

COMMISSIONER  
OF  
INDIAN  
AFFAIRS



VOL. 1

FOREMAN  
TRANSCRIPTS

Copies of

MANUSCRIPTS

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In the office of the  
COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

(WESTERN SUPERINTENDENCY:  
MISCELLANEOUS AND SCHOOLS)

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GRANT FOREMAN

1930

OKLAHOMA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

7093



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v.1

Cantonment Gibson

24th June 1829

To, the Sec'y of War.

Sir,

It has come within my knowledge, since my arrival at this section of the country, that the President of the U. States has ordered a detail of 4 companies of Infantry, for the purpose of escorting, and guarding the companies trading from St. Louis, to St. A. Fe. This measure on part of the Goverment is wise, and necefsary for the present; but I beg leave to submit to your consideration the following facts -- The trace by which the traders must pafs, will unavoidably, go thro' the hunting ground of the Osages, Kansas, Pawanees, Kemanches, Arapahoes, & Kiewahs, who are at war with each other; and consequently war parties will necefsarily infest the trace of the Traders. And if the Indians should sustain any lofs from their enemies, they will never be scrupulous, about the means of remuneration which will consequently, subject our Traders to depredation from all the Tribes, who may suppose, that they owe no allegiance to the President of the U. States. A treaty was once concluded with the Pawanees of the River Platte, but those who reside more westwardly, and who are more numerous, have never held treaty with the U. States. From the best information I can obtain, the only Tribe of all those named which has received Medals, is the Osage.

The Osages, and Pawanees have been engaged in War from time immemorial, and every year. at least two Campaigns are made against each other. Many prisoners have been taken by both nations, until their number has become considerable. The exchange of prisoners united to the necessity of the Tribes being compelled to hunt of the same ground, would as I believe dispose them to peace, on reasonable terms. If this object could be effected, there would be but little difficulty in making peace with the other Tribes, as I apprehend, and if they should remain hostile, it would be easy to control them, with the friendship, of the Pawanees, and cooperation of the Osages. Peace would cost a mere trifle to our Government, when compared to the advantages, which must result from it. The escort might be withdrawn, or its station be rendered permanent, at some eligible point on the Arkansas, or the line between us, and the Mexican states. The troops will now be liable, without great caution: to have their horses stolen, and probably the objects of the Government for the present defeated!

Treaties between the several tribes, and between them, and the United States, could be easily effected, by the distribution of some trifling presents, and Medals of the President (not M<sup>r</sup> Adams',) given to the Chiefs by some man, who understands the character of the Indians.

To promote a measure which promises real advantages, to the Government, and security to its enterprising citi-



zens, if upon examination it should be adopted; I beg leave to present the name of Colonel Augustus P. Chouteau, as an agent for that purpose. He is a man of fine intellect, clear, vigorous, and active,- He has the best practical knowledge of Indians, of any man, with whom I have ever been acquainted - he would execute the trust, with pride, effect, & fidelity!

Should the President adopt the course, and Colo. Chouteau be appointed for the purpose, I would, with <sup>pleasure</sup> great accom-  
pany him on the Mission; and render all aid within my power, but will not accept any compensation for my services, as the duty would recreate, my mind --

I am with high

consideration, and

regard Your Mo ob. Sert

Sam Houston

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

(OIA: 1829. Misc. Gen. Sam Houston. Escort for Santa Fe Traders.)



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Natchitoches July 7<sup>th</sup> 1830.

Sir,

I have lately arrived here from the seat of Government to take charge of the Indian Agency on Red River to which office I have been appointed. And I have this day held a talk with the Caddo Chief who informs me of a letter address<sup>d</sup> by you to Doct<sup>r</sup> Sibley of this place giving information of a meditated attack on the Caddo Nation by several tribes of Indians residing within the territory of the Province of Texas.

If such be the fact or if you have any intelligence, Sir, of any serious difference existing at this time between Indians on your side and ours on Red River you will confer a great favor and do an act of humanity by giving me all the information, you possess on the subject and as early as practicable.

If the Caddo Indians have made themselves obnoxious to other tribes it may be no doubt partially attributed to their peculiar condition: They have been accustomed for many years (until within the last two) to receive certain assistance from our Government which aided mainly in their support but the sudden unexpected & continuous interruption of those supplies occasioned by the death of two Indian Agents in quick succession and the great distance from the seat of Government may perhaps have driven them, from sheer necessity, into some irregularities; For all such they will be required to make amicable reparation on good evidence being adduced of the fact.

It will be unnecessary for me, Sir, to point out the calamities of a border War even between Indian Tribes and of the indispensable necessity of our Governments guarding our



frontier white settlements against their decultory and lawless incursions.

As it is the wish of my Government to make amicable adjustment of all differences among the Indians if any shall exist I feel assured that the same philanthropic principles which dictate these sentiments will find a correspondant cooperation in you.

I am Sir with considerations of the highest respect

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

(Signed) J. Brooks

Indian Agent

on Red River

Colonel Bean

Superintendent of Indian Affairs

Nacogdoches, Texas

(CIA: 1830 Red River (Agency) Jehiel Brooks Report.)



Natchitoches August 16. 1830.

Sir,

I have waited till now, before I should announce to you my arrival here, from a belief that my mere arrival, before I had time to ascertain the condition of my Post, or be able to give the Department some account of it, would be supereragatory. And even now I cannot be as circumstantial in all things as I wish, and as will be satisfactory to you, owing to the severe indisposition of my family, and to the excefsive heat of the weather ever since my arrival in this climate.

I have had interviews, however, with the Caddo and Quapaw Chiefs above, and with the head Men of the Puscagoula and Apalache tribes below; as also with some of the whites with whom the Indians have disputed about lands, and will proceed to give you as brief a sketch of all as the nature and extent of my inquiries will admit of.

I found the Caddos in considerable alarm, being threatened with an attack from a band of Cherokees residing beyond the Sabine River, aided by other tribes of Texas Indians; as they were entirely destitute of ammunition. This account of the Caddo chief was corroborated by an Indian trader from Texas, with whom I conversed; by the Caddo Interpreter, Edwards, and by rumour. I therefore directed the chief to call in his people upon their own ground, without delay - supplied them with Powder and Lead sufficient for their immediate necessities, and directed him to defend himself in case of attack; and await further instructions. I



immediately addressed Colonel Bean, Superintendent of Indian affairs in Texas, on the subject, a copy of which letter I herewith enclose, to which I have received no reply.

Since these things transpired a report has reached me, through various channels, & from different directions, that the Mexican Government are sending a considerable military force upon this frontier, under the command of General Tiran, (who has been stationed in Texas before, and who has explored the frontier) for the ostensible purpose of enforcing the decree of emancipation of slavery, but for the secret intention of enforcing the late decree which prohibits emigration from the United States: and to effect this a fort is to be erected at Pecan point, and another at the mouth of Sulphur fork, on the Red River, (where this Agency was formerly located) including in this scope out settlement at Pecan Point, at Lofs prairie, and at least one half of the country claimed by the Caddo Nation. I have taken measures to be early informed of the truth of these things from the best sources of information, which will be communicated to the Department so soon as received, unless I am prevented by the direction of subsequent instructions.

I am induced to be thus circumstantial in my relation of these rumours, at this time, from a conviction, that there are men among us here, so inimical to the present administration of the Government, that they will not only withhold from the officers of Government stationed among them whatever information they may possess of any importance to the peace and security of the country, but ready to join in any cabal of dis-



content, or even of insurrection, that shall be calculated to create difficulties here, which through misrepresentation might be made to reflect <sup>credit</sup> ~~disgrace~~ upon the Administration elsewhere; and from a belief thus early formed that a similar course of military enforcement will be as necessary again, as it was once before in this country, in the days of Mr. Jefferson.

I found the Quapaw Indians also in a suffering condition, which induced me to raise on my own credit sufficient means to afford them present relief.

On my arrival here, I learned that three of the Gentlemen, on whom I placed greatest reliance for securities to my Bond, were absent, who would not return till fall; and before I could ascertain what the remaining prospects of success were, my wife was taken so ill as to require my constant and undivided attention for near three weeks. Then two weeks more were consumed in vain endeavours, though under promises of success, whereupon I abandoned all further attempt here for the present, and forwarded a Bond in blank to my Father-in-law at Washington, and another to a friend in Ohio, the one or other of which I hope to have executed to your satisfaction. But if I fail in both attempts, I beg indulgence till October, by which I am assured of success here. I am bold to ask this indulgence, because I have guarded, and shall continue to guard, the public interest; and make use of my individual credit, till I am officially entitled to the credit of the Government.

I find unsettled public accounts, created by the former Indian Agent, as far back as July of last year. And the Department is aware that a part of the salaries, and annuities, also



of last year, remain unpaid. Of the unexpended balance in the hands of the Agent, at his decease, I can get no intelligence. In the event of a Bond being received on my account, and funds forwarded, I beg to be specifically instructed as to the settlement of the arrearages of the last year.

I find nothing definite has been done below in the cases of Isaac Baldwin, Gillard, and others, in regard to their differences with the Apalache and Pascaquola tribes of Indians, though these matters have been under investigation for years, and though the whole controversy depends simply on the two facts - 1<sup>st</sup> whether these claimants have bona fide titles to the disputed lands, in conformity to the laws of the United States, & of this State, and, 2<sup>nd</sup> if so, whether the boundaries have been surveyed, platted, and recorded according to law. In a short time I intend to visit these contested lands, and report the facts as I find them to exist, in regard to both points.

I beg leave also to state that there are now on Red River, and its tributary waters, upwards of three hundred Choctaw Indians, according to their own account, and of whites best acquainted with their number. They hang upon the borders of the white settlements, in the most abject state of poverty and wretchedness. I have conversed with some of the most intelligent, and explained to them the treaties of 1820, and 1825. They professed to be ignorant of the provisions of those treaties; but willing to embody themselves and emigrate direct from this country, but unwilling to return first to the old nation, east of the Mississippi.



I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letter of instructions, dated 18<sup>th</sup> of June; and to be, Sir,

with great respect

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

J. Brooks

Indian Agent

on Red River

Hon<sup>ble</sup>

John H. Eaton

Secretary of War

(OIA: 1830 Red River (Agency) Jehiel Brooks. Report.)



If the President deems it fit to appoint Colonel Arbuckle, Co.<sup>1</sup> Chouteau, & myself (without fee or reward) to treat with the Pawanees; and to make peace between them, and the Osages, tranquility will reign in the Priara's. The whole western Tribes will be at Peace. The lines of the Different Tribes on Arkansas can be laid of, and harmony established between the Indian Tribes, and an acquiescence in the wishes of the Goverment, & the Executive insured. So long as Hamtramck is permitted to remain Agent for the Osages they can never prosper! They will only await the day to redrefs wrongs which they receive thro' him. I will have no reward, nor do I wish to have any thing to do with money matters. If the Pawanees should receive of the Govt (and Kemanchees) from 5 to \$10,000 Dollars per annum it would save the expense, of a guard to the Caravans

And let the Commifsioners make quarterly reports to the War Department, of all their proceedings, and the reasons - Let them be authorized to employ Maj. Langham, or Colonel Arbuckle to select from his command a Surveyor for running off the Indian lands - and be instructed in all things to regard the objects of the Government, in the fair fulfillment of Treaties, and where the letter can not be pursued to follow the spirit of the Treaties.

I will pledge my life upon the benifecale result of the above suggestions, both to the Indians, & the Executive of the Union!



I am aware that it is not the most popular position for me to occupy in relation to the Indians, but justice and a regard to their real interests requires of me both risque, and sacrifice if necessary.

Sam Houston

(OIA: 1830. Misc. Gen. Sam Houston. Boundaries in the West.)



## FIELD NOTES

of the Survey of the Meanders

of

ARKANSAS RIVER .

on its South Bank

Commencing at the point where the North and South line  
dividing a portion of the Cherokee and Creek lands  
strikes Arkansas River, And thence up it, 85. Miles.



(Magnetic Variation  $10^{\circ}$  E. (Chain 2 poles'))

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Tuesday, Oct 25<sup>th</sup> 1831.

Commenced Meandering the Arkansaw River by Marking  
at the point of commencement

A hickory "C. C. L." also. "Wh. oak"

Ch. L.  $56\frac{3}{4}$  M.

Station.	Course.	Chains.	
1.	S. $89^{\circ} 51'$ W.	6.	
2.	S. $85^{\circ}$ - W.	5.	All mile trees are Marked
3.	S. $89^{\circ} 30'$ W.	3.	on the South bank of
4.	S. $88^{\circ}$ - W.	12.	the River, every 5 <sup>th</sup> mile
5.	N. $61^{\circ} 45'$ W.	6.	
6.	N. $77^{\circ}$ - W.	3.	
7.	N. $78^{\circ} 45'$ W.	5.	
8.	N. $80^{\circ} 15'$ W.	5.	
9.	N. $85^{\circ} 15'$ W.	10.	
10.	N. $78^{\circ} 45'$ W.	4.	
11.	N. $72^{\circ} 45'$ W.	5.	
12.	N. $63^{\circ}$ - W.	5.	
13.	N. $58^{\circ} 30'$ W.	9.	
14.	N. $51^{\circ}$ - W.	9.	
15.	N. $27^{\circ}$ - W.	16.	
16.	N. $21^{\circ}$ - W.	8.	
17.	N. $13^{\circ} 30'$ W.	25.	
18.	N. $6^{\circ} 10'$ W.	14.	



	19.	N. 15° - E.	34.
	20.	N. 7° 45.' W.	26.
(sic)	20.	N. 17° 15'. W.	23
	21.	N. 16° - W.	7.
	22.	N. 29° 30'. W.	11.
	23.	N. 39° 15.' W.	7.
	24.	N. 37° - W.	9.
	25.	N. 55° 30.' W.	17.
	26.	N. 42° - W.	5.
	27.	N. 41° - W.	29.
	28.	N. 53° 15. W.	4.
	29.	N. 45° 0 W.	6.
	30.	N. 57° 30'. W.	6.
	31.	N. 51° 30'. W.	5.
	32.	N. 43° - W.	5.
	33.	N. 52° - W.	8.
	34.	N. 58° - W.	11.
	35.	N. 74° 30.' W.	24.
	36.	N. 73° 30.' W.	62.
	37.	N. 64° 30'. W.	19.
	38.	N. 66° 15. W.	11.
	39.	* 87° 30.' W.	5.
	40.	* 74° 45.' W.	4.
	41.	* 70° 15.' W.	4.
	42.	* 73° 30'. W.	6.

/\* Both N and S marked - one over the other; unable to tell which is correct./



	43.	S. 78° 15'.	W.	18.	
	44.	S. 76° 30'.	W.	4.	
	45.	S. 84° 30'.	W.	5.	
	46.	S. 86° 15'.	W.	4.	
	47.	S. 69° 30'.	W.	27.	
	48.	S. 52° 45'.	W.	43.	
(sic)	50.	S. 44° -	W.	40.	
	51.	S. 58° -	W.	70.	
	52.	S. 67° -	W.	64.	
	53.	S. 83° 30'.	W.	18.	
	54.	S. 81° 30'.	W.	8.	8. On South Bank. Marked
	55.	S. 82° 15'.	W.	8.	2 large Blk. Oaks --
	56.	S. 75° -	W.	13.	"Ch. L. <u>5. M.</u> " for 5 <sup>th</sup> Mile
	57.	S. 83° -	W.	18.	
	58.	S. 70° 15'.	W.	81.	
	59.	S. 75° 45'.	W.	25.	
	60.	S. 62° -	W.	18.	
	61.	S. 63° 15'.	W.	9.	
	62.	S. 64° 30'.	W.	9.	
	63.	S. 67° -	W.	40.	40. High hill on S. side
	64.	S. 86° 45'.	W.	39.	coming to a point near
	65.	S. 89° 15'.	W.	29.	the river.
	66.	N. 83° 30'.	W.	32.	32. Small creek enters
	67.	N. 77° -	W.	41.	South side l. ch. Wide.
	68.	N. 75° -	W.	33.	



69.	N. 70° 30'. W.	80.	
70.	N. 78° - W.	82.	
71.	N. 73° - W.	4.	
72.	N. 70° 15'. W.	5.	
73.	N. 80° - W.	4.	
74.	N. 72° 15'. W.	10.	
75.	S. 85° - W.	10.	
76.	N. 86° 30'. W.	5.	
77.	N. 85° 45'. W.	18.	
78.	S. 88° 45'. W.	35.	
79.	S. 85° 30'. W.	46.	
80.	S. 82° 45'. W.	41.	
81.	S. 78° 45'. W.	52.	
82.	S. 68° - W.	40.	23. Marked 2 cottonwoods -
83.	S. 71° - W.	53.	"Ch. L. 10. M" for 10 <sup>th</sup> Mile
84.	S. 73° - W.	24.	a creek 1 ch. wide enters im-
85.	S. 74° 30'. W.	45.	mediately opposite on the
86.	S. 79° - W.	44.	North Side.
87.	S. 83° - W.	5.	
88.	S. 81° 45'. W.	13.	
89.	S. 88° 30'. W.	11.	
90.	S. 74° 45'. W.	13.	
91.	S. 63° - W.	33.	
92.	S. 50° - W.	58.	
93.	S. 55° 45'. W.	18.	



94.	S. 61° 15.' W.	76.	
95.	S. 68° 15.' W.	23.	23. A Small Island con-
96.	S. 76° 15.' W.	32.	taining 3. or 4. Acres lies
97.	S. 74° - W.	6.	near the S. shore.
98.	S. 78° W.	8.	
99.	S. 85° 15.' W.	31.	
100.	S. 68° 45.' W.	81.	
101.	S. 63° - W.	48.	48. High Prairie commences
102.	S. 75° 30.' W.	8.	on North Bank extending
103.	S. 74° W.	11.	$\frac{1}{2}$ Mile up the River.
104.	S. 60° 30.' W.	24.	
105.	S. 51° 45.' W.	31.	
106.	S. 49° W.	9.	
107.	S. 57° - W.	24.	
108.	S. 65° W.	36.	
109.	S. 36° 30.' W.	7.	7. Marked an Ash "Ch L. 15.M."
110.	S. 56° 15.' W.	10.	also a Sycamore "15. M."
111.	S. 61° 15.' W.	13.	Rocky bluff bank above
112.	S. 62° 45.' W.	10.	on S. side.
113.	S. 55° - W.	5.	
114.	S. 56° - W.	10.	
115.	S. 60° - W.	11.	
116.	S. 47° 45.' W.	9.	
117.	S. 48° - W.	5.	
118.	S. 46° - W.	9.	
119.	S. 55° W.	6.	



120.	S. 62° 30'.	W.	29.	29. a creek 1 ch. Wide enters
121.	S. 74° -	W.	24.	the South side at the upper
122.	S. 83° -	W.	40.	end of the above named
123.	N. 81°	W.	24.	rocky Bank
124.	N. 82° -	W.	7.	24. Creek larger than the
125.	N. 84° -	W.	18.	above 3 chs. Wide enters the
126.	N. 65° 15.'	W.	30.	South Side.
127.	N. 47° -	W.	121.	
128.	N. 50° -	W.	77.	
129.	N. 51° 15.'	W.	105.	
130.	N. 58° -	W.	36.	
131.	N. 49° 15.'	W.	36.	
132.	N. 53° 15'	W.	32.	
133.	N. 47° 30'.	W.	30.	
134.	N. 40° 45.'	W.	51.	
135.	N. 31°	W.	35.	
136.	N. 19° -	W.	48.	
137.	N. 4° 30.'	W.	78.	11 Marked 2 oaks "Ch. L.
138.	N. 10° 30'.	E.	7.	20. M." on high rocky Bank
139.	N. 20°	E.	8.	at the upper end of which
140.	N. 21°	E.	31.	$\frac{1}{4}$ mile a small creek en-
141.	N. 24° 30.'	E.	47.	ters the South side -
142.	N. 8° -	E.	37.	Cottonwood Bottom above
143.	N. 3° 30'.	W.	35.	
144.	N. 30.'	E.	28.	
145.	N. 18° 30'.	W.	52.	



146.	N. 19° -	W.	31.	
147.	N. 17°	W.	56.	
148.	N. 22° -	W.	13.	
149.	N. 18° 45'.	W.	9.	
150.	N. 20°	W.	11.	
151.	N. 9° 30'.	W.	28.	
152.	N. 45° 30'.	W.	20.	
153.	N. 7° -	W.	51.	
154.	N. 16° 30'.	W.	38.	
155.	N. 11°	W.	14.	
156.	N. 3° 30'.	E.	21.	
157.	N. 15° -	E.	23.	
158.	N. 20° 30'.	E.	26.	13. Creek enters S. side $1\frac{1}{2}$
159.	N. 14° -	E.	38.	chs. wide
160.	N. 11° -	E.	16.	
161.	N. 13°	E.	26.	
162.	N. 21°	E.	9.	
163.	N. 29° 30'.	E.	35.	
164.	N. 17° 30'.	E.	30.	23. Marked 2 cottonwoods
165.	N. 13° 45'.	E.	29.	Ch. L. 25 M on S. side and on
166.	N. 11°	E.	13.	N. side Blk. oak "25 M for 25. miles
167.	N. 17° 45'.	E.	25.	
168.	N. 5°	E.	123.	
169.	N. 25° 30'.	E.	6.	
170.	N. 8°	E.	28.	



171.	N.	11 <sup>°</sup>	15'.	E.	39.	
172.	N.	3 <sup>°</sup>	30.'	E.	40.	
173.	N.	1 <sup>°</sup>	30.'	W.	10.	
174.	N.	30 <sup>°</sup>	30'.	W.	68.	
175.	N.	33 <sup>°</sup>	10'.	W.	41.	
176.	N.	34 <sup>°</sup>	45.'	W.	74.	
177.	N.	52 <sup>°</sup>		W.	37.	
178.	N.	83 <sup>°</sup>		W.	40.	
179.	N.	79 <sup>°</sup>	-	W.	16.	
180.	N.	89 <sup>°</sup>		W.	48.	
181.	S.	76 <sup>°</sup>	30'.	W.	45.	
182.	S.	71 <sup>°</sup>	30'.	W.	39.	
183.	S.	60 <sup>°</sup>	45'.	W.	66.	
184.	S.	53 <sup>°</sup>		W.	30.	
185.	S.	65 <sup>°</sup>	-	W.	37.	
186.	S.	76 <sup>°</sup>	-	W.	17.	17. Marked a Blk. oak tree
187.	S.	65 <sup>°</sup>		W.	20.	"Ch L." 30. M. on South side
188.	S.	80 <sup>°</sup>	-	W.	40.	high bank scattering oak
189.	S.	59 <sup>°</sup>		W.	58.	timber. 10 chs. below which
190.	S.	46 <sup>°</sup>		W.	52.	a creek enters North Side
191.	S.	55 <sup>°</sup>	30'.	W.	36.	at 40 Island commences 1
192.	S.	85 <sup>°</sup>	30'.	W.	22.	mile long cottonwood growth,
193.	N.	86 <sup>°</sup>	45.'	W.	8.	channel on South side
194.	N.	75 <sup>°</sup>	00	W.	42.	
195.	*	85 <sup>°</sup>	10'.	W.	39.	

/ \* Cannot distinguish S from N; one written over the other /



196.	S.	87. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	29.	
197.	N.	87. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	9.	
198.	N.	88. <sup>0</sup> 45'. W.		107.	
199.	N.	83. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	42.	(High steep hill comes ab-
200.	N.	88. <sup>0</sup> 45'. W.		52.	(ruptly to the River on the
201.	N.	79. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	39.	(South side.
202.	N.	28. <sup>0</sup> 15'. W.		32.	
203.	N.	22. <sup>0</sup> 30'. W.		17.	
204.	N.	7. <sup>0</sup> 30'. W.		14.	
205.	N.			2.	
206.	N.	14. <sup>0</sup> -	E.	13.	
207.	N.	12. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	32.	
208.	N.	10. <sup>0</sup>	W.	12.	
209.	N.	1. <sup>0</sup> 30'. W.		4.	4. Marked 2 Cottonwoods "Ch.L.
210.	N.	2. <sup>0</sup> 30'. W.		69.	35.M. on the N.side there being
211.	N.	23. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	45.	no suitable tree on South side -
212.	N.	40. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	42.	42. To lower end of an Island
213.	N.	31. <sup>0</sup> 30'. W.		74.	1½ Miles and 22 chs. long.
214.	N.	27. <sup>0</sup> 30'. W.		43.	heavy cottonwood timber, chan-
215.	N.	15. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	93.	nel on the North side, ¼ mile
216.	N.	33. <sup>0</sup> 30'. W.		49.	above which a creek 1½ chs.
217.	N.	40. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	31.	wide enters the North side
218.	N.	71. <sup>0</sup> 45'. W.		9.	
219.	N.	76. <sup>0</sup> 45'. W.		31.	
220.	N.	56. <sup>0</sup> 30'. W.		27.	
221.	N.	55. <sup>0</sup>	W.	36.	



222.	N. 71° 15' W.	45.	
223.	N. 75° - W.	47.	
224.	S. 82° - W.	53.	
225.	S. 64° 15' W.	35.	
226.	S. 57° 15' W.	30.	
227.	S. 43° W.	10.	
228.	S. 40° 15' W.	35.	22. Marked 2 Cottonwoods on
229.	S. 39° - W.	32.	the south side "Ch.L.40.M."
230.	S. 33° 30' W.	25.	for 40 <sup>th</sup> mile. Small Island
231.	S. 24° - W.	60.	near the N. shore
232.	S. 32° 15' W.	100.	
233.	S. 32° W.	35.	35. Creek enters South side
234.	S. 71° - W.	50.	2 chs. Wide.
235.	N. 86° 45' W.	27.	
236.	N. 80° 30' W.	18.	
237.	N. 83° 30' W.	25.	
238.	N. 33° - W.	53.	
239.	N. 30° 15' W.	77.	
240.	N. 38° 30' W.	22.	
241.	N. 41° - W.	20.	
242.	N. 22° 30' W.	23.	
243.	N. 45° - W.	85.	
244.	N. 55° W.	31.	
245.	N. 65° 30' W.	33.	
246.	N. 66° 15' W.	47.	



247.	N. 72. <sup>0</sup>	W.	58.	24. Marked 2 cottonwood
248.	N. 66. <sup>0</sup> 15.' W.	22.	"Ch. L. 45. M." for 45 <sup>th</sup> Mile.	
249.	N. 56. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	65.	
250.	N. 59. <sup>0</sup>	W.	41.	
251.	N. 78. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	42.	
252.	N. 68. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	63.	
253.	N. 54. <sup>0</sup>	W.	57.	
254.	N. 47. <sup>0</sup>	W.	42.	
255.	N. 41. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	50.	
256.	N. 32. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	64.	
257.	N. 42. <sup>0</sup>	W.	78.	
258.	N. 50. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	22.	
259.	N. 42. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	11.	
260.	N. 36. <sup>0</sup> 45,'	W.	39.	
261.	N. 50. <sup>0</sup>	W.	85.	
262.	N. 29. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	85.	85. Marked 2 Cottonwoods
263.	N. 23. <sup>0</sup>	W.	32.	Ch.L.50 M. on North side
264.	N. 30. <sup>0</sup>	W.	46.	of the River. Island im-
265.	N. 3. <sup>0</sup>	W.	43.	mediately opposite, Chan-
266.	N. 4. <sup>0</sup> 45.' E.	39.	nel on S. side	
267.	N. 2. <sup>0</sup> 45.' W.	25.		
268.	N. 18. <sup>0</sup> -	W.	75.	
269.	N. 20. <sup>0</sup> 30.' W.	86.	25. Creek enters North side	
270.	N. 23. <sup>0</sup> 15.' W.	42.	1½ chs wide.	
271.	N. 30. <sup>0</sup>	W.	38.	



272.	N. 35° 30.' W.	32	
273.	N. 33° 45.' W.	46.	
274.	N. 37° W.	79.	
275.	N. 40° 15.' W.	53.	
276.	N. 29° 30'. W.	22.	
277.	N. 27° W.	36.	
278.	N. 24° W.	15.	
279.	N. 18° 15.' W.	26.	
280.	N. 20° W.	35.	
281.	N. 14° W.	122.	66. Marked Blk oak Ch.L.55 M.
282.	N. 21° 15.' W.	68.	on side of high hill extending
283.	N. 7° 30'. E.	77	up and down the R. 1 mile.
284.	N. 7° 15.' W.	20.	
285.	N. 3° E.	10.	
286.	N. 8° 30.' E.	8.	
287.	N. 3° W.	11.	
288.	N. 3° 30'. E.	10.	
289.	N. 1° 15.' E.	12,	
290.	N. 3° 45.' E.	52.	
291.	N. 1° 30'. E.	10.	
292.	N. 9° 15.' E.	47.	
293.	N. 9° 15.' W.	65.	
294.	N. 4° 30'. W.	26.	
(sic) 296.	N. 7° 30'. W.	27.	
297.	N. 14° W.	62.	
298.	N. 34° W.	154.	



24  
24

299.	N. 46. <sup>0</sup>	W.	59.	29.	Marked 2 cottonwoods
300.	N. 55. <sup>0</sup>	W.	66.	"Ch.L.60.M. for the 60 <sup>th</sup>	
301.	N. 62. <sup>0</sup> 15'.	W.	28.	Mile	
302.	N. 72. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	26.		
303.	N. 88. <sup>0</sup> 45'.	W.	28.		
304.	N. 85. <sup>0</sup> 15'.	W.	30.		
305.	S. 73. <sup>0</sup> 45'.	W.	22.		
306.	S. 69. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	24.		
307.	S. 70. <sup>0</sup>	W.	99.		
308.	S. 73. <sup>0</sup> 45'.	W.	25.		
309.	S. 68. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	21.		
310.	S. 72. <sup>0</sup>	W.	36.	(Island commences, 1 mile	
311.	S. 75. <sup>0</sup> 45'.	W.	62.	62 (long heavy cottonwood	
312.	S. 70. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	47.	(timber at the foot of	
313.	S. 80. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	39.	(which another lefs, and	
314.	S. 74. <sup>0</sup> 45'.	W.	67.	(partly opposite.	
315.	S. 70. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	55.		
316.	S. 63. <sup>0</sup> 45'.	W.	95.	95. Marked a cedar, Hickory,	
317.	S. 61. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	52.	and Ash, "Ch.L. 65.M." at the	
318.	S. 75. <sup>0</sup> 45'.	W.	59.	foot of high rocky hill on the	
319.	S. 85. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	57.	South side.	
320.	S. 89. <sup>0</sup> 45'.	W.	162.		
321.	N. 84. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	70.		
322.	N. 59. <sup>0</sup>	W.	80.		
323.	N. 44. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	57.		
324.	N. 45. <sup>0</sup> 30'.	W.	127.		



325.	N. 58° 15.' W.	60.	
326.	N. 60° 30'. W.	33.	
327.	N. 68° 45.' W.	23.	23. Marked 2 oaks "Ch.L.70.M
328.	N. 76° 30.' W.	63.	for 70 <sup>th</sup> mile.
329.	S. 82° 45.' W.	130.	Cedar grove just below on
330.	S. 73° W.	20.	the South side.
331.	S. 65° 15.' W.	45.	45. Creek enters South side
332.	S. 75° 30'. W.	19.	1 ch. wide.
333.	S. 57° 15.' W.	43.	
334.	S. 81° 13.' W.	115.	
335.	S. 85° 30'. W.	60.	
336.	S. 83° 35! W.	72.	
337.	S. 85° W.	26	
338.	S. 80° 30'. W.	33.	
339.	S. 88° W.	9.8.	
340.	N. 63° W.	51.	
341.	N. 50° 30'. W.	52.	25 Marked 2 oaks on S.
342.	N. 51° 30'. W.	41.	Side "Ch.L.75 M.
343.	N. 74° 30'. W.	35.	35. Island commences 50
344.	N. 64° W.	50.	chains long
345.	N. 40° 15.' W.	32.	
346.	N. 9° 30'. W.	64.	
347.	N. 1° 15.' W.	151.	151. To. the mouth of Red fork
348.	N. 21° 30'. E.	26.	or Red River 27 chs. Wide
349.	N. 15° E.	54.	at its mouth cedar grove
350.	N. 35° E.	10.	in the point.



351.	N. 16° 30'.	E.	48.	
352.	N. 51° 30'.	E.	50.	
353.	N. 57°	E.	57.	
354.	N. 45°	E.	47.	
355.	N. 24° 15.'	E.	53.	
356.	N. 27°	E.	31.	
357.	N. 13°	E.	24.	24 Marked an oak "Ch. L.
358.	N. 15° 30'.	E.	64.	80. M. and another "80. M."
359.	N. 3°	W.	42.	Prairie up and down on
360.	N. 17° 30'.	W.	54.	South side of the River
361.	N. 44° 45'.	W.	36.	
362.	N. 24° 30'.	W.	91.	22 A creek enters the North
363.	N. 62°	W.	50.	side 2½ chs. Wide Opposite
364.	N. 59° 30'.	W.	48.	the mouth of which 2 small
365.	N. 68°	W.	35.	Islands near the North side
366.	N. 77° 45'.	W.	30.	
367.	S. 78° 30'.	W.	28.	
368.	N. 86° 30'.	W.	75.	75. A creek enters the north
369.	N. 84°	W.	19.	side 1 ch. wide.
370.	S. 86° 30'.	W.	75.	
371.	W.		33.	
372.	S. 84° 30'.	W.	34.	
373.	S. 86° 10'.	W.	36.	
374.	N. 84°	W.	35.	Marked 2 Blk oaks
375.	N. 86° 15'.	W.	42.	"Ch.L.85.M." on S. side
376.	N. 85°	W.	33.	33. and on the north side 2



cottonwoods one of which marked "Ch. L.85.M. the other  
"85.M." high hills on S. side, cottonwood bottom on the  
North Side

The foregoing Numbers from 1. to 13. are the field Notes  
of the Survey of the Meanders of Arkansas River Commenc-  
ing at the point where the North and South line, dividing  
a part of the Cherokee and Creek Lands strikes Arkansas River  
finished Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>

John C. McCoy

1831

Afst. Sur.

