspapers I discover that Seven hundred & twenty dollars is allowed for Blacksmith<sup>s</sup> and Asst- heretofore the Blacksmiths that have found their own shops and tools have been paid Six hundred dollars and the Asst<sup>s</sup> two hundred & forty dollars - this is the provisions of the law of 1834 - approved June 30<sup>th</sup> which gives to a Blacksmith four hundred & Eighty dollars - and when they furnish their own shop and tools an addition of One hundred and twenty dollars.- I have seen no law passed upon the subject since 1834 - The Blacksmiths here furnish their own shops and tools and have rec<sup>d</sup>. Six hundred dollars per annum - Although I have not been officially notified of these changes of appropriations - but believing that it will produce some diffeculty with the different Blacksmiths I have thought it proper to state the fact for the consideration of the Dept- I have not seen any appropriation for Coal for the different shops. this is an article extremely difficult to procure in the Indian Country where labour is very high -

Respectfully your Obt servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong Act Supt West<sup>n</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>.

Choctaw Agency

Augst 26th 1836

Carey A Harris Esqr

Comr of Ind. Affairs

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 23<sup>d</sup> July, enclosing an act of Congress in favor of Joseph Bogy for Six thousand dollars, for depredations committed by the Choctaws in the year 1807; and with directions to retain the above sum from the Choctaw annuity. I will endeavor to satisfy; and explain as far as I can, this act of Congress, to the Choctaws, at their General Council, the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in October; which will probably be before or about the time Capt Brown will pay the annuity. I have named it to the principal Choctaws, that I have seen; and I am sorry to say, that they receive it with great indignation, so much so, that I am not certain that they will receive the balance of the Annuity, they say that it is twenty nine years since the depredation is charged to be committed, that they have made several solemn treatys since; and that they know nothing of it. I have told them that it is an Act of Congress; and if injustice has been done them, that upon a fair representation - Congress would probably relieve them, that this was their only alternative as the law must be obeyed; it is unfortunate that at this particular time, such an Act should have been passed, there is a general restlessness amongst the Indians, that has not as yet extended itself to the Choctaws, indeed I consider them as holding the balance of power amongst the different tribes, and should they change their feelings, it would soon bring about



serious difficulties. I can assure you that as unimportant as this Act of Congress may seem it will require great prudence to counteract its effect.

I will furnish the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Coy with the field notes &c., to enable him to survey the lands assigned the Cherokees under their late treaty.

I am also happy to be informed that one thousand dollars a year is appropriated for a Clerk in this office.

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt West TerY

(OIA: Choctaw File (A21-23-34-63-80). Agency A34.)

Louisville, Kty, 16<sup>th</sup> Octr 1836

General,

I have received yours of the 3<sup>d</sup> instant and noted the contents-

I have been delayed here longer than I could have wished in consequence of a violent attack of inflammation in the eyes which, for a time, rendered me unable to write and delayed my makeing up any accounts for expenditures, on 2/c of the QM Department - I shall be enabled to leave ~~this~~ for the Choctaws in a few days, and will push the emigration to the utmost of my power -

I send you, herewith, a copy of the last letter rec<sup>d</sup> from General Jesup relating to the removal of the Choctaw Indians, and I hear from numerous persons residing in the State of Mif- sissippi that the General was correct in regard to the Indians being greatly scattered during the Cotton harvest --

Very respectfully

Your ob<sup>t</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

J T Taylor

Capt & Comy of Sub.

General Geo Gibson

C G Sub.

(OIA: Choctaw (Emigr) File T 38-45-48-54 #86. Louisville, 10/16, 1836 #86.)

Van Buren Arkansas Octr 26 1836

Honbl Secretary of War

Sir

In the life time of Major Armstrong late Choctaw Agent we sold him for the use of Public Black Smith shop, for the benefit of the Choctaws, a Bill of Iron & steel amounting nearly to sum of \$200-00 - the Major died before the settlement of the account,, and when the present agent - Capt Armstrong arrived we placed the act in his hands (where they now remain) for settlement, he promised that the act would be settled in a verry short time this has been upwards of Twelve months, and no settlement; and he now says he has no authority to settle the same, and dose seem not even take the trouble to lay the matter before the Department our object is now that the department will order Capt Armstrong to take up the subject and have it investigated in order that we may receive our money so long detained, you will please answer this as early as practicable

Respectfully Your obt Servt

Pickett & Gregg

(OIA: Choctaw File Van Buren, 10/26, 1836 (P47) Pickett & Gregg. Request Capt. Armstrong may be directed, etc.)

Louisville 28 Octr 1836

General,

I have received yours of the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. calling for copies of all written instructions and verbal ones given me by Major General Jesup relating to the removal of the Choctaw Indians -- also when I obtained permifsion from the President at Nashville to proceed to Louisville to settle my accounts, whether or not I explained to him (the President) that I was under orders from General Jesup to repair to Mifsissippi to remove the Choctaw Indians --

I have the honor to send you herewith the desired copies of the several communications from General Jesup refering to the Choc-taw removal - N<sup>o</sup> 1, 2, 3 & 4 - I had much conversation with Major General Jesup on the subject, also with Brig. General R Armstrong and it was the opinion of both those Gentlemen that little or nothing could be done as to the removal of the Indians whilst the Cotton harvest continued as they were generally employed to pick Cotton, and I was authorised by him (General Jesup) to proceed to Louisville for the purpose of settling my accounts, and uniefs which authority, I should have been compelled to leave the service to effect that object

I met the President some 30 or 40 miles from Nashville on his way to visit the Lady of the late General Coffee, and I presented him with a communication from Brig General R Armstrong after he had <sup>read</sup> the communication, I also delivered to him a mefsage from General Jesup and informed him that I had been ordered to Nashville on account of a call by Major General Gains on the

Governor of Tennessee for Troops, when he remarked that he had countermanded the call of General Gains. I then remarked to him that with his permission I would proceed to Louisville from Nashville for the purpose of settling my accounts which he granted, but remarked he wished me to hurry back as he was very anxious for the War in Florida to be brought to a close - When I informed him that was under orders for the purpose of removing the Choctaw Indians but do not recollect whether I informed him that my order came from General Jesup or not, as he was travelling and was to meet on that day his fellow citizens by appointment at Columbia, Ten, and I did not communicate more than I deemed necessary --

I regret, Sir, that I have been compelled to delay thus long ere I entered upon the duty which was assigned me by Major General Jesup, and if I had not been afflicted with a severe and protracted inflammation of the eyes, which rendered me incapable of writing, I should have left this the first of the present month for the Choctaw Indians

Your communication of the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst. found me here and whether it would best meet your wishes that I remain at this place to be relieved by Captain Phillips or proceed to the Choctaw Nation and await there for him, I am at a loss, from the nature of your communication to determine - Capt Phillips has a Brother residing in this place who informed me on yesterday that he understands his Brother, Capt. P., has but very lately arrived in New York from the South and that his health is very bad and is doubtful whether he is able to enter on the duty assigned him, under these considerations I deem it best

to remain here for your further orders, and at the same time  
take the liberty of remarking that if it meets with your appro-  
bation, I shall most cheerfully enter on the duty as Superintend-  
ant of the Choctaw removal and push it to the utmost of my  
ability --

Very respectfully

Your Obt Servt

J T Taylor

Cap & Comy of Sub

General Geo Gibson

C.G.S

Washington City

(OIA: Choctaw (Emigr) File T 38-45-48-54 #86. Louisville,  
10/28, 1836 (T38).