(OIA: Field Surveys. Ancient & Misc., Vol. 4.)



Nacogdoches Texas

Febry 27th 1833 -

Hon. Lewis Cais

Secretary of War

Sir

As Military Commander of the North Eastern frontier of the United Mexican States, it has become a necessary and painful duty devolving upon me to apprise you of facts, which are not in accordance with the Treaties and the very amiable relations existing between the two Sister Republics of the United States of America, and the United Mexican States -

Which facts I trust you will feel bound to present to the President that he may be enabled to interpose his authority with the Agents and Officers under his control and redeem this Government from an evil which is not only an encroachment upon its Territory but must endanger its citizens in their property, as well as their lives -

In the Treaty concluded at the City of Mexico on the 5th day of April 1831 provisions was made in the XXXIII Article that annoyances and intrusions of all kinds by the Indians residing within the two Republics, should reciprocally be prevented, By reference to the Treaty, and Article cited you will perceive that both parties bind themselves expressly to Restrain by force, all hostilities and incursions on the part of the Indians Nations living within their respective boundaries &c - It cannot be doubted but the object of this article was to prevent not only the evils which might result to the Inhabitants of the two Countries, but also to prevent the Incursions,



or location, of any of the Tribes, or Nations residing within the bounds of one of the contracting parties, upon Lands, claimed and owned by the other -

Incursions must necessarily precede location; and if the letter of the Treaty were complied with and preserved from infraction, the grounds of this communication would be obviated - Within a Short time past, several hundred Choctaws Indians have passed from Natchitoches in the United States, and located themselves in the Midst of the Settlements within this Municipality, and not more than twenty five miles<sup>distant</sup> from this place and bring with them the assurance that many more of their tribe contemplate a Similar location. I have satisfactory assurance that not less than Seven hundred have located themselves in Texas, within the present month. Nor is this the only just ground of Serious and unpleasant apprehension, to be contemplated by the citizens of the United States of Mexico - A Short time since several Chiefs of Coshata Indians, accompanied by two White men from East Florida, passed through this place from an incursion as far South West as the Brazos: and declared the intention of the Chiefs to Remove to this province within the present Spring, bringing several Tribes of Indians with them from the Creek Nation, located in Florida, within the U. States of America -

The Mutual faith of the two Republics being pledged upon the subject of this address certainly renders it matter of much delicacy, and I should be wanting in



respect for my own Government, if I could even suspect that the President or the immediate functionaries of the U. States could have either permitted or connived at the trespasses which has taken place upon the Territory of the Republic of Mexico. It is never theless true that these Indians passed by a Military post of the U. States. (Fort Jefferson) on their way to the Sabine, where they entered Texas. This route pursued by the Choctaws from Natchitoches was most manifestly different from that which they must have pursued in reaching the Country assigned to them on the East side of Red River and within the Territory of your Government. By this early and sincere application to the U. States Government it is Requested that such measures may be adopted by that Government in its characteristic good faith, as will not only prevent all future incursions, but also to order that those already within this province should be presently removed to the lands assigned to them by the U - States. I flatter myself with the present existing Treaties, and the otherwise friendly relations subsisting between the two Governments and their citizens, That the President of the U. States will feel bound from his elevated, political, as well as moral character to arrest and prevent the intentions of the Tribe or Tribes of the Creek Indians from any and all contemplated incursions into the Territories of Mexico and particularly of this Province - The consequences to its white inhabitants may prove of a character, not only disastrous to them, but such as would claim the commiser-



ation of every humane and honorable breast -

You will at once perceive from the nature of My Situation, that my immediate duty will be to apprise my Government of the facts that it may be enabled to understand the exigencies of my Command

God preserve you maney years -

I have the honor

to be your M<sup>o</sup> Ob<sup>t</sup>

Serv<sup>t</sup>

Peter E. Bean

(OIA: 1833. Mexico (Choctaws) Col. Peter E. Bean, U.S.M. Protest.)



Fort Smith. Ark. Ter.

29<sup>th</sup> March 1833.

Sir.

I have the honor to report to you, for the information of the War Department; that I arrived at this place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Inst; in obedience to an order of Col. Arbuckle, predicated upon the Genl order N<sup>o</sup> 7. dated Adjutant Genls office, Washington, January 30<sup>t</sup>. 1833.; which order appears to have for its purpose the preventing the introduction of Ardent Spirits into any of the Indian Nations west of this point.

I have consequently in obedience thereof reported my arrival, and purpose to the agent of the Cherokee, & Choctaw Nations; and am makeing all necefsary preparations, for a compliance with its full injunctions

I have for my further instructions an Act of Congrefs, to regulate trade, & intercourse with the Indian Tribes; and to preserve peace on the frontiers approved 30<sup>th</sup> March 1802. Together with an amendment of said Act, approved 6<sup>th</sup> May 1822; and a letter of instructions from the War Department to Capt Vashon, agent of the Cherokee Nation, dated Aug<sup>t</sup>. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1832; which contains a short extract of an act of Congrefs approved 9<sup>th</sup>. July 1832, on the subject of the introduction of Ardent spirits into the Indian Country.

The measures which I have adopted in relation to the fulfilment, of my orders & Instructions, as commanding



officer of this post, after those already mentioned; Are, the publication of a notice, of which the enclosed is a Copy; and the formation of a Bond, designed to be executed by Masters of Boats; binding themselves in a penalty of Five hundred dollars, not to introduce Ardent spirits, into any of the Indian Nations.

The object of this bond is to prevent trouble to all such, as may prefer signing it, to the trouble and delay, which would be necessary, in undergoing a search of the Boat - Should this course about to be pursued by me; not meet with the approbation of the Department; I would like to receive an early notice of it; and at the same time, to receive more deffinite orders for my government, than I at present have.

A Book containing the different Treaties with the Indian Tribes; and the laws in relation to the intercourse, between the U. State and Indian Nations, is very much wanted at this place; and as one cannot be procured here you will oblige me; if you will cause one to be sent to this post.

I am Sir Very Respectfully

Yr Obd Serv<sup>t</sup>

Col. R. Jones

John Stuart

Adj<sup>t</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>

Cap<sup>t</sup>. 7<sup>h</sup>. Inf<sup>ty</sup>

U. S. Army -

(OIA: 1833. Western Supt'y. Capt. John Stuart, USA.)



Fort Smith

3 April 1833

Sir,

Herewith I enclose you a post return of a detachment of the 7<sup>th</sup> InfV. under my command for the month of March 1833. In my last communication to you - I stated that I had a bond prepared for the signature of such masters of boats - engaged in the transportation of merchandise, West of this place, as might prefer this course to undergoing a Serch - but on a more mature reflection - I have concluded to postmone for the present that course - and to continue as before to receive from the masters of Respectable Boats. a cirtificate that they were In no way engaged in the transportation or traf<sup>ic</sup> of Ardent Spirits west of this place

I have the Hon<sup>r</sup> to be Sir very

Respectfully your ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

John Stuart

Capt 7<sup>th</sup> InfV

Co<sup>l</sup> R Jones

Adj<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> U. S Army

(OIA: 1833. Western Supt'y. Capt. John Stuart, USA.)



Fort Gibson Augt. 13/33

To The Hon<sup>l</sup>. Sec<sup>y</sup>. at War

Sir

The draugh given by me to Capt. William O. West, for one Thousand and seventy two Doll<sup>s</sup> was my act & Deed, althogh singned by our clerk David Barbour, which sum was Due to Nicholas Miller, with power of attorney to me, (as will appear on file in Dept).., To Receive the same, To which payment I acquiese in, & hereby acknowledge the receipt thereof

Most Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt

J. W. Flowers

P. S The draugt above aluded to was dated on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 1833

J., W, F

(OIA: 1833. Misc. J. W. Flowers.)



M<sup>r</sup>. Nicholas Miller The original claimant for the within sum of 1072\$ Is at this time, and has been for two years past, unable to undergo fatugue -

Miller lives Twenty Miles above this place on Grand River, There is no Justice of the peace before whom his affidavit could be taken Within seventy Miles below this place

If it is however indispensably necefsary, his affidavit should be if pofsibel forwarded

Your Obt Sv<sup>t</sup>

W O West

(OIA: 1833. Misv. J.W.Flowers.)



Washington, Oc.<sup>t</sup>r 19, 1833.

Sir,

I enclose, for your examination, copies of "abstracts" of claims presented by the Creek and Cherokee Indians against the Osages, at a Council held with the latter Tribe in March last. The Creek claims, (marked A.) you will perceive was brought before the Commifsioners, by a letter from Genl. Campbell, Ag.<sup>t</sup> for that Tribe, in which he earnestly urges their adjustment: Those of the Cherokees, (mark B.) were presented by the Chiefs of that Tribe, and their settlement demanded with equal earnestnefs. On the other hand the Osages protested against the validity of those claims, and charged the Claimants with having committed depredations upon their property. I ask your attention to these papers, now, in support of what I have so frequently urged - the prefsing & absolute necefsity of bringing the conflicting claims of these Tribes to a speedy settlement. The claims here presented against the Osages, exceed \$17,000; which, if allowed, would absorb the present annuity of these people for two years; and in their present poor & destitute condition, they might plead necefsity, in extenuation of the depredations they would commit to procure a subsistence thereafter.

You will recollect that an attempt was made in May last, after the adjournment of the Commifsioners, to procure a meeting between the Cherokees & Osages for the purpose of adjusting their difficulties, arising out of their claims



for depredations committed upon each other; and in consequence of its failure, War parties from these Tribes were sent against each other, and several lives were lost. These occurrences cannot bear repetition, without producing a general War among the Tribes now occupying the new Indian territory; which, at this particular crises, should be carefully guarded against, as it would naturally create a pernicious influence over the emigration to that Country, in which the government feels so deeply interested. I am fully confirmed in the belief, therefore, which I have frequently expressed, that the Commissioners could not be better employed than in the examination and adjustment of all the complaints & claims, existing between the Tribes already located in the new Territory. The Commissioners are on the spot, clothed with the full power of the government to act, and can, with but little trouble, if they begin in time, settle all disputes, and establish a friendly intercourse between the now hostile Tribes. Let the benevolent views of the government be brought fully to the understanding of the Indians already in the new Territory, and instead of opposing the removal of others, and of annoying & plundering them after their arrival, their interests, if nothing else, would induce them to invite emigration. It is necessary, also, that the government should interfere in the settlement of these claims, to prevent the Osages from being overreached by their more intelligent and cunning neighbors.



There can be no doubt but the government has been called upon, for several years past, by the Cherokees, to pay claims to a large amount, which never had existence: and in consequence of such information reaching the Department, you have submitted the examination of all further claims against the government, to the Commissioners.- upon this examination, I believe, the most fraudulent transactions will shortly be exposed. And, if the Cherokees, or rather a few white men who claim to belong to, & exercise influence over their nation, would venture to present fictitious claims against the government, they would not hesitate to present them against the Osage nation; especially at a time when they were in Council to make a Treaty, in which they could stipulate with the U.S. for the payment of their debts.

I have, Sir, with due respect made these remarks, believing it to be of the greatest importance to the prosperity of the new Indian territory, that, while now in its infancy, a firm alliance should be established between the Tribes already there, before new locations are made and stranger Indians brought among them. In my Report, however, enclosing the proceedings of the Osage Council, I have given you my impressions fully upon this subject; and my only object at this time is, very respectfully, to express a hope that the attention of the Commissioners will be called to the examination & settlement of these claims, as soon as practicable.



I have the honor, to be,

With much respect,

Your obt<sup>t</sup> st<sup>t</sup>

S. C. Stambaugh.

Hon. Lewis Cals,

Se<sup>t</sup>y of War

(OIA: 1833. Western Supt'y. (Cherokees & Creeks.) S. C.  
Stambaugh, Sec'y.)



Fort Leavenworth Nov 8 1833

Sir

Peace will be concluded at this council between the hostile Indians upon terms highly satisfactory - the wampum has been exchanged but the speeches not finished. It is a happy day for the Indians here -

By a mountain trapper on his way down the the Mifsouri, I have learnt the use of the still noticed in a former communication, as having been sent up the river by the American Fur Company. That company have a fort at the mouth of Yellow stone river - There a distillery of whiskey is established, and in the most successful operation - Mr Sublitz of St Louis just from there, says, he tasted the whiskey made there, and found it <sup>of</sup> an excellent quality - report says, the Mandan village supplied them this year with 2000 bushells of corn - I think this exagerrated - The company however have transported corn in steam boats and engaged a considerable quantity more to be taken next spring. Mr Sublitz says the justification offered for a supposed breach of the law, is, that the law does not forbid making whiskey - it only preecludes its introduction - I make no comment -

It will be gratifying to the Department to learn that the Kickapoo dissatisfaction with their land is removed - I have held two councils with the chiefs & warriors and examined personally their whole tract - The location is a most favorable one - the land is good and water communica-



tion most easy - The chiefs have accepted the land and are now anxious to have the things promised in the treaty - It will be expedient to run the lines as soon as practicable -

While the chiefs of the Kickapoos were together I talked with them about their agent, for I understood they had applied for a seperate agent - The fact is, they do not need a seperate agent, any more than the Delewares & Shaw-nese. The tribe is a small one and after the rations are ifsued I do not know what an agent would do. The head chief told me he was tricked in signing a paper for a new agent. He liked the old one - but some men got him to sign a paper before they told him what was written on it - They are anxious to have a mill erected soon, and M<sup>r</sup> Cummings their agent has some experience in this business having just finished a mill for the Delewares and also one for himself: The petitions of Indians unexplained are entitled to little consideration -

Excuse the freedom of my communications & believe me

yours respectfully

& obediently

Henry L Ellsworth

Hon. E. Herring,

Ind Commifsr

Washington

(OIA: 1833. Kickapoos. H.L.Elldworth, Com'r.)



Westport, Jackson County,

Missouri, Aug. 27, 1834

Hon. Lewis Cass

Sec. War

Sir

We propose to publish a semi monthly periodical to be entitled the Indian Advocate, the character of which you will infer from a copy of the prospectus, which is herewith respectfully enclosed for your information.

It would be esteemed a great favour if our prems could be located at the public buildings occupied heretofore by the U. States Sub Agent for the Shawanees and which, I suppose, will be left unoccupied in consequence of the discontinuance of the Sub agency.

The Agency buildings, and those for the Sub agency and those for the interpreter, are distinct from each other, within the distance of half a mile, and if either of these establishments should not be needed by government, we should be thankful for their use for the above mentioned purpose, and we would hold ourselves in readiness to quit them whenever they should be needed by the government.

In subscribing my name to the inclosed prospectus as one associated with others in the designed publication, I have not placed myself in a situation to render it either impracticable, or undesirable to serve the government. If, therefore I could find business, either in surveying, or in



some other department of Indian affairs, it would be a great  
favour

Most respectfully

Your Humble &

Obt Serv<sup>t</sup>

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

(OIA: 1834. Misc. Rev. Isaac McCoy.)



Little Rock. A.T.

Febr<sup>y</sup>. 4<sup>th</sup> 1835.

Sir:

I regret to learn = and of which you doubtless have been apprized by Lt. Van Horne, = the sinking of the keel Boat, which contained, as I am informed, the Creek and Quapaw presents, on freight for destination. This property was shipped in the Steam Boat Neosho, and was placed in the keel to lighten the steamer, over a shoal. I have not yet received the particulars in relation to the loss, or damage of the Property. The promptness, and measures - taken by Lt. Van Horne to secure the property, are highly commensurable, and I have great hopes that much of it, if not all may be recovered. I have directed Lt. Van Horne, so soon as the condition of the property is ascertained, to report the same to you.

So soon as it is practicable to do so, I shall investigate and report to you the causes and circumstances connected with the disaster.

I cover herewith Lt. Van Horne's statement of the cost of presents for the Quapaws, procured by him.

Very Respectfully,

Your Obt. Servt.

J Brown Capt U.S.A.

Genl. Geo. Gibson,  
Com<sup>y</sup>. Genl. of Subs-  
Washington, D.C.

pr Dis Agt Ind Rem<sup>l</sup>

(OIA: 1835. Western Supt'y (Emigr.) Capt. J. Brown.)



(Copy)

Choctaw Agency April 25, 1835

To the

Wandering Indians settled)  
)  
within the Choctaw nation)

The undersigned Acting Superintendent for the Western Territory, in conformity with positive instructions from the Department, hereby gives notice to all the Indians who have located themselves within the country of other tribes, that they are by the Secretary of War, required to return to their own country; and they are informed that unless they do so, they will be conducted by the military to their homes, and in future, they will not be allowed to hunt on the lands of their neighbors. This course is in accordance with the obligations of the United States to all the tribes, and at this particular time, the Cherokees, Choctaws and Creeks demand their removal. They say that Indians are hunting on their lands, cutting their timber, and destroying the cane and game; contrary to their wishes; and in violation of the pledge of the Government. Therefore all Indians within this Territory are required to remove from the lands of other tribes, in obedience to the spirit of this order

Signed F.W.Armstrong

A. S. W. T.

(OIA: 1835. Western Supt'y. F.W.Armstrong.)



Little Rock. A. T.                   )  
   )  
 April 28<sup>th</sup> 1835.                   )

Sir:

I cover herewith for your Examination and approval, an account of the Captain and owners of the Steamer Neosho, for expenses incurred in recovering from the Boat sunk (used as a lightner to the aforesaid Steamer Neosho) a large quantity of Indian goods, including drying and otherwise preserving, and forwarding them to destination.

The first and second Items on the account are covered by the freight Bill. The 3<sup>d</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup>, Items, being for recovering and taking care of the Goods, as well as for forwarding them from White Oak, to destination, and supported by affidavits as will be found annexed to the account.

I also. cover copies of Documents Nos. 1, to 8, connected with, and explaining more fully the nature of the claim. From which, and from the enquiries I have made, I am satisfied that the transporters have done every thing, that was practicable for them to do, for the safe conveyance, preservation and delivery of the property.

It will be seen by the bill of Lading that the property shipped = with the exception of 35 Blankets has been delivered. 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  prs. These, it is believed, have been delivered, but were not included in the receipts. That is, those Blankets used as wrappers to the Bales, were not taken into the count, although the Captain and Clerk both say, that they were de-



livered; and here allow me to enquire, whether the Blankets used as Wrappers on those bales, were charged in the bill of purchase. If they were, and are included in the count, then it is more than probable that all have been delivered. If they were not included in the bill of purchase, then it is quite certain, that there is a deficiency of  $\frac{18\frac{1}{2}}{35}$  prs. Blankets.

The 2<sup>d</sup>, Aud'r. in his notice of the 7<sup>th</sup> of August last, says "That Ten Bales, containing 520 pairs of Blankets, had been forwarded, via N.- Orleans. The value of which, I had been charged with," &c' It is important, therefore, that I should know, whether the Blankets used as wrappers were or were not included in the bill of purchase. If they were, and as such blankets have been delivered, the Transporter will be enabled to get a receipt for them. If they were not, he will then be enabled to make affidavit of their loss.

I will thank you to give the account and evidences, an early examination. The claimants are very urgent for their pay.

I have the honor to be,

Your Obt. Servt.  
J Brown Capt. U.S.A.  
pr Dis Agt Ind Repl

Genl. Geo. Gibson )  
Com<sup>y</sup> Henl. of Subs. )  
Washington, D.C. )

(OIA: 1835. Western Supt'y. (Emigr.) Capt. J.Brown.)



## NOTICE.

All Indian traders doing business in the Western Territory, under licenses from Agents & Sub Agents, are hereby notified that they are expressly prohibited from taking money from Indians and giving their due bills, for the same, in goods. If an Indian has peltry and agrees to sell the same for goods; and thinks proper to take only a part of the amount due, from the trader for his skins, at the time, due bills may very properly be given. But in no instance where money is paid, is the trader authorized to give his due bill expressing that the same is to be paid in goods.

The undersigned has this day, learned with regret that in some cases, Indians have advanced cash and received due bills, expressing that the amount is to be paid in goods. In cases where Indians present Bank Bills, and the change cannot be made, the due bills must express upon its face, the same to be paid in cash.

Traders are therefore notified that a Violation of this regulation, will be considered a revocation of the license granted, by the undersigned, and the offenders ordered forthwith out of the nation.

June 21, 1835.

(signed) F. W. Armstrong

A. S. W. T.



New Madrid Missouri

July 4<sup>th</sup> 1835

Gen.<sup>l</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Clark

S. Int. Indian Affairs

St. Louis Mo.

Sir,

Doubtless, you have been addressed frequently on the subject, of the residence of a few wandering Indians, of different Tribes, residing near this, in the, now, County of Stoddard in what is called "Grand Prairie."

The object of this communication is to represent to you, as the agent of the Government, their situation; and it is done at the especial instance and request of the Indians, and their head man, a half breed Muskogee "Chilitscau", who is a native of this vicinity, and is about 60 years of age.

My intercourse and knowledge of those Indians for the last five years, enables me to speak advisedly of them and their situation.

The Indians of which I now speak of are, Delawares, Shawnees, Seneca's, Piankenshaws & Cherokees. Their number at this time is about 35 or 40 men, women & Children. These Indians are now anxious to be removed to their several and respective Tribes, and look to you, as the means of their removal.

These Indians are daily threatened by the Citizens of County Stoddard of being driven off, in rather an uncooth and un-



friendly manner, much to the prejudice of what little property & effects they possess. They have promised to go, so soon as they can hear from you, and on this occasion have called upon me (as they say, their best friend) as the organ, of calling your attention to their peculiar condition, at this moment; and through me, they solicit an answer, as soon as shall suit your convenience. These Indians in the general, are poor and destitute, within themselves, of the means of moving. They would like to emigrate at least by the first of September, should they be permitted to remain, by the Whites thus long, which I have no doubt of, should they be assured of their, then, certain removal.

Having quit my former occupation here, to wit, merchandizing, I mention this because I might be suspected of interested motives, for writing and interposing in behalf of those Indians. I disclaim all such: I write, because I have been selected as their friend on this occasion, and do it to serve them in their present distressed condition: and if I should succeed in contributing, through you, to their future happiness and contentment, I shall be content, that I have done only a duty required at the hands of all good citizens. As I am a stranger to you, I refer you to the following gentlemen of my acquaintances & friends, in St. Louis - viz. B. Allen Esq<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Ashley, Edw<sup>d</sup> Bates Esq<sup>r</sup> Col<sup>l</sup> Ofallon, George Collier Esq<sup>r</sup> Peter Powell & Joseph Powell.

The head man of those Indians, Chilitecau, is the descendant of a white woman and a Muskogee; was born and



raised in this County - has intermarried with a Delaware squaw and has raised a Large family - he has been informed that in removing those Indians of the different Tribes, that he is not included and seems to think, no provision is made for him; I have advised him, as he is connected with the Delawares, himself and family might properly be considered as belonging to the nation - and his removal would be prepared for with the rest. But Chilitecau seems anxious to remain near here, and become a citizen provided he can be protected by the Laws of the Land. No doubt but that he is provided or will be provided for, by the Government, to protect him in his Citizenship by virtue of the Treaty, ceding this country to the U.S.

If you are enabled to give him any satisfaction, on this head of his subject, that he can remain unmolested as a citizen, he desires not to remove - otherwise if your advice and instructions be for him to remove, he will do as you direct. You will oblige me, and more particularly my Indian friend Chilitecau, by answering this part of my letter concerning him distinct from the others.

In the mean time if I can render you any ~~fe~~ service whatever, concerning those unfortunate Indians - I will cheerfully do so, and you can command them at any time.

Most respectfully your friend & obt. Servt. Thomas Moseley-jr  
(OIA: 1835. St.Louis (Emigr.) Gen.Wm.Clark.)



Choctaw Agency July 25, 1835

Elbert Herring Esqr

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind<sup>n</sup> Affairs

Sir

I have found it necessary to the correct discharge of my duty as Acting Superintendent of this Territory to establish certain rules to be observed by those to whom the regulations are applicable. I also think it my duty to forward copies of the same, to the Department, for confirmation or disapproval. I need not enter into the importance of the several regulations, the copies will explain together with an extract from the talk held at my Agency, with a delegation of Cherokees. This interview between the delegation and myself, produced the note from the Council of Cherokee Chiefs, made a part of this report, marked (A.) Upon the reception of which, I issued the notice marked (B,) which has been made a circular for this Territory. These papers, taken in connection with the original cause, to be found in the 'extract' marked (C,) will put you in possession of the reason for what I have done. The notice to Traders marked (D.) has been in full force in the Choctaw Nation, from the time of my arrival west; and it has been made a circular for the Western Territory. The notice to all licensed Traders on the subject of due bills, marked (E.) you will perceive, is to correct an abuse only ascertained at the time stated in



the notice. The regulations governing the Blacksmiths, marked (F.) has been in operation, from the time the shops were established in this nation, is also made a circular.

It is gratifying to be able to assure you that the best results have arisen, by carrying into effect, the several regulations, which have been formed from actual observation - unconnected with any theory in the intercourse among the tribes in question.

Before closing this communication, I feel it, a duty incumbent on me to advise the Department in time; and indeed before any case has occurred, of what I consider a most important regulation. While I am free to admit that we have many gentlemen of good character doing business as traders among the Indians. Still we know that what is their interest, is not often the interest of the Indians, nor does their interest conform to the policy of the Government. I therefore propose for the consideration of the Department, the propriety of granting license to traders to do business, only at one place; and not permit, by any means, any one having a trading house; and doing business in one nation, to open a branch in any other; I need not caution the Department against trading influence, it is their interest to get it among the Indians; and as far as they are concerned it is right, without such influence, they can do but little; and therefore; I do not blame them, still it is the duty of the Government to keep the controlling in-



fluence over the Indians; and the only way to do so, is to prevent monopolies; and let as many Strangers, as will ensure a fair competition, come in to trade, consulting the policy of the Government as well as the interest of the Indians, in their location, for which the law amply provides. These suggestions are made in consequence of a disposition among the established traders to branch among the different tribes, Some of them are getting a good deal of capital from the business heretofore done among the Indians. An additional reason for laying this matter before you, might not be considered sufficient grounds to refuse trading license, unless it is made the policy of the Govt. which I think is extremely important - An early reply to this is most respectfully asked for

I have the honor to be

Your Obt Servt

F. W. Armstrong

A. S. W. T

(OIA: 1835. Western Tupt'y. F.W.Armstrong.)



Superintendent of Ind Affairs,

St. Louis, August 5, 1835.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith, for your consideration, a letter under date of 4<sup>th</sup> of July, from Thomas Moseley, jr. Esq. a gentleman, as I am informed of high respectability, on the subject of the removal from near New Madrid, to the lands of their respective tribes, of certain Indians in that neighborhood.

Respectfully

Your ob. Svt.

W<sup>m</sup> Clark

Gen. Geo. Gibson,

Commissary Gen<sup>l</sup> of Subsistence

Washington

(OIA: 1835. St.Louis (Emigr.) Gen. Wm. Clark.)



## Regulations

For the government of Public Blacksmiths employed under the United States, in the Western Territory.

- 1<sup>st</sup>-- The Smith is required to work for the people of his district in such a way as to divide his labor as equal as possible among the people. In all cases where individuals live at a great distance, that work should be done before those who reside near the shops, who have an opportunity daily, of getting their work done.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>--Persons who have a great deal of work done must give way to those who have but little done, should they meet at the shop together
- 3.--Farming work is to have a preference over all other kinds.
- 4th.- No work will be done for any other person except the Indians unless in cases of necessity, where a traveller is in distress, he may be relieved, provided he finds his own iron, the payment for which must be applied by the Smith to the purchase of such fine gunsmith tools, as is important to the Indians, in getting their guns repaired. This course is taken, because a set of Blacksmith tools is not considered as having any thing to do with such as is necessary in repairing guns, in this way the Indians will have the benefit of having their guns repaired; & these perquisites will enable the Smith procure such fine tools as alluded to.



5th.- The Smith is not allowed to cultivate the soil beyond a garden for vegetables; and is prohibited from keeping stock of any kind, beyond what is really necessary for the immediate & daily use of his family.

6th.- The Shops are to be closed on the Sabath.

(Signed) F. W. Armstrong

A S. W. T.

(OIA: 1835. Western Supt'y. F.W.Armstrong.)



Near Crows Ferry Lou. March 11<sup>th</sup> 1836.

To the President of the United States,

Dear Sir:

The undersigned being personally known to you, take this hurried opportunity while upon our way to Texas, to write you, that you as the head of the Army of the United States may have such information therein as we have come this moment in possession of, it is this -

A M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Palmer, a gentleman who we learn to be of truth, living in the vicinity of Fort Jesup informed us that a blank commission came on a few days since from Genl. Santa Anna, to a citizen of the United States of that neighbourhood authorizing him to proceed to the Indians up Red River and stir them up to attack the upper settlements of Texas - that soon after this a Spaniard arrived at the house of this individual from the interior and they went off it is supposed to effect Genl. Santa Anna's views.

Such as it may become your duty to act in this matter is best known to yourself.

Permit us to subscribe ourselves most respectfully  
your obdt. humble Servants. Th: Jef: Green.

(OIA: Misc. File. Washington. 4/11, 1836.)



Washington City

March 14<sup>h</sup> 1836.

Hon<sup>l</sup> L. Cabs

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

Sir,

In obedience to Your wishes I have the honor to submit the following as my view of the subject presented to You by M<sup>r</sup> Austin J. Raines in his communication of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst: - I fully agree with that Gentleman in the beneficial results that would arise from, and the very favourable impression it would make upon the Camanchie and other roving bands of Indians on our South West border, to have a deputation of thier Chiefs visit the Seat of Goverment & travel through the interior of our country, but I differ entirely from that Gentleman as to the Manner of getting a deputation of Chiefs to visit this place, There cannot be a doubt in the Mind of any any disinterested man at all conversant with Indian Matters as they now Stand in the South West, that if it is the wish of the Department to have Some of the Chiefs of the Roving band visit the seat of Goverment, that instructions should be given to the officer Commanding on that frontier to take such steps to effect the object as to him might seem fit, I afsure You it will then be accomplished in lefs time, & at lefs expense, than by the employment of a Special Agent for the purpose, there is not, & will not be any difficulty whatever in effecting the ob-



ject, no intercourse was held with those roving bands previous to the Dragoon expidition in that quarter in 1834, when they very readily sent in a deputation to Fort Gibson upon being asked to do so, at the treaty held by Gov. Stokes and Gen<sup>l</sup> Arbuckle in August last with those Indians, at Camp Holmes in the Grand prairie West of the crofs timbers, they exprefsed the greatest desire to be permitted to visit the President of the United States, & Stated they would at all times be in readinefs to come into Fort Gibson, preparitory to thier visit to Washington, whenever they should be notified that it was the wish of the President they should do so, Nor can I agree with Mr<sup>r</sup> Raines that it is "idle to send an armed force on those prairies to effect an object of this nature," the result of the expidition of the Dragoons from Fort Gibson in 1834 & 5. proves the error of that Gentlemans opinions, for thier object (& it was one "of this Nature") was most fully accomplished in both instances, & has left those people, in my opinion, very friendly & well disposed towards us. - Mr<sup>r</sup> Raines speaks of those Indians having "torn up the Treaty made by the Commifsioners on the part of the Goverment & said they had no treaty with us & those that contracted, had no right to enter into any such treaty", he certainly must be misinformed on that subject, for a large number of the various bands of roving Indians was afsembled at Camp Holmes & the treaty was entered into & signed by thier acknowledged Chiefs, I was present &



know the fact, it is not probable they would in a few weeks afterwards tear up the paper & deny having made a treaty, particularly when they gave up Nothing by this treaty, it being one entirely of amity & friendship entered into by themselves, the whites, & the Red people under the immediate protection of our Government, it is well known how much importance Indians attach to a written paper & how carefully they preserve it, they produced to me last summer a little slip of writing given them the Year previous by Col: Dodge. If those people have torn up the <sup>copy of the</sup> treaty that was given them, I am well convinced in my own mind that they have been instigated to the act by some white man who has his own views to answer by it, that those people commit depredations upon the Texians, is altogether probable, for it was fully explained to them by the Commifsioners last Summer that the Texians were not subject to, or under the control of our government.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Respectfully

Yr Obt Sert

R. B. Mason

Majr. Drag

To the

Honl L. Cafs

SecY of War.

(OIA: Misc. File. Washington. 3/14, 1836. Major R.B.Mason.)



Browns Hotel Washington Mch 21/36.

Hon Lewis Cass.

I shall go to Saint Louis Mo. this week as my affairs are such I cannot remain here any longer -

It would give me pleasure to bring the Comanche Indians to our Country but something must immediately be done in order to effect that object this year -

They break up winter quarters about May after making their Robes &c - They then go out on different war parties and do not return again until late in the fall when it would be difficult to induce them to travel in the winter -

A person leaving here now would not be able to reach their country until May - It would prevent (in my opinion) much blood from being spilt with the American population in Texas - I ask but the sanction of govment and five Men to effect this object -

And I will stake my reputation that I effect what I propose satisfactorily to gvmt. -

Will you write to me

Your Most obt Servant

Austin J Raine s

(OIA: Misc. File. Washington. 3/21, 1836. Raines, A.J.)



Washington D.C. April 8. 1836

Hon Lewis Cass

By this mornings mail I received a letter from Fort Smith A.T. (and from Mr Coffee's partner) informing me that the Comanche Indians had murdered Capt Coffee and five of his men - Coffee has a trading house about 200 miles from Ft. Gibson on Red River, within the boundary of the U.S. - He was bold enterprizing, intelligent and industrious, and no mean character

In a former Communication to you about these Indians, I exprefsed a belief that they had from time to time murdered fifty of our people - They have Sir killed more than one hundred of our people - and yet our government looks on with complacency (as though our blood was of no more value than water) at the depredating and murderous acts of these Indians -

Respy

A J Raines

(OIA: Misc. File. Washington. 3/21, 1836. Raines, A.J.)



Adj. Gens office

Washington Ap. 11, 1836.

Sir,

I herewith enclose my letter of instructions to Major General Gaines, and also, one from T. Green Esq. to the President, relative to Indian Affairs on the Louisiana frontier. It is the desire of the Secretary at War, that your Agents in that quarter, be informed of the project, as set forth in the enclosed letters, and, that they be directed to make every proper effort to discover & detect the unjustifiable proceedings reported to be in progress, and report the same immediately to the proper authority.

I am, Sir

Very resp'y

Your obt. Ser<sup>t</sup>

R- Jones

Adj. Gen.

E. Herring Esq  
Commissioner of  
Indian Affairs.

(OIA: Misc. File. Washington. 4/11, 1836.)



Adj Gen's Office

Washington, Ap. 11, 1836.

Sir,

I enclose herewith by direction of the Secretary of War, a copy of the letter addressed to the President, by Thos. J. Green Esq, dated, Crow's Ferry, Louisiana, March 11, communicating certain intelligence, touching the alleged interference of the Mexican Government, with the Indians up Red river, to which your attention is specially directed. The President desires, that you take all lawful measures, to arrest any person, who, under the Order of the Mexican Authorities, may be engaged in exciting the Indians to war; and, that every proper effort be used to discover, and detect such unjustifiable project, if any be attempted, and, that, in maintaining our neutrality on the South western frontier of Louisiana, in the quarter you have been already assigned to duty, under the instructions of the Secretary of War, heretofore communicated to you, that you employ, if necessary, the force which has been placed at your Command.

The letter from M<sup>r</sup> Green to the President, was forwarded by Colonel Many, under cover to the Adjutant General.

I am, Sir,

Major General

E P. Gaines.

With great respect,

Your obt Ser<sup>t</sup>

or

(Signed) R. Jones Adj. Gen.

Commanding Officers of the Troops of La. Fort Jesup, La.

(OIA: Misc. File. Washington, 4/11, 1836.)



Fort Gibson Jan<sup>y</sup>. 24. 1837.

General. Understanding the Governments are extremely desirous, to bring the Kiaway and other tribes of the prairie indians, to a good understanding with them, and that as the several attempts made to effect that object, are said, not to have been entirely satisfactory - I have thought it might be deemed not improper to state; that during the long indulgence the Governments have pleased so kindly to favour me with, I must certainly have been extremely dull, not to have acquired experience and information, which could now greatly contribute towards carrying into effect their present wishes. As an officer of the Army, I must confess, it would be a source of mortification to find the Government looking elsewhere for agents in this business - I am at all times ready to circulate through any part of the country between this and the Ocean with 10 enlisted men - . give me men of my own company. - with a riding and pack horse each - which number is sufficient to visit any tribe, for the purpose of calling it to a conference &c &c, &c- Yet if the object of the expedition extended to forming of treaties &c &c - (The new organization proposes 100 men to each company) this it is true would not make a great show; but in my opinion be sufficient for perfect safety - and furnished with 50 pack horses would enable one to carry, provision, baggage and presents intended for the Indians. - There are now about 50 condemned horses at this post, these are plenty good enough for my purpose. The fact that the grass this side of the Cross



Timbers is very different from that beyond, and to reach this post the Indians would have to travel 100 miles without buffalo, will at once explain their reluctance, to come here in villages, and for the Chiefs to trust themselves into the hands of a few strangers, such a distance from their own people, is not much in tone with the suspicious character of Indian Chiefs - Meet them upon their own ground, and make your treaties there, visit them frequently, & gain their confidence. - This once accomplished, there would be no length to which they would not go, nor advice they would not adopt.

Whatever business is transacted with these people it must be done by the 15 June - because at that time - villages divide themselves into small bands and scatter all over the prairies.

As Senior officer, are frequently unacquainted with the true manner of travelling and feeding themselves and horses - it has generally terminated in great mortality among the troops & the loss of many horses - I would therefore desire the management of the whole myself, & believe I would give full satisfaction.

Since my return from the Rocky Mts., I find a new arm has been adopted and given to the Dragoons upon examination of it, I am confident it would be a first rate arm for Prairie or distant expedition It is light, shoots close, quickly loaded and in the bayonet is complete for offence and defence. Whereas the Musket, shoots wild, Bayonet & scabbard







Arsenal, Pittsburg. Pa.

April 22. 1837.

Hon.

J. R. Poinsett.

Secretary of War

Washington

Sir.

Two years ago, I was informed by a gentleman, who traded on the Arkansas, that a <sup>x</sup> pistol which belonged to my father (the late Gen. R. B, who fell at St. Clair's defeat 4<sup>th</sup> November 1791.) was in the hands of an Indian at Fort Smith, Arkansas; I have used every effort to obtain it, but in vain: if not out of the line of your duty, may I ask the favour of your instructing the Agent at Fort Smith to obtain (if it can be done without inconvenience to him) charging and drawing on me, for any expenses incurred. - Such relics, although of no intrinsic value, are to me inestimable. It is a singular fact that the Cincinnati Eagle (badge) was received from an Indian at Detroit (14 years) and the diploma of the society, 40 years after his death, on the frontier of Indiana,

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

James R. Butler.

(over)

x The Pistol will be known by the name of Gen. R. B, it being engraved on a silver cap on the butt: as he was left mortally wounded on the field, at his request a



pistol was placed in his hands, to resist any outrage on his person, as long as he was able to defend himself.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File. Office, 3/14, 1737 (sic)  
Harris, C. A., Comr. Every measure within power of this  
Office shall be taken, etc.)



Copy.

War Department.

Office Indian Affairs

May 12. 1837.

Sir.

Your letter of February 8<sup>th</sup> requesting to be furnished with the reasons that induced the removal of Mr Rollins from the Creek country, West of the Mississippi, was duly received. Several communications were received from Mr McCoy on the same subject during his visit to this city. During the session of Congress it was impracticable to look into this matter with care; and since its adjournment, other concerns, of more pressing importance, have demanded attention.

The petition of the Chiefs, transmitted through Gen. Arbuckle imputed to a Missionary in their country a crime, which called for his immediate expulsion. As a natural consequence, the feeling of disaffection towards <sup>(all)</sup> the Missionaries was excited in the minds of the Indians. Looking to the extent and degree of this feeling, Capt. Armstrong, the Acting Superintendent of the Western Territory, advised them all to withdraw. In approving this advice, it was by no means my intention to countenance an idea, that all means and efforts to improve the Indians would be abandoned, or that the residence of teachers and Missionaries among them would be prohibited. But it seemed obvious that but little good, if any, could be accomplished, while the feelings of the Indians were unchanged. Desirous that the stipulations



for the benefit of the Indians shall be carried out to their full extent, as soon as circumstances will permit, I have this day addrefsed a letter to Capt. Armstrong, on this subject, of which I enclose a copy, and which I trust will be satisfactory to you and your afsociates. I would suggest, however, whether your Board would not act wisely in sending other gentlemen in the place of those removed, as the feeling, whatever it may be, would be lefs likely to obstruct their quiet settlement and useful labors.

Very respectfully

Your Mo: Obed<sup>t</sup> Servt

(Signed.) C. A. Harris.

Commifsioner.

Rev.

Lucius Bolles.

Boston,

Mafs.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File. Office, 3/14, 1737 (Sic.)  
Harris, C. A. Comr. Every measure within power of this  
Office shall be taken, etc.)



Little Rock. Ark.

May 14 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to report my return to this place, from New Orleans, with funds to meet the first payment for subsistence, furnished the Creek emigrants, under the late contract - and acknowledge the reception of your communications of the 30<sup>th</sup> Mach - 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> of April.

The remittance of 5954\$ on account of the Rem<sup>l</sup> Sub<sup>e</sup> of the Choctaws, has been received - and will be disbursed as directed in your communication of Apl 1<sup>st</sup>

Copy of Contract for delivering 200,000 Rations of Subsistence, at this place, on account of the Removal of the Chickasaws, has been received, from Lieut Searight. Measures have been taken, to inspect, and secure, those rations, both here and at Fort Coffee; in conformity to your instructions, of April 3<sup>rd</sup>. By an arrival this day, I am informed (unofficially) that three Steam-boats, laden with these Rations are now in this River.

No information has yet been recived at this office, in relation to the removal of the Seminoles or any other tribe of Indians. The remisness of the agent charged with the Removal of Indians, to give timely notice of their movements, to the proper officers, West, cannot but prove injurious to the Service - Taking into view every circumstance, relating to the Rem<sup>l</sup> of the Seminoles, and other Inds. I have thought it advisable to establish a small depot at



this place - and in twenty days from this date, I shall have 20.000 Rations of Subsistence ready for delivery.

Mr Mackey, the late contractor for supplying the Creeks, has presented for payment, provision checks, amounting to about 150.000 Rations - I have declined making any further payments for issues under that contract, until instructed to do so - and I respectfully request your decision upon this case.

There were about 4000 Creek Indians, encamped at Mobile point, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of this month, awaiting the return of their warriors from Florida. The party of hostile Creeks who were ranging in the vicinity of Pensacola - had come in, and are with the others at the point - This party consisted of between 60 and 80.

The Arkansas River is extremely low at this time - The lightest draught Steamers cannot proceed higher than this place - Preparations will be made to transport the Seminoles, (should any arrive) by land from this point.

very respectfully

I have the honor to be,

C. A. Harris, Esq.

Your Obt Svt.

Com<sup>r</sup> of Ind Affrs

R. D C Collins

Washington City.

Cap pr. Dis. Ag. In Dp



(Copy)

Fort Gibson

May 22<sup>nd</sup> 1837.

Sir

The exprefses I alluded to in my report to you of the 9<sup>th</sup> April had all returned a few days prior to my leaving Camp Mason. One of them Cu sa rooka a brave of the Witchitaws had been to the Woco Villages. and reported to me that he left there a Medican Officer. who was making efforts to persuade the Wocos to join them in their present war. it was his opinion that a part of them would do so, Jack Ivey a half-breed mullatto of whom I have before made mention. arrived about the same time from the Camanches, he informed me, that those Indians were divided into two parties. the one friendly to our citizens, and the other inveterably hostile. it was his opinion that they had been instigated to it by the Spaniards, and no doubt they would join them, The Principal Chief of the friendly party told him that he should endeavour to pacify the other party. and that he was in hopes to accomplish his design, that they wished to go to Camp Mason, in the fall for the purpose of meeting the different tribes of Indians there, and also he requested that a general invitation would be given for the different tribes to meet there in october, and have a General Council for the purpose of adjusting their difficulties, he said that his people were willing to give every satisfaction, for any depredation they had committed, and as they had received much injury from the Pawnee Mahaws. Deliwars. and



other tribes, they expected at the same time to receive some recompense from them, he represented that unless the Government lent its aid to the desired meeting, there would be much difficulty among the Indians in the Prairie next year, but if the meeting was accomplished all difficulties could be settled and a permanent peace established, A war party of Camanches had just returned. who brought in three white women and children prisoners. Ivey called at Woco Village and purchased a white woman and her child, a girl of about two years old, and her brother a youth, who were taken prisoners in Texas last March by the Wocos. and Towash, and have remained among them ever since, the woman has a daughter and a brother still prisoners, the former with the Towash, and the latter with the Wocos. they were taken at the same time with herself, in consequence of having no horses. Ivey was obliged to leave the Women and Children at Messrs Coffee's & Co Trading House on Walnut Bayou. under the protection of a party of Wichitaws who promised to take care of them until his return, He further reports that last March a Delaware named Jonathan who resides in the Shawnee town near the Sinecas in company with a coloured Delaware man named Jack, who resides at the Sugar loaf on Porto passed Coffees. with about Sixty head of Camanchee horses which he knows to have been stolen by them. Jonas Shaw a Delaware informed me that he saw the same men about eight miles from this place on the 25<sup>th</sup> of last month. they had the horses at that time. and had undoubtedly stolen them, complaints



have almost daily been made to me of the predatory incursions of the Pawnee Mahaws, upon almost all the different tribes, The Kioways say that one of their Principal Chiefs was desirous to accompany them, but in consequence of having all his horses stolen by the Pawnees Mahaws he was prevented

On the 8<sup>th</sup> inst I left Camp Mason with a delegation of 24 of the Principal Chiefs and Headmen of the Kioway 7. Katakos and 2 Witchitaws for the purpose of meeting the commissioners at Fort Gibson to make a treaty of peace and friendship. On my rout from Camp Mason to this place nothing of importance transpired. I reached this post Fort Gibson on the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst.

After I left Camp Mason. with the delegation. the Principal Chief of the "To wo cor roe" arrived there with a eleven of his people, they followed and arrived here on the 20<sup>th</sup> for the same purpose and intentions as the Kioways

I hope you will recommend to the Government to take some measures to insure peace and tranquility to the Indians of our Western Frontier, and especially an attendance to the request of the Camanches to have a meeting at Camp Mason next fall,

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

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

(Signed) P. L. Chouteau

U S. S. Ind<sup>d</sup> Ag<sup>t</sup> for Osages

To Capt. W Armstrong

Sup. Indian Affairs West

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 183. Choctaw Agency. 1837.)



## Choctaw Agency

28<sup>th</sup> May 1837C A Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>

Sir

I have the honor to enclose you the report of Maj<sup>r</sup> P. L. Choteau who arrived at Gibson some few days since with a party of Kioways, Towash and Witchitaw Indians, The goods left by the late Commissioners were distributed to them. and a treaty of Amity and friendship signed by Col<sup>l</sup> H. P. Choteau and Gov Stokes with these tribes. There were a considerable number of Osages. and Creeks present: Col<sup>l</sup> Choteau has agreed to meet the Wild tribes near Camp Mason about the first of October and those that were in will give the news to the different Prairie tribes, when it is expected the meeting will be quite large, it is about two hundred and fifty miles from here to the expected place of meeting, and I have promised Col<sup>l</sup> Choteau to attend if possible, which I hope to be able to do, In the life time of my late predecessor Maj<sup>r</sup> F W. Armstrong he recommended that a small number from the principal Wild Tribes should be taken on to some of the populous Cities of the United States, that this would show them more clearly than any other mode the strength of the United States I have no doubt, for at the meeting at Gibson they believed that they were shown the great strength of the United States, and expressed themselves that the number of Whites (or pale faces) were few compared to the Indians



Col A. P Choteau will not set out for the prairie,  
until September every assistance will be given him that is  
in my power.

Respectfully

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

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act. Supt. West<sup>r</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 183. Choctaw Agency. 1837.)



Fort Gibson, May 30<sup>th</sup> 1837.

The Hon.

J. R. Poinsett. Secretary of War.

Sir

I am much gratified that the Government of the United States has at last, seem the propriety of employing Col. August P. Chouteau, in Indian Affairs. He certainly is better acquainted with the situation of Indian Tribes, and of Indian manners, habits and dispositions, than any man West of the Mifsifsippi River; and in letters as far back as July and August 1833, I, as one of the Commif-sioners of Indian Affairs, West, urged the necefsity of giving to Col. Chouteau, the same power that had been given to the Commifsfioners. - Had Gov<sup>r</sup> Cafs then complied with my recommendation, the Indians having intercourse with the United States (especially those residing South and West of the Mifsouri River) would have been in a much better condition and more contented and friendly than they now are. - From a strange perversity of feeling somewhere, Col. Chouteau's claims to official authority and employment were overlooked, and two Commifsfioners continued in office here, who knew nothing about Indian Affairs, and whose chief aim appeared to be to counteract the plans and exertions formed to ameliorate the condition of the Indians, as recommended by Col. Chouteau, and approved by myself. You will pardon me for the liberty I have taken in making this statement; and suffer me to congratulate you on having obtained the services of a gentleman the best



qualified of all others, West of the Mississippi, to do justice between the United States and the various Nations and Tribes of Indians in any manner connected with the Government.

I observe in your letter of appointment and instruction to Col. Chouteau, that he is empowered to enter into conventions or Treaties of Peace and friendship between the United States, and the Indians of the great Western Prairia; and between them and the Indians under the protection of the United States. - In consequence of this authority, and in the absence of Gen<sup>l</sup> M. Arbuckle, who was associated with me in a Commission to Treat with these Prairie Indians, I have availed myself of the Official Services of Col. Chouteau, and on the 26<sup>th</sup> Instant we concluded a Treaty of Peace and friendship with the Chiefs, Head men and Warriors of the Kioway Nation of Indians, who came to Fort Gibson for this purpose. These are the only Indians of the great Prairie with whom we had no Treaty; and who were likely to disturb either the white Traders or the friendly Indians.

This Treaty has been made upon the same terms as the Treaty of August, 1835, with Camanches and Witcheta's. The particulars of the Treaty, with the accounts, shall be sent on as soon as prepared.

I would beg liberty to state that unfounded Reports, have (by some means) been made to the War Department, as appears from your instructions to Col. Chouteau, relative to murders and depredations committed (as it is alledged)



by the Camanche's and their afsociated Bands. - The man Marshall, a Trader, said to have been killed, is alive and in this Country: And Deputations from all of the Principal Bands of Osages, were here at the Treaty a few days past: - No Osage woman has been either killed or Captured since the Treaty with the Comanche's and Witcheta's in August 1836.

I have the honor to be, with great respect

Your Obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

M. Stokes.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File S385. Fort Gibson. 1837.)



Little Rock, Ark.

May 31<sup>st</sup> 1837.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the reception of three communications from you, dated, one on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 2 on the 6 inst - also. enclosing copy of your instructions, to Capt Brown, in relation to the purchase of Ind Rations, at New Orleans and the disposition of the same.

Two hundred thousand Rations of Sub<sup>e</sup> for the Chickasaws, have been received, and are now in store, at this place - delivered, in accordance, with contract, made by Lt Searight, at Cincinnati - It is to be hoped that these Rations may be required during the next month, as the corn part thereof, can only be preserved from damage, during the extreme hot season, by constant care and labor -

Three Steam Boats from Cincinnati, and supposed, (for they did not land here) to have been laden with Indian Rations, for Fort Coffee, have passed here within the last two days. I have not however received advise of such shipment from Lt Searight, or any notification from those having immediate charge of their transportation.

Immediately on my return, to this place, from New Orleans, Lt Van Horne was instructed, to immediately repair to Fort Coffee, and there cause to be erected, temporary sheds, sufficient to secure one million of Rations.

Capt Stephenson has also been instructed, to build



at Fort Gibson, sheds, capable to containing and effectually securing two millions of rations - In the discharge of these duties, ecomony was strictly enjoined upon both Capt Stephenson and Lt Van Horne.

A party of emigrating Creeks, about 500 in number, passed here this morning, These Indians were Refugees to the Cherokee country (East) and left Gunters Landing N. A. on the 16 inst - They were in charge of Lt Deas. 4 Art.

Respectfully

I have the honor to be

your obt Svt

R. D. C. Collins

Capt U.S.A. Prin Dis.A In Dt West

C. A. Harris, Esq.

Com<sup>r</sup> of Ind Affs,

Washington City.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C260-275-300. Little Rock. 1837. C-275.)



This Agreement made this eleventh day of July 1837 between Captain J Brown U. S. A- Disbursing Agent Indian Department, for and on behalf of the United States of the one part and Pleasant M<sup>C</sup>Craw, of the other part -

Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum hereinafter named, the said M<sup>C</sup>Craw agreed to furnish two good and substantial team of six Oxen each, with Waggon and Gear in good working condition, and capable of sustaining and hauling on any of the common and ordinary roads of the State of Arkansas, three thousand pounds of such goods, provisions, or other articles of property as shall be assigned to said Wagon to travel not exceeding twenty miles per day - Services to commence on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 1837, and to be continued from day to day until discharged, And for which service the said Brown agrees for and on behalf of the United States to pay for each team for each and every day so employed Six dollars - Owner of said team to furnish Forage while employed - And six dollars for each team for every twenty miles returning from the place of discharge to this place (Little Rock) said owner to furnish forage for said team, while so returning.

The same to be paid at the time and place of discharge, if the Agent is in funds, and of such as he shall have been furnished by the Government - if not in funds, then as soon as the same shall be received for that purpose



The Waggon to be furnished with an Axe and a Jackscrew

J Brown Capt. U.S.A. (Seal)

Dis<sup>g</sup> Agt Ind. Dept.

Pleasant McCraw (Seal)

Signed, sealed & delivered

in presence of

F E White

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File Choctaw Agency, 9/14, 1838)



Head Quarters Fort Gibson

15<sup>th</sup> July 1837.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive the communication of the Gen-in-Chief, of the 20<sup>th</sup> May; transmitting a copy of a letter from the Actg Sup<sup>t</sup> of Indian Affairs, dated 20<sup>th</sup> April last. The reports referred to by M<sup>r</sup> Armstrong, have not been confirmed, and appear to have been without foundation; as a delegation from three of <sup>the</sup> wild tribes to the West, has recently visited this Post, met the neighbouring tribes in council, received presents from the Government, and departed apparently well pleased. But little reliance can be placed upon the reports of Indian hunters and traders, who return from the prairies to the West; as they are easily alarmed, and are misled by their fears. The western line of the Choctaws not being defined, that tribe claims, as belonging to it, the hunting grounds of the wild tribes; and collision may ensue, in consequence of their conflicting claims. The False Washita would form a natural boundary for some distance, and an ample territory would thus be secured to the Choctaws. Should the wild tribes meditate hostilities, they cannot approach us, except through the settlements of the semi-civilized tribes adjacent, and could be easily repulsed; as they are badly armed, & from their system of warfare, dread fighting in timber or forest land. No danger of importance is to be apprehended, until the exertions, of the Government, to preserve peace among all the Tribes, & to unite them in



close alliance & friendship; shall succeed. Whenever they discard the jealousy and dislike which have long existed among them, and determine to act in concert against us - and I consider that one will be the consequence of the other - we shall be at their mercy; and I must express my conviction of the great danger which our present system, of holding general Councils, to impress upon them, the expediency & propriety of becoming united; threatens to our interests. The wisest policy would be, to preserve peace among the semi-civilized tribes adjacent to our frontier; & should armed interference become necessary; to take into our service the friendly tribes, to assist in coercing the refractory. Their hereditary feuds would thus be continued, & rendered subservient to our interests, with less loss of life to us, than in any other mode. Serious danger to our frontier, is only to be apprehended from the semi-civilized tribes, which are well armed, & possess all the qualities of the best light troops in the world. No easy victory will ever be gained over the Delawares, Cherokees, Creeks, & other tribes similarly advanced. These still possess the propensity of the savage for war, and despising the wild tribes, are disposed to gratify this propensity at their expense; & it would be politic for us, not to oppose these wishes, but to allow their attention to be thus diverted, from real or fancied injuries received from the whites; by making wars upon their more savage brethren to the West. The adjacent tribes would thus form a barrier to the white



settlements, which could never be penetrated by the Indians of the Prairies, who are insignificant as foes, unless united with the neighbouring tribes; when I am persuaded, it will take a very large force to afford protection to Louisiana, Arkansas, and Missouri; by over-awing the whole Indian population of this Section.

In conclusion, I would recommend, that with the exception of fulfilling Treaty Stipulations, & in settling amicably, whatever difficulties may arise between them and our Citizens, who should be rigidly excluded from the Indian Country, & not be allowed to enter it, except upon business for the Government; the Indians should be allowed to conduct their own affairs; and that we should interfere as little as possible with them. As a people, they are exceedingly suspicious of the motives of the whites; and no conduct however circumspect, is likely to satisfy the majority.

Mr A. S. Walker Sub-Agent for the Senecas and Shawnees, &c. died at this Post on the 12<sup>th</sup> instant.

I am Sir, &c.

W<sup>m</sup> Whistler

Lt. Col. 7th Infy

Comd

To

Gen: R. Jones

Adjut Gen<sup>l</sup> U. S. A.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File W283. Ft. Gibson. 1837.)



Fort Coffee

8<sup>th</sup> August 1837.

Sir,

I have been informed that there is a very large quantity of Whiskey now at Fort Smith destined to be Smuggled into the Indian Country, and from the best information I can collect, there has been in the course of this Summer a Considerable quantity Smuggled into the Cherokee Nation by different routes, I have had a few Commands out in that Nation during the Summer but they have not been able to seize Spirits in any Considerable quantity, my operations by land have been made mostly in the Choctaw Nation, and in fact, It has been about as much as I could do for the last two or three months to Guard the River, Fifty two Steam Boats assending the River were boarded at this place between the 1<sup>st</sup> of June, and the last of July, and from the unusual quantity of Whiskey which is said to have gone into the Indian Country this Summer I am inclined to believe that some of the Steam Boats have in Violation of Law and Regardlefs ~~disregardful~~ of the Certificate of Honor which the Captains of them are Required to Sign on passing this Post, have in a Clandentine manner Introduced Spirits - and under that Suspicion, I will go in a few days as high up the River as the Cannadian, by land, for the purpose of Procuring if possible evidence of that fact, when I will enter a Prosecution in every Case where the Necefsary evidence Can be had -



There has been landed at this Post since the first of June near a Million of Rations for the Chickasaw Indians, and as there were no Store Houses at the Post for its Preservation, and as the Officers of the Indian Department could not procure a Sufficient number of Laborers to erect Store Houses - I was obliged under the emergency of the case to employ the Troops of the Post, and the Public Teams to assist in its preservation, otherwise the Stores would have been lost, Consequently I was unable for the time, to do any thing more in the way of Preventing the Introduction of Whiskey than to guard the River and the immediate Neighbourhood of the Post, -

There are two principal roads leading from the State of Arkansas to Fort Gibson, on which Spirits are Occasionally Transported in Waggon, the nearest one to this Post, is ten miles, the other is between thirty and forty Miles from this Post -

If the Dragoons at Fort Gibson would Occasionally make examinations on those Roads they might do much towards preventing the introduction of Spirits into the Indian Country -

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your obt. Ser<sup>t</sup>

John Stuart

Cap<sup>t</sup> 7<sup>h</sup> Inf<sup>y</sup>

Genl. R. Jones

Adjutant Genl

U. S. Army.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File S575. Ft. Coffee. 1837.)



Head Quarters Det 3<sup>d</sup> Inf

Fort Towson Sept 4 1837.

Sir,

I take the liberty to make the following communication and request that it may be laid before the Hon Sec<sup>y</sup> of War.

In the treaty with the Choctaws it is provided that their Agent shall reside convenient to the great body of the Indians. The present Agent, Capt W. Armstrong, resides near Fort Coffee on one side of the Nation, and only convenient to a very small number of the Choctaws - His location, as Act<sup>g</sup> Supt<sup>t</sup> for the Western tribes, is very convenient - But his duties as Supt<sup>t</sup> do not allow him to spend but little time in this part of the nation, consequently the schools are not visited, or the Black Smith Shops inspected, as they ought to be - The Choctaws are, many of them, becoming dissipated, and it is exceedingly desirable that a Sub-Agent of energy and good moral character, should be appointed to reside in this part of the nation, who could frequently visit the schools and shops, attend to business for the Indians, and might prevent, in a great degree, the introduction of liquor, which if continued, as at present, will inevitably be the ruin of the Choctaws -

Sutlers of Military posts have been allowed to trade with Indians - This indulgence tends to bring a great many Indians about the post, and is frequently the occasion of difficulties between the Indians and the Military -

If I am rightly informed there are now four sutlers  
one  
at Fort Gibson and of them, as stated to me by Captain



Armstrong, recently took \$90,000 worth of goods to that post, which was probably more than double the Am<sup>t</sup> that the whole Military would require - all these Sutlers are allowed to keep large quantities of ardent spirits - and it is believed that much liquor goes directly or indirectly, to the Indians - No ardent spirit has been kept at this post for several years -

I now beg leave to recommend that there <sup>be</sup> but one Sutler to a Military post, and that he be prohibited from all trade with the Indians.

I would also recommend that no Indian trader be allowed to have a store or trading house within 10 miles of a Military post - There are two traders located within half a mile of Fort Towson - Both of them are respectable men, and adhere most rigidly to the laws of the U. S. The annuities are paid near these trading houses, and the Indians remain about us for several days, after they get their money, for the purpose of trading - Now if all trading houses were several miles from the Military posts, and at a distance from each other, the Indians would immediately leave, after receiving their money, and those disturbances which frequently occur, in consequence of so many Indians remaining together, would not take place. There are several traders in this nation and the Indians would of course scatter and go <sup>where</sup> to those established ~~wre~~ they were most acquainted - Sutlers being allowed to trade with Indians, and especially if they have liquor, gives them a great advantage over other traders.



I beg leave further to recommend that the Regulations prohibiting the Sutlers from keeping Ardent Spirits be strictly enforced - I do not conceive that a commanding officer of a post has any right to authorize its introduction

And I would also recommend that the law giving an extra gill of liquor to men on extra duty be repealed, and that extra duty men hereafter receive 18 to 20 cents per day in lieu of their present pay a gill of liquor -

No extra Whiskey has been issued at this post for several years - and ~~the~~ its discontinuance has had the most happy effect - At some posts, if I am not misinformed, not only extra duty men, but daily fatigue & police parties receive the extra gill -

No extensive and permanent reformation can be expected so long as sutlers are allowed to keep Ardent Spirits or it is furnished to extra & daily duty men by the government -

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Serv

J. H. Vose

Lieut Col 3<sup>d</sup> Infy

Com

Brig<sup>r</sup> Gen R. Jones

Adj<sup>t</sup> Gen U. S. A.

Washington. D C.



Fort Gibson September 8<sup>th</sup> 1837.

The Hon.

J. R. Poinsett, Secretary of War

Sir,

Agreeably to instructions given by Gen<sup>l</sup> Arbuckle and Gen<sup>l</sup> Stokes, as Commissioners for making Treaties with the Comanches and other Indians of the Great Western Prairie, Major P. L. Chouteau arrived here in May last from the Western Prairie with the principal Chiefs of the Kioway, Hack-a-ta and Tock-a-wa-ro Bands of Western Indians. - As these were the principal Bands of the South West, with whom the United States had no Treaties, it was thought expedient to have a council with them preliminary to a Treaty of Peace and Friendship between them and the United States; and between them and such of the friendly Tribes under the protection of the Government, as could be collected in the short time that the Kioways &c proposed to remain. - Gen<sup>l</sup> Arbuckle, had been Commissioner and acted with Gen<sup>l</sup> Stokes in forming the Treaty of August 1835, with the Comanches and Witchetas. - He having left Fort Gibson on a journey to the East, it was deemed proper to associate Co<sup>l</sup> Auguste P. Chouteau as Commissioner with Gen<sup>l</sup> Stokes for the purpose of making this Treaty.

It was found by your letter of instructions to Col: Chouteau, of the 7<sup>th</sup> April 1837, that he was fully authorised to enter into conventions or Treaties with the Tribes of the Western Prairie.



On the 23<sup>d</sup> day of May 1837, the undersigned made a Treaty of peace and Friendship with the Chiefs of the Kioway Ka-ta-ka and Tow-a-ka-ro Tribes which we herewith forward by the hands of Lieut. Moore of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry.

The Treaty has been made upon the same conditions of the Treaty of August 1835, with the Comanche and Wichita Nations. The goods reserved at that Treaty for these Tribes, were given to them, together with an additional supply purchased out of the former appropriation, amounting with the expenses to the sum of Eleven hundred and Seventy six dollars 98 Cents (\$1176.<sup>98</sup>) the accounts of which are herewith submitted.

This Treaty includes nearly all remaining Bands of Prairie Indians with whom we have intercourse or collision within the limits of the United States; and if it is faithfully observed, as we believe it will, it secures from further molestation, the Traders that travel the St. Fe road as well as all our licensed Traders on the South Western Frontier. - This arrangement has been long an object desired by the United States; and we are happy in making known to you for the information of the President of the United States, that perfect peace and Friendship now exists between the United States and all the Nations and Tribes within the Superintendency of the South Western Frontier; and between all these nations and Tribes among themselves.