Choctaw Agency

24 Dec 1836.

C. A. Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind. Affr<sup>s</sup>

Sir

Upon my return here from Fort Gibson I find the delegation of Chickasaws mentioned in yours a short time since- I shall propose to them to go to Red river where the annuity will be paid to two district of Choctaws - and to endeavor to take over with me the Chief of this district with some of his leading Captains - and assemble the other two districts on Red river. I find great opposition to admitting the Chickasaws- but I hope something can be done- which will be acceptable to both parties

Respectfully

Your Obt servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt West<sup>n</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>

(OIA: Choctaw File (A27-91). Agency, 12/24, 1836 (A91)  
Armstrong, Wm. Chickasaw delegation at Agency, etc.)

Choctaw Agency

March 30th 1837

C. A. Harris Esqr

Comr Ind Affairs

Sir

The Choctaws wish me to inform the Department that they are aware the treaty provides for the erection of Forts in their country - that they have no objection; and are willing that a reservation of a mile from the centre, each way, should be taken, so long as it shall be used for that purpose, but they object to the taking of any portion of their land, if the Fort is to be located on the line at Fort Smith, unless the nation shall be indemnified

Respectfully

Your Obt Servant

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt. West<sup>n</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>

(OIA: Choctaw File A156. Agency 3/30,1837 (A156) Armstrong, Wm. Informs that the Choctaws are aware that their treaty provides for the erection of forts, etc.)



## Fort Coffee

26<sup>th</sup> July 1837

Sir.

When this place was taken possession of for Military purposes in the Summer of 1834- There were several Choctaw families residing in the immediate Vicinity, one of which cultivated Corn on a part of the ground now occupied as a Garden by the Troops of this Post, and within One hundred and fifty yards of the Fort, The public Horses and Oxen destroyed the Crop then growing before the corn became ripe, and the Indians claimed, and Received therefor, of the United States, the sum of twenty five Dollars - and Removal to an other place - Several other families who resided about a fourth of a mile from the Fort, remained until they gathered their Crops after which they all Removed for the Reason of being greatly annoyed by their contiguity to the Fort, on leaving the premises the most of them burned their Houses and fences one of the party however by the name of Lewis M<sup>c</sup>Can did not burn either House or fence, but left them entirely waste, in which Situation they Remained undisturbed for near a year, when the Rails of the fence were Removed to the Fort, and applied to making the necefsary enclosures arround it - Since which time M<sup>c</sup>Can has come forward with a claim urged and Supported by the Chief of the District, for One hundred Dollars, for the improvement, and for damages sustained by him, in being compelled to Remove by Reason of the encroachment of the Troops so nearly upon him, This claim was first laid before the Agent Capt. W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong, who has Requested me to lay the case before the Department to which it most Properly belongs, with a view if pos-

sible to obtain for the Indians a Remuneration for their losses - I therefore beg leave to address you on the Subject believing that to be the proper channel through which the case should first pass from me - I am inclined to think that not only M<sup>c</sup>Can, but all of the other Choctaws who have Removed under similar circumstances should be Remunerated by the Government of the U.S. for the losses - which they sustained in their Removal. The land they Occupied is very Rich and their Situations were very desirable--

I will be extremely thankful for early advice on this subject, in Order that I may be able to inform the Agent and the Indians of what they may depend upon --

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Yr. Obt. Ser<sup>t</sup>

John Stuart

Capt 7<sup>th</sup> Inf<sup>y</sup>

Genl. R. Jones

Adjutant Genl.

U. S. Army.

(OIA: Choctaw File S485. Fort Coffee, 7/26. 1837 (S485).  
Stuart, Capt. John to Gen. R. Jones Ad. Gen. Rel. to claim  
of Lewis McCann, etc.)



Choctaw Agency 25<sup>th</sup> Augs.<sup>t</sup> 1837

Sir

In consequence of my absence to Fort Towson where I have been engaged in attending the annuity to the Choctaws, I did not receive your communication of the 22<sup>nd</sup> July until my return today. I will in a few days see the Chiefs of the Choctaws and communicate the wishes of the Government, in employing two hundred warriors, against the Seminoles of Florida. I regret exceedingly that I had not have been permitted to accompany the Choctaws, and to have commanded the detachment. If I did not believe that it would be there unanimous wish that I should do so, I would not make the request. I have known them intimately for several years, having emigrated them to there present residence, and acted as there Agent, and I hope it will not be considered vanity in me, to say that however patriotic the Choctaws may be, and strongly attached to the Government of the United States, they might feel great reluctance to going to Florida unless I went along. I beg leave to refer you to M<sup>r</sup> Harris the Commifsioner of Indian Affairs Maj<sup>r</sup> Lewis or the late President of the United States, as to my ability to discharge the duty to which I aspire, I am not advised of the wishes or feelings of the Choctaws in regard to there going to Florida, but I have no doubt, had I been authorized to say to them that I would accompany them, that a much larger number might have been procured, and my fear is that they will not wish to go with so few in the party. In the mean time

I shall endeavor to carry the views of the Government into effect.

Respectfully

Yr. Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act. Supt. West<sup>n</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>

Hon<sup>l</sup> J. R. Poinsett

Secretary of War.

(OIA: Choctaw File A244-280. Agency 8/25, 1837 (A244)  
Armstrong, Wm. Wishes to accompany company of 200 Choctaws  
enlisting for services against Seminoles in Florida.)

Choctaw Agency

10<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1837

C. A. Harris. Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind. Affr<sup>s</sup>

Sir

In the last communication I had the honor to address the Dept- I expected then to have gone to Florida with the Choctaw Volunteers - but in consequence of a communication just rec<sup>d</sup> from the Secretary of War, in which he says a mistake was made in the amount I was authorized to offer to the Warriors for six months service in Florida - that instead of \$270 it should of been but \$71-22<sup>¢</sup> for six months - There is now here five hundred Warriors mustered into service- under the order of 22<sup>d</sup> July - from the War Dept.- there answer will be given me in the morning - as to whether they will go on or remain - some of those indians have already marched. One hundred & thirty miles - and are greatly dissatisfied - at the change in there pay. I am confident that not one will go on - and of course I shall remain and attend to my duties here - I have never seen the Choctaws so highly excited - as they are on this occasion - when I receive their answer I will communicate <sup>it</sup> to the Dept.