We entertain the hope that our conduct upon this occasion will be satisfactory, and that the Treaty will be approved.



We should have forwarded the Treaty much sooner, but that one of the undersigned, (A. P. Chouteau) expected to take it on himself. - Circumstances which he did not anticipate, has prevented his journey until he is now compelled to go to the West, to bring in a Deputation of the Western Indians, agreeably to the last instructions from C. A. Harris Commissioner of Indian affairs of the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1837.

We have to inform you that since the formation and signing this Treaty, the Pawnees of the Platte River, have stolen some horses from the Comanches, Kioways and Osages, which has disturbed the peace and tranquility that previously existed. - The Pawnees of the Platte River have Treaties of peace, and are under the protection of the United States, but they are not parties to the Treaties of Peace with the Comanches and Kioways, and their associate Bands: but have a Treaty of peace and Friendship with the Osage Nation.

We are Sir, with great respect

Your obedt. Servants

M Stokes. Commifs<sup>r</sup>

A. P. Chouteau - Commifr



## Fort Coffee West of Arkansas

November 15<sup>th</sup> 1837

Sir,

Herewith I have the pleasure of enclosing you a "sketch of the Choctaws and Cherokees," written by Capt. John Stuart U.S.A. and Commander of this post. As you will perceive, upon reading this sketch the object of the Author was simply to give correct information relative to the character and condition of the Indians. By so doing he hoped to allay the fears entertained by many white persons, and likewise to induce the tribes, yet east of the Mississippi, to emigrate immediately to this country, which seems to be so admirably calculated for the residence of Indians. Capt. Stuart has been a resident among the different tribes of the South for upwards of twenty years. In ascertaining positively the correctness of all the descriptions and the accuracy of all the statements contained in his sketch, he has spared neither labor nor expense. All the facts related in it are corroborated by the most intelligent gentlemen of this Country. This circumstance entitles it to the serious consideration and careful perusal of all who feel an interest in the welfare and prosperity of the Aborigines of our country. Independent of every other consideration, the well known character of the Author as possessing those characteristic virtues and amiable traits of character which gain for the friendship and esteem of all those acquainted with him, entitle this publica-



tion to the attention of a large portion of the intelligent community.

I presume the principal objection which will be urged against this will be on account of the statements contained in it relative to the friendly feelings entertained by the Indians towards the whites. There will no doubt be many whose pecuniary interest will prompt them to endeavor to refute the statements of Capt. Stuart upon this subject. There are many individuals who would, if possible, induce you, as well as every one else connected with Government, to believe that there was great danger of Indian hostility on this frontier. In proof of the correctness of Capt. Stuarts opinions, the late conduct of the Choctaws afford a striking example. The Choctaws were all ready to go to Florida when the letter of the Secretary of War was received by Capt. W. Armstrong which reduced their compensation so much that they refused to go to Florida. It is the opinion of the most intelligent and those best acquainted with Indian character, that if it had been any other tribe than the Choctaws, the result would have been that immediate acts of hostility would have been committed by the Indians. No such disposition was manifested by the Choctaws. I hope the proposition of Capt. W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong relative to my going on to Washington with the Choctaw and Creek delegations this winter, will meet your approbation. Please to give my best respects to M. Pickett 4<sup>th</sup> Aud<sup>r</sup> and accept of my kindest



regards for yourself

I have the honor to be Sir

very respectfully

Your most Obdt. Srvt

W. A. M. Brooke

To

C. A. Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> Ind. Affairs

Washington

D. C.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File B356. Fort Coffee. 1837.)



Westport Jackson County, Mo.

Nov. 21, 1837.

Hon. C. A. Harris

Commsr. Ind. Affrs.

Sir

On the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. I returned from a tour south, which I extended as far as the Choctaw Agency. (350 miles) My object was to submit to the consideration of the Choctaws, Cherokees, & Creeks the Bill for the organization of the Indian Territory, intending to take the Senecas, Quapaws and Osages in my way on my return. On reaching Arkansas I ascertained that instructions to bring the Bill to the consideration of these tribes had been given to Capt. Armstrong. Consequently my labors in relation to it were at an end.

The Cherokees, as I was informed, had given an unfavorable answer to enquiries submitted by their agt., respecting the provisions of the Bill. While in that country I had an opportunity of conversing with some intelligent Cherokees from whom I learnt the nature of their objections. They feared that it covered a design to render them insecure in their present residence. I have good reason to believe that if they could be induced to hear a full explanation of the bill, they would perceive what is the fact, that its design is to prevent the evils they fear it may introduce, or cherish. To the Choctaws, Creeks, Senecas, Quapaws, and Osages the Bill had not been submitted when I left that country. But I am confident that no obstacle



exists with either to prevent the exprefsfion of an opinion in favor of the Bill similar to that which I have had the honor of forwarding you from eleven of these middle tribes It is pofsible that some of those tribes might propose some unimportant amendments to the details of the Bill, but that the leading principles of it would be approved by them I cannot doubt, and hope that circumstances will be such as to justify the government in proceeding upon this supposition so far as its action is to be inelueneced by the opinion of the Indians.

I have the honor to be

With great respect

Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

(OIA: Western Supt'y File M266. Westport. 1837.)



M<sup>r</sup> Harris

Sir, I have with much pleasure complied with your request to send you 20 copies of the 3<sup>d</sup> No. of the Annual Register of Ind. Affrs. Of the 1<sup>st</sup> & Second Nos. I can send only 15.

Resptfy.

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

Nov. 22, 1837.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File M 266 Westport. 1837.)



Fort Gibson

3<sup>rd</sup> January 1838

Sir.

Since my last dated at Fort Mason on the 14<sup>th</sup> Decr. 1837. I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your two letters dated 18<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>th</sup> Oct the former permitting five Osages to Visit Washington City with the deputation of wild Indians; and the latter permitting me to liberate any white prisoners which may be found among the Comanche & other wild tribes of Indians.--

I have visited this place for the purpose of Consulting Capt W. Armstrong the Superintendent of Indian business in the West, and to apprise him of the impossibility of Collecting a deputation of the wild Indians together before April and to procure provisions as we have had no Buffalo; So Soon as I make arrangements with Capt. Armstrong & procure the necessary provisions, I shall Return to Fort Mason with a View of Carrying into Effect the Wishes of the Government.--

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Your obt. St

C. A. Harris Esqr.

A. P. Chouteau

Com. of Ind. Affairs

Indians Com<sup>r</sup>

Washington D. C.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File C531-683-757 Ft. Gibson (C531))



(COPY)

We propose to take of the Government all the flour, pork, bacon and corn, belonging to the Indian Department which is now in store at Fort Gibson, Fort Coffee, Fort Smith, Little Rock, or elsewhere not disposed of; or, at least, all of the same that is not materially injured, it being expressly understood that, the flour is now expected to be mostly in a sour state. None of that will be refused that is not injured by water.

The above provisions are to be counted into rations at the following rate, to wit, to each ration one pound of flour, or three pints of corn, and three fourths of a pound of pork or bacon; and should the quantity or number of rations of flour exceed the number of rations of meat, then and in that case three pounds of flour will be taken in lieu of, and counted equal to, one full ration of flour and pork or bacon. The salt on hand at either of the above places we will receive at cost and carriage.

The above provisions to be put in good shipping order, that is to say, to (be) well coopered before delivery, at the expence of the Government.

We will obligate ourselves to issue to the Indians where, when and as, required, the full amount or number of rations so received by us, either in corn or flour or beef pork or bacon, at our option. The ration of those articles to consist of one pound of flour or three half pints of corn and one pound of beef or three fourths of one pound of bacon and pork to each ration; also to furnish the part of the In-



dian ration which consists of salt at three fourths of one cent per ration and deliver the same at the same time and place of the other delivery; The Government obligating itself to pay us for the ifsuings to the Creeks and Seminoles and for transportation six cents per ration for each and every ration so delivered at any of the present ifsuings depots of the Creeks and Seminoles, or at any new depot that might be established at no greater distance from Fort Gibson; and for each and every mile further that the said ifsuings may be required to be made, one eighth part of one cent for each and every additional mile.

We will ifsue the rations to the Chickasaws in the same manner and charge the same price for the salt part of the ration, making the place for ifsuings to the Chickasaws at any place not exceeding twenty five miles from Fort Coffee or Webbers falls and receive for transportation and ifsuings six cents for each full ration of flour or corn and meat; and for every additional mile beyond that distance, to receive for transportation one eighth part of one cent per ration for each and every mile we may be required to ifsue said rations beyond that distance. The distances to be counted by the nearest and most practicable route.

The ifsuings of the beef part of the ration to (be) delivered as has been done the present year to the Creeks and Seminoles, which was on the hoof.

The ifsuings to commence by the said Contractors some time during the month of March, or as much sooner as said



Contractors may be prepared to make the ifsues. Payment to be made by the Prin. Disbg. Agent at Little Rock on delivery of the regular returns to him.

(Signed) Glasgow & Harrison

Jany 10, 1838.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File. Office. 1838. Harris. C.A. to Wm. Armstrong, Supt. Copies 13 letters, etc.)



Little Rock. Ark,

January 26<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir,

I have just received your communication of the 12 inst - and have the honor to inform you that I had already, in conjunction with Capt Armstrong concluded a bargain with Mr Harrison, for the pork part of the rations of the Gn<sup>l</sup> Depot, upon terms, more advantageous, than those proposed by Glasgow & Harrison to you.

I forwarded to you on the 6<sup>th</sup> inst copy of a contract with L. N. Clark, for exchanging the pork part of the Chickasaw provisions -

I shall leave this place to morrow for the Cho<sup>c</sup> Agency, at the earnest solicitation of Capt Armstrong; and upon my arrival there, will forward a copy of the Contract made with Mr Harrison - while at the Agency I trust that we shall be enabled to make satisfactory disposition of the remaining provision of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Depot

Very respectfully

Yr mo obt svt

R. D C Collins

Capt U.S.A Prin. Mil.

Dis Agt. In. Dpt

C. A. Harris, Esq,

Com<sup>r</sup> Ind Affs.

Washington City

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 556-609. Little Rock. C-556.)



## Choctaw Agency West

January 27<sup>th</sup> 1838C A Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>Comm<sup>r</sup> Ind<sup>d</sup> Affrs

Sir

I regret to say that the Small pox has spread through a large portion of the Choctaw Nation, it was first introduced by the Chickasaws, who came up on the Itasca about the time I set out for Washington, every exertion was used by M<sup>r</sup> Kingsberry Acting Ag<sup>t</sup> for the Chickasaws, as well as Capt Stuart Comm<sup>d</sup> at Fort Coffee, to keep the infected party to themselves, there relatives came to see them, and the disease in this way has been carried to Boggy, Doct<sup>r</sup> Keenan has and is still busily engaged vaccinating on Boggy, and the Choctaws on Arkansas have generally been vaccinated, the disease is not so fatal as I expected it would have been, yet a number have died, every exertion has been used to prevent the disease from spreading, but owing to the indians pasing from family to family to see there friends it could not be done. Vaccination however has proved a preventative, and the indians are willing to have it done, M<sup>r</sup> Clarke is laying very low with the the disease on Boggy, and it is difficult to get any one to attend to the ifsuess, I know you will be greatly distressed that this dreadful scourge has got amongst the indians, I shall remain at my post, and you may depend upon everything being done to alleviate the condition of the sufferers, and to check the disease,



I have written up to Col Logan to commence vaccinating the Creeks on the Canadian, and to endeavour to keep them at there homes, and not to intermix with the indians about Gibson, who are yet far from the disease, I shall go up to the Canadian in a few days, and aid Col Logan as far as I can, The Cherokees living adjoining this Nation have been generally vaccinated, as well as the new emigrants who have just arrived, As the Arkansas divides them and they are much alarmed they may escape,

Great apprehensions seemed to be entertained by the Citizens of Arkansas, that we shall have indian disturbances. It is certainly true that we have the materials for a difficulty and that there is discontent amongst the indians, but I do not believe there is any design at present for a rupture. I shall be able however in a short time to write more advisedly upon this subject

Respectfully

Yr, Mo, Obt, Ser<sup>t</sup>,

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W. T.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A436. Choctaw Agency. 1838.)  
(Above letter bears the number A403.)



## Choctaw Agency West

February 2<sup>d</sup> 1838.C A Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>Comm<sup>r</sup> of In<sup>d</sup> Affairs

Sir

As soon as I can get the Chickasaws started to their homes, which has been retarded by a party yet behind coming by land but looked for tomorrow, I will go to Fort Gibson, and prepare the Creek Delegation to go to Washington, and meet the Choctaws here and proceed on, by advices from Col Choteau now at Fort Gibson it is very probable indeed I may say certain there will be none of the Wild Tribes to go on this spring or summer; they are at War with each other and could not be collected, There will therefore be none but the Choctaws and Creeks which I will be on with as soon as I can leave the business of my Superintendency

Respectfully

Yr. Mo. Obt. Servt.

W<sup>m</sup> ArmstrongAct Supt West<sup>n</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>



Little RockFebr 5. 1838Capt W<sup>m</sup>. Armstrong

Sup. W Dept.

Dr Sir -

By the S Boat Liverpool - I have procured Transportation for 15 Chickasaws - they were found by Col. Upshaw ~~at~~ the Mouth of White river on their way to their Country - Col. Upshaw sent them to this place - As they have no conductor &c - I have sent them by the Capt who brought them - to this place -

I - Am really mortified that I cannot see you immediately - The S. Boat Little Rock is hourly expected with the specie for the Cherokees - and I have deem<sup>d</sup> it best to wait for it a few days - Should it not reach here howr in two or three days I will set out - for the Agency - with all I hope that you may want.

There is nothing new all things appear quiet -

There are within a few miles of this place some two hundred Chickasaws and 175 or 180 horses I have directed Mr Vanderslice to take them up by land or water with the least possible delay -

I have also been informed that there is a party betwen this and the mouth of Ark<sup>s</sup> also one betwen this and Helena, where they have been landed by Boats - I will be with you with the least possible delay in the mean time use my name to any document that you may thing requires it.

With much rest

Yr Mo. Obt. Sert

R D C Collins Cap U S A -

(OIA: Western Supt'y. File (Emigr.) Little Rock.)



Head Quarters 2<sup>d</sup> Dept. W. Division  
Fort Gibson March 13<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Dear Sir,

It is probable that you may have it in your power, during your stay at Washington, to furnish such information as will induce Congress to so modify the Act regulating trade and intercourse with Indian Tribes, (approved June 30<sup>th</sup> 1834) as to more effectually prevent the introduction of spiritous liquor or wine into the Indian country.

I am of the opinion that to accomplish the above object it is necessary that a more summary and convenient mode of punishing offenders, should be provided for by Law, as well as for the condemnation and sale of vessels or boats employed to introduce ardent spirits or wine into the Indian country; and that legal provision should be made for the seizure and forfeiture of all slaves, horses, oxen, mules, wagons, carts, or other means employed by our citizens to introduce spiritous liquor into the Indian country.

It is known to you that a considerable number of white men of bad character, have located themselves in the Indian country, who live with Indian women, or take them as wives, (and as it would appear in many cases) from no other motive than to be permitted to remain in the Indian country for the purpose of violating the Intercourse Law by introducing and vending ardent spirits; - And I cannot doubt that at least three fourths of all the liquor introduced into the Cherokee country to sell to the Troops, is brought in by our citizens who reside in the vicinity of this post, and who are in the



daily habit of selling it to the Troops and others. It is therefore very desirable that such provision should be made by Law as is necessary to permanently remove and <sup>keep</sup> from the Indian country such offenders.

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

(Signed) M. Arbuckle

Bvt. Brig. Gen.<sup>l</sup> Comd<sup>g</sup>

To

Captain William Armstrong

Act. Sup<sup>t</sup> W. Territory

Washington City

P. S. - - In order to convict our citizens (who reside in the Indian country) of selling or introducing Spiritous liquors, they must be held accountable for the sale of liquor, at, or in the vicinity of their residence, by any member of their family or other person residing at their house or known to be in their employ

(Signed) M. A.

True copy.

S. G. Simmons

A.D.C. & A.A.Adj G<sup>l</sup>



Little Rock

March. 15. 1838.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Capt: Armstrong and myself have made an arrangement with Glasgow and Harrison for the Subsistence of the Creeks. Seminoles & Chickasaws for the present year - We have also made an arrangement with them to receive all the supplies now on hand belonging to the Chickasaw and General Depots. to meet all the Demands consequent to the arrangement and Balances due upon former contracts. I will want at least \$150.000. If convenient I would be pleased to have the funds in small notes say from one to 500. Dollars each - There is something like \$16000. in specie at the Land office in Little Rock - which would much assist me could it be drawn -. Capt Armstrong will visit you in a few days and give you all the information that you may require in relation to the Indian population generally -

With much respect

Yr mo. obt. Servt.

R D C Collins Capt U.S.A

P. M. Dis Ag In. Dp

C. A. Harris Esqr

Comr. Ind Affairs

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) Little Rock. File C556-609.  
File C-609.)



Head Quarters 2<sup>d</sup> Dept. W. Division

Fort Gibson, March 31<sup>st</sup> 1838

Dr Sir,

I request that you will inform me, if the Chickasaws that have arrived in this country have removed to the district they are to occupy in the Choctaw reserve, and if so, what is the condition of the road, from the Choctaw Agency to the district of country belonging to the Chickasaws, and on which they have settled. I make the enquiry of you, from the belief that you, as contractor to furnish Subsistence to the Chickasaws, and having many waggons employed to carry the supplies into their new country, must be well informed in relation to the condition of the road referred to. - Your early reply will confer a favour on

Dr Sir

Your very Obt. Servt

(Signed) M. Arbuckle

Bvt. Brig. Gen<sup>l</sup> U,S,A,

To

Majr: James Harrison

Present

True copy.

S. G. Simmons

A. D. C. & A A Adj Gen<sup>l</sup>



Head Quarters 2<sup>d</sup> Dept. W. Division  
Fort Gibson, Aptil 16<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Government that a great portion of the Creek people are much insenced at present against the Osages, in consequence of their continual depredations on their property (since May 1831.) and their want of confidence in being at any time remunerated for these injuries. The Creeks have therefore determined as I am informed (and I believe most of them in earnest) not to again apply for Troops to drive the Osages out of their settlements, in consequence of their robbing them of their property, but at once to take satisfaction by punishing, or killing them; therefore the Government may not be surprised (unless early and efficient measures are taken to remove Clarmores Band of the Osages to the Osage reserve, and to pay the Creeks and Cherokees for the depredations they have committed on them) to hear that many of the Osages have been killed. - The Creeks are most disposed to resort to acts of violence, in consequence of the Osages having done them the greatest injury by the destruction of their animals, of which but few of them have yet a sufficient number for their own use.

It is now nearly seven years that the Creeks have been assured from time, to time, that something would be done not only to relieve them from the continuance of the evil of which they complain, but to remunerate them for the losses they have suffered. I am therefore decidedly of the opinion



that something ought soon to be done, calculated to realize these expectations; otherwise the continuance of peace between the Creeks and Osages must be regarded as <sup>very</sup> precarious.

I informed you on the 1<sup>st</sup> inst that I had ordered Captain Trenor of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Dragoons to the Verdegrise River, for the purpose of removing Osages from the Creek Nation, charged with depredating on the animals of the Creeks. - Before the arrival of the Captain at the point he was required to visit, the Osages had removed; and he did not see all the Creeks in that neighborhood who complain of being injured by them of late; those he met with reported to him the loss of more than one hundred and thirty hogs of different sizes.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt

(Signed) M. Arbuckle

Bvt. Brig. Genl. Comdg

To

Brig. Gen<sup>l</sup> R. Jones

Adjt General

Washington City

True Copy

S. G. Simmons

A.D.C. & A.A.Adj Gen



Washington City

23<sup>d</sup> April 1838.

C. A. Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind. Affrs.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose you copy of Contract made with Mefs<sup>rs</sup> Glasgow & Harrison by Capt. Collins & myself for all the provisions for the indians at Fort Gibson - and for subsisting Creeks. &.

The provision<sup>s</sup> were not considered by Capt<sup>s</sup> Collins & Stephenson - as well as myself - sound and fit for issue to the indians - We therefore closed a contract with Glasgow & Harrison - for all the provision & for subsisting the Creeks - at present Corn is very scarce. in the indian Country - selling at from one to two dollars per bushel - and will continue so until the new Crop comes in. - I thought I had with me contract made with Glasgow & Harrison for subsisting the Chickasaws - but have not - previous to making this Contract - that portion of the Chickasaw pork which had been stored at Fort Smith amounting to about Seventeen or eighteen hundred barrels - was contracted with Col. L. N. Clarke. - for fresh beef deliverable as far as seventy five miles from the Choctaw Agency - in the Chickasaw district - by this contract provisions which are adapted to the wants of the indians- are received ration - for ration without any lofs - . I would recommend that Capt Collins & myself be authorized to turn this contract - which is only for Beef -



to Glasgow & Harrison - and to be accounted for in subsisting the Chickasaws -

Respectfully Y<sup>r</sup>

Most Obt Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W. T.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File A358. Washington.)



Little Rock, Ark<sup>s</sup>

April 24<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Sir;

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th. inst., by last nights mail.

In explanation of the remittance of \$150.000 required by me in my communication of the 15<sup>th</sup> March, I beg leave to submit the following estimate

For the Subsistence of say 4.000 Chickasaw Indians for 270 days, in accordance with arrangements made with Messrs. Glasgow & Harrison of Feby. 1838	\$77.940.00
---	-------------

For the subsistence of say 3.500 Creek Indians for 270 days under arrangements made with Messrs Glasgow & Harrison of Feby. 1838 --	<u>67,162.50</u>
	<u>\$145.102.50</u>

The above estimate is founded upon the supposition that the number of rations belonging to the Chickasaw & General Depots, to be turned over to Messrs Glasgow & Harrison, will equal the number required by the above estimate. Should they fall short, however, the cost of the ration when furnished in full will be increased about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents

I have not estimated for the Seminoles, not having any knowledge of the number that may emigrate, or of the time that they may be expected in their country.

It is probable that the Indians will prefer to have their cattle delivered on the hoof, at once. Experience has proven this course to be much to their interest. The contractors will also be prepared to make the full issues of corn



by the month of June, to complete the years supply, for the present emigrants.

There is still a balance of about \$55.000 due Messrs. Glasgow & Harrison, on their old contract. The returns have not all been received. I have however advanced them \$33.000.

The expensens incident to the removal of the Chickasaw Indians through this State, are in a measure still unpaid. The abrupt manner in which the principal officers having charge of that emigration left here, renders a full settlement of the accounts of contractors for subsistence and forage furnished, and also the claims of individuals for ferriage, impossible. I have delayed making any observations upon this subject, while since I could possibly avoid it; but, there appears to be no means left in my power by which a settlement can be obtained, I feel myself in duty bound to state the circumstances to you. These claims are mostly on file in this office, and amount to upwards of \$20.000 - The certificates of conductors of parties accompany most of them. but they are not in due form. By the 19th paragraph of Revised Regulations it is necessary that the requisition of the superintendant should accompany all payments made by disbursing officers. I am therefore obliged to refuse payment of these accounts in full. I have however advanced one half upon them, believing it is neither right nor just, that citizens should suffer serious embarrasment and loss, in consequence of the negligence of those who should have attended to this business. The Chickasaws are still passing here in small parties from 10 to 50 - often in a wretched state.



There is, I understand, yet about two hundred between  
this place and the Mississippi.

Very respectfully,

I am, Sir,

Yr. most Obt. Servt.

R. D C. Collins

Capt U S A.

Prin Mil Dis Ag<sup>t</sup> Ind. Dp

C. A. Harris Esq.

Com<sup>r</sup> Ind. Affs.

Washington City.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 659-677. Little Rock.  
C-659.)



Little Rock Ark

April 30 1838

Sir

Herewith I forward my account current with abstract and vouchers of disbursement for Contingencies, made on account of the removal and subsistence of the Creek Indians - 1<sup>st</sup> qr 1838. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Glasgow & Harrison still delay returning their pro. checks for subsistence furnished to the close of their old contract -

I also forward accounts current for the Seminoles, Cherokee, Choctaw and Quapaw tribes of Indians - for the 1<sup>st</sup> qr 1838

I have the honor to be,

very respectfully,

your mo obt Servant.

R. D C. Collins Capt. USA

Prin<sup>c</sup>. Mil<sup>y</sup>. Dis Agt- Ind. Dpt

C. A. Harris, Esq.

Com<sup>r</sup> Ind Affs,

Washington City.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 659-677. Little Rock. C-677.)



Fort Mason Canadian

1st May 1838

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 16th March last.--

Since my arrival at this place I have made known to the Comanche and other prairie tribes the wishes of the Dept: and altho' they express a desire to visit Washington, still they are perfectly satisfied with the arrangement. In consequence of their having again solicited me for medals and flags, I must remind the Dept: of my former application for those articles--

I am constrained once more to complain to You of the aggressions of the Pawnee Mohaws--In addition to their former depredations they have, during the past winter, been roveing through this section of country, with no other purpose than that of stealing horses; and have invariably done so, without regard to what tribe they belonged. A few nights since they stole eight head from a party of Delawares who are encamped within sight of this place.-- They are certainly the most lawless and mischevious tribe of the west; the more so, as the prairie tribes are aware that they are under treaty stipulations with our government, and therefor are apt to form the idea that if the government, does not check their depredations, they perhaps encourage them.

They have excited the most hostile feelings among the Comanche, Kaywah, Osage, and Delaware tribes, and revenge is now their universal cry--

I have taken measures with these tribes to check any immediate retaliatory steps, on condition, and at their request, that I dispatch my brother Major P. L. Chouteau in company with Lieut L. B. Northrop and



his command to visit the different prairie tribes, and explain to them the instructions and views of government, and repair myself to Fort Gibson to await further advices from the Dept: I shall accordingly carry this arrangement into effect with as little delay as possible, and hold myself in readiness to revisit this place, as soon as your future instructions can be received.

I cannot close this communication without recommending that the government take the foregoing circumstances into consideration and adopt some measures to check the grievances complained of--

I beg leave most respectfully to request that I may be informed whether the former Commissioners Gov. Stokes and Gen. Arbuckle obtained Baptiste Jannet--alias Derrioux the appointment of Interpreter for the prairie tribes, also if they did, that he may be continued, and in case they did not, that he be appointed as such, and as he has been acting in that capacity for the last two years, that he may be allowed compensation for the same, as his services have been, and still are, indispensably necessary.--

It would place me in a very embarrassed Situation with the Indians, should it be the intention of the Dept: by postponing their visit to Washington, to abandon the design as they have been given to understand that it is the wish of government for them to come, and are now very desirous to do so--

I have the honor

To remain

To,

Very respectfully

Hon

Your obt svt

C. A. Harris

A. P. Chouteau

Comm Ind Affairs

Washington City

D. C.



Head Quarters 2<sup>d</sup> Dept. W. Division

Fort Gibson May 7<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Sir,

I have received your letter of instructions under date of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ult. by which I am fully informed of the object and intent of General order N<sup>o</sup> 70 of 1837, which has been carried into effect at this post: in consequence of which the Indians who have been in the habit of attending this market have failed to come in with their poltry, butter, and other things they have been in the habit of bringing to this market, and I am informed by good authority that the total prohibition to their trade here, has much displeased many of the most respectable of the Red people and will no doubt much disincline them to visit our military posts in their country.

The scramble for the trade at this place I fear will not result in a public benefit. The great or only cause of the large and inconvenient Indian trade at this post, was produced (as it is believed) by the very large number of Sutlers appointed to the 7<sup>th</sup> Inf<sup>y</sup> and it would have been infinitely better that that trade should have been continued here, for some time to come, than that it should be totally discontinued. The market people, (I judge) should not be prohibited from trading at our posts, in the Indian country; nor the Indians of the Western prairie, or others, when the commanding officer may judge it proper, and necessary that they should do so; and as Indians have not at any time been prohibited from trading at our military posts, in or



out of the Indian country (as far as I am informed) and although I am not in favor of Indian trade at military posts, as it has recently existed here, still I think it cannot wholly be suspended without producing ill will among the Indians towards the United States and the military establishments in this country, which cannot be regarded desirable at this time.

The Creek warriors who were in Florida, or several of them, have stated to me, that General Jesup had promised them two years rations after their arrival in this country. I mention this in consequence of it having been reported to me at the time there was no Creek Agent. They should be informed on this point, presuming that they have misunderstood or misconstrued the promise of General Jesup.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

M, Arbuckle

Brev.<sup>t</sup> Brigd<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> Comm<sup>d</sup>

To

Brig. Gen<sup>l</sup> R. Jones

Adj<sup>t</sup> General

Washington City



Fort Coffee

10<sup>th</sup> May 1838

Sir,

I had the honor yesterday to receive your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> of April requesting me to give my <sup>views &</sup> opinion on the subject especially whether allowing the Sutlers to trade with the Indians will not be attended with pernicious consequences.

This being a subject on which a difference of opinion exists, among Officers of the Army serving in the Indian Country, I will beg the indulgence of going somewhat into detail in the matter.

I have served for many years in the Indian Country on the Arkansas, and among Indians in other Sections of our country, where the Soldiers and Indians were in the habit of trading at the same store, and have seen some few causes for objection to the practice. The main one being that complaints or murmers, sometimes arise among some of the Soldiers, that the Sutlers occasionally neglect them, with a view to attend to the Indians. Those complaints however are rare, and are not often well grounded. At the same time, I have seen what I considered to be strong reasons in favour of the practice, of Indians trading with the Sutler

If the Sutler's Store be situated within the Fort or Chain of Sentinels, the Indians should not be allowed to go there to trade, but if the store be without the chain of sentinels, no pernicious effects can in my opinion, result from the Indians trading with the Sutler in a promiscuous manner with the Soldiers, but on the contrary, such a manner of trad-



ing is often essentially beneficial to both Soldiers and Indians, for the following reasons. - The Soldiers are frequently without money, and the Indians are as often in the same situation, The Soldiers are entitled to a credit in the sutler's Store to a certain extent. The Indians have no credit; but have poultry, eggs, butter, potatoes, mellons &c. the produce of their farms, which they wish to exchange for Sugar, Coffee, Salt, Domestic, Calico &c, or to sell their produce for money, with which to purchase those articles, but they cannot sell them, The Soldiers not having money to purchase with; consequently the Indians take their produce home without being able to procure the articles needful, and the Soldier has to suffer for the very articles that the Indians was anxious to dispose of, whereas if a promiscuous trading is allowed, all parties can be accommodated, a Soldier would receive from an Indian produce to the amount of say one dollar, and would request the Sutler to charge him with one dollar, and to give the Indian goods to that amount. The Indian purchases such articles as he most needs, by which he is accommodated, the Soldier has purchased the article that he required, and the Sutler sells his goods, in which manner there is a mutual accommodation of all parties.

It would seem to be a direct violation of law, for any Sutler to trade with the Indians, at any Military Post, that is situated in any of the Indian Nations, without having a license from the proper authority except at such places as those where the Military Posts, are situated on lands reserved to the United States by treaty for Military purposes.



Those reservations, I have always considered to be separate territories, or districts of the United States, and not a portion of any Indian Nation, but are exclusively under Military government. At such posts, a sutler might<sup>perhaps</sup> sell goods to Indians without violating the law; of that however, it is not my province to give an opinion

If the Sutlers were allowed to trade with the Indians, they could afford to keep a more general and full assortment of goods than they could do, if confined alone to a trade with the Troops, unless the number of troops was very great. The sales of goods to four or five companies alone, is not sufficient to justify any man in keeping on hand a general assortment of goods.

or two

I will here beg leave to make one<sup>or two</sup> other remark in relation to the Indians, They on visiting a Military Post to trade, are always quiet and inoffensive, They are modest and unassuming, and are much less in the way of the troops than white citizens would be, for when they are in the store, they do not expect or require that attention, that white people do, and will wait patiently, until attended to, by the Merchant, therefore the Sutler has not necessarily to neglect the Soldiers to attend to them.

Regular Soldiers are usually under good discipline, and are taught to act at all times kindly towards the Indians, consequently a perfect harmony exists between them, Many of the Indians are so far advanced in civilization, that they are agreeable associates for the Officer at the different Military posts



in the Indian country, and are treated with the respect usually extended to gentlemen

A partial permission for the Indians to trade with the Sutler, I am afraid will produce more dissatisfaction than if all were prevented. The reason why one is allowed to trade with the Sutler, and another not, cannot be satisfactorily explained to a large portion of them, and but few of them can be made to understand the cause of the trading being stopped.

Much more might be said on this subject, but I am afraid I have already said too much.

I am Sir Very Respectfully

Your obt Servt

John Stuart

Capt 7<sup>th</sup> Infty

J N Macomb

Act: Adjut, Genl,

U. S. Army.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File S 1001-1235. Ft. Coffee. S 1235.)



Washington, May 14<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Hon. C. A. Harris

Commfstr. Ind. Affrs.

Sir

It appears to me that some judicious intercourse regulations among the tribes within what we denominate the Indian Territory, are strongly urged by many important considerations. The Bill now before Congress "for the protection & security of the emigrant and other Indians west of the State of Mifsouri and Arkansas, &c." provides all that is necessary for the present, But, should that bill not become a law, I beg leave respectfully to recommend that the Dept. take into consideration some other method of securing peace among the tribes, and between them and our citizens.

At present each tribe has its own method of managing its own matters, which it does independently of all others. Some of the tribes are in their native condition, and have no fixed rules of life more than naturally belong to untamed savages. It is in vain to hope for tranquility without some international regulations which all can understand, and to which all will consent, and by which all will feel in some measure bound, and for a breach of which restitution can be made to the injured.

At this time the relation of the tribes to one another is such as leaves them subject to the savage custom of retaliation. While Indians live by hunting, and can



disperse widely, the evils of the custom of retaliation are left destructive. But this is not the condition of the people under consideration. Seventeen of the tribes now with the Territory do not depend on the chase for subsistence, while the indigenous tribes which have little at home, find the labour of the chase so unproductive that they are rendered increasingly troublesome to their neighbours. Among these twenty three tribes now compelled to remain together the evils of the law of retaliation will be insupportable.

Last summer, when I was in council with the Kickapoos complaints were made to the Agt. Maj. Cummins, that horses had been stolen by people of another tribe, and relief prayed for. The evidence of the depredation complained of could not be doubted by the Agent, but he had not the power to redress their wrongs. They were left to feel that they must either bear the loss, or make themselves whole by a similar depredation upon the property of others. A few days afterwards I was in council with the Peorias, when a complaint was made to their Agt. Maj. Davis, that a renegade band of Kickapoos has stolen some valuable horses. No doubt remained of the fact, but no relief could be afforded. A company of Kansans last summer stole a horse from an Ottawa Chief. The thieves were overtaken, but said they could not restore the horse, because they were in great want of a horse.

The Osages have claims against the Cherokees for stolen horses. The Cherokees and Creeks, and I believe,



also the Senecas, the Senecas & Shawanoes, and the Quapaws all have claims against the Osages for property stolen by the latter. The claims of the two former tribes are very heavy and they threaten to take satisfaction in their own way. More than once matters between them and the Osages have assumed a menacing attitude.

Instances like the foregoing are common. Even the late skirmish between a marauding band of Osages which had in some measure broken off from the tribe, and some of our citizens, which resulted in the loss of some lives on both sides, might be traced to the same prolific source of evil, to wit, the absence of wholesome intercourse regulations among the tribes. Many of the tribes are expecting the government to aid them in adopting measures by which justice may be exercised, and peace maintained, and this expectation, we have reason to believe, is the cause of not a little forbearance of such as suppose themselves to be injured. Procrastination may exhaust their patience and result in much evil.

In the event, therefore, of the failure of the bill alluded to now before Congress, I would respectfully suggest the propriety of calling a Council of Chiefs and principal men of the several tribes, and of urging them to adopt such measures as it would be supposed would have a salutary tendency. The regulations might be few and simple, and they could be amended or multiplied as their wants would require, or as experience should dictate.

I would recommend that the Council should be held at



Fort Coffee

15<sup>th</sup> May 1838

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to enclose you a Muster Roll of a party of Choctaw Indians, thos arrived in the Choctaw Nation the 11<sup>th</sup> Ins.t.

At the same timr, I beg leave to inform you that, the small pox is progrefsing rapidly in its course, among the Chickasaw Indians. They contracted the disease in the state of Arkansas while on their way to this country. The disease is at present not very fatal. I do not know the number that have died. but I think it does not exceed thirty.

When I found that the small-pox was actually in the Choctaw Nation, I sent a soldier to the Camps of the Chickasaws, <sup>then in this vicinity</sup> with orders to vaccinate as many of them as practicable, and at the same time, to vaccinate such of the Choctaws, as he might see, I have since sent him on two expiditions in the Cherokee nation. He has vaccinated Chickasaws, Choctaws and Cherokees to about the number of two thousand. He is now out in the Choctaw nation, and will be kept engaged in that buisnefs in the different Indian nations, until all of the Indians within twenty or thirty miles of this part are vaccinated.

The Chickasaws have a physician imployed for a year, who is now out in the remote settlements, What number of the Indians he has vaccinated, I am unable to say. He vaccinates both Chickasaws and Choctaws,

Capt. Armstrong has not yet returned from Washington City,



which is the cause of my making this communication

I am Sir very Respectfully

your Obt Servt.

John Stuart

Capt. 7<sup>th</sup> Inf.ty

C. A. Harris Esqr.

Commifsioner of Indian  
Affairs.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File S 1001-1235. Ft. Coffee. S 1001.  
In the first paragraph of this letter, immediately before the  
word Choctaw is a pencilled insertion, 177.)



Fort Smith 4 June 1838

Honb. C Harris

Comr. Indian Affairs

Dr Sir

This communication is made to you, with no wish to injure any one spoken of, nor do I entertain any hostile feelings towards any individual, but to the contrary am on terms of good fellowship with all alluded to, in this document - It is to correct evils which are springing up to an alarming extent, and to point errors, and corruption, and suggest a remedy, that induces me to write to you, I believe it your great wish to do justice towards those that it has pleased your country to place you over, if I did not so believe, you should not hear from me, but I would have made this communication direct to Congress, and there would have been Hutspsurs enough, to make long speeches, appoint Committees &c to have cost the country at least \$100.000. and no good perhaps resulting -

When the Creek Indians, removed to this region Sam<sup>l</sup> Mackey engaged to feed them, he was honest, and found he could not get through, he therefore gave up the contract, and relied on the govnt. to relieve him from his bond, which I hope they will, as it is but justice to him, - he turned over all the provisions on hand, at cost to Capt Stephenson, not attempting to speculate, on the govnt: had he done so, he could have saved himself and have made enough to discharge his bond to govnt. - Capt Stephenson for the govnt, then fed said Indians with their daily Rations, up to 1<sup>st</sup> April 1837. (Refer to the cost of feeding these Indians by Capt Stephenson and



he had it in his power to feed them as cheap as any set of contractors) from that period to the balance of their time agreed by the Govnt, to feed them, the contract was let to James Glasgow, James Harrison, Jas. S. Conway Gov.<sup>r</sup> of the State, Tho.<sup>s</sup> T. Tunstall, and James W. Breedlove Collector at N. Orleans, (I do not know that all these names are known to you in contract but these are the partners here) for  $9\frac{1}{2}$  cents per Ration as per contract It is this contract I intend to speak of and to inform you, how it was conducted, my information, Sir is founded on facts, nor need you be surprised that I was appointed one of the principal agents, together with M.<sup>r</sup> Sam.<sup>l</sup> Mackey the other agent for this Contract - but in no one instance did I give my sanction to the fraud and bribery that I will herewith disclose to you - There were at the 1.<sup>st</sup> Ap.<sup>l</sup> 37 about 16,200 Indians the Rations for one month would amo, to about \$44,000, the amo, rec.<sup>d</sup> by them, - Now let us see what it will cost to furnish this Ration - it will require 11,000 bu.<sup>s</sup> of Corn, and about 500,000 lbs beef per month, and Corn cost \$2 $\frac{1}{4}$  per bus, to put it at the different Depots, which would amo, to \$24,500. The beef ration cost  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lbs. which would be \$22,500 - Salt cost \$1000, per mo - expenses of hands, and agents \$2000 per month all amount to \$50,000. Now sir I know that this is under the amount which it cost the Contract to furnish one months Rations, provided justice had been done to the Indians - You see by this statment that a loss would be sustained by contract of Six Thousand dollars per Mo, - Now Sir this contract has made \$70,000 instead of loosing money Recollect that all the corn, and Cattle issued by this Contract, was brought from Mif-



souri and Illinois -

The question suggest's its self how then, have the Contract succeeded in, making money - I will explain to you as well as I can, for I am not gifted much, in making communications on paper - it is not my trade, but what I communicate I can prove by more than 20 respectable persons and for my own character I refer to the document presented in 36 by me to Sect.y Cass, recommending me in high terms, as a person qualified to fill a military station of importance in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Dragoons, You were then Chief Clerk of the War Department. There were three Depots, one 12 Miles from Ft. Gibson one 40 miles from s<sup>d</sup> place, on the North Fork of the Canadian and the other 10 mils from latter place in the Neighbourhood of Apoholytha's, at each of these Depots, Capt Stephenson had his ifsuing Comm<sup>ys</sup> stationed, they received \$66.2/3 per month, find themselves and their horses - they are generally men who follow on with the emigration, and have some squaw as a wife, men of no character, - beautiful subjects for the Contractors, to use and do their bidding, such men Sir, are the guardians of these unfortunate people and to see justice meeted out to them by the greedy, speculating Contractor - Capt Stephenson is not to blame for appointing such men, perhaps the govmt, does not allow him ~~him~~ to give higher wages than stated say \$66.2/3 per mo - and a man who had capacity and could not be bought would not sell his time for so small a consideration- Capt Stephenson never attended an ifssue during the whole contract, even had he been so disposed, his businefs at his office,



took all his time, he is a meritorious officer and deserves all the Confidence that the Department has so judiciously conferred upon him - But Sir, these comm<sup>y</sup>s is the men that the Contractors had to deal with and they were found to be willing subjects - One received a bribe of One Thousand dollars, the other two received \$500 each for their honour and the Contractor was allowed to make his ifsue as he pleased - The first of their ifsuing was made on the 5 of April for 10 days, the second on the 15 Apl to the 15 May then an ifsue was made to the 1<sup>st</sup> of June - They looked about them and found they must fail - No hope for them - what was to be done, - they had engaged a large number of cattle and a quantity of corn from Illinois, which would soon arrive - they would fail and make up their lofses in the way of their bond by Selling out their provisions to the govmt- for the Indians must be fed, and there would be no other supplies in the country but what they had - and we will yet make Money out of the Contract, and pay our bond of forfeiture to the govmt. (Say I think \$40,000) Sir, I was called in Council with these dark and desining men, and therefore am acquainted with all their secret springs, but thank God I never gave my sanction to any such rascally plans,- and told them that I could not be hired to do any of their dirty work - but to my disclosure - A Steam boat arrives; what loads Indian supplies, - She brings the Inteligence of a large supply of provisions being on their way to Fort Gibsone. for the Indians - there were many conjectures why and wherefore these <sup>supplies</sup> ~~Indians~~ were sent - but I fancied I saw through it - It broke up their plans, and then they set



about indeed, to fill their Contract for feeding the Indians, and the plans was devised and executed, as stated on the other side of this paper - Sandford the Creek Agent wrote you a devlish ugly letter about these provisions, which he red to me, and to every man woman or child that could understand, in this region - But Sir let me tell you it saved the govmt. \$500,000. for had the plans of the Contractors been executed, as devoloped above, it would have cost the govmt. \$1,200,000, to have supplied the Indians with rations - all the provisions would have been in the hands of the Contractors and the Indians must be fed - they would have had 25 Cents per Ration and there would be no alternative for the good Capt Stephenson, but to buy of them, - for the Indians must not starve - So sir your foresight have done much, if not prevented blood shed - for when men are starving they become desperate. I was once on the Pacific Ocean, with a party of 80 men from St Louis Mo, we were 5 days without provisions, and had no enemy to vent our spleen upon, the Stronger looked fierce upon the weaker, and nothing but a heart of a Lion, in the bosom of Man, a hand that never trembled, an eye that never quailed prevented a horrible deed - buchering ther fellow man for food - But ~~sir~~ I, am from the subject -

The 15 of June the Contractors made a beef ifsue of 4 Mos at one time, the Cattle was ifsued on foot and not slaughtered.- Stock Cattle Bulls, and Steers, these cattle the Indians received at 738.<sup>lbs</sup> each - the same cattle was averaged to the Contract from the Mifsouri Speculator at 425 lbs each



which was a big average - Cheating the Indians out of 313<sup>lbs</sup> on each head - more than 1/3 of their entire beef Ration - The Corn came in sacks, and was issued as the agent of the Contract saw fit - not one bushel was measured, no sir not a bushel, there was more than 1/3 of the corn Ration saved to the Contract - for Instance at the Depot at the North Fork, where the largest number of Indians was fed, it required 6,500 bus of Corn per month - and the issue at that point did not exceed 3500 bus per month - Cheating the Indians at this Depot 3000 bu<sup>s</sup> per month, the same course was pursued by all the Comm<sup>y</sup>s at the Different depots - I was stationed by the Contractors at Webbers falls, the nearest point to the Canadian Depot - and where all the Corn, was deposited, and received, for this Contract - I know every bushel that was issued, and all that was Received - and I pledge my life, for the trust of what I write - The next issue of beef was made about the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, to the expiration of their time, say some time in December last - and the average of the same Cattle (those received from Mifsouri) was still greater than the first big issue, they were issued to the Indians at 780<sup>lbs</sup> each - they were paid for by the Contract as before stated at 425<sup>lbs</sup> - the Corn issue was made to the 15 September in the way before stated - from that time until the Contract expired for those Indians that were here (the Creek Warriors having not yet arrived) their Corn Ration was purchased by the Contractors say about 40,000 bus. at 50¢. per bus, in specie - which closed this Contract - Capt Stephenson offered this measure, and gave his Com<sup>y</sup>s. positive



orders, that such an arrangement should not be made, - but he was overruled. by the Indians who represented a favourable Crop of Corn, also the Commys. Confirming said report - Now Sir I know that there was not 40,000 bus of Corn made in the whole Creek nation old and new emigrants all put together the New C-emigration did not get to their new homes time enough to build houses, make fence, clear ground, and make a crop, except in a few cases - What then Sir, is not the situation of these Indians, that have been supplied by, this Contract; out of the 16,200 persons, not one half of them have a mouthful of provisions, and are entire destitute, you may anticipate the result - The \$20,000 paid by the Contractors to the Indians for their Corn Ration enabled them to buy that amount of Whiskey Sir, I have seen 2000, Indians drunk at the North fork of the Canadian, or Canadian Depot in one day, this the Contractors had nothing to do with, but sir to my knowledge last year there were more than 400 barrels of whiskey sold - at this point - Oh! the Misery and wretchedness, that presents its self, to ones views in going among these people the fell destroyer death, last year visited nearly every house, and Sir I have witnessed entire families prostrate with sickness, not one able to give help to the other, - and these poor people, was made, instruments of enriching a few unprincipled and wicked Contractors - And yet the world will Call these men honest. -

The Chickasaws and the balance of the Creeks, are fed, by the same Contractors or a part of them say Jas Glasgow, Harrison and your old friend Sam<sup>l</sup> Mackey - Gov<sup>r</sup> Conway having sold out his interest to Mackey - Cant' doubt but what the same



course is pursued as Stated to you, in the other Contract - I do not doubt it, but I do not know it - But the same arrangements are pursued by the govmts, in the way of appoint their Com.y.s and so long as that is the case there will be Bribery enough - The Cherokees are expected here this year, most of them will be fed by the govmt. for the sum allowed them for a years Supply is not Sufficient and they will prefer to be fed - the Seminoles will also be here or a part of them, if there is not a different course pursued by your department I tell you that by Sept<sup>r</sup>. 1839 there will be 15,000 people without provisions and the contractors will be enriched by their arrangements - Sir I will give you my views, and you can take them for what they are worth, or you may not take them for any thing, worth attending to - it is all very much the same thing to me, but sir my position and intimate knowledge with Indians and Indian <sup>of</sup> character have put me in possession ~~with~~ facts that perhaps few/ individuals in this region are in this region acquainted with - and it is my wish to avert these things that these facts are disclosed - Justice can be done to the Indians, if you would appoint some man (none of your milk and Cider city ruffle shirt men) to superintend all issues made to these people, he might arrange his issues days so as to be at all the different issues for one nation of people. Let him be paid well, let him be a man, that has no price for his honor, but is above price, (these Contractors give their general agents from \$5. to \$10 per day - are the govmt. less able to pay than these Speculators - there are such men here, men who can attend to all the duties assigned them, and see



that things are done wright - Let these men report to the agent of govmt at Ft Gibson, or any other point he may be Stationed, and let him report to his Superiors the number of Rations &<sup>c</sup> &<sup>c</sup> - Let no issue be made for more than one month at a time,- for they will sell and waist much when such issues are made - for whiskey they will take the bread from their children to supply their everlasting thirst -

If you adopt this course perhaps you may avert an evil which is gathering in this Horizan, which will burst over a frontier people, with ten fold vengeance, more severe than any thing in the annals of Indian warefare

Why should these people remain quit on your border, have they done so when they were surrounded by a white population No; they have sworn their teeth - and some of them have bit badly - will they not in a few years be better able to go to war and present a stronger front, than they ever have been, have they not a Country of a thousand miles in extent to the Rocky Mountains whare they can retreat if they are hard pushed, Can you Chastize them in this vast region, if they were driven to extremities. No, Sir never

Turn your eyes to Florida Sir, what has been the cause of this war; Why brought about' You must answer injustice they wished to remain near the bones of their farthers, - and you said it should not be - They have cost the govmt. I am told \$15,000,000, your armies have been defeated, many of your best officers have found a bloody grave - and yet they are not conquered - Can you picture to your minds eye, the carnage and blood shed, the murder and repine, that would follow, should



these Indians take up the Rifle and Sound the tossin of war, and why should they not, they are the same Indians - and you have placed them in a better position to defend, - than they have ever been before - Beware then of the result - Let us have justice on our side; do what you can to correct the evils - I have pointed out to you, and should you get in a fight you can go into it with clear hands - you are a man of too much good mind to let what I have wrote fall to the gourd - should the Sup<sup>rtd</sup> of Indian Affairs (Capt Armstrong) be at Washington when you receive this', ask him such questions as this Letter may suggest to<sup>your mind.</sup> - he is too honest a man to equivocate and will tell, that the facts here stated is true to the very letter as he believes - Yet he could not apply a Corective for he is but one man and his Constitution would not permit him, even if it was a part of his duty which I believe is not - to attend the ifsuing Depots, where these rascally and unheard of proceeding, have been practiced as stated -

A few more remarks and I am done, make no fufs about what I have here wrote you, what is pafsed cant' be bettered, it is what is to Come, that I wish you to look to - if you want proof of what I have here wrote, it is at hand, - and I had a great mind to make this Cummmunication direct to Congrefs - but on reflection concluded I would not, as I did not wish to hear endlefs speeches, made on a subject that can be corrected by other means - I have put you in pofsefsion of facts, uncontrovertible, act,- Yes Sir act - Correct them it can be done - and it is with M<sup>r</sup> Sect<sup>y</sup> Poinsett and you to apply the Corrective - Instead of having 3 or four these unprincipled Com.ifs employed at \$66.2/3 per Month, give some honest industrious man a good price, and he will put things in order - and defeat



the plans of these keen sighted and money making Contractors and make them do justice to the Indian - If you make inquiry if these Contractors are honest men you will be told they are honest men, and that they may consider the Indian fair game to practice on - Honesty, like many other terms used in this great world, is more talked of than practised or felt - It is a Commendation all are ambitious to possess - but few desirous to deserve - There's many a one is called an honest man, who nothing knows of honey's inherent quality, except that he pays his debts when they are due. Yet taken in the abstract that is no absolute test of honesty - One man will pay his debts because he needs more Credit, another, because he does not love the torment of much importunity and so on to the end of the Chapter - but Sir, - the arch Contractor who conducted this business, was James Harrison, and what I have submitted to you, will not prove him honest - though all the world to the contrary

I am done --

A. J. Raines

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File R269-289. Ft. Smith. R-269.)



Fort Coffee

9<sup>h</sup> June 1838

Sir

In compliance with instructions received from General M Arbuckle, commending the 2<sup>d</sup> Dep. Western Division dates 30<sup>th</sup> May to require me if possible to ascertain the feelings of the Indians in this quarter, in relation to Texas, and Mexico. I feel it to be my duty to make to you for the information of the War Department, the following communication.

In traveling in the Cherokee Nation for two days, in order to ascertain whether or not, the Indians in this vicinity have any idea of joining the Mexicans in a war against Texas, and having conversed with many of the principal men of the neighborhood, who have visited this part, I have found to my satisfaction that none of those residing near this place entertain any such idea, and but very few of them, have ever heard the subject mentioned, and when it has been spoken of, it has been in connection with a portion of the Creeks, who are in a very suffering condition, from poverty, and want of provisions, and who cannot raise a crop this year for the want of tools to work their land with. That portion of the Creeks, it is supposed, would join Mexico, or would resort to any other expedient by which to be enabled to gain a subsistence. That portion of the nation Creeks however does not, from the best information that I have been able to collect, amount <sup>to</sup> one-third of the nation, and are generally of the number who were



robed by the speculators east of the Mifsissippi, The remaining portion of the nation are said to be strongly inclined to be at peace, but some of them complain loudly the want of farming utensils.

The most intelligent portion of the Cherokees appear to be well contented, manifesting but little show of dissatisfaction on any subject. Their greatest complaints are against the 20<sup>th</sup> Section of the "intercourse law" which places restrictions on the whiskey trade in the Indian country. They say that the law is oppressive, and restricts their liberties as free citizens (as many of them call themselves, and which appellation many of them from their civilized habits deserve to bare,) They say that the "whiskey law" is worse than uselefs as it cannot be inforced, to much extent, particularly as the Indians that wish to introduce spirits have all of the white men on the line, from Red river to Missouri - to help them, which is as true as holy writ, for all who have whiskey will sell it to the Indians, and those who have not got the article, will not attempt to prevent the sale of it by others. The lefs civilized of the Indians also complain of the unequal opperations of the "whiskey law", particularly as it often happens, that one man will have a keg or barrel of whiskey taken from him by the soldiers, where twenty others, on other roads and routs, will escape observation or detection. This oftin produces more dissatisfaction than if all were to share the same fate,



as the unfortunate are apt to believe that they were particularly singled out, and their property taken, from some feeling of malice. The Cherokees introduce larger quantities of whiskey into their country, from being more able to transport it, than other Indians, a part of which is sold to the Creeks, but there is less drunkenness among them, than there is among any other Indian tribe on this frontier, they often keep spirits in their houses in small quantities, and drink as white people do,

The number of whiskey shops now on the western border of the State of Arkansas, according to the best information that I can collect, must amount to not less than fifty, and possibly to seventy. The people of that state sell whiskey to the Indians of all classes, and grades, and when some of the most savage of them become riotous at ever so great a distance off, the whites pretend to be awfully alarmed for their own safety,

An other matter which has produced much uneasiness among the Cherokees of this part of the country, is, that a report is in circulation among them, and believed by many of the ignorant Indians. That Ridge and Boudenot, have an idea of selling a party of the country. to the United States, to be annexed to Arkansas, and that Ridge has actually gone to Washington City for the purpose of making the sale. In event that this report be true, or even that Ridge has made a proposition of the kind to the U. S. The Cherokees will kill <sup>him</sup>, and Boudenot both, and all other in-



dividuals connected with them, that they may find in the Nation, and it is to be presumed that no honest man could blame them for so doing - I do not think that it is the intention of this part of the Cherokee Nation to molest either of those men, for what is known to have passed, but only in event of their doing, what I presume there is no probability that they will attempt. I have thus, far and will continue to do all in my power to remove those erroneous impressions of any attempt being about to be made by any one, to sell their country. They say that they have moved once, and some of them twice, to accommodate the United States, and that too, at great sacrifice of property and comfort to themselves and families, and that they will never again remove, They also say that they will resist with arms, any attempt that may ever hereafter be made to remove them, let the attempt be made in whatever quarter it may, I think that so far as I have been able to see and converse with them on this subject, I have removed the erroneous impression of any one offering to sell their country

A similar uneasiness exists among the Choctaws, arising from reports of a similar kind, which have circulated among them, but the return of their delegation from the City of Washington, will set at rest their fears in part, and would do it entirely, but for the people of the western part of Arkansas, too frequently expressing opinions that they will eventually gain possession of a part of the Cherokee and Choctaw Nation. This kind of talk however, it is believed the Indians will soon learn to consider not worth listening to, but at present it is a very sore subject - to them.



It is not my opinion that any of the Cherokees or Choctaws in this quarter, have the very most distant idea of joining the Mexicans in a war against Texas, Neither do any portion of either of those tribes, none in this country, contemplate any kind of hostility to the United States. They are sometimes heard to make complaints against the government of the U. S., on various accounts, as the people of the States, or territories, would complain against the acts of the General Government, but their complaints are not made in any thing like a war spirit, which any man of common sence can plainly see, but which corrupt men, or those unacquainted with Indians, too often constrew into such a spirit.

The Cherokees on the Arkansas as well as any other man, both white and Red, that ever I have heared exprefs an opinion in relation to the treaty made with a part of this nation, by the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Schermerhorn, considers it to have been made improperly, to say the very least, that can be said of it, and many of the Indians declaim very strongly against it, and desire an alteration of some parts of it; Notwithstanding that however, the people of the part of the nation, most contiguous to this place, or so far as my acquaintince extends, appear anxious for their friends east of the Mifsifsippi to move to this country. Some of those who have no relatives in the east, pretent to be opposed to the eastern Cherokees coming into this part of the Nation, but when a party arrives they seem invariably



to be kindly received by all, The reason of this strange slight objection to the removal, is that the ignorant Cherokees in this country, seem to think that the land in this quarter, belongs to the portion of the nation residing now on it, and that either the eastern Cherokees, or the United States, ought to pay them something for the privilege of settling in their country. This misunderstanding has arisen from the connection existing between the two parties, having not been sufficiently explained in their different treaties, or not verbally explained by those persons who have held treaties with them. The eastern Cherokees however will in my opinion be kindly received here whenever they arrive.

A very unfortunate occurrence took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> Instant, at Van Buren, a small village on the Arkansas river, about five miles below Fort Smith, which I consider it to be my duty to inform you of. A court was in session which drew to that place, an unusually great number of people. The Steam-boat Fox bound to Fort Gibson, with two of the Creek deligation on board (Roley M<sup>c</sup>Intoish and Derrisaw), on their return from Washington City, with two other individuals (John M<sup>c</sup>Intoish, and Cozens, his brother-in Law.) The boat tucthed at the landing, when the Chief M<sup>c</sup>Intoish and his party went on the shoar, soon the party was surrounded by a number of men, at the head of which, was a man who claims considerable respectability in the place, who told the Chief and his party that, in consequence of reports



which had been recieved there, from the Creek Nation, he had been directed by the court to arrest them and hold them as hostages, The Creeks who had not had the very least suspicion, that any thing improper was in contemplation by their people, were greatly surprised at this strange and unauthorized course, and remained for a time in a very unpleasant state of suspense, when M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson one of the sutlars, at Fort Gibson, who was directly from this place, and who knew the charge of hostility on the part of the Creeks to be entierly false, went forward and released the Chief and his party from any further molestation.

The man who attempted this unfortunate and unlawful act towards the unoffending Creeks, (It is said) was at the time, somewhat intoxicated. If the Creeks had have been confined, or arrested in a manner to justify a prosecution against the individuals who made the threats against them, I would have done every thing in my power to have had the offenders prosecuted to the fullest extent, but no one laid hands upon any one of the party, neither was any attempt made to move them by force,

The Creeks come immediately to this place, and staid with me two nights, and a day, I done evry thing in my power to allay their irritated feelings, and strongly indulge the hope, that I succeeded - I told them that it was entierly to be attributed to drunkenefs, and that they must therefore not consider the act, as being sanctioned by the good people of the country, who have too much sence to suppose for a moment,



that there was any danger to be apprehended from the Creeks.

One reason why this late unfortunate affair should be most particularly regretted, is that all of those Indians, were of the McIntosh party of the Creek Nation, who have been invariably friendly to the people of the United States, ever since the war of 1813, and took a very active part in that war, even against the mass of the people of their own nation, and that party have been at all times ready to die in forwarding the views of the government of the United States, in all matters connected with their own nation,

I am Sir very Respectfully

your Obt Servt.

John Stuart

Cap.t 7<sup>th</sup> Inf<sup>y</sup>

General R. Jones

Adgt. Gen<sup>l</sup> U. S. Army

(OIA: Western Supt'y File S 1067 W 486. Ft. Coffee. 1838. S-1067.)



Head Qr<sup>s</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup> Dept Western Division

Fort Gibson June 19<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir

I had the honor on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst to address a communication to you in relation to a meeting at this post, between McIntosh, and his Chiefs, or the Chiefs of the Lower Creeks, and Micanopy and the Seminole Chiefs that had arrived here; Since then I have had an opportunity of meeting with several of the Principal Chiefs of the Cherokee Nation, and from their declarations, I have no doubt that they are firmly disposed to continue at peace, and that they will do all they can to insure its continuance, still it is certainly true that there is much ill will felt by many of the young men of these nations to the United States, or to our citizens, and to these may be added the greater portion of those that are very poor, and there are many in that situation in each of the nations referred to, particularly among the Creeks - Therefore there is no positive certainty that peace will be maintained between the United States and these nations for a great length of time, or for any certain period, Yet it is not probable that any serious difficulty will take place in this quarter - until after all the Cherokees arrive in this Country, and (it is believed) not then, if Treaty Stipulations are regularly, and fully complied with, and the tribes in this vicinity are satisfied that our Government feels a proper interest in their welfare. To effect this very desirable object, I am of the opinion that Indian Agents should for several years, be required to make at least two visits a year, to the settlements of Indians under their



charge, with the object of encouraging them to cultivate the soil, and to ascertain what assistance the poor class actually require to enable them to live, and on proper occasions to solicit the Government to furnish them with a few stock animals, spinning wheels, Looms, and farming utensils. - Attention of this kind is absolutely necessary to prevent the poor of the Creek Nation, and perhaps of other tribes in this vicinity from becoming very wretched in their circumstances as they cannot at present obtain furs, or deer skins sufficient to enable them to provide themselves, and families with clothing

I am decidedly of the opinion that the public good requires that a position, at, or near Fort Smith should be occupied, at as early a period as possible and that temporary magazines, and store houses be constructed there, and picketed in (if necessary until a more permanent work is completed) for the protection of Ordnance & Ordnance Stores (now at Fort Coffee) intended for the Militia of Arkansas

This is deemed necessary as Fort Coffee could not, if closely besieged hold out long, from the fact that there is no water to be obtained within the pickets for the use of the garrison

This communication has (perhaps) already referred to too many subjects, Yet as they all relate to the preservation of peace, on this Frontier I regard it proper to further suggest for the consideration and decision of the Government, the propriety of the Comdg officer of this Department being authorised to call into the Service of the United States



(when he is assured that a considerable portion of one, or more Indian tribes have determined to make war on our inhabitants) the number of Companies, Regiments, or Brigades (from such portion of the Indians as remain firm in their attachments to our Government) as circumstances may require - Such authority it is believed would be of very great service if discreetly exercised, as it would secure the continuance of Friendship with that portion of the Indians desirous of peace, and would probably overaw the discontented and prevent them from resorting to acts of hostility - It is not to be understood that the authority above asked for, is to be used or spoken of except in the Contingency stated

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

You obt servt

M. Arbuckle

Brev.<sup>t</sup> Brigd.<sup>r</sup> Gen.<sup>l</sup> U.S.A

To Brg Gen R Jones

Adjt Gen

Washington

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A14-13 (suppl.) Ft. Gibson. 1838. A-14.)



St. Louis 23 June 1838

"I pafsed entirely through the country set aside for the Cherokees, Creeks & Seminoles - The Country of the first, is a delightful country, & well adapted for a people, who follow grazing. The Country of the two latter, is beautiful to look at, being interspersed with timber, hills & valleys in fair proportion, but it is wretchedly watered, which will be a serious obstacle to the settlement or improvement of it by the Indians - Upon the Rivers it is exceedingly unhealthy - I was told by good authority, that at least 3000 Creeks died last year from fever & other causes - whole villages were depopulated - A few seasons like the past, & we need apprehend no difficulty with the Creeks. In addition to the diseases incident to a change of climate, there will in all probability be the Small pox this summer, as it was amongst the Choctaws & Chickasaws on Red River & who are immediately South of them. Their Country is now entirely destitute of game. In addition to all other evils, I never witnessed as much drunkenness & moral debasement of every kind. My opinion is, if they had any other country to emigrate to, where they could be rid of our Government, that they would abandon all. But not without having first laid waste our entire frontier. I would not be afraid to hazard any thing that before 12 months, if some active measures are not taken, the whole S. W. frontier will have been laid waste or made the Theatre of an exterminating & bloody Indian War. The persons, however residing on the frontier, who should certainly know



better than myself appear to be tranquil & apprehend no difficulties."

(Western Supt'y File E171. Engineer Department, 7/12, 1838. Submit extract of a letter dated St. Louis 6/23/1838 from a gentleman of much observation and well acquainted with the Indians, etc. No mention of name of writer.)



## Choctaw Agency

June 26<sup>th</sup> 1838.

C. A Harris Esqr

Com<sup>r</sup> Ind Affairs

Sir

I recieved some time since from the Dept<sup>t</sup>, a copy of the Bill reported to the House of Representatives at the last Session of Congress, for the government of the Western Territory, which I enclosed to Gen<sup>l</sup> Sanford with a request, that when the provisions were explained by him to the Creeks to hand it to Gov<sup>r</sup> Stokes for the Cherokees, when after being laid before them, to be returned to me, as it was an only copy, which I designed laying before the Choctaws. I however, did not receive it, and was unable to lay it before the Choctaw Chiefs. Upon several occasions, however, I explained it to the leading men of the nation; and endeavored to remove the objections which they entertained to the Bill. In this I did not succeed, and I regret to say that the nation will with great unanimity oppose it, except that part which gives them a delegate in Congress. The National Council of the Cherokees have decided against the bill, and in a conversation lately held with John Brown, one of the Cherokee Chiefs, he became quite excited when the subject was mentioned to him. I have not had a report from Genl Sanford, but in a conversation with him upon the subject, I understood him to say that the Creeks had made no decision.