Respectfully your

most Obt Servt

Wm Armstrong

Act. Supt W. T.

(OIA: Choctaw File A-244-280. Agency 11/10, 1837 (A280). Armstrong, Wm. Notified of mistake in amt, offered to Choctaws, etc.)

War Department

Office Indian Affairs

January 26<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Sir,

M<sup>r</sup> H. G. Rind, one of the district Teachers in the Choctaw Nation, having filed in this office his request that a portion of his salary be paid, monthly, to M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> A. Rind, his father, living in the District of Columbia, and being willing to comply with his wishes, I have to request that you make the necessary entry in the books of your office, and give the requisite notice to the disbursing officer, so that M<sup>r</sup> Rind be paid \$133.33 only, instead of \$208.33, his quarterly allowance; it will be requisite, however, that M<sup>r</sup> Rind give a receipt each quarter for the whole amount of the last mentioned sum. The disbursing Agent Capt Collins, will be charged with the portion (\$75) paid here, and credited with the whole sum receipted for by M<sup>r</sup> Rind

Very respectfully

Yr. Mo. Ob<sup>t</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

C. A Harris

Comr

Capt<sup>t</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Choctaw Agency

West Missi:

(OIA: Western Supt'y File. Office. 1838. Harris, C.A., Comr. to Wm. Armstrong, Supt. Copies 13 letters with inclosures &c.)

Fort Coffee

6<sup>th</sup> March 1838

Capt. W. Armstrong

Actg Supt. W. T.

Sir

The Military road leading from Fort Smith to Horse Prairie, was opened in the spring and summer of 1832, and a ferry was soon afterwards established on the Porteau river, by Thomas Wall a Choctaw, who for the purpose, located himself at Fort Smith.

In the spring of the year 1833, I was ordered to reoccupy Fort Smith with a Company of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry, <sup>when</sup> I found Wall at that place in possession of the ferry at the crossing of the Military road on the Porteau river, within two hundred yards of Fort Smith, he also occasionally crossed persons over the Arkansas, shifting his Boat from the one river to the other, around Belle point, on which Fort Smith was situated, and within the Choctaw Nation; I also understood not only from M<sup>r</sup>. Wall himself, but from others that he claimed the point at Fort Smith, by right of occupancy, which right according to the best of my belief has never been relinquished.

The re-occupancy of Fort Smith, could not have been considered as dispossessing him of his right of occupancy, unless he had have been paid for the same which was not done, and the troops only claimed the space occupied and enclosed by them which did not cover either the ferry on the Arkansas, or on the Porteau, and when the troops abandoned the position, in the summer of 1834, the whole possession again reverted to Wall,



who has held a claim to it, ever since, and I am clearly of the opinion that he is as much entitled to an occupancy there, as any other Choctaw is to any other position within the country, where he did not actually reside and cultivate, Wall did not within the last few years reside at Fort Smith, but he had the position held, and occupied, by his agent or tenant.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Yr. Obt. Sert

John Stuart

Capt 7" InfY

(OIA: Choctaw File H341 Washington, 5/4,1838 (H341) Harkins, Jones & Juzan Delegation. Inc. letter from Capt. John Stuart to Capt. Armstrong, etc.)

Washington City April 7. 1838.

C. A. Harris Esqr.

Com.mr. of Ind. Affrs

Sir. The undersigned, have had the pleasure of an Introduction to you by our Agent Capt William Armstrong - by whom you have been informed of our appointments as delegates by the Choctaw General Council; to lay before the proper department claims which our nation and people have against the government of the United States - In accordance with our instructions - we beg leave first to submit to you the papers in relation to the claim of Joseph Bogy which has been taken from the Choctaw annuity by an act of Congress and the money paid to Joseph. Bogy - It is unnecessary at this time perhaps to say much about this claim - We cannot however forbear, mentioning the fact, that after a lapse of twenty nine years, from the time the depredation was charged to have been committed - this claim is brought before Congress - and as you are already aware Six Thousand dollars of our annuity has been taken from our people,- without giving them an opportunity of being heard - We therefore look to the Government of the United States, to do us that justice which we are entitled to receive - The enclosed statements made by those of our people, now living who were present, at the time the depredation was said to have been committed, is the best evidence we have to offer - One of them is an old Chief, whose character for honesty and fidelity is unquestioned by those who know him, - such is indeed is the character of all whose statements are enclosed. We respectfully request, after you shall have examined the papers in relation to this claim

that you will either send it to Congrefs or give us your friendly advise as to what course we should pursue

Respectfully your most Obt Servants

George W. Harkins

R. M. Jones

Pierre Juzan

Choctaw Delegates

(OIA: Choctaw File H317. Washington, 4/7, 1838 (H317) Harkins, Geo. W. - R.M.Jones - Pierre Juzan, Choc. Delegation. Submit statement by Mu-shu-la-tub-bee and others of their nation, etc.)

Washington City April 20<sup>th</sup> 1838

C. A Harris esqr

Com. Ind. Affairs

Sir.

It is stipulated under the 15<sup>th</sup> Article of the Treaty concluded with our people at dancing Rabbit Creek, that when ever the Choctaws shall elect a 4<sup>th</sup> Chief, to superintend and govern upon republican principles, he shall receive annually for his services Five Hundred dollars, for twenty years - Now the Choctaws have established a republican form of government, and are in a state of improvement, and only need qualified and efficient men, to conduct the affairs of the nation, to become, at no remote period, an interresting and prosperous people -- We therefore respectfully request in behalf of our Nation, that the government will grant the Choctaws, the pay of the 4<sup>th</sup> Chief, as an inducement for suitable persons to aspire to the office of Chief, which amount, to be equally divided amongst the three Chiefs of the Nation -- Agreeably to our instructions we beg leave to state to the department, that the Choctaws do not wish a mill wright sent amongst them, as promised under the 20<sup>th</sup> Article of the Treaty at Dancing Rabbit Creek. - They have not the means to purchase the necessary materials to erect mills in the Nation, and no individual is willing to furnish them, at his own expense, and have a mill built, which in part, would be subject to the claims of the public - We therefore hope the government will allow the Choctaws the money in lieu of the services of the mill wright, to be subject to the disposal of the General Council --

We have also been instructed by our people to call the attention of the department to the 17<sup>th</sup> Article of said Treaty which stipulates that after their first years removal to the west, ten Thousand dollars should be divided amongst such, as received no reservations under the Treaty-- as they assert it was misinterpreted to them at the treaty and they universally understood, that the government would pay the amount, independent of the twenty thousand dollars allowed for twenty years - and as the amount has been taken from what they considered their annuity, to pay their own people, they hope the government will do them the justice to allow them the additional amount of ten Thousand Dollars. The majority of the Choctaw people, have expressed a wish, that the clause under the 13<sup>th</sup> Article of the late Treaty, which stipulates that the Agent shall fix his residence convenient to the great body of the people; be carried into effect as early as practicable.