The other small tribes within this Superintendency have not been consulted upon the subject, as they for some time back, have been without an Agent.



I was not aware of the feelings of the Cherokees and Choctaws to the Bill, until the subject was introduced to them, I was in hopes that when they should calmly review the provisions of the bill, they would have felt differently. Expecting to be in Washington the latter part of March, with a small delegation of Choctaws and Creeks, and if the application of the Cherokees shall meet the sanction of the Dept, with them also, an opportunity will then offer to explain more fully the bill and its beneficial results to the different delegations

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt West. TerY

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A320-322. Choctaw Agency. 1838. A-320.)



Washington City

14<sup>th</sup> July 1838

Sir

You having allowed me to paruse a communication over the signature of A. J. Rains written at Fort Gibson; in which the conduct & character of Glasgow, Harrison, Tunstall Breedlove & myself are spoken of as contractors to supply Indian rations with no little severity. I deem it my duty to all conserved to say to you that M<sup>r</sup> Rains is a man without character & I believe that all the material complaints are without foundation. He acted for some months as Agent for the company & M<sup>r</sup> Harrison informed me that he found Rains so great a "scamp" that it was a discredit to the company to retain such a man as an Agent. Consequently he was discharged - & this I have no doubt is the head & front of our improper conduct.

I am very respectfully

your ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

J. S. Conway

C. A. Harris Esqr

Com<sup>r</sup> Indian Affairs

Present.

P. S

Should you receive such charges from a respectable source, the matter should without doubt be examined into.

J. S. C.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 737. Washington.)



Fort Gibson 25<sup>t</sup> July 1838

Sir

I herewith enclose my Quarterly Return of Property for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 1838, on an examination of Voucher No 7 to this Return you will find I have ifsued no Blankets to the Seminoles, the reason of this is owing to the fact that during the last year I found it necefsary to ifsue the Seminole Blankets to the Creek Emigrants. - This fact I reported at the time - The destitute situation of the Seminoles is such that Blankets should be furnished them before the approaching winter

Very Respectfully

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

Ja<sup>s</sup> R. Stephenson

Capt. U. S. Army

Disbg. Agt. Ind. Dept.

C. A Harris Esqr

Washington D. C.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File S1101-1114-1201. Ft. Gibson. 1838. S-1101.)



Fort Smith 27 July 1838

Hon<sup>l</sup> J. Poinsett

Secty at War

Sir

About the 1<sup>st</sup> of June I addresed a Communication to M<sup>r</sup> C A. Harris Comr. Indian Affairs, giving him a full detail hōw things have been conducted on this frontier, for the last year - how the Creek Indians have been Cheated by the greedy Contractors of more than 1/3 of their Ration much to the prejudice of the U. S- &C &C Has he submitted my letter on these subjects to you, if he had not, call for it, and read it attentively, it will lay open to you a course of fraud and bribery unparelled in the history of this frontier - It will explain to you some of the causes of the many Complaints deep and long of these Indians

From your high Station in the councils of our Country, and your late humane policy recommended towards the Cherokees, and your gret wish that justice in all cases should be meated out to these our red people, I appeal to you to correct the evils pointed out by me to M<sup>r</sup> Harris - I am not disposed to bring this matter before Congrefs, unlefs you treat my communication with silence, in that case I will be heard and have this matter investigated by the peoples Representatives -

I do not wish you to take my word for what I have wrote, - I have proof, witnefse's whoes word cant' be doubted - Have the matter therefore investigated, and do not pay any more money to these Contractors, until they can clear themselves against of the charges against them -



Gen<sup>l</sup> Arbuckle Capt. W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong and Capt Bonneville if they were appointed to examine into this matter would do justice to all concerned -

I should like to know if my communications have been received

Respy

Austin J. Raines

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File R269-289. Ft.Smith. R-289.)



Head Qr§. 2<sup>d</sup> Dept Western Division

Fort Gibson Aug 3<sup>d</sup> 1838

Sir

I had the honor to make a communication to your office on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June (last) on the subject of our Indian relations on this Frontier, and it now affords me much pleasure to believe, that the Cherokees who were more unfriendly in their feelings (as I judge) than any Tribe in this vicinity to the United States, have become more satisfied, since they have heard of the late acts of our Government in favour of their Nation, and of the probability of their people being removed without a resort (on our part) to acts of violence against them. Yet there is much ill will between the Ross and Ridge parties, which may lead to acts of violence between them.

The Cherokees (some time since) invited the principal men of the Tribes near to this, to meet them in the next month at a place selected to their new Council-House (about fifteen miles North East from this post.) and it is not improbable that the result of the proposed meeting may have some influence on their - future conduct, not that I believe any determination to go to war will then be decided on, as I do not doubt that the principal Chiefs, and wealthy men, of <sup>all</sup> the Tribes in this vicinity, are, and probably will continue to be opposed to such a measure, Yet Indian Wars have not heretofore resulted in consequence of a formal declaration on the part of any Tribe, or have they in many cases been encouraged by Indians of wealth-



I have understood that the Government has determined on satisfying the Creeks for their losses before they left their former Country, and on their journey hither- Should this be true, I have no doubt, that Tribe generally will be fully satisfied with the United States. The Choctaws are Chickasaws will continue to be friendly to our Government without some change that cannot be anticipated at present

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

M. Arbuckle

Brev<sup>t</sup> Brigd<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> U.S.A

To,

Brig Gen R Jones

Adj<sup>t</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup>.

Washington City

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A14-13. Ft: Gibson. 1838. A-13.)



Fort Gibson 8<sup>th</sup> August 1838

Sir,

I herewith enclose two Muster Rolls, one of the Seminole Indians, and the other Seminole Indian Slaves turned over to me at this place on the 5<sup>th</sup> inst. Statements of Letters received and written in the month of July 1838 and statements of moneys on hand and received on account of Cherokee and Creek Remv<sup>l</sup> & Sub<sup>s</sup>. I have a Muster Roll practiclly completed of Cherokees who have emigrated under the provisions of the last Treaty, previous to those entered in the Muster Roll turned over to me by Lieut. Deas on the 23<sup>d</sup> June; so soon as it can be completed I will forward it.

A party of 349 Seminoles was turned over to me at this place by Capt. Morrison on the 28<sup>th</sup> June - a correct re-muster was made on their arrival containing the necessary remarks which was signed by me and delivered to Capt. M., a copy of this Roll supposed to be correct was left with me, and it was not discovered to be incorrect until after the departure of Capt. M. from this place. I have written to him for an exact copy of the Roll he has, and so soon as I receive it, I will transmits it to you - The exact number of Emigrants, I have on my Rolls, so that in the issue of Provisions or Presents no mistake can be made.

Very Respectfully

Yr. obt. Svt.

To

Ja<sup>s</sup> R. Stephenson

C. A. Harris Esq

Capt. U. S. Army

Com. of Indian Affairs

Disbg. Agt. Ind. Dept.

Washington D. C.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File S 1101-1114-1201. Ft. Gibson. 1838. S-1114.)



Little Rock Ark

August 16<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 30<sup>th</sup> July (rec'd on the 15<sup>th</sup> inst) appointing Tho<sup>s</sup> J Pew & Hedgeman Triplette Esqr<sup>s</sup> to be issuing Agent. under the act of 7<sup>th</sup> July '38 for temporarily subsisting Indigent Indians West -

Further appointments of subsistence agents, will I presume be unnecessary -

I have also to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of July 28<sup>th</sup> (rec'd this day) covering copies of the regulations for carrying said act into effect.

I have, for the purpose of fulfilling these instructions, and carrying into effect the spirit of the act and the benevolent views of the Department - written to Capt W<sup>m</sup>. Armstrong Act<sup>s</sup> Sup<sup>t</sup> West<sup>n</sup> Supt<sup>y</sup> - requesting him to suggest to the agents and sub-agents within his jurisdiction the adoption of such measures as his long experience and intimate knowledge of the true situations of the Indians, may deem proper - so that imposition may be avoided - and justice done -

I have also suggested to him - and would now beg leave to submit for your consideration and decision - whether the party of Choctaws that emigrated this spring under Maj Stuart, in a very destitute and wretched situation - and for whose subsistence no provision was made by the Dept. are to be considered as coming under the provisions of this law? These indians are now being subsisted by Mess Glasgow & Harrison, by directions



of Capt Armstrong and myself - In fact they have nearly received their years supply of sub<sup>e</sup> and the question would rather be - whether the Con<sup>f</sup> shall be paid from this appropriation or from the funds in my hands. applicable to the Rem<sup>l</sup> & Sub<sup>e</sup> of the Choctaws - It will be remembered that these indians, by their delay in emigrating had forfeited their right to the years supply of sub<sup>e</sup> from the Government -

Col Logan, Creek Agent, has been requested to enroll such of the Creeks and Seminoles, as, from causes specified in the regulations (copies of which have been furnished him) will be entitled to the benefits of the act - He will be assisted by Capt Stephenson -

Mr Harris, Special agent for the Osages, has been instructed to enroll ~~such~~ those families and individuals, belonging to that tribe, that he knows, from unavoidable circumstances, are entitled to the benefits of the act - and will be really benefitted thereby - Believing that he (Mr H) will have a very difficult and arduous task to perform - and as it will be necessary to send his instructions from Fort Gibson to the Osage Agency, by express, I have requested Capt Stephenson, to employ a competent person of character and business habits for that purpose, so that he may remain with Mr Harris, (if thought necessary by that gentleman) and assist him in discharging this duty.

Mr Calloway, sub agent for the Neosho District - has been written to for the purpose of ascertaining the actual situation of the Quapaw Indians - the probability of their removing to their own lands this fall - and their means of sub<sup>e</sup> provided they do remove -



From the last report received in this office it appears that this tribe are in an unsettled and very indigent state - When they were removed to their present location the country was unsurveyed - it was however supposed by the Agent who removed there - Col Rector - that they were upon their own grounds - Under this impression they were suffered to remain - open their fields, build their houses &c - and under this impression they received their years supply of Sub<sup>e</sup> from the United States - The lines have since been run and it is ascertained that they are upon the lands of the Senecas, Senecas & Shawnees - Several attempts have been made by the tribes concerned, to adjust the bounds of their country, so that the Quapaws can remain where they now are - There is not however the least probability of their succeeding - nor can I believe that any such arrangement would be sanctioned by the Gov't - As an excuse for not removing, the Quapaws plead their extreme poverty, and utter inability to subsist themselves, during the period that will be necessary to build their houses and open their fields for cultivation - and on the other hand, they excuse their present idle and vicious course by saying that they are not upon their own lands, altho' where Government placed them; and if ever so industrious, they may be driven off at any moment, and thus lose the fruits of their labor. Under these circumstances as it appears to me that these indians would come under the act - provided - they should remove immediately - Mr Calloway has been cautioned not to make any promises to the Quapaws, but simply to ascertain upon his own responsibility, their disposition to remove, pro-



vided they can be assured of the means of subsistence -

I would observe that the Quapaws possess the means of transporting themselves - and their removal could be conducted by their Agent and farmer, without expense to Govt -

The matter is respectfully submitted for your consideration.

I am Sir

very respectfully

yr mo obt Srt.

R. D C. Collins Capt U.S.A

Prin Mil Dis Ag<sup>t</sup>. In. Dpt

C. A. Harris, Esqr.

Com<sup>r</sup> Ind Affs.

Washington City.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 790. Little Rock.)



Westport, Jackson County, Missouri

Aug. 21. 1838.

Hon. C. A. Harris

Commfr. Ind. Affrs.

Sir

I wrote you a few days since respecting a general Council of the tribes called by the Cherokees.

The Delawares & Shawanoes who were in the Florida Campaign, are, I am informed, somewhat uneasy about their pay. Fearing that some mischievous Indians at the Council might take advantage of this circumstance and corrupt the minds of the Delawares & Shawanoes, I would respectfully suggest the propriety of directing payment to be made as soon as practicable. I am aware that there has been no improper delay on the part of the Dept. and I mention the circumstance for no other reason than that assigned above.

An impression pretty generally prevails among the Indians in this quarter that some unfriendly design exists in the south. I shall take measures by which to ascertain all that will be said and done at the Council, and shall respectfully ask leave to communicate to you information of every thing of interest.

With great respect

Sir

Your Obt. Servt

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

(OIA: Ft. Leavenworth File M456. Westport. 1838.)



Copy

Lima August 21<sup>st</sup>. 1838. On Red River

Texas. 25 Miles East from False Washita

M<sup>r</sup>. Doak

Dear Sir

I send you by the bearer the following intelligence which I hope you will have communicated to Co<sup>l</sup> Vase without loss of time.

There is at this time on the head waters of the River Trinity, and West of said river, and on the Sabine both North and South, various tribes of Indians and Mexican Officers prepared for battle, and may now be committing hostilities, the Delewares are crossing Red River, and it is believed to join the other tribes. Mexico has had her Officers since May last in actual service in buying over the Indians both of Texas and the United States and they have succeeded. Numbers of Cherokees have crossed Red River, and have formed a rendezvous at the Cherokee Town on the Sabine. You may look for one general blow to be struck that will lay waste over the country from Nacogdoches to Fort Gibson unless an army of men be in readiness on our frontier immediately. I have just finished making a curtailed translation of a Mexican Journal of one of the Officers who was killed by one of our Young Men who had been taken prisoner at the Caddo Village, and the Spanish Officer wishing a pilot to go to the Delaware Indians in order to bring them into the campaign immediately thought it likely that by a reward to this Young Man (who by the by was also a Mexican who had been taken during the last Mexican war) could obtain him as a pilot and an interpreter, to which the friendly Mexican agreed, and on the way to Red River said pilot (whose name is Alexander Peneda and has lived in this neighbourhood this last



Eighteen Months) killed said Officer by shooting him and has brought as proof the Officers Mule Saddle and rigging his Sword and Apulets and gun, and also his books and papers and a copy of a letter from Gen<sup>l</sup> Filasola who is now at the head of an Army in Texas. also the Journal of said Officer in which are shown to us plainly, not only that the Indians are in motion but that a whole Mexican Army are laying waste to the Country in which they may be at present, and also gives many of the present movements of the various Officers and Indians, too lengthly to give you at present, but I send you a copy of the Journal to the Co.<sup>l</sup> which I hope he will consider upon immediately and return us an answer

Yours &C

(Signed) A. S. Wright

N. B.

I had to translate the Journal in a hurry, and it was written in pencil, was dim and difficult, but though I have curtailed, I have given the sum and substance. Errors excepted.

A. S. W.

We do hereby certify that the above statement is correct and are willing to be qualified on oath to the same

(Signed) Daniel Montague  
Seth Parker  
Asa Hartfield

N. B. D Montague is Co<sup>l</sup> of the Militia and Surveyor General Seth Parker is Deputy Surveyor of this County (Farming) Asa Hartfield farmer

(Signed) A. S. Wright



It is the wish of the people here that so much of this as may be thought proper may be incerted in one of the Arkansas papers. I wight you as I am somewhat acquainted with you and not acquainted with the Co.<sup>l</sup>

(Signed) A. S Wright

I have just read a letter in Spanish from General Filisola In the which the General gives his orders to his Officers that are among the Indians, he orders them to offer the Country entirely to the Indians, and those who partake in the War, and all goods chattles &C. taken to be held on reserve, and plasure, on deposit to be equally divided at the close of the War. That no time is to be lost, to have various extraordinary posts for quick communication to him. That he may send a double force to the weakest part, to, stop at nothing to make One general rush, and conclude the War at one blow, he does not care in what way, to save the families and Children as hostages for the Government, to dispose of at the end of the War.

(Signed) A. S. Wright

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A455 Choctaw Agy. (A455))



Head Quarters 2<sup>d</sup> Dept. W. Division  
Fort Gibson, Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir,

I am thankfull to you for your letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult. and the papers accompanying it, which were received by the last mail.

I regret that I am not at present prepared to furnish you with any material information in relation to the best manner of affording relief to the most needy of the Creeks and Osages. The sum appropriated in part for the benefit of these Tribes will do much good if justly employed, and will assist the Osages, (on the Cherokee land) to remove to their own reserve, (if it can be so used. The Osages referred to, ought certainly to remove within the present year, from the Cherokee country, and some means should be taken to pay for the property they have stolen from the Creeks, Cherokees and others, during the last seven years.

It is probable that in justice, some of the Cherokee emigrants, who have arrived here this summer, and have received money in lieu of rations ought to receive some benefit from the fund intended for the benefit of indigent Indians, as the Crop in this country is very indifferent and provisions of every kind scarce and dear. Independent of this, many of the emigrants, are very indiscreet in the use of the money they receive, in consequence of which their families are liable to suffer.

The Seminoles are yet encamped in the vicinity of this



post; they are without tools to enable them to construct cabins before winter, and they are extremely destitute of clothing, and have received no blankets since their arrival <sup>there</sup> being none here to spare to them

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

M. Arbuckle

Brev<sup>t</sup> Brigd<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> U.S.A

To

C. A. Harris Esq-

Comm<sup>r</sup> Indian Affairs

Washington City

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A451. Ft. Gibson. 1838.)



Choctaw Agency

August 31<sup>st</sup> 1838

Sir

I received a copy of the enclosed from M<sup>r</sup>. Doak who lives on Red River the writer of the letter is said to be a man of respectability and truth. I have no doubt that attempts are making to enduce the Indians to join the Mexicans. The Shawnees and Delewares and Kickapoos who lived on Blue have crofsted to the south side of Red River opposite the mouth of Washita. There is about Two hundrd Warriors in these tribes, they resided in the Choctaw Nation until the Chickasaws came over and begin to settle around them, since which they have left. There are also a few Creeks and Choctaws living in Texas, which with the Cherokees and Caddoes they number some eight or nine hundred Warriors, there is a manifest disposition on the part of the Indians to join the Mexicans. They hold out the inducement of giving the country. Should difficulties arise in Texas and the Indians be induced to cooperate with the Mexicans, it will be almost imposible to prevent the tribes on this frontier from joining particularly the Creeks and Cherokees, and the Choctaws to some extent

I have thought it proper to send you the enclosed, there has no doubt been Mexican imisaries amongst the Indians. It is very probable however that the statement may be somewhat exaggerated

Respectfully

Yr. Mo. Obt. Serv.<sup>t</sup>W<sup>m</sup> ArmstrongAct. Sup<sup>t</sup>. W. T.C. A. Harris Esq.<sup>r</sup>Comm<sup>r</sup> In<sup>d</sup> Affairs

Washington Citv



## Choctaw Agency West

September 4<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir

On the 31<sup>st</sup> August I had the honor to enclose you copy of a letter to M<sup>r</sup> Doak upon the subject of an expected attack by the Indians upon the inhabitants south of Red River. A considerable number of volunteers have assembled about fifteen miles from Towson near Jonesborough in what is called Miller County with an intention of proceeding up the Red River to the Sulpher Fork as far as there is settlers, and on opposite the mouth of Washita where it is said the Indians have assembled. I have great fears of a portion of the Indians within this Superintendency joining in the War, Or that the defeated party will take refuge in this Nation, and that depredations will be committed which may finally produce serious difficulties. I leave in the morning for Blue and Boggy where the largest body of the Chickasaws are, and probably may go out to the Washita.

I will imprefs it upon the Indians to remain within there Country; and not to enter the contest. I had the honor last Winter to lay before you a communication from the Chickasaws requesting a Fort to be located near the Mouth of Washita. The importance of a Fort somewhere near there is apparent, and unlefs the Chickasaws have protection they will not settle in the District of Country assigned them, and even those that are on Blue may leave their homes and come further down for protection

Respectfully

Yr Mo. Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv.<sup>t</sup>W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W. T.

To

Cary A. Harris Esq.<sup>r</sup>Comm<sup>r</sup> of In<sup>d</sup> Affairs

Washington City



Little Rock Ark

Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to forward an estimate of funds due for subsistence already furnished the Creek and Seminole Indians - returns for which have this day been received.

Viz.

At the Ufally depot in the months of April and May 1838.	82.537 Ration
At the North fork of the Canadian in the months of April May and June, and at Ufally Depot in the month of June -	319.805 "
To Creek emigrants during the months of July August and September -	396.640 "
To the Seminoles during the months of June July August and September -	<u>164,896 "</u>
Number of rations for which returns are received -	<u>963.878</u>
In addition to the above there are about 4,306 Creeks to be subsisted from Oct 1 <sup>st</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec <sup>r</sup> 1838 - say -	348.786 "
Also 1633 Seminoles from Oct 1 <sup>st</sup> 1838, to April 1839	<u>297.206 "</u>
For which no returns have been received -	645,992

The above provisions have been issued under the contract, exchanging the provisions of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Depot for fresh provisions.

Respectfully

Your mo obt Servant.

C.A Harris, Esqr.

R. D C. Collins Capt USA

Com<sup>r</sup> Ind Affs.

Prin. Mil Dis Agt

Washington City

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 821. Little Rock.)



Little Rock Ark

Sept 12<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir,

Enclosed I have the honor to forward statements of the amount of subsistence issued to the Creek and Seminole and to the Chickasaws by Mess Glasgow & Harrison, Contra<sup>rs</sup> and for which returns are now filed in this office,- also of the amt of subsistence yet to be issued to said emigrants.

The subsistence is ~~yet to be~~ furnished under the Contract made by Capt Armstrong and myself with Mess Glasgow & Harrison exchanging the provisions of the General and Chickasaw depots for fresh provisions.

There is already due the Contractors on account of the Creeks and Seminoles \$120,584.75, and a further sum of \$80,749 will be required to complete this years subsistence - making in all \$201,333.75 for the Creeks & Seminoles.

There is also due the said Contractors, for subsistence furnished the Chickasaws, \$132,043.80 and a further sum of \$80.934 will be required to complete their subsistence - making in all \$212,977.80 for the subsistence of the Chickasaws.

From the above there is to be deducted the am't to be received for the provisions, turned over to the Contractors - say about \$80,000.

The exact sum due from the contractors for these provisions cannot be exactly stated - Mr Kingsbury not having made his returns, He is now on his way to this place from the frontier, and immediately upon his arrival, I will forward a complete



statement, with returns covering the whole business, both for the Chickasaws and the general depots.

Very respectfully

yr mo obt svt

R. D. C. Collins

Capt. USA

Prin Mil Dis Agt

C A Harris, Esqr,

Com Ind Affs,

Washington City

Enclosed will also be found the contract, made by Capt Armstrong and myself, exchanging the Chickasaw provisions,

R. D C. C.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 821. Little Rock.)



Abstract of Proposals for furnishing Indigent Indians with  
 Subsistence by Capt R. D. C. Collins U S A Prin<sup>l</sup> Mil<sup>y</sup>Disb<sup>g</sup>  
 Agent for the removal and Sub<sup>e</sup> of Indians.

John Dillard	16	--	Fort Gibson
Joseph Cooper	15	5	Fayette Mo
StClair Johnston	16	5	Washington Ark
Daniel E Williams	18	--	" "
Sam <sup>l</sup> C Owens	15	4	Jackson Mo
Elijah Pulleam	17	--	Chicot Ark
Glasgow & Harrison	14	9	Little Rock Ark
John W Johnston	15	--	" " "

All of the above proposals were rejected.

R. D C. Collins Capt USA

Prin. Mil. Dis. Agt

Little Rock, Ark.

September 15<sup>th</sup> 1838

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 829-841-864. Little Rock.  
 C 829.)



Little Rock, Ark

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to forward an Abstract of the proposals received for furnishing the Indigent Indians West with subsistence. The proposals were all rejected by me, as being too high - and after three days, endeavoring to make the best possible contract, I have finally closed with Mess<sup>rs</sup> Glasgow & Harrison at fourteen cents & seven mills (14.¢ 7<sup>ms</sup>.) No responsible person being found willing to take the contract at a less price.

This price, in comparison with that at which contracts have formerly been taken appears very high - but when all the circumstances directly connected with the subsisting of Indians are taken into consideration, it is not in my opinion too high

In the first place there will be about 30.000 Indians to subsist upon this frontier, by Gov't - estimating the indigent Indians at 6,000 - the Cherokees at 16.000 - the Seminoles at 2,000 and the Chickasaws about 6,000. This circumstance alone has more than doubled the price of provisions within striking distance of the Indian Country, Another reason is, that the large quantities of Beeves that have been required during the past two years for the subsistence of Indians: and purchased by drovers from other states, have reduced the stock to the actual wants of the community. - and rendered it impracticable to gather a large drove of cattle, unless, by sweeping a wide extent of country - and paying the most exorbitant prices. On the frontier where corn could formerly be bought for thirty



seven and a half cents, two dollars is readily obtained. - and through this State large droves of cattle have recently been sold at five and six cents<sup>per pd</sup>, and still higher prices are asked. The citizens of this State (and I may add Missouri) are fully convinced, that a large force of mounted men will be required and stationed upon the frontier of this State and Missouri. They are convinced of this fact not only from their own observation, but also from the movements and opinions of the military commanders of this division, - and from the tone of the public press. However fallacious these latter reasons may prove, they nevertheless exercise a powerful influence, in inducing them to hold back their supplies. Added to the above reasons is the fact that not more than half crops of corn, have been made up-on an average through the Western States.

The contractors depend upon obtaining their corn in Ind or Ill. and boating it up the Ark<sup>s</sup> River - and to give you an idea of the uncertainty and cost which attends this method of obtaining supplies, suffer me to refer you to the following facts, which come under my own observation. In April last Mess Glasgow & Harrison purchased 10,000 bushels of corn in Ind. for the sub<sup>e</sup> of Inds on this frontier - and notwithstanding they have made every exertion possible, for that purpose, not a bushel of this corn has yet reached the Ind Country. - a part is at the mouth of the river - a part here - and the remainder in Keel boats between this and Van Buren - Owing to the extreme low stage of the river they have<sup>made</sup> every exertion in vain - and in consequence of the disappointment have been obliged to pay ~~as~~



~~high~~ as high as three dollars and fifty cents per bushel for corn, to meet their engagements to the Govt.

The probability that half if not three fourths of the indigent Inds to be subsisted will be Osages, rendered the Bidders Contractors, unwilling to engage on the business - and in estimating the cost of the ration it was not expected that half the quantity of corn required could be obtained at the nearest white settlements to the Osage Villages.

In estimating the cost of said ration, it is also to be recollected that by the terms of the agreement the Contractors are obliged, in every case to slaughter the beef neatly, and deliver it to the heads of families, some monthly if required - instead of delivering to large companies, upon the hoof, and for long periods, as has heretofore been the custom, - and that double the number of depots will be required that has heretofore been customary for the same number of Indians.

That you may be enabled to form a better opinion of the expense that Contractors are at over and above the cost of the ration, permit me to observe that Mess Glasgow & Harrison have had upon an average, and have now, in their employment, and connected entirely with the sub<sup>e</sup> of Indians, fifty men. Two of these at a salary of \$2500 per annum, - none less than \$1- per day - and from that sum to 3\$s per day - averaging about \$1.75¢ per day.

Very respectfully

your most obt Srt.

C.A.Harris, Esqr

R. D C. Collins

Com<sup>r</sup> Ind Affs

Capt USA

Washington City

Prin Mil Dis Agt

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 829-841-864. Little Rock. C 829.)



Estimate of funds required for the Subsistence of Indigent  
Indians

For the Subsistence of Indigent Indians for the  
months of November December & January next ensuing \$50.000 00

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\$50.000 00

R. D C. Collins

Capt. USA

Prin. Mil Dis. Agt

Little Rock Arkansas

September 30<sup>th</sup> 1838.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File 829-841-864. Little Rock.  
C-864.)



(COPY)

To the Choctaw Council now in Sefsion

The undersigned have been instructed by the Dept of Ind<sup>d</sup> Affrs. to submit to the consideration of the Choctaws the accompanying Bill, which passed the senate at the last sefsion of Congress entitled "A Bill to provide for the security and protection of the emigrant and other Indian tribes West of the states of Mifsouri and Arkansas"

The prominent points to which attention is respectfully requested are the following viz.

1st The Bill proposes that the country between the Puncah and Red rivers and South West of the Mifsouri river and West of the States of Mifsouri and Arkansas to the distance of two or three hundred miles, shall be set a part exclusive for the use of Indians, excepting the amount necefsary for Military Posts, for roads and public high ways, and for the residence of such persons as may be allowed by the intercourse laws to reside in the Indian country.

2<sup>d</sup> That the lands granted to the tribes severally shall be secured to them by Patents from the United States, under such restrictions as shall certainly prevent them or any portion of them from becoming the property of an adjoining state or Territory or of either individuals or Companies of White persons.

3<sup>d</sup> That a superintendent with a Secretary be appointed for the Indian District above described.

4<sup>th</sup> That a Council composed of delegates from the different tribes shall be convened one a year.



5<sup>th</sup> That the object of this annual Council shall be the promotion of peace and friendship among the tribes, and the adoption of such regulations for the benefit of the confederacy as may from time to time appear necessary, and such regulations, shall not take effect until approved by the President of the United States,

6<sup>th</sup> That all the tribes within the district be at liberty to join the confederacy and the same be required to do it without its consent.

7<sup>th</sup> That each tribe may make its own internal regulations consistently, with those of a general nature

8<sup>th</sup> That the confederation may send a Delegate to reside at the seat of Government of the United States during each session of Congress, to attend to such matters as the interests of the Confederation of the tribes or individuals severally require, who shall be of Indian descent and an acknowledged member of an Indian tribe, and who shall be entitled to the same compensation as that of a Member of Congress.

9<sup>th</sup> That nothing in these transactions shall effect the obligations of existing treaties,

The Choctaws are requested to reply to each of the foregoing propositions, and to say whether they approve or disapprove it. Should they disapprove, they will please to state what would please them in relation to that particular proposition,

It is requested that the answer be given in Council so that such explanations may be made as may be necessary to



a perfect understanding between the parties.

Signed W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

October 1<sup>st</sup> 1838.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A487 (copy) Ft. Gibson. 1838.)



Fort Gibson

October 17<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Sir

I herewith enclose two Estimates for Treaty Articles designed for Emigrant Seminoles and Creeks.

In your letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> August you state that from the quantity of Linsey and N<sup>o</sup> of Hunting Shirts reported on hand in my Quarterly Return 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter present year that there will be a deficiency of these Articles for the number of Emigrant Seminoles already arrived. In your calculation some mistake has been made - I have already made a full issue of these articles to all the Seminole Emigrants, and there is still on hand notwithstanding a large loss, (by theft and exposure), 325 hunting Shirts and 3915 yards of Linsey-- In my issues of Linsey I have given to all female Emigrants over 10 years 6 yards and under 10 years 3 yards, and to all males a hunting shirt. By reference to my Estimate for Seminoles you will find I have entered 2500 as the probable number that may hereafter emigrate - My only reason for entering this number is from statements made to me by some of the Seminoles now here who say that there are more of their people still in Florida than are here, exclusive of Mickasuckies of whose numbers they appeared to be ignorant. It may be well for me to state that the Seminole Warriors claim a Rifle each, on promises made them before emigration, by Government Officers.

By reference to my estimate of Treaty Articles for Creeks you will find all the information your letter requires. My Register of Creeks from which this estimate is made calls



for but 5057 heads of Families, but when re-mustered on their arrival in their new Country a great number of the families as entered on the Rolls consisted of two and in many instances of three families.

In my issues of Powder and Lead to Creek Warriors I have been in the habit of issuing to each Rifle, one pound of Powder and two pounds of Lead.

I have on hand upwards of 300 Beaver Traps, and from no document in the Creek Agents Office or from any of the Creek Treaties can I ascertain who are the proper claimants, on this subject I desire information

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

Ja<sup>s</sup> R. Stephenson

Capt. U. S. Army

Disbg. Agt. Ind. Dept.

C. A. Harris Esqr.

Com. Ind. Affairs

Washington (D. C)

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) S 1221-1225. Ft. Gibson.  
S-1221.)



(COPY)

Nun ni waiya Oct<sup>r</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 1838

To

Capt W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

and

Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

Gent

Your proposition laid before us on the 5<sup>th</sup> Inst, accompanying a bill to provide for the security and protection of the emigrants and other Indian tribes West of the States of Mifsouri and Arkansas has been duly considered, and in reply have to state that we cannot<sup>see</sup> in what manner the measure proposed is calculated to benefit our people in their present condition, but on the contrary We believe it is one if adopted that will create great dissatisfaction in our nation and result in evil consequences. We therefore decline accepting any of the terms proposed in the bill except that part which promises to secure to us our lands by patent, This we expected the Government of the United States to do agreeable to Treaty stipulations. We believe if our people were permitted to remain on their lands under their own internal regulations undisturbed by too much legislation over them by Congrefs, only such as they themselves may solicit, and remunerate them in some measure for the losses they have sustained by the policy of the Government of the United States in removing them West they will be satisfied. We have been removed and settled in the West under the firm pledge of the



United States that our Country should never be embraced within any State or Territorial limits, We must therefore hope that Congress will not include our Country in the proposed Territory, which measure if adopted, will not be received by our people in any other light than the first step to deprive them of their homes, and drive them <sup>further</sup> towards the setting sun.