The clause under the 20<sup>th</sup> article of said treaty which provides that the United States shall erect a house for each Chief; has caused much doubt and enquiry amongst our people, and they wish to know whether those houses were designed to be the private property of the treaty making Chiefs, or as public buildings, to them and their successors in office - In order therefore to put this question to rest, we respectfully request the decision of the department - Also for the satisfaction of our people we hope the department will inform us, what quantity of lands have been set a part under the 6<sup>th</sup> Section of the 19<sup>th</sup> Article of the treaty, for the benefit of orphan children of

the Choctaw Nation, and what disposition has been made of them; and beg leave to state to the department, that those orphans are much in need of assistance from some source or other, and it is very important that those lands be disposed of, and the proceeds applied as soon as possible for their relief--

The Choctaws are anxious to receive the ballance of the wheels and looms due them under the 20<sup>th</sup> Article of the treaty, as early as possible, but if it is not convenient, or in the power of the Government to furnish them soon, they will be satisfied to receive the money in lieu thereof, and employ native mechanics themselves or apply it to some other beneficial purpose in the country

Your early attention and reply to the above Interrogatories, will confer a great favour on the undersigned--

We have the honour to be, very respectfully your most obedient Servants

George W Harkins  
Pierre Juzan  
R. M. Jones  
Choct. Delagation

(OIA: Choctaw Fils H329. Washington, 4/20, 1838 (H329) Harkins, Geo. & others, Choctaw Delegation. Request in behalf of the Nation that the Government will grant them the pay of a 4th Chief, etc.)

Washington City May 4<sup>th</sup> 1838

C. A. Harris esqr

Com Ind. Affairs

Sir. We beg leave to submit to you the enclosed letter from Capt John Stuart commanding officer at Fort Coffee to William Armstrong Supt W. T. in relation to the claim of Mr Thomas Wall a Choctaw, for the point of land occupied by him adjoining the Arkansas line on the river, and lately purchased by the United States from Capt Rogers for a post - If we are correctly informed the government intend to erect a Fort on the land purchased of Capt Rogers, and may probably design to take possession of the point of land occupied by Mr Wall between the purchase and the Porteau River - We are aware the United States, by the 11<sup>th</sup> Article of the treaty of 1830 have the right to establish military posts within the Nation, but as this Fort will probably be within the State of Arkansas - the question arises have the government the right to use any portion of the Indian country for military posts, unless the same, be according to the treaty In the case however of Fort Smith, it is an Individual occupancy - and if the fort should find it to their advantage to occupy the point within the Choctaw line, we hope Mr Wall, will be compensated for his right of occupancy - If however we are correct in our views, we do not see how the government can establish a military post within the State of Arkansas and use any portion of our country in connection therewith - The article alluded to was indirectly intended for forts in the Indian country - It may be well to remark that the 18<sup>th</sup> Article

of the same treaty agrees "that in the construction of this treaty, whenever well founded doubts arise it shall be construed most favourably to the Choctaws We ask the favour of an early reply to this, as we expect to leave in a day or two

Very respectfully your

Most obt Servants

R M Jones

Geo. W Harkins

Pierre Juzan

Choctaw Delegation

(OIA: Choctaw File H341. Washington, 5/4, 1838 (H341). Harkins, Jones & Juzan Delegation. Inc. letter from Capt John Stuary to Capt. Armstrong, etc.)



Pontotoc

Mifsissippi 4<sup>th</sup> May 1838

Hon. C. A. Harris

Indian Department

Sir

As I have not the honour of your acquaintance, or of any correspondence with the department over which you preside, I much fear you will think me rather intrusive in thus addressing you, but the subject upon which I write being of important interest to me & which I respectfully submit to your consideration, will I trust in some degree excuse me --

On my return home to ~~the~~ Holly Springs from the West of Arkansas where I have been engaged during the winter as Medical Director in the Chickasaw Emigration, I received a letter from my friend & relation, the Hon. Andrew Bevine, enclosing me a copy of a letter from you to Cap<sup>t</sup> T. S. Crofs, Williamston Mifs. informing or directing that Gentleman to employ me as medical Director to the Choctaw emigration now under his Superintendence & alth<sup>o</sup> the copy of the letter is dated so far back as the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January last, yet I have had no communication directly or indirectly from Cap<sup>t</sup> C on the subject, I understand he is now west of Arkansas with a party of emigrating Choctaws & as I am totally unacquainted <sup>with the Captain</sup> & not knowing whether he rec<sup>d</sup> your letter or not, may I respectfully solicit from the Department such information & instructions as it may deem necessary - I have been here some time together with M<sup>r</sup> Brook & Colonel Upshaw collecting all we can of the balance of the Chickasaws, We hope to be able to make a start for the West by the first of next month -

Permit me now Sir, to return you my sincere thanks & to  
exprefs my grateful acknowledgements for this mark of kind-  
nefs & attention & to afsure you that no exertion of mine  
shall be wanting to fulfill the duties of the appointment you  
have given me with satisfaction to the Indians, and I trust &  
hope with the approbation of the Department,-

I have the Honour to be

Most respectfully

Your ~~me~~ obd Servt

J. Walker

We expect to be at Memphis in about five weeks from this  
time on our way West & at Little Rock, Ark, about two weeks  
after- I hope to hear from the Department on receipt of this -  
at ether of the above places.

(OIA: Choctaw (Emigr) File W505. Pontotoc, 5/4, 1838.  
Walker, Dr. J. (Says on his return from Ark. he recd. letter  
from Hon. A. Beirne, etc.)

Little Rock

9. May. 1838.

Thos. Irwin Esqr.

D<sup>r</sup> Sir,

The Steam Boat. Erin passed here yesterday with about 200. Choctaws on Board

Having no information relative to the manner by which they are to be subsisted after their arrival West - As a matter of Justice to the Govt. and to the Indians I deem it but right that the Indians for the time being (or until I can hear from the Com<sup>r</sup>.) should not want food - I must therefore particularly request you and Mr Kingsbury (to whom I have Just written.) to attend particularly to this matter

I of course will be responsible for such rations as they may absolutely require to support them until they can make some arrangement to support themselves, or until I can hear from Washington - As there is no appropriation for the Subs<sup>t</sup> of those people you will be extremely particular. not to give them more than absolutely necessary to keep them from. want.

R D C. Collins

Capt U.S.A

(OIA: Western Supt's File (Emigr.) Little Rock.)

Nunnawah Council Ground

October 11<sup>th</sup> 1838.

To

Capt W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Choctaw Agent.

Sir

We the undersigned Chiefs and Councilmen in General Council assembled, have learnt that the Troops stationed in the State of Arkansas near Fort Smith, have crossed over the line into our country and cutting and distroying the timber in our nation and have also taken pofsefsion of a ferry and point of land at Fort Smith occupied and pofsefsed by one of our citizens M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Wall. Now we cannot see by what authority those encroachments are made on our rights, by a Military Post Established within the limits of the State of Arkansas

We are aware the Treaty concluded with our people at Dancing Rabet Creek gives the United States the right to Establish Military Posts in our Country to which we have no objections, but we cannot view the course taken in any other light than an assumption of power not granted in any Treaty stipulation. Therefore we hope you will take the necefsary measures to represent to the proper Department that we expect the Government to compensate our injured citizen M<sup>r</sup> Wall for his pofsefsions at Fort Smith, and to make good the damages done to our people by cutting the distroying timber in our country

We are very Respectfully

Your friend

(signed)

Pierre Juzan Chief

John M <sup>C</sup> Kenney	his x mark	Chief
Oak char yar	his x mark	Speaker
P.P.Pitchlynn	Speaker of the house	
David Folsom		
Jeremiah Folsom		
Thomas Hays	his x mark	
George Hudson		
John Lake	his x mark	
Nat Jones	his x mark	
Allen Carney	his x mark	
Pis turmbee	his x mark	
Willis Stull	his x mark	
Samuel Worcester		
John Q. Adams		
David M <sup>C</sup> Coy	his	
Cha ta ma ta ha	x mark	
John Hoomah	his x mark	
Nuch ho ma ha jo	his x mark	
Posh ho ha cubbee	his x mark	
Ho pi o cha hubbee	his x mark	

Tush co lut tah      his  
   x  
   mark

E yar sha ho pi ya      his  
   x  
   mark

Adam Folsom

Andrew Jackson

Charles Tapen.

Nat Folsom              his  
   x  
   mark

Robt M Jones

Joseph Riddle              his  
   x  
   mark

William Riddle

Peter Folsom

Adam Lucas              his  
   x  
   mark

(OIA: Choctaw File A488. Choctaw Agy. 10/29, 1838 (A488)  
Armstrong, Wm. Forwards copy of a communication from Choctaw  
chiefs, etc.)

Washington Jan 16<sup>th</sup> 1871

Hon. E. S. Parker

Commifisioner of Indian Affairs

Sir: I am this morning in receipt of a letter from Bogy Depot Choctaw Nation, in which it is stated that Agent Griffith has made application for funds to establish a new Agency for Choctaws and Chickasaws at or near Bogy Depot, and has related two reservations, but leaves the decision to yourself; and requesting that I would furnish such information on the subject as my familiarity with the neighborhood enables to do. I have heard of only two locations - one at the old town called Boggy Depot and other near the Newtown - or South Bogy Depot. The old place is sandy and unhealthy, <sup>the water of</sup> and all the wells, (of which there quite a number), without exception I believe, are quite salty. The new town or South Bogy Depot is situated on a high plateau, partly timbered and partly prairie - Where <sup>the location</sup> the water is good and healthy, between the two places, on the road from Sherman Texas to Fort Smith & Fort Gibson about  $\frac{3}{4}$ <sup>th</sup> of a mile south of old Bogy Depot. This is a beautiful location for an Agency, on a high rocky hill, but not difficult of access, in a fine grove of timber and having prairie on three sides of it. And if I were called upon to locate the Agency I should prefer that to any other near Boggy Depot. It is near enough for the convenience of transacting business with the people of

both Towns, and is on the main thoroughfare thro the Indian Country from Fort Smith to Texas- and, <sup>from Baxter Springs to Texas</sup> And, is in the forks of the two roads leading acrofs Clear Bogy Creek - one by way of Old Bogy Depot the other crofsing below, about two miles where there is no Swamp on the south side of the Creek, which is a large one - and but little on the North side. There are bridges at both Crofsings. but at the up- per one there is swamp which in wet weather becomes Very boggy for a mile or thereabouts on each side of the Stream. Just below the upper bridge, too - Deleware Creek empties into Boggy - & in high water Deleware Creek, in consequence of a sluise from Boggy into it - becomes as difficult to crofs as the Boggy Creek - and frequently travellers after crofsing boggy - going South, cannot crofs Deleware Creek & are forced to remain at the Toll house until the Creek runs down

The lower Bridge crofses Boggy about a mile below the mouth of Deleware and also below the mouth of Sandy Creek - and will in my opinion be the principally travelled route as soon as ample supplies of provisions are prepared for Sale at South Bogy Depot for the immense number of emigrants who pafs through to Texas. This will I think better mail route. soon as accommodations are provided. For the above reasons I have no hesitation in exprefsing the opinion that as a permanent location - the site herein described, between the two Towns is the most eligible in the neighborhood -



considering health and the convenience of people likely  
to have businefs at the Agency.

I am Sir, Very respectfully

Douglas H. Cooper

(OIA: Choctaw C-39. 1871.)

"Net proceeds fund" Claim

of the Choctaws

\$2.981.247.30

Abstract of an investigation and report by Mr Bartlett of the Land Division, Indian Office in 1876

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At time of the Treaty of 1783 Choctaws were in possession of the territory now known as State of Mississippi. The treaty reserved a certain part of the land, to the Choctaws, upon which to live and hunt,

By the treaties of 1801, 1803, 1805 1816 the US. became repossessed of large tracts of the land reserved under treaty of 1783, giving the Indians therefor money consideration

By the treaty of 1820. In consideration of the cession of their right to 4.150.000 acres in Miss<sup>i</sup>, the U.S. reserved for the Choctaws, 15.000.000 acres between Arkansas & Red Rivers, as their home. The treaty provided a reservation of 54 square miles in Mississippi the proceeds of the sales of which were to be applied to the education of such of the Choctaws as chose to remain in Miss<sup>i</sup>, with the promise to become citizens; and for those who preferred to live under the laws of Mississippi, separate settlements were provided -

consisting of a tract of one mile square, including improvements for each.

By the treaty of 1825 The Choctaws re-ceded to the U.S. a part of the lands (the 15,000,000 tract) reserved for them by the treaty of 1820, which ceded part was found to be within the Territory of Arkansas and for which reception the U.S. gave them \$6,000 annually, forever.