We are Very Respectfully

Your Friends.

(Signed) (Pierre Iwzan

Councilmen	Chiefs	(	his
		(	x
		(	mark
		(	his
		(	x
		(Oak che ah	mark

P. P. Pitchlynn

David Folsom

Jeremiah Folsom

Councilmen	George Hudson	his
	Thomas Hays	x
		mark
	John Lake	his
		x
		mark
		his
	Nat Jones	x
		mark

(CIA: Western Supt's File 1117 (Copy) Pt. Gibson. 1858.)

Willis Stull	his
	x
	mark

Allen Carney

Pis tum bee	his
	x
	mark

Samuel Worchester

John Adams



	Chah to Mi tu haw	his x mark his
	John Hoomah	x mark his
	Nuck hoom ma hu che	x mark
	Pau sho huk ub bee	his x mark his
	Ho pi ya cha hubbee	x mark
	Tus ko lah tuh	his x mark
	Eyar shur ho poi ya	his / mark
Councilmen	Thomas Wall	
	Nathaniel Folsom	his x mark
	R., M., Jones	
	Joseph Riddle	his x mark
	William Riddle	
	Piter Folsom	
	Adam Tolsom	his x mark his
	Charles Tappan	x mark
	Adam Lucas	his x mark



Fort Gibson, 22<sup>d</sup> October, 1838,

Captain William Armstrong and Brevet Brig<sup>d</sup> General Arbuckle, having been appointed Commissioners to hold a treaty with the Creek Nation of Indians, and having appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut S.G. Simmons 7<sup>h</sup> Regt. of Infantry their Secretary, met the Principal Chiefs of the Creek Nation, this day, who not being prepared to proceed with their buisness, the Commissioners adjourned, until the 13<sup>th</sup> of November, to give them time to appoint their Delegates.

November 13<sup>th</sup> 1838

Owing to the inclemency of the Weather, no meeting was held until the 15<sup>th</sup> Instant, when a portion of the Creek delegates being absent, and the Weather still bad, the Commissioners adjourned until the 17<sup>th</sup> Instant.

November 17<sup>th</sup> 1838,

The Commissioners met agreeable to Adjournment, and commenced the examination of the Claims, which had not been heretofore presented, and adjourned until Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst.

Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> November, 1838,

The Commissioners met agreeable to Adjournment, and Continued the examination of the Claims.

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November, 1838,

Finished the examination of all the Claims presented.

Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> November 1838

This day the Commissioners made a proposition to the Chiefs as to the manner their Claims should be adjusted



and adjourned until Thursday the 22<sup>d</sup> Instant. to give them time to Council Among themselves, previous to giving an answer.

Thursday, 22<sup>d</sup> November, 1838,

The Commissioners met agreeable to Adjournment and the delegated acceded to the proposition made by the Commissioners

Friday 23<sup>d</sup> November, 1838,

This day the Articles of a Treaty were read to the Chiefs, for the adjustment of the Claims of the Creek Nation against the United States, who after suggesting a few Alterations which were made, signed it. The Commissioners then adjourned until the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 1839, to enable the Secretary to make out a Copy of the Accounts presented, and at which time it was expected, from information received, the Osages would be in from their fall hunt.

January 1<sup>st</sup> 1839.

Captain Armstrong being absent, Brig<sup>d</sup> General Arbuckle, met the Osages in Council, but owing to the absence of several of their Principal Chiefs, (no business could be transacted; runners were then sent to notify the absent Chiefs,) The ~~Gen~~ adjourned to await their arriva. - On Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> <sup>inst</sup> information was received that a sufficient number of Chiefs had arrived to enter into a Treaty. Whereupon Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> Instant, was appointed for holding a Council.



Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January, 1839,

A Council was held agreeable to Appointment, when the Treaty furnished by the Government, was read and fully explained to them whereupon, the Chiefs requested the next day to Council among themselves, in relation to the matter Contained in the Treaty upon which an adjournment was made until Wednesday the 9<sup>th</sup> of January 1838, at 10 o'Clock A.M.

Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January, 1838,

Met the Chiefs in Council, agreeable to adjournment when they declared their Willingness to sign the Treaty provided their School fund was not taken from them; and some Articles, such as Looms, Wheels, &c Stricken out, and others substituted in their place, finding them determined on this point, and that they would not form a Treaty on any other terms the Council was adjourned until Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst, at 10 o'Clock, A.M.

Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> January, 1839,

The Council, met agreeable to Adjournment when a New Treaty was read to them, which they agreed to sign and the next day being appointed for this purpose, the Council adjourned until Friday the 11<sup>th</sup> Inst, at 10 o'Clock A.M.

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January, 1839.

The Council met pursuant to Adjournment when the Treaty was signed and Witnessed.

Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> January, 1839,

This day a letter was received signed by the Principal Osage Chiefs, the purport of which was, that they were appre-



hensive, from their withholding their School fund, that the Treaty might not be ratified, they therefore agreed to leave it discretionary with the President, whether to take this fund or not, as he might think proper.

M. Arbuckle

Brev<sup>t</sup> Brigd<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> U.S.A

1<sup>st</sup> Lt S.C. Simmons 7<sup>th</sup> Inft

Sec<sup>y</sup> to the Commission

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 526-578. Ft. Gibson. 1839. A-526.)



(COPY)

Fort Gibson In<sup>d</sup> Ter.

October '22<sup>d</sup> 1838

C, A, Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> In<sup>d</sup> Affrs.

Sir

The undersigned having been instructed by you under date of the 21<sup>st</sup> August to endeavour to obtain the assent of the principal Indian tribes to the provisions of the Senate Bill of last Session entitled "A Bill for the security and protection of the emigrant and other Indians West of the States of Missouri and Arkansas," beg leave respectfully to report that on the receipt of instructions M<sup>r</sup> McCoy proceeded without delay to the Choctaw Agency and joined Capt Armstrong

About this time the Annual Council of the Choctaws assembled, and presented the, <sup>only</sup> opportunity which according to the Choctaw Government, could occur for presenting the Bill to the consideration of that Nation before the next annual Council,

By sickness Capt Armstrong was prevented from attending the Council M<sup>r</sup> McCoy attended and submitted the Bill for consideration, In order to facilitate the attainment of their object the undersigned had prepared a written document presenting distinctly to view the prominent points concerning which the opinion of the Council was desired. A copy of this document is herewith submitted marked A.



The conduct of the Council was courteous and respectful. Its answer is herewith respectfully submitted, marked B.

From the manner in which the purport of the Bill was stated, it will be perceived that there was reason to hope that it would be perfectly understood and that a definite reply would be made to each point presented which had been done in the form of an interrogatory, Nevertheless it seems that the response of the Council was framed under mistaken views of the nature of the subject proposed to them, and it was made in writing under circumstances, that precluded the opportunity of offering explanations for the correction of misapprehensions

After expressing their disapprobation of the Bill they intimate a desire "to remain on their lands under their own internal regulations undisturbed by too much legislation over them by Congress" which is precisely what is contemplated by the Bill.

Why they should consider the adoption of the measures proposed a first step towards their removal further West, when the object of the Bill is to render them entirely secure cannot easily be imagined. The only reason assigned in private conversation was that they had heretofore been deceived, and they might be imposed upon again.

From what they could learn it appeared to the undersigned that the Creeks and Cherokees generally had received erroneous impressions respecting the purport and design of the Bill, and that no valuable end would be obtained



by conferring with the Chiefs without an opportunity of correcting the misapprehensions which so extensively prevailed in the tribes, to do which would require more time than the undersigned felt authorized to employ. They have therefore omitted to bring the subject formally before the two last mentioned tribes.

They may however safely state that objections, so far as they are known to exist, are made to what is not in, nor contemplated by the Bill, and not to its real provisions

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt<sup>s</sup>

(Signed) W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act<sup>g</sup> Supt West Terr<sup>y</sup>

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

(CIA: Western Supt'y File A487. (copy) Fort Gibson. 1838.)



Little Rock.

Nov. 3<sup>d</sup> 1838.

Sir.

Herewith I have the honor to enclose estimates of Funds,  
for subsisting indigent Indians & Cherokees for the months  
Nov. Dec. & Jany. and for Sub<sup>s</sup> & Transportation of Chickasaws  
for the same months -

With much Respect

Yr Most obt Servt

R. D C. Collins

Capt USA

Prin. Mil. Dis. Agt

C. A. Harris

Com<sup>r</sup> In<sup>d</sup>. Affairs

Washington City

D C.

(OIA: Western Supt'y (Emigr.) File C 829-841-864. Little Rock.  
C 864.)



Westport, Jackson County, Missouri  
Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> 1838.

C. A. Harris Esq.

Commfr. Ind. Affrs.

Sir

While on my late tour in the south I became pretty well satisfied respecting the design of the late General Council among the Cherokees, yet I preferred not to trouble you until on my return to this country I had an opportunity of conferring with some Indians in whom I placed great confidence. In the mean time you have no doubt received correct information upon this subject from other sources.

Certainly hostility to the U. States was not contemplated in calling the Council. Some of the leading Cherokees perceive that as a matter essential to the prosperity of the tribes, a confederacy will be formed for purposes of civil government. Some of their most ambitious men are not yet located in this country. They desire the organization of a government to be postponed until they are ready to act a conspicuous part in the matter. In the mean time they object to any thing the government proposes to do in the matter case, and misrepresent the designs of the government. They propose annual General Councils. One was held Oct. 1837, in which the Creeks, Senecas, Senecas & Shawanoes, and, I believe, the Quapaws, agreed to acknowledge the Cherokees as the Elder or leader. This year they extend their invitation to council to others, and embrace the Delawares, which tribe has ever been esteemed the Grandfather of all the



others. By the agitation in Congress of the <sup>subject of</sup> organizing a Territory they have become acquainted with it, and are now ready to propose that a general council shall be held annually for the purpose of making necessary regulations. They would like to appear as originating this matter, and as taking the lead in its accomplishment. The result of all which will be their elevation, among the other tribes. These, I fully believe were the chief designs of the Council.

Only the Creeks, Senecas, Senecas & Shawanoes, Quapaws, and Ottawas were represented in the Council. A few from other places were present, but not as delegates from their respective tribes. They were in Session about ten days. About seven of the first days were spent chiefly in amusements. The latter three days were spent more soberly in council. No resolution was adopted, nor act passed of importance. The whole was merely ceremonious.

With Great respect

Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy



Westport, Jackson County, Missouri

Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> 1838.

C. A. Harris Esq.

Commfr. Ind. Affrs.

Sir

Notwithstanding your instructions to me do not positively require such a communication as I now respectfully beg leave to trouble you with, yet the nature of my business for some time past has been such as to induce me to hope for your indulgence.

The difference in what may be termed the internal government of the various Indian tribes within the Indian Territory deserves, I think, particular attention by the Government of the U. States, and, intimately connected with their respective government regulations are the condition at present of each tribe in other respects, and its prospects for improvement in future.

The Choctaws have effected an entire change in their government from the barbarous to the civilized. Among them we cannot now, as among uncivilized tribes assemble Chiefs and head men and transact business with them relating to their people - The system of Chieftaincies has been abolished.

The tribe denominates itself "The Choctaw Nation." It has adopted a written Constitution of Government similar to the Constitution of the U. States. Their Declaration of Rights secures to all equal privileges, - liberty of con-



science, excluding all religious tests - secures trial by jury, and, in a word it provides for all that is felt to be necessary in the incipient stage of political existence. The Constitution may be amended by the national Council.

This country is divided into four judicial districts. Three of these districts annually elect by popular vote each nine members of the National Council, and the fourth elects by the same mode thirteen members. In all forty. The per diem allowance to each while engaged in legislating is three dollars. Within each district an officer denominated a Chief is elected for the term of four years. The National Council meets annually on the first Monday in October, consisting of the forty members, the necessary Clerks, the Sergeant at Arms and the door keeper. It is also attended by the Chiefs who have an honorary seat provided for them by the side of the Speaker. But they have no voice in discussions in Council. Their signatures are necessary to the passage of a law. They may veto an act, but two thirds of the Council agreeing thereto the act becomes a law.

The Council is legislative. It is denominated "The General Council of the Choctaw nation." It adopts By-laws for its government while in Session. It elects a Speaker and other requisite officers, appoints appropriate Committees to adjust matters for legislation. All writings are in English, but are read off in the Choctaw language. All discussions are carried on in the Choctaw language.



Each member when about to make a speech rises and respectfully addresses the Speaker, using the Choctaw word for Speaker, adding the syllable ma, which somewhat answers to the English M<sup>r</sup> or Sir. The question is put in the form customary in legislative bodies, and the vote is given by rising. The heading of each act is "Be it enacted by the General Council of the Choctaw nation. In future the Constitution and laws will be printed both in the Choctaw and in the English language. By their Constitution the government is composed of four departments, viz. Legislative, Executive, and military.

Within each district three Judges are elected by the people. The Judges in their respective districts hold inferior and Superior Courts. Ten Lighthorsemen in each district perform the duties of Sheriffs, and the sum of \$200. pr. ann. is allowed to each district for their compensation. An act has recently been passed for the proper organization of the militia.

In respect to civilization there is great difference among the Choctaws, Some have fully adopted the habits of civilized man, many are in comfortable circumstances in life, and some may be said to be wealthy. From these most favorable circumstances all grades of condition exist down to the Indian who has made but little advance in civilization. Several respectable Speakers appeared in Council in the Indian costume. As a people they may be said to be substantially improving, though I am sorry to say that they have not yet so far recovered from the shock of transition



from savage to civilized life as to increase in numbers - There is yet annually a diminution of their number.

Of the aborigines of America individuals have frequently become civilized, and have become subject to the laws of white men. But the Choctaws I believe furnish the first instance among the aboriginal tribes of self government divested of the barbarous customs belonging to the savage state, and it is truly gratifying to observe within the Indian Territory and so soon too, after the work of location had been commenced, the establishment of the laws of a Commonwealth. It evinces the capacity of the natives to think and act for themselves, and it may be esteemed a sure presage of the ultimate success of the designs of the Government of the U. States to place all the tribes within the enjoyment of such blessings.

The Cherokee government, though highly creditable to them, is not fully systematic and judicious like that of the Choctaws. They have not a written Constitution. Their country is divided into four Districts, each of which elects for the term of two years, two members of the National Council. The title of the Council is "The General Council of the Cherokee Nation." By law it meets annually on the first Monday in October. They have three Chiefs, which, until lately, have been chosen by the General Council, Hereafter they are to be elected by the people. The approval of the Chiefs is necessary to the passage of a law, excepting when two thirds of the Council agree to pass an act regardless of their veto. The



Council consists of two Houses, with President, Secretaries, &c. to each. The Lower House is denominated "The Committee", and the Upper, "The Council" The concurrence of both is necessary to the passage of a law. The Chiefs may call a Council at pleasure, and in several other respects they retain, in some degree, the authority common to Indian Chiefs. Two judges belong to each district, which hold Courts when necessary. Two Lighthorsemen in each District perform the duties of Sheriffs. A company of six or seven denominated "Lighthorsemen", the leader of whom is called "Captain of the Lighthorsemen," constitute a national corps of regulators to prevent infractions of the laws, and to bring to justice offenders.

Like the Choctaw, the Cherokee Nation embraces all conceivable conditions between refinement, intelligence and wealth, and the opposite extreme but little removed from the original state. The earlier emigrants are, perhaps, in more comfortable condition than the same proportion of any other tribe within the Territory, but, with the great accession of late emigrants there has necessarily been an augmentation of uncomfortableness.

The condition of the Creeks in regard to civil government is less like that of civilized man than is that of the Cherokees. The first emigrants, denominated the McIntosh party, brought with them written laws from their mother country, by which, with such modifications as were deemed necessary, they have ever since been governed. The latter emigrants, the principal chief of whom is Little Doctor,



supported by Opoethyoholo, have adopted written laws since their arrival in this country. The seat of Council of one party is on the Arkansas river, and that of the other on Canadian river, about fifty miles apart. Chieftaincies are hereditary as is common to Indian tribes, and, with some exceptions embrace the privileges usually belonging to Indian chiefs. Each of the two parties holds general Councils, composed of principal and subordinate chiefs, and of those who are merely denominated Counsellors. The General Council enacts laws. Different bands exist, which on the east of Mifsissippi composed districts. Each of these bands may hold a Council or Court, and try and punish offenders - they decide and execute. A General Council may be called at any time. Laws are made only by the General Council, and latterly almost all offences are tried by-it, and punishments inflicted by it, some of its members being entailed as executioners.

Notwithstanding the Creeks as a people are in the rear of the Choctaws and Cherokees in regard to civilization, there is much intelligence, refinement, and wealth among them.

The Seminoles have become merged in the Creek Government and the Chickasaws in that of the Choctaws. Few of either of these tribes, especially of the former, have settled themselves in permanent residences.

All the other tribes within the Territory are without law, excepting the customs which belong to savage life. The



Delawares have recently resolved, in full council, that law was necessary, and that they would begin by enacting such laws as appeared to be most needed. They have asked for assistance in carrying out their laudable design.

All the tribes, excepting the three Southern, desire, and are expecting the introduction of some law regulations by the Government, according to the provisions of the Bill for that purpose which passed the Senate last Session. Notwithstanding the absence of the three Southern tribes to the bill has not been formally obtained, yet it is evident that the principles of the bill perfectly coincide with the principles of government which have been adopted by them, and that, therefore, its passage will necessarily be acceptable and beneficial to them. It will enable them to perfect the system of government to which they have shown themselves inclined, which cannot be done without such provisions as the bill embraces. Some, or all of twenty one <sup>tribes are</sup> already located within the Territory, and probably four others, viz. Winnebago, Menominee, Wyandaut, & N. York, will be added. That these twenty five tribes cannot subsist as so many governments independent of each other is, on various accounts evident to demonstration. To secure wholesome intercourse regulations between the tribes, and to secure each in the enjoyment of its home and its domestic privileges is the main design of the Bill.

It is not known that any principle embraced in the bill has been objected to - Objections have invariably



been made to points not contained in, nor contemplated by the bill. The bill, since the adjournment of Congress has been so explained to them generally, (not by government officers) that the people believe it to be a kind of treaty proposed to be negotiated, which conceals a design to defraud them of their lands. The Creeks, particularly have <sup>been</sup> told that even the quantity allotted to each had been estimated by the government, for which a patent would be issued, and that when individuals became the sold proprietors of their respective shares of the country, a scheme of speculation by the whites, in the purchase of those lots would ensue, like that which they say occurred with them east of the Mississippi, and would effect their expulsion from country. that those views directly opposite to the provisions of the bill, have been inculcated by mischievous persons laboring to mislead the Indians, and to thwart the benevolent and honest designs of the government, there can be no doubt. Nor is it possible to conceive any termination to these obstacles while evil men can profit by the delusions and ignorance of the Indians, unless government carry out its plans, and show the Indians that those plans are precisely what they desire, and that their fears have been originated by, and for the benefit of mischievous & avaricious persons mingling with them.

That such measures of intercourse between the tribes as the government contemplates by the bill are necessary to their welfare, is doubtless fully believed by intelligent Indians in the south. The main design of the late



general Council called by the Cherokees appears to have been the establishment of intercourse regulations among the tribes by which peace and harmony might be maintained, and prosperity insured. In their invitation to the neighboring tribes they stated that it was important for the tribes to meet in General Council to take into consideration measures for their welfare in future." It was this clause in the message that induced some of the tribes to suppose that measures of hostility might be contemplated. No doubt the Cherokees designed by this step to place their tribe in a prominent attitude among the tribes as the originator and promoter of a salutary measure lying at the foundation of the anticipated prosperity of the tribes in future. But it is evident that their design, as far as it extended, was precisely the same as that of the bill, though the people generally of all of those Southern tribes had been induced to believe that they were diametrically opposite.

Intercourse regulations among the tribes cannot be longer delayed without greatly endangering their prosperity. The government is bound to protect these tribes, or, in other words, to preserve peace. Thefts ~~and~~ and murders committed by one tribe upon another were more numerous last year than they were the year preceding, and they have been more frequent the present year than they were the last. - these evils are rapidly increasing, and threaten distressing results. The omission of the Cherokees to invite the Cherokees-to-in Osages and other in-



digenous tribes to their late Council indicates feelings of unkindness which ought to be removed.

Last year (1837) complaints were made in two instances in my presence, of Indians of other tribes who had stolen horses. There appeared no way to remedy the evil. Horse stealing is almost constantly carried on by unprincipled people of different tribes. They steal in the south and convey northward, and in the north and take southward on their return. Heavy complaints of the loss of other property have been made in some instances. Last year several scalps were taken, some of which taken by the Delawares and divided among the Shawanoes I saw myself.

In the month of April last a few Pawnees visited the Sauks and Ioways on Missouri on an errand of peace. As they were returning to their homes a party of Kansas fell in with them, attacked them and killed one. In August last the Kansans and Osages sent out a war party consisting of about eighty warriors. On Arkansas they surprised a party of Pawnees and took eleven scalps, and lost four of their men killed, besides two wounded. A few of the party of Osages & Kansans separated from the main body, these also had a battle and took five scalps from the enemy, making seventeen killed by those tribes this year of whom we have obtained certain information. There have been reports of other murders having been committed by other tribes. The Kansans have brought home at least thirty stolen horses the present year. On the first of September a party of



about twenty Kanzans, headed by the 3<sup>d</sup> Chief of the nation named "the Hard Chief," was absent on a war and stealing expedition, the result of which I have not yet heard. In August last a large drove of horses were stolen from the Osage villages. Besides many horses stolen from other Indian tribes, the Osages have among them some valuable horses stolen from the whites.

The intelligence and virtue of the Choctaws, Cherokees and Creeks will be a sure guarantie of their disapprobation of such nefarious practices, but, without intercourse regulations among the tribes, understood and adopted by them, by which wrongs may be redrefsed and offenders punished, it will be impofsible, even for those Southern tribes to prevent their head men from participating in these deeds of theft and murder. Moreover, if hostilities, to a greater or lefs extent, between the Indians and the whites should occur, they will no doubt have their origin in the unsettled state of things among the former which the bill is designed to remedy.

Between the southern tribes within the Territory and the Camanches and others on the southwest, a trade is now carried on which is increasing in bricknefs. Our Indians pack out goods and exchange with those remoter tribes for mules, and for peltries & furs. The intercourse is entire-ly peaceful. Two stores of white men have been placed upon the southwestern frontier of the Territory for the purpose of trading with those wilder tribes.



I beg leave to solicit most earnestly early attention to the prevalence of that dreadful scourge of man, the small pox, which, on my late tour I perceived existed among the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Cherokees, Creeks and Seminoles. Notwithstanding its daily ravages, and the reason to apprehend its extension among the remoter tribes, an unexpected and unaccountable<sup>n</sup> apathy in relation to it, seemed to prevail wherever I went.

In view of the protracted ravages of this dreadful disease on the Upper Mifsouri, which had not been arrested at the latest dates, and in view of the extensive region in the south over which this disease is spread, and the danger of its soon spreading among others, I would most earnestly entreat that efficient measures be immediately adopted to arrest its progrefs by vaccination. In all cases of vaccination of the tribes heretofore there seems to have been too much haste, and not sufficient attention paid to the vaccinated to ascertain whether the operation had been effectual, and to repeat it where it had not. To my enquiries, why do you not take more pains to vaccinate? I was frequently answered, "it does no good."

I would respectfully recommend that a systematic course for vaccination be adopted, that the names of heads of families be registered, and the number belonging to each, with precision the same as if about to pay an annuity, that the physician be required to make regular examinations after vaccination, and to repeat the operation until all left behind him had, in his opinion, been secured from the con-



tagion of small pox, that he make proper reports of his proceedings, and that he be bound by oath faithfully to discharge his duties.

A fearful waste of human life has already been made by this disease, and we can see no end to its ravages without the efficient interposition of our government.

With very great respect, Sir,

Your Obt. Servt.

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

(OIA: Western Supt'y File M540-542. Westport. M-540.)



Westport, Jackson County, Missouri

Nov. 15 1838

T. Hartley Crawford Esq.

Commrsr. Ind. Affrs.

Sir

I have the honor of acknowledging your two communications of the 22<sup>d</sup> Oct. accompanying one of which were copies of the Patent proposed to be given the Cherokees and a letter from the Attorney Genl. to the Secry. War on that subject.

In relation to the patent I have felt much solicited. It is the first instance of a patent being issued to an Indian nation, and its form will be referred to as a precedent in future. I have greatly feared that, without a limitation expressly reserving to the U. States the authority to prevent the entrance of white men, the right might be claimed by the Indians of introducing the citizens of our own and of other countries, and that the force of treaty stipulations and laws made prior to the date of the patent, but not referred to in that instrument, might be doubtful, and that a Sovereignty would be secured to the Indian owner by the patent which could not be affected by a law of subsequent date.

Without presuming to question the correctness of any opinion on this subject with which I have been politely favored by your communication, I beg leave most respectfully to suggest the enquiry whether, according to the



form of patent proposed, the patentee has a right to take in-  
to his employment, for his benefit in the occupancy of the  
land in question any person whom he shall think proper? If  
this authority is not secured to him, then the evil deprecated  
does not exist. - If he has this authority, he will there is  
reason  
to fear, be bribed to abuse the privilege so as to produce  
the worst consequences, and if the present form of the patent  
does give him this authority, I would further suggest the en-  
quiry whether it might not be made subject to the provisions  
of the 5<sup>th</sup> Article of the treaty of Dec<sup>r</sup> 29, 1835, in the same  
manner that it is subject to the provisions of the 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup>  
Articles? If it would then the matter in question could be  
placed under the control of "such acts of Congress as have  
been, or may be passed regulating trade and intercourse with  
the Indians."

Public property to the value of about \$2500. or \$3000.  
has been left at the Osage Village by M<sup>r</sup> Harris, who was late-  
ly employed to fence and plough land there, which, I think, is  
likely to sustain damage. I am informed that it was left in  
charge of the Trader at that place. It consists of say,  
twenty yokes of oxen, ten Cows & calves, six waggons, chains,  
axes, &c. I would respectfully recommend that the acting  
Sub Agent for the Osages be instructed to employ a man to  
collect and herd the cattle in some of the cane, or other  
rich bottom lands a little south of the Osage villages,  
by which means they may be kept alive during winter.

With great respect                      Sir

Your most Obt. Servt.    Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

(OIA: Western Supt'y File M540-542. Westport. M-542. 1838.)



Texian Legation

City of Washington

November 26<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Sir

Information has been recently received from Texas that various tribes of Indians, who, at different times have migrated from the United States, have, for some time past been committing murders, and other hostile aggressions upon the inhabitants of that country, and that a combination is now formed between most of these tribes and others originally residing within its borders for the purpose of commencing a general warfare. For this object large numbers of Caddoes, Kickapoos, Chactaws, Coshattees, Cherokees, Towackanies and a few from several other tribes are now collected upon the River Trinity, from which point they are preparing to assail the settlements of the whites.

By information from other, though less authentic sources there is reason to believe that this hostile combination extends to a portion of some of those tribes now residing upon the borders of the United States, or on their way thither, and that so soon as the War War Whoop is raised by those already assembled, they will receive large and powerful accessions to their numbers from those tribes.

To these acts of hostility they have been incited by some on the part of the Government or people of Texas; but it is believed are instigated solely by their native and hereditary hatred to the whites, by their desire of plunder, and by the encouragement held out to them by



the Mexican Authorities and their emissaries, by whose inhuman policy they have been promised, future possession of the country on condition of their exterminating the Texans, or expelling them from it.

The Undersigned Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Texas, has the honor to submit this information to the Hon. the Secretary of State of the United States, and earnestly to request that suitable measures may immediately be taken by this Government to interpose a force sufficient to prevent the threatened hostilities, on the part of its Indians, - to inflict exemplary punishment for those already committed, - to cause the removal of the intruded Savages beyond the known or disputed limits of Texas, and to insure their future peaceful and good behaviour towards its Government and people -

And inasmuch as the incursions and settlement of various warlike and hostile tribes of Indians from the United States within its borders has been forcible, and unauthorized by the present or former Government of Texas, and in contravention of the established comity of Nations, as well as the Stipulations of the thirty third Article of the Treaty of the 5<sup>th</sup> April 1831 between the United States and Mexico, (which Treaty is now binding upon Texas so far as her particular territory is concerned,) the Undersigned on the part of his Government most solemnly protests, as well against the incursions and settlement of those Indians, as for all reclamations which may arise for injuries that have been or shall be sustained by Texas in consequence thereof



The Undersigned Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Texas embraces this occasion to tender to the Hon. M<sup>r</sup> Forsyth, Secretary of State of the United States renewed assurances of his most distinguished consideration and regard.

Anson Jones

Hon. John Forsyth

&c. &c. &c.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File S1256. State Dept. 1838. Above communication is a copy.)



Department of State

Washington 30<sup>th</sup> November 1838

Hon J. R. Poinsett

Secretary of War,

Sir,

I communicate to you, by direction of the President, for your information and for the adoption of such measures as may seem proper, a copy of a note from the Minister of Texas in relation to alleged aggressions by Indians inhabiting our south-western frontier districts upon the people of his country.

The copy, likewise enclosed, of a communication to the Mexican Minister of the 22nd October 1835, will acquaint you with the views then, and now, entertained at this Department respecting any right or obligation on the part of the United States to restrain or controul the movements of Indians peaceably emigrating from within our borders into the neighbouring territories -

I am, Sir, respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

John Forsyth

(OIA: Western Supt'y File S1256. State Dept. 1838.)



## Choctaw Agency West

December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1838T. Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>Comm<sup>r</sup> of Indian Affairs

Sir

I have been absent for the last twenty days at Fort Gibson, associated with Gen<sup>l</sup> Arbuckle in concluding a treaty with the Creek Indians, by direction of the Department, We effected the treaty for all losses sustained by the Creeks for property left in the old Nation, or on the way in consequence of their emigration, The terms of the treaty differs but little from the instructions of the Department, A few claims that were not submitted by the deligation at Washington last winter were brought in, so as to leave no unsettled claims, The Amount stipulated to be paid by the treaty, is about Four hundred and twenty thousand dollars. the amount of claims laid in at Washington was about Five hundred and eighty five thousand dollars, The Creeks were well satisfied with the treaty, and if approved of it will enable the Creeks to commence farming and raising stock, and finally binding them to the Government, I expect the Osages in at Gibsom about the 25<sup>th</sup> of this Month when Gen<sup>l</sup> Arbuckle and myself who were appointed to treat with them will endeavour to discharge the duty assigned us, and forward both the Creek and Osage treaties at the same time, so as to reach Washington before Congrefs adjourns

Respectfully

Yr. Mo. Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act. Supt. W. T

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A510. Ft. Gibson. 1838.)



Head Quarters 2<sup>nd</sup> Dept W Division

Fort Gibson December 17<sup>h</sup> 1838

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8<sup>h</sup>. Ult<sup>o</sup>

Captain Armstrong and myself concluded a Treaty with the Creek Nation of Indians and will in eight or ten days have prepared the papers that are to Accompany it.

The Osages have not yet generally returned from their Fall hunt, they will probably be at their Towns within the next six or eight days. A principal Chief of the Upper Towns with some of his Braves were a few days since, he promised <sup>that</sup> he would give notice to about sixty of the principal Chiefs and Braves of his nation to attend at this Post on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the next Month for the purpose of entering into a Treaty with the United States and to receive the Annuity for their Nation

It is probable that a Treaty will be Concluded with the Osage Nation before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the next Month at furthest when that and the Treaty made with the Creeks will be forwarded to Washington with the least delay possible, by Express

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

M. Arbuckle

Brev<sup>t</sup> Brigd<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup> U.S.A

To

T Hartley Crawford Esqr<sup>e</sup>

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Washington City

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A510. Ft. Gibson. 1838.)



Washington 4<sup>th</sup> January 1839

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> J R Poinsett

Sir)

I am directed by the Committee on Indian Affairs to enclose the within Petition and accompanying evidence.

In the first place to ascertain whether the claim has ever been presented for payment? If so upon what ground was the claim rejected. Whether the tribes of Indian charged by the petitioner of committing the alledged depredations were at peace and amity with U. States in April 1815. If the claim has been adjusted state the fact.

Very resp<sup>tly</sup>

L Banks

ENDORSEMENT:

Committee on Ind. Aff<sup>s</sup> Ho. of Rep<sup>s</sup>, 4 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1839.

Hon. L. Banks encloses the petition of Frances Rivar, Administratrix of Estate of Jos. Rivar, dec<sup>d</sup>, praying an appropriation by Congress to reimburse her, for depredations by the Sacs & Foxes & Potawatomies living North of the boundary line of the Terr<sup>y</sup> of Missouri, on the property of Jos. Rivar, in 1815, estimating the amount of the depredations, at \$982; and the affidavit of Jos. Roy, dated 11 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1836, in support of the petition -

Enquires whether the claim has been presented for payment; if so upon what ground was it rejected; whether the



Tribes charged were at peace & amity with the U. S. in April 1815. If the claim has been adjusted, wishes that fact stated -

(OIA: Misc. File I 326-310-326. Washington. 1839. I-304. Number (I-326) on jacket in error. No enclosures.)