By the treaty of 1830. The Choctaws ceded their right to 10,423,130 acres in Mississippi, in consideration of which, the US. gave to them a fee simple title to the 15,000,000 acres (less that part ceded as being in the Territory of Arkansas) reserved previously by the treaty of 1820 for their occupancy and use; also \$20,000 annually. To those who desired to remain in Mississippi subject to the local laws of the State, giving due notice thereof, this treaty by the 14<sup>th</sup> article provided a special reservation of 640 acres to each head of a family for himself; one half that quantity for each child over ten years of age & a quarter section to each child under 10; a residence upon such special reservation entitled the reservee to a grant in free simple to the land. About 150 heads of families representing about 1000, it was then estimated (by Comm<sup>rs</sup>) would remain; the Choctaws claimed 200 heads of families; the number increased to more than 14000. This provision was the cause of great trouble and discontent; frauds were commit-

ted; finally a settlement of the difficulty was made by granting reservations to 143. heads of families, amounting to 334.101. acres; and under the act of Congress of 1842 it was provided that scrip to amount of \$877.900 Should be paid to satisfy one half of the amount of each Claim additional to this 143. heads of families. Furthermore, in 1852 an appropriation of \$872.000 was made to be accepted by the Choctaws as a release all claims under the 14 article of the treaty of 1830, and which was accepted by their authorized agents Nov 6- 1852

In November 1853 Choctaw Delegates appeared before the Government with a Claim to lands which they had abandoned east of the Mifsissippi river, based upon the fact asserted by them, that a large number of claims under the 14<sup>th</sup> Article of the treaty of 1830 had been rejected; and it would appear that from this time (In 1853) forth the Choctaws claim that the 18<sup>th</sup> Article of said treaty by which the US. pledged the lands, ceded in Mifsifs<sup>i</sup>, as security for the money stipulated to be paid to the Choctaws, was in effect a pledge to pay them the net proceeds of the lands Sold in Mifsissippi: this claim was rejected.

In 1855 The question was reopened by the effort of the U.S. to make a treaty in the interest of the Chickasaws, so that

they should be made independent of the Choctaws & have lands of their own; this was effected, the Choctaws releasing a part of their land in the Indian territory for the purpose and receiving in consideration therefor \$600,000. The Choctaws in the negotiations labored to have their claim to the net proceeds recognized in this treaty, but in vain;

Treaty of they however consented to a provision in the 1855 treaty to have the question submitted to the US Senate - <sup>see</sup> Article 11. Article 12 of this treaty provides that whether the Senate shall award them the "net proceeds", or a sum in grofs, the amount shall be accepted in full settlement of tribal and individual claims &c.

On the 18 March 1856 the Senate referred the Subject of the Claim to the "net proceeds" to their Committee on Indian Affairs. Owing to difficulty in obtaining correct and trustworthy information, delay of action occurred and it was not until the 15 Feb<sup>y</sup> 1859 that the Committee finally reported. March 9, 1859 the Senate adopted resolutions, to the effect that the Choctaws be allowed the proceeds of such lands in their cefsion as had been sold up to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1859, deducting the cost of survey &c, and estimating the \*sale price at the rate of \$125. per acre; that they be allowed 12½ cents per acre for the residue of the lands; that the Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Interior cause a report to be made to Congrefs of the amount due the Choctaws, according to the principles of settlement in the case thus adopted.

\*(Quere)

In May 1860 The Secretary of the Interior reported that the proceeds of the lands sold up to Jan<sup>y</sup> 1. 1859 amounted to \$7.556.578.05; and the residue of lands unsold, at 12½ cts per acre, amounted, \$522.046.75, or a total of \$8.078 614.80, from which he deducted amount fixed under the treaty of 1830, and for selling and surveying the land \$5.097.367.50 The amount contemplated by the Senate award would therefore be \$2 981.247 30. The Sec<sup>y</sup>, of the Interior at the same time reminded Congrefs that the Choctaws received \$530.000 for part of their land in the Indian Territory, to the Chickasaws and for another part leased under the treaty of 1855, they received \$600.000 - which sums he deemed justly should be deducted making the amount of the award \$1.851.247.so. This report was not acted upon by the House of Representatives; but the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in June 1860 reported a bill proposing to award to the Choctaws \$2.332.560.85. The Senate did not act upon the bill. During the Same Sefsion Mr Sabastian Chairman of the Committee offered the substance of it as an amendment to the appropriation Bill (Indian), which the Senate rejected

At the next Session ) An amendment to the Indian appropriation bill (Indian) was adopted by the  
of Congress - )  
March 1861 ) Senate allowing the Choctaws  
\$1.202.560.80, which amendment was rejected by the House  
of Reps, A second Conference Committee of the two branches  
of Congrefs agreed upon a compromise which was accepted -

to the effect that \$500.000 be paid to the Choctaws, one half to be paid in money, and one half in United States bonds to be issued by the Sec<sup>y</sup>, of the Treasury - \$250.000 in money has been paid. The bonds for \$250.000 have not been as yet issued, (June 1876)

Act of Congress July 5. 1862 declared all appropriations or acts for aiding Indians should be suspended at the discretion of the President.

Congress March, 1865 enacted that in lieu of bonds authorized to be issued by act of 1861, the Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Treasury should pay to the Secretary of the Interior \$250.000 for the relief of members of the Choctaws and other tribes, who had been persecuted and driven from their homes for their loyalty to the U.S. - and this amount was so paid

Choctaw treaty of 1866 that all rights and immunities heretofore held by the Choctaw and other tribes, and individuals, or to which they were entitled under treaties and legislation heretofore made, are to be in full force if not inconsistent with this treaty.

From that time (1866) until now effort has been made constantly to have the Treasury issue the bonds for \$250.000; and to obtain an appropriation of the full amount of the "net proceeds" as awarded by the Senate in 1859. The Sec<sup>y</sup>, of the

Treasury refused to issue the bonds for the reason that by the Suspension Act of July 5 1862, and the Act of March 3 1865, (see above) his authority in the premises was taken away. The Attorney General, however, subsequently (in 1870) gave the opinion that the treaty of 1866 reinstated the Secretary with the power conferred by the Act of 1861; but in 1871, the issuing of the bonds was enjoined by parties who have claims against the Choctaws' agents - and this is the Status of the Controversy on that point at the present time.

In May 1868 Mr. Butler of the Committee \* on Indian Affairs House of Rep<sup>s</sup> reported in favor of the appropriation of \$2,332,561. the sum fixed by the Committee.

In July 1868 the House Com: on Indian Affairs through Mr Windom reported in favor of that Sum

In June 1870 the Senate Judiciary Committee proposed to fund the balance of the Claim fixing it at the same amount

In 1871. Mr Harlan of Senate Committee Indian' Affairs and Mr Shanke of same Com: of the House of Rep<sup>s</sup> reported in favor of the same amount.

In the House of Rep<sup>s</sup> on 19 Jan<sup>y</sup>. 1875, Mr Comings moved as

(Quere) is this right) /referring to asterisk above/



an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill then under consideration by Committee of the Whole, a section providing for the payment of \$2,981,247.30 to the Choctaws in settlement of the net proceeds claim, the sum awarded by the Senate. On the 20<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> the amendment was amended and the sum fixed at \$2,332,561. Upon being brought before the House, the measure was defeated by a vote of yeas and nays

Review by Mr Barttell

1-. By the treaties between the Choctaws and the U.S. previous to 1860, the land the Choctaws occupied was kept in reserve as a temporary hunting ground and abiding place, to which no title was given, except such as would be given to tenants at will,

2- That Whenever the U.S. made payments to the Choctaws for their lands in Mississippi, it was simply in consideration of a release of temporary privileges

3- That so far as the treaties of 1820 and 1830 were not fulfilled, the cause lay in the failure of the Choctaws to accept in good faith the provisions which were intended to civilize and and make citizens of Such of them as Chose to remain in Mississippi

4 That the reservation under the treaty of 1820 and the grant in fee simple to 15,000,000 acres made in the treaty

of 1830, was a perfect and complete consideration for the  
in Mifsi.,  
lands, abandoned and ceded to the U.S.

5- That the reservation Articles (14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup>) in the treaty of 1820 were faithfully observed by the United States and that the allowances to "Heads of families" were extended far beyond the honest requirement of the rule, and beyond the demand of the Choctaws themselves

6. That the payment of money to the Choctaws under the settlement act of 1852 and their receipt in formal release of claims therein covered, effectually bars all individual claimants under the treaty of 1830, while the Claim to the net proceeds under the pledge of the Mifsissippi lands as security for similar obligations, arises from a misapprehension of the nature of a mortgage.

7- That the Senate Award of 1859 under the treaty of 1855, was made hastily without a full knowledge of the facts as is plainly shown by the Subsequent and repeated acts of the Senate in substantially revoking its own award; and in the House of Reps. in refusing to recognize it.

8 That there was no justification for the appropriation of \$500,000 in 1861 for the benefit of the Choctaws Save as an act of Charity to a tribe in need but of general good character

9. That the treaty of 1866 affirming all obligations of treaties and Acts of Congress previous to the rebellion, did not give force to the award of 1859 Since that award had not legally become a part of the treaty of 1855

10 That the repeated Acts and uniform action of Congress in rejecting the net proceeds claim as Such totally and in part whenever it has been discussed and brought to a vote, is significant of its character and ought to be decisive against its further consideration

11. That every obligation of the U.S. to the Choctaws under the several treaties involved in the question considered has been fulfilled: the net proceeds claim never had any validity: the appropriation of \$500,000 should be regarded as a gratuity; and the present memorialist should have leave to withdraw.

Indian Office

Nov. 1875

W.B.W

Commissioners

Tams Bixby

Thomas B. Needles

C. R. Breckinridge

W. E. Stanley

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

COMMISSION TO THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

Muskogee, Indian Territory,

August 11, 1903.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior,

Sir:

With a view to carrying out the instructions of the Department, contained in its letter of July 2, 1903, (I.T.D. 4630, 5282-1903) the Commission, on July 3rd, directed Mr. H. Van V. Smith to proceed at once to the State of Mississippi, there to superintend the work of aiding indigent and identified full-blood Mississippi Choctaws in removing to Indian Territory. A copy of the instructions given Mr. Smith was, on July 24th, transmitted to the Department.

I now have the honor to quote below, reports made by the Commission's Special Agent, Mr. Smith, under date of July 29th and August 8th, which will serve to acquaint the Department to a degree with what is being done in the premises:

"Meridian, Mississippi, July 29, 1903.

Commission to the

Five Civilized Tribes,

Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to instructions of the Commissioner in Charge, dated July 23, 1903, directing me to "proceed at once to the State of Mississippi to carry out and superintend measures in aid of indigent and identified Mississippi Choctaws, who desire to remove to the Indian Territory within the six months from the date of their identification as provided by law", I have the honor to submit herewith report of conditions as I find them to date, with brief account of the action I have so far taken under said instructions.

To all those identified full-blood Mississippi Choctaws, whose six months' limit expires Friday, August 14, I have mailed letters in the following language:

"Meridian, Mississippi, July 27, 1903.

Dear Sir:

Under instructions from the Secretary of the Interior, through the Dawes Commission, I am now in Meridian, Mississippi, for the purpose of aiding indigent and identified fullblood Mississippi Choctaw Indians to remove to the Indian Territory, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Congress of March 3, 1903.

On February 14, 1903, you were identified by the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes as a full-

blood Mississippi Choctaw. The six months provided by law, within which you may remove to and make settlement in the Choctaw-Chickasaw country, expires on Friday, August 14, 1903.

Therefore, if you wish to acquire lands in the Indian Territory, but are in destitute circumstances and do not have the money to take you there, you are requested to call on me or write to me immediately at Meridian, Mississippi, and I will at once investigate your condition and provide free transportation and free rations as your status and circumstances may justify and require.

Prompt action in your case is absolutely necessary as the six months' limit has nearly expired. It is desired that all identified fullblood Mississippi Choctaws, shall avail themselves of this effort of the government's to assist them in getting their Indian rights.

A special train will leave Meridian, Mississippi, for the Indian Territory, on Wednesday, August 12, 1903, and if you wish to go, you must be in Meridian on Tuesday, August 11th.

In replying to this letter use the enclosed envelope which does not require a postage stamp.

Very respectfully,  
H. Van V. Smith,  
Special Agent of the  
United States Government

I have scattered broadcast in the sections where the full-blood identified Mississippi Choctaws live special notices, of which the following is a copy:

"SPECIAL NOTICE

TO

FULL-BLOOD MISSISSIPPI CHOCTAWS.

Under instructions from the Secretary of the Interior through the Dawes Commission, I have been charged with the expenditure of the \$20,000 appropriated by Congress to aid indigent full-blood Mississippi Choctaws who have been identified as full-blood Mississippi Choctaws by the Commission, and who desire to remove to the Indian Territory within the six months after the date of their identification as provided by law.

I have lists of all identified fullblood Mississippi Choctaws. With many of them the six months will soon be passed.

Those identified full-blood Mississippi Choctaws who wish to go to the Indian Territory, are requested to call on me or write to me immediately at Meridian Mississippi, and I will go at once investigate their condition and provide free transportation and free rations as their status and circumstances may justify and require.