## Choctaw Agency

7 Jan<sup>y</sup>. 1839T. Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>:Comm<sup>r</sup>. of Ind. Affr<sup>s</sup>

Sir

Capt Collins is now at this place, preparing rolls & to pay the Choctaw annuity - so soon as we pay those on Arkansas we shall proceed to Red river and pay those -

The Chickasaw<sup>s</sup> are so scattered - over the Choctaw nation - together with the fact that it will be extremely difficult to identify those entitled to interest on the invested money due the incompetent indians - that it will be attended with more trouble to - make the payment - than the Annuity - If each incompetent indian had of been furnished with a certificate - and number corresponding - with the register. there would of been no difficulty in making the payment - We shall have to depend upon the Chickasaw Commissioners<sup>s</sup>. to identify the indians - those who deposited their money with Col. Reynolds - all expecting their money then not getting it - and their disappointment at only receiving the interest due the incompetent indians - has greatly disappointed them -

Should the Osages arrive in time to effect the treaty which Genl. Arbuckle & myself were directed to do - so as yo reach Washington before the adjournment of Congrefs- I shall try very hard to be present with the Gen.. to effect the treaty - but as I shall have to



attend the Annuity payments I may be prevented from doing to.

Respectfully

Y<sup>r</sup> Most Obt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W T

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A522-670-673. Choctaw Agency.  
1839. A-522.)



Choctaw Agency.

16 Jan<sup>y</sup>. 1839.

T. Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind. Affr<sup>s</sup>

Sir

From information entitled to credit I am induced to believe that attempts are making to engage the indians - in the Contest between the Mexicans & Texians. - Two emisaries said to be Mexicans have Visited Nit u.cha.che. a Choctaw of considerable influence - and for many years a chief of one of the district<sup>s</sup> of the Nation but at the election in July. last. which is held every four years - the old chief was defeated this has greatly exasperated him - the succesful candidate Capt Juzan is a half breed - this is given as a reason by Nit uchachee, for his dislike to the Whites - as it was the son of one that defeated him -

I have no idea of the Nation, engaging in the contest - but it is certainly true that - Mexican emisaries have been in the Nation, - and as Nit uchachee feels mortified in consequence of his defeat - he might be induced to Collect the disaffected and such of his immediate friends - and Commence hostilities on the Texians - South of Red river - Nit uchachee lives within a few miles of the river -

I shall leave in the morning for Red river - Col Vose comm<sup>d</sup> at Fort Towson writes me that it is said Nit uchachee is very anxious to see me - I have known the



old Chief for many years - and never doubted his attachment to the Gov<sup>t</sup> of the United States - report<sup>s</sup>. of indian disturbances are so generally exaggerated that I feel great reluctance to report - them to the Dept - but as emisaries have been amongst the indians - I feel it my duty to lay the subject before you - Col. Vose has endeavoured to have the emisaries arrested but has not succeeded - I leave as before stated for Red river Capt Collins started to day with two waggon<sup>s</sup> laden with specie to pay the Chickasaw & Choctaw on Red river -

I regret that I could not attend with Genl Arbuckle at the Osage treaty- it happened at the very time Capt Collins was here paying the Choctaws of this district there annuity - and the incompetent Chickasaws, the interest on there money - I was therefors Compelled to remain at this place - I shall advise you from Towson - if there is any improper movements amongst the Choctaws

Respectfully yr.

Most obt servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt. W. T

(OIA: Western Supty File A 520-618. Choctaw Agency. 1839. A-520.)



Head Quarters, 2<sup>d</sup> dept. W D,  
Fort Gibson. 22<sup>d</sup> Jan. 1839

Sir

I have the honor herewith to Transmit an account an Vouchers, for purchases and expenditures required to hold the late Treaty with the Osage Indians, The sum expended is made greater than I anticipated in consequence of the difficulty and delay in assembling a full representation of that nation, and the number of their Young people who attended without invitation, who had to be subsisted to prevent injury to be done to the property of the Cherokees,

The Osages have at all times been furnished with Tobacco when they have attended here on public buisness. I therefore regarded it proper to Comply with that Custom,

You will herewith receive a Copy of a Journal which was kept by Lieut. Simmons, (Secretary to the Commissioners) relating to the Creek and Osage Treaties, and I regret that the Necessity of it embracing much more matter than is contained in it was not recollected in time, You will notice by this Journal that Captain Armstrong and myself first met the Creeks on the 22<sup>d</sup> of October, and that on the 23<sup>d</sup> of November we Concluded a Treaty with them, and adjourned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Instant, when we were to meet the Osages at this Post other buisness however prevented his attendance at that time, and I acted alone in making a



Treaty with them; and I will thank you to inform me for what time I am to Charge as Commissioner and in what manner I am to be paid The secretary it will be seen by the Journal has been almost Constantly employed since the Commissioners met the Creeks the second time

I have this day drawn on you in favour of Thomas E. Wilson for the sum expended in holding the late Treaty with the Osages

I am, Sir,

Very Respectfully

Your obed<sup>t</sup> Servt

M. Arbuckle

Brev<sup>t</sup> Brigd<sup>r</sup>Gen<sup>l</sup> U.S.A.

To

T. Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>re</sup>

Comfs<sup>r</sup> of Indian Affairs

Washington City

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 526-578. Ft. Gibson. 1839. A-526.)



Doaksville.

Choctaw Nation. January 26<sup>th</sup> 1839.

T. Hartley Crawford

Com<sup>r</sup> Ind. Affairs,

Sir,

I have the honour to report to you that I completed the payment of the Annuities and the Incompetent Chickasaws for the Arkansas Dis<sup>t</sup> Choctaw Nation on the 14<sup>th</sup> inst and that I am now engaged in making payments in this District. I have been compelled to progrefs much more slowly than formerly. The Incompetent Indians are scattered over the Nation from the Arkansas to Red River and to the Boggy and Blue: It is consequently necefsary to make payments at Several points as many of the Indians are without horses and unable to make long journeys to receive their money. It is also difficult and extremely tedious to identify the Claimants as there are in each District Several of the Same name having different Sums due them. In many instances the original Claimant has died and left but distant heirs and not unfrequently suparations have taken place between the man and wife Since their lands were Sold, the husband having taken a new wife or the wife a new husband. In most instances the Children have been left with the mother or Grandmother, and as it would be unjust to pay the whole amount to the man, the Agent and myself with the approbation of the Chiefs have deemed it best to See that the Amount is fairly divided between the husband wife and Children as they were when the land was Sold. I will



complete the payment of this District in a few days and will immediately go to Boggy at which point I will complete all the pay<sup>t</sup> and return to Little Rock, by which time I hope to have in readinefs a Roll of Such Cherokees as may prefer Subsistence in kind to commutation and a Roll of the Indigent Indians of all the Tribes within this Territory who are entitled to the benefits of the Appropriation for their Subsistence. The Incompetent Chickasaws manifest considerable dissatisfaction at receiving the Interest insted of the whole Sum due them from the Sale of their lands. From what I have observed, most of them however are illy calculated to be benefited by receiving the amount at once, as most of them are really incompetent and extremely improvident, and would no doubt Squander their money in a Short time.

A great majority of the Chickasaws owing to the Universal prevalence of the Small pox and fevers amongst them during the last year made but little to Subsist upon. Corn is now Selling currently at two dollars per Bushel and pork on the foot at ten dollars per hundred. The whole nation are extremely anxious that Government Should procure them Subsistence until the coming crop can be used, without which, many of them, must Suffer for the want of food. Indeed nearly all are entirely dependent upon the daily ifsues, having no other food and no means of procuring it. The Small pox has at last disappeared from amongst the Choctaws and Chickasaws but is Still raging amongst the Creeks, Seminoles and Cherokees and has Spread



to Some considerable extent amongst the Troops at Fort  
Gibson

With much respect

R. D. C. Collins

Capt. USA

Prin<sup>l</sup>. Mil Dis Agt

(OIA: Western Supt'y File C 937. Doaksville. 1839.)



Fort Gibson, Feb. 12 1839.

T. H. Crawford Esq

Com. Ind. Affairs,

Sir -

I perceive by your report that you feel some anxiety in relation to the appropriation of \$150 000 for the benefit of such indigent Indians, as may have become destitute by means of their "recent change of homes" or by emigrating too late, to make a crop. As the Assistant of Capt. Collins, (Prin. Dis. Agent for this frontier,) to superintend this distribution, I venture to address you a few lines in explanation of the delay which has occurred in this business. The enrolling agents for the Creeks were about two months preparing their roll - and after its completion, it was so materially defective, that I was some weeks in correcting it - and after erasing 2000 persons improperly enrolled, we find it almost impossible now to make it answer. We made one issue on it on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Feb. (the abstract of which I have forwarded to Capt. Collins,) at the largest Depot on the north Fork of the Canadian about 70 miles from here - which issue embraced an immense majority of the indigent in the nation, there being 2000 present, - and we are actively preparing to make another on the first of March, by which time we may have a new enrollment.

in

The Creeks and Osages will come, for much the largest portion of this appropriation. I have taken charge in person of the 2 depots, one 25 miles from here in the east end of the Creek nation, and the other in the West, about 70 miles distant. We have sent Mr Carr up to issue to



the Osages, and he is in a State of forwardness. After this I think the matter will progress well, considering how difficult a task it has been to give satisfaction to all parties. No job could be more difficult of execution - defective enrollment, will not in all probability prejudice the Indians much as provisions are as scarce now, and will be until the crops, as they have been at any time during the Winter.

This appropriation will hold out I imagine until the maturity of the new crops in August or September - and previous to which time, (if desirable to you,) I will be enabled to give you a more full view of the subject,

Yours respectfully

T. J. Pew

T. Hartley Crawford Esq

Com. Of Indian Affairs

Washington City

(CIA: Western Supt'y File P 494. Ft. Gibson. 1839.)



Washington D. C. Feby 13.<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Hon. Joel R. Poinsett

Sec. War

Sir

On a tour which I made through the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek and Seminole tribes last September & October, I discovered that the small pox existed in divers places among all those tribes. Its ravages must become very great unless its progress be arrested by vaccination. Between the tribes above mentioned and those more remote and west of the white settlements of Texas, there is a pretty constant intercourse, so that there is reason to fear the contagion will spread among the latter, some of which tribes are large, in event of which we could not conjecture when, or where its ravages would cease.

I respectfully beg leave most earnestly to request you to consider the propriety of adopting, as soon as practicable, efficient measures for extending the benefits of Vaccination to these afflicted people. It appeared to me that the necessity for vaccination was not duly appreciated in that country either by the whites or the Indians. Many of the latter conjectured that vaccination would not protect them from small pox.

I would respectfully beg leave to suggest that so far as my information extends the means and measures for vaccinating have hitherto not been sufficiently liberal - The work has been performed in too much



haste, and with too little system. A few of the vaccinated have been benefited, others, from various causes, have not, while many have been overlooked without undergoing the operation at all.

I would respectfully recommend that the appropriation for this humane object be liberal, that physicians be required to operate upon bands or districts with as much regularity as possible, that they examine the vaccinated and repeat the operation when necessary, and not leave the band or district until, in their opinion, all within it had been secured against the contagion of small pox. Should this course be adopted it would seem proper that registers of the heads of families, and of the numbers vaccinated, &c. should be returned to the proper officer from time to time, and, since much would depend on the fidelity of the physicians, I would recommend that they be bound by oath faithfully to obey their instructions.

I would respectfully add that the danger to be apprehended from the spreading of the small pox among the tribes appears to be greatest in the southwestern direction mentioned above, but it is not confined to that quarter - there is danger of its spreading west and north. I think it is by no means certain that it has entirely disappeared among the remote tribes of the upper Missouri, and to this I would also respectfully request attention.

I am with great respect Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

Isaac McCoy



Washington City Feby 14 1839

Sir

A few days before I left Fort Gibson I unexpectedly recieved from Capt William Armstrong superintendent of indians in the S W Frontier a letter informing me that by the death of Col A P Chouteau the duty of getting together and bringing on to this city the tribes of the Prarie devolved on him and that as I had been with them moore and knew the country better than any one he knew of he would endeavour to have me detailed with that object if I desired it Now as this duty would keep me some time in the Prarie and away from the garrison I should be glad to have it as I allways enjoy better health in the former case than the latter

To attain the end in view the first object would be to find the different bands of wild indians who roam the prarie from the timbered country east to the mountains West and can only be found by travelling up the rivers and crofsing from one to another striking their trails and following them up

This would require a small command of 25 or 30 good men and even if the indians should not come in the service could sustain no injury

I will now state why I hope for this duty Col A P Chouteau who was Authorized to Call on the Commanding officer for a full company of dragoons stated to Genl Arbuckle that if he could have me untill he ended



the business he would be satisfied with 25 me this was complied with and I was out near 10 months and in accordance with Col C wishes (as will be seen by refering to his communications) I hunted up and found nearly all the indians of that region whom he had not previously corresponded with

I consider that <sup>[Paras]</sup>so is hunting up the Prarie tribes is concerned I am as well prepared as any other having been already engaged in it

I have the honor

to be Sir

Respectfully

Your Obt Sevt

L B Northrop

1st Lt 1st Drgs

To the Hon

J R Poinsett

Sec of War

(OIA: Western Supt'y File N 51. Washington. 1839.)



Washington, D. C. Feby. 28, 1839

T. Hartley Crawford Esqr.

Commfstr. Ind. Affrs.

Sir

I would respectfully beg leave to recommend to the Dept. that, in carrying into effect the design of vaccinating the Indians something like the following plan be adopted.

1<sup>st</sup> Let operations commence among the Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks, Seminoles, and Cherokees, and any adjoining tribes among which the small pox exists.

2<sup>d</sup> Let the Agts. ascertain, so far as can be done by enquiry without cost, the directions in which the disease of small pox is extending, especially in reference to the small bands of indigenous tribes on the Red river, and apply the preventative of vaccination first on the remote exteriors of those Indian settlements which are afflicted with the disease.

3<sup>d</sup> If funds to meet the expense be available, let at least one physician be appointed to each tribe named above.

4<sup>th</sup> Let it be the duty of the physicians to ascertain as far as practicable, the places in which their services are most needed, and report the facts from time to time, to their respective Agents within whose districts they operate, from whom they would receive instructions respecting the place for future operations.

5<sup>th</sup> Let the physician with the assistance of the



Agent, divide the tribe into bands or districts, and let the operation be performed with as much regularity as practicable ~~upon~~ in each, the agent using his influence through Chiefs and others to assemble the band, or the people of the district for the convenience of the physician. But if some should not attend the place of vaccinating generally, let the physician immediately visit them at their respective places. From this band or district he could proceed to another to fill up the intervening time required for the development of the effects of the operation, and he should return and examine, and re-examine the vaccinated until he became satisfied that his attention to that band or district was no longer necessary. In this manner let him proceed regularly throughout the tribe.

6.<sup>th</sup> The physician on commencing his labors would be furnished by the Agt. with a list, as far as his means would allow, of Indian settlements, the names of heads of families, and of individuals not connected with particular families, and the number in each family, and as the physician would proceed in his work, he would record in a book prepared for that purpose, the limits of the band or district, numbering them from one, onward, and would register the names of individuals, and heads of families as stated above. He would state the times when, and the places where the operation had been performed, and when the examinations and re-examinations had been made, the persons on whom the operation had been ~~performed~~ repeated,



the persons in whom vaccination had been matured, and those in whom it had not, and the probable cause of the latter. Also, state the number of persons found within each district who had had the small pox. Let him report his proceedings to the Agt. once in two weeks, and let the latter as often report to the Dept. Ind. Affrs.

7<sup>th</sup> I would respectfully recommend that the physician be paid by the day or by the month as more likely to insure fidelity than payment per head, and that he be bound by Oath faithfully to discharge the duties required.

8<sup>th</sup> Much useful information could be obtained if the physician, in addition to what necessarily related to vaccination, should be instructed to state the number of males & of females apparantly over fifty years of age between fifty and twenty one, between twenty one and ten, between ten & five and under five, the number of agriculturists, mechanics in the respective branches, merchants, and hunters meaning by the latter such as subsisted chiefly by the chase, and the probable amount and kind of property owned by individuals or by families, also, the number of the blind and the dumb, The number that have died of small pox, and the number from other diseases since their settlement in the west, stating the length ef of time, the number found laboring under disease, distinguishing the sexes, and the nature of the diseases.



In relation to the remote tribes high up the Missouri, I would respectfully recommend that the Agent for the Upper Missouri be required to take measures, either by a personal tour, or by other means which can be relied on, to ascertain whether the small pox has disappeared in that quarter, and if not, then adopt measures for arresting its progress by vaccination.

It will be perceived that the physician, by having his books suitable prepared, could, with comparative ease, make the entries required by the foregoing scheme.

As I am endeavoring to preserve a correct historical account of all interesting occurrences in relation to the tribes, I should esteem it a great favor to be made acquainted, so far as would be proper, with the plan which may be adopted.

With very great respect

Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

Isaac McCoy

(OIA: Misc. File M-615 &c. Washington. 1839. M-639.)



Washington March 11<sup>th</sup> 1839

Sir

I would be glad if you will furnish pafsports to David Waldo and Solomon Houch to trade to Santa Fee and with the Indians

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

L. F Linn

Hon Joel R Poinsett

Secretary of War

(OIA: Misc. File (L706) Washington. 1839.)



Fort Gibson

2<sup>d</sup> May, 1839.

T. Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup>. of Ind<sup>n</sup>. Affr<sup>s</sup>.

Sir,

According to your instructions I have in connection with Genl. Arbuckle made an agreement with the Creeks for a location for the Seminoles within the Creek Nation - I am not taking measures for the immediate removal of the Seminoles - I have engaged waggon<sup>s</sup> and purchased a few agricultural implements - and in three or four days I hope to start about One Thousand - Miccanopy - Cloud Coa.harjo. with some other chiefs have agreed to start immediately - with the first party Alligator who is near this post, is unwilling at present to go - indeed he has used his exertion to keep all with him he can - nothing will be done for any until they get to their new homes -- when I feel Confident that those who go will be well pleased - I have employed a discreet man to go out with the Seminoles - and will have a few hands to assist them - first to plant some corn. beans. pumpkins &- Col. Logan the Agent will have a general controul - and give as much of his personal attention as he can to the removal - and settling of the Seminoles - as they will arrive too late to make much of a crop. I would respectfully submit it for your consideration that whatever balance may be left of the fund for the indigent indian be reserved for the Seminoles - upon consideration of their removing it is uselefs to furnish those who remain



around the garrison here with other farming utensils or any thing - else - they would immediately sell at a reduced price whatever is given them -

It is so important to get the Seminoles settled - that I have used every exertion to carry out the instructions of the Dept - the Country set apart by Agreement with the Chiefs of the Creek Nation for the Seminoles is about thirty five miles from this place. between the deep Fork or little fork - and the North fork of the Canadian. so as to embrace a country equal in extent to the one the Seminoles were to have had in the Creek Nation between the Main and North fork of the Canadian - the Agreement - will be forwarded you - The country is a good one - Several of the Seminoles have seen it - and are pleased with it - I shall return to my Agency in a day or two.

There has been some excitement in the Cherokee Nation - Genl. Arbuckle sent a hundred Dragoons to reinforce a company of Infantry stationed near the Arkansas line on Illinois. it will turn out that there is no foundation for such excitement and nothing more than the threats of a few drunken Cherokee<sup>s</sup> on the line and some ~~drunken~~ difficulties with the whites at a Whiskey shop on the line -

Respectfully

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

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W. T.



Fort Gibson

2<sup>d</sup> May. 1839.

T. Hartley Crawford, Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Comm<sup>r</sup>. of Ind<sup>n</sup>. Affr<sup>s</sup>.

Sir

I have the honor to enclose you a rough statement handed me to day by Capt Stephenson of the probable expenditure under the late Act of Congrefs to each of the tribes -. the state of the fund will doubtless make it necefsary to cease the ifsues - after the time that each have drawn - believeing this - I have consulted with Capt Stephenson who will make no issues beyond the time started - until further advised by you. - The Seminoles you will perceive have drawn for a very short time - this arises from the fact of their drawing under the years subsistence at the expiration of which time they were taken up - under the late Act of Congrefs -

There is in my opinion but little necefsity to feed the indians - unlefs it is the Seminoles - and only those who remove to the country recently set apart for them by the Creeks -

I presume Capt. Collins has advised the Dept. of the situation of the fund - and the issues he may have omitted to do so and as I am here, on other businefs I have thought it proper to make this statement - I hope the Dept. will have the balance of the appropriation withheld for the Seminoles who remove to their new country after the years subsistence shall have expired

Respectfully Yr. most obt Servt.

Wm Armstrong Act Supt W. T.



## STATEMENT OF INDIGENT INDIANS

Tribes	Full Number of rations	Time drawn for Months	days	Amount of Rations in money Doll <sup>s</sup> Cents	
Osages	1800	5	"	39690	00
Quapaws	214	12	"	11482	00
Choctaws	120	6	"	3155	00
Creeks	1735	4	"	30605	00
1 <sup>st</sup> Seminoles	600	3	18	9525	00
2 <sup>nd</sup> "	70	3	11	1039	00
3 <sup>rd</sup> "	233	3	2	3150	00
4 <sup>th</sup> "	99	1	26	490	00
				\$99136.	00
				deduct six months for Quapaws -	5740 00
				\$93396	00

In case the Creeks are ifsued to for six months the whole amount will be \$113.440. leaving a balance of \$8560.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 582 &c. Choctaw Agency 1839. A-587.)



Grand Saline May 3the 1839

Genl Arbuckle

D<sup>r</sup>. Sir

This will be handed to you by a Peholey Indian who has been Living for Several Years near Chouteau Trading house and it appears has been Sent here by the Commanches to Let L. Chouteau<sup>know</sup> they are now in Redinefs to meet him in Council as they have been promising him a Long time to meet him in Council This man has came here to See Chouteau and he is not here and now is going to Returne Back from here to the Commanchees and Says he is at a Lofs what to Say to them; I think it will be much Regreted by the Genl. goverment if it is not attended to as they have been Long a trying to get them together to make a Treaty of peace with them I Think it is in yous and Capt Armstrongs power to make Some arrangment to meet them people as I understang they are coming on to meet the Commissioners in good faith this is all I can say to you on the subject you can say to the Indian what you please I should should be willing to go with any Commishioner in behalf of my own Nation to meet them As I understand they wish to make peace with all Nations as will as the Genl. Goverment

Respectfully your friend

John Rogers

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 597-609-674. Ft. Gibson.  
1839. A-597.)



Fort Gibson, 6 May 1839

Sir

I have the honour to enclose my returns for disbursements during first quarter of 1839. My absence to Little Rock after funds has prevented my forwarding them earlier.

Tus-ke-hew-haw Cufsetaw and Blind Uchee Thing, Creek Chiefs, having both been dead for several years, the \$200 for former, \$100 for latter forwarded for payment as part of the Creek Annuity, was retained by me to the credit of the U. States.

Abstract for the purchase and issue of provisions at payment of the Little Osage Annuity have not yet been received from Mr. Callaway Act. S. Sub Agent. So soon as received they will be forwarded.

Very respectfully

Your obt Servt.

J. Van Horne Lieut U.S.A.

Mil. Disb. Agent Ind. Dept.

T. Hartley Crawford Esq

Com. Ind. Affairs.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File V 139-142-140. Ft. Gibson. 1839. V-139.)



Fort Smith Ark

8 May 1839

Hon. J. Poinsett  
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H Crawford

Comm<sup>r</sup> Indian Affairs  
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Dr Sir

Some time in June last I made a communication to C. A. Harris late Comm<sup>r</sup> Indian Affairs developing the mode used by the late Contractors (Glasgow Harrison & Co) for feeding the Creeks - In that document I plainly shewe'd that said Indians were cheated out of at least one third of their rations - I also stated that I was willing and ready to prove all that I charged these men with in my Communication

I did hope that I should not again be under the necessity of troubling the department, on this subject, and that the department would have used every means in bringing these greedy Contractors to justice - But I find on my return from Texas (where I have been for the last 8 mos) that your department have not investigated into this matter - and that these men are playing the same game on the Cherokees. - You have the means in your hands to Correct the evil, and order their pay to be suspended until a full and fair investigation of their late frauds Committed in feeding the Creeks can take place - I say again and again, I am able and ready to make my charges good against them -



As I have taken up the position against these swindling Contractors, and accused them, I am determined to have their Conduct brought to light - even should I be driven to the painful necessity of laying the matter before next Congress which would not be, in accordance with my feelings, but unless you hold an investigating Committee on the Matter here in this region it is the only alternative left me - to pursue -

I notice that last Congress app<sup>t</sup> \$5000 for investigating frauds practiced on the Creeks - I hope it may include this matter - for when this matter comes up there will be found against these Contractors a true bill or deficit in feeding of One hundred and fifty Thousand dollars, which they can be made to pay - and refund it to the Creeks - Perhaps you may have enquired of the govmt- officers about this matter - and they have reported favourable to the Contractors, but let me ask you - if the D. b. Agent at Little Rock 200 miles from this country and Capt Stephenson at Fort Gibson (who never attended an issue to there people) Could be in the possession of the information that I am on this subject - I tell you that all Stephensons Comm.<sup>s</sup> were bribed I have the documents and proof in my hands - Sir who are these Contractors that their Conduct should not be enquired into - and why should they be allowed to amass princely fortune's by swindling these unfortunate people - You might ask and who are you the accuser - Sir I will tell you for fifteen years I



traded from Saint Louis to Santa fé to the Rocky Mountains and every part of Mexico - Soon after you left the City of Mexico I was appointed U. S Consul of the California's - On my return to the U'S I was recommended by more than 30 members of Congrefs Mr Rives and Mr Benton Leading them for Lt. Con<sup>l</sup> of 2<sup>nd</sup> Regmt. Dragoons - again if you will examine the documents in your office you will find a report made out by me at the request of the late Secty of War Lewis Gafs on the subject ot the Indians occupying the prairies and Rocky Mountains - On that report he based a report to Congrefs asking for \$20.000 to bring the Chiefs of the prairie Indians to Washington (congreffs did not act on it) he requested me to performe that duty but it was given to another (Con<sup>l</sup> Chouteaw) excuse me for being thus particular but believe me when I tell you these men must be brought to justice

Respy

A J Raines

(OIA: Western Supt'y File R 416. Ft. Smith. 1839.)



Head Qr. 2<sup>d</sup> Dept. W. Division

Fort Gibson May 8<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Sir

I have the honor herewith to enclose for your information a letter received this day from John Rogers a Principal Chief of the Cherokees, and to inform you that I have directed Lieut. Bowman 1<sup>st</sup> Dragoons who is ordered to the Western Prairie to send word to the Camanches that Colonel Chouteau is dead, and that their desire to come will be immediately communicated to Washington where it is expected that a new Commissioner will be appointed to meet them this fall, provided it is their wish to visit Washington at that time.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Ob<sup>t</sup> Servt,

M. Arbuckle

Brev<sup>t</sup> Brig<sup>d</sup>r Gen<sup>l</sup> U.S.A.

To

T. Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Washington City.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 597-609-674. Ft. Gibson. 1839. A-597.)



## War Department

## Office Indian Affairs

8th June 1839.

Sir,

Information recently received induces the belief that Gamblers have introduced themselves among the Indians in the Western Territory. On the destructive consequences of their indulgence of the passion for gaming, stimulated and defrauded by skilful and dishonest men, it is unnecessary to enlarge. I propose, if it meets your approbation, to instruct the Acting Superintendent to remove <sup>all</sup> ~~any~~ gamesters who may be found among the Indians out of the territory, and to exclude them therefrom, as the only means of protection within the power of the Department. It is not improbable there may be combinations of these persons, and their aiders and abettors, and, whether or not, military aid may be required to enable the superintendent to execute his instructions - I therefore respectfully request that you will cause orders to be issued to the military commander or commanders in that quarter, to co-operate with the superintendent to the above end, and to carry into execution such directions as he may give for that purpose.

Very respectfully

Your mo obt st

Hon

T. Hartley Crawford.

J. R. Poinsett

Secy of War.



## Choctaw Agency West

June 8<sup>th</sup> 1839.

Sir

The Camanches and Kiowa Chiefs arrived at Fort Gibson some days since, and were sent to this place by order of Gen<sup>l</sup> Arbuckle, in charge of Lieut Northup of the Dragoons,

They were to have met Col<sup>l</sup> Choteaw at Camp Mason this spring about the 1st May, for the purpose of going on to Washington, They were informed before they reached Camp Mason of the death of Col<sup>l</sup> Choteau, they however reached that place, where they fell in with a Delaware who brought them on to Gibson,

The principal Chief of the Camanche nation, and also of the Kiowa's were of the number, besides some of the smaller tribes, Upon examination of the instructions of the Department, I felt fully authorised to send them on to Washington, but determined to lay the whole subject before them, and leave it to their own decision, I wished to impress upon them the fact that altho Col<sup>l</sup> Choteau had died, whatever he had promised them about going on to see their great Father the President of the United States, I had been directed to carry out, They finally concluded not to go on, had I pressed them they would have done so, but under the instructions I did not feel authorised to do so, the season of the year is so far advanced, and they would necessarily have to be confined in Steam Boats



and Stages, with a change of diet, Climate and indeed every thing, that I thought it best they should take the course they did, There were Seventeen men and seven women, they rode good mules, were fine looking men, and I have no doubt left here yesterday well pleased with their reception, I had them well provided with provision, and also gave them some Blankets Strouding and some other articles, with the provision, amounting to some Six or Seven hundred dollars. The bills of which I will send on, all of which I hope will meet the approbation of the Department,

We have now from Arkansas, a considerable number of traders who pass immediately through the country inhabited by these tribes, It was therefore the more important they should return with kind feelings, Should the Department direct, I can have these indians brought in upon short notice, and taken on to Washington, I told them if their great Father wanted to see them he would direct me and I would send for them,

The Choctaw and Chickasaws assembled and had a large ball play, the Wild Indians were highly delighted, altogether the visit I hope will prove of advantage to our citizens,

In relation to the accounts of the late Col<sup>l</sup> Choteau the administrator lives at St<sup>t</sup>Louis, I have therefore not been able to do any thing in relation to the expenditures made by Col<sup>l</sup> Choteau, under the late act of Congress, but



a very small portion of the appropriation however could  
have been expended,

Very Respectfully

Yr Mo Obt Sev<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W T

T. Hartley Crawford  
Comm<sup>r</sup> Indian Affairs

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 597-609-674. Ft. Gibson. 1839.  
A-609.)



Choctaw Agency West

July 1st 1839

Sir

I have the honor to enclose you copy of a pasport from the the Mexican Gov<sup>r</sup> of Chichuachua to Henry Connelly a citizen of the United States, You will also find enclosed copy of a letter from Maj<sup>r</sup> Wilson Commd<sup>g</sup> Fort Towson by which you will see the that the party have gone on to New Orleans by water leaving their Mules &C. in the vicinity of Fourt Towson, I considered it proper to give you the enclosed copies, as this is the first expedition of the kind, arriving in this country,

Very respectfully

Yr. Mo Obt Sev<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W. T.

T, Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Indian Affairs

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 520-618. Choctaw Agency. 1839. A-618.)



Department of State,

Washington, 17th July, 1839.

To the Honorable Joel R. Poinsett,

Secretary of War.

Sir

I transmit a copy of a note from Mr Dunlap, the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Texas, inviting the attention of this government to those stipulations in the treaty with Mexico which relate to incursions and depredations of Indians, and communicating sundry documents showing attempts of Mexican authorities to incite Indians within our territory to make hostile incursions into Texas and of the disposition of those Indians to act accordingly. Mr Dunlap has been informed in reply that his note and its accompaniments should be referred to your department, which would no doubt exert its best energies towards the fulfilment on our part of the stipulations referred to.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

John Forsyth

(OIA: Misc. File S 1536-1580. State Dept. 1839. S-1536.)



War Department  
Office Indian Affairs

29. July 1839

Sir,

I have received today yours of the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, enclosing a copy of a communication to you from Major Wilson at Fort Towson - & a translation of a passport to Mr. Henry Connelly, & his party, granted by "Simon Elias Gouzales, Colonel of the Mexican Army, Governor & Commandant General of the Department of Chihuahua."

This proceeding is of an unusual character, and is well calculated to confirm the impressions entertained by Texas that the Mexican authorities are using means to bring about an incursion into that republic by Indians resident in the United States. Our policy is to exclude all foreign association with the Indians in our limits, for reasons which are obvious. These wild people must be under our own exclusive control - otherwise we shall be embroiled through them with neighboring communities - their annuities and other benefactions of the United States be swept away by strangers, and a state of feeling engendered towards this country, which may be of the most dangerous character. The expedition wears a peaceful <sup>aspect</sup> ~~character~~, but it may cover intentions against the execution of which it is our duty to guard.

The whole measure is at war with the intercourse law of 1834, which, if any person other than an Indian shall attempt to "introduce goods" into the Indian Country, "or to trade therein without such license," forfeits "all



merchandize offered for sale to the Indians, or found in his possession," and imposes a penalty of \$500 - prohibits the granting of a license to a foreigner, and enacts that if he shall go into the Indian Country, without a passport from the War Department, the Superintendent, agent, or sub-agent of Indian