Prompt action is necessary for those whose six months' limit has nearly expired and it is desired for all who wish to avail themselves of this effort of the government's to assist in getting their Indian rights.

None but identified full-blood Mississippi Choctaws are included in this notice.

Meridian Mississippi, July 27, 1903,

H. Van V. Smith,  
Special Agent of the  
United States Government."

Address, Meridian, Mississippi.

As an additional means of disseminating this news among the Indians, I have secured the services of five competent men who are thoroughly familiar with leading fullblood Choctaws in this community, and have dispatched them to the Interior with instructions to explain to the identified full-bloods the benevolent nature of the government's offer, and that I am here for the purpose of extending to the indigent ones, on behalf of the United States, such aid as may be necessary to assist them in getting their Indian rights.

For this purpose, I estimate the cost to the government of \$500,000 to August 14th.

Under separate cover I report names and compensation of those whom I have employed to date.

I am informed by the railroad companies that contractors so called have removed to the Territory about eleven hundred Indians, both full and mixed blood, and that they expect to move a thousand or more between now and fall.

I have information also that some twenty-five or thirty Indians who had gone to the Territory in the spring and early summer have returned and reported to their neighbors that



there is a great scarcity of water in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, and advised them not to go. These particular Indians it is reported, were landed at or near Ardmore and were pretty roughly treated.

It has occurred to me that it would be a good idea during the summer months, to land the Indians at Tishomingo where there is an abundant supply of good water. In Mississippi these Indians are accustomed to good water and plenty of it, and, I understand, they enquire particularly as to this feature when talking among themselves and with white people here about going to the Indian Territory. Should the Commission wish to give any specific instructions on this subject I shall be pleased to govern myself accordingly; otherwise arrangements will be perfected to land the Indians at such points in the Choctaw-Chickasaw country as may be found most feasible, expense, time and other conditions to be duly considered.

My head quarters in Meridian will be at the Federal Building where I occupy the same quarters heretofore used by the Commission.

Very respectfully,

H. Van V. Smith,

Special Agent of the

United States Government."

"Meridian, Mississippi, August 8, 1903.

Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes,

Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the fol-

lowing telegram of the Commissioner in Charge, dated August 7, 1903, which was delivered late yesterday afternoon:

"No report from you as to approximate number you expect to bring or date or place of arrival. Commission should be advised as to this at once; should brought to either Tishomingo or Atoka. If not attended by too much expense it would be better to land them in Tishomingo."

Following is a copy of my reply:

"Telegram received. From present indications expect to move four hundred next Wednesday. Speculators have caused considerable uncertainty among Indians as to Government's real purpose, which has delayed estimates of number to go, but I have now got matter well understood by fullbloods and applications for government assistance coming in fast. Indians generally show preference for Choctaw Nation. As service to Atoka will be quicker and cheaper shall ship there unless otherwise ordered. Final bid of railroad companies will not be made until tomorrow or Monday."

Until yesterday, it was not possible to give an intelligent estimate of the number of identified fullblood Mississippi Choctaws likely to be moved at Government expense. Previous to that time applications for assistance were very few. Most of the post offices where the Indians receive their mail are located in the Interior, and with few exceptions mail matter is sent those offices only two

or three times a week. On the other hand this section is literally overrun with speculators who, in endeavoring to secure contracts with these Indians have made all sorts of misrepresentations as to the real purpose of the Government in offering to aid indigent and identified fullbloods to remove to and make settlement in the Indian Territory.

From letters received direct from the fullblood Indians and the reports from the five clerk-interpreters in the field I estimate there will be approximately four hundred fullbloods to be removed to the Indian Territory at Government expense on or before the 14th instant. This estimate is based of course upon the assumption that all those who will make application for assistance are found to be, upon careful investigation in destitute circumstances. It is unquestionably a fact, however that in addition to being more or less in debt 99 per cent of these Indians have not a dollar in the world. There are now between sixty and seventy fullbloods here ready to remove to the Territory and I do not find one of them able to go without assistance. Their household effects were brought to Meridian in one wagon. All things being equal I had favored landing the first movement of Indians at Tishomingo, as indicated in my report of July 29. But I now understand from conversation with the Indians that a majority of

the Mississippi Choctaws prefer going to the Choctaw Nation. While I have not closed a contract with any railroad, if the rate finally agreed upon is the same to both points movement to Atoka would be quicker by five or six hours and attended by less expense in the matter of subsistence en route.

Mr. Stringfellow called on me this morning and endeavored to exact a promise from me that I would move at least one hundred and fifty of these Indians to Tishomingo stating that his company would be better able to guard the best interests of the Indians than like concerns in and around Atoka. I told him that it had not been decided to what point in the Choctaw-Chickasaw country the Indians would be moved; that under my instructions I must deal directly with the Indians and not through agents or attorneys; but that if he would wire his request to the Commission I would be guided by whatever instructions might be sent me in the premises. I am satisfied Mr. Strongfellow will not make this request of the Commission.

The railroads yesterday quoted flat rate of \$11.50 for full tickets, one half for children between ages of five and twelve, and children under five free. I refused to accept the rate and referred the matter back for reconsideration, especially so as this rate has been in force for some months on movements of ten or more Indians, and I thought it too high on a movement of several hundred. The railroads have promised to reconsider the matter and advise me today or to-

morrow. The Queen & Crescent and the Mobile & Ohio, being the initial lines have absolute control over the question of naming this rate and I have reason to believe there is concerted action on their part to maintain the old tariff of \$11.50.

As soon as final rate is agreed upon I will wire the Commission naming the point of destination and the route over which the movement will be made.

Very respectfully,  
H. Van V. Smith,  
Special Agent of the  
United States Government."

The desirability of landing these Indians at one of the Allotment Offices of the Commission in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations is apparent, and in view of the added expense incident to their transportation to Tishomingo, it has been deemed advisable to bring them to Atoka, suitable camping facilities being available in that vicinity. Tents will be provided for the purpose of sheltering these Indians until such time as they can be placed upon their respective allotments.

As will be inferred from the reports of Special Agent Smith, the work of the Government is seriously hampered by the operations of agents and companies whose object is to secure contracts with identified Mississippi Choctaws for their allottable interest of the lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations. Doubtless radical measures will need be adopted in order to frustrate the efforts of these spec-

ulators, and necessary steps will be taken by the Commission to protect the interests of the Indians.

Reports will be made to the Department from time to time as to the progress of this work and the existing conditions, pursuant to the instructions contained in the Department's letter above referred to.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) T B Needles

Commissioner in Charge.

Through the Commissioner  
of Indian Affairs.

(OIA: 52106-1903.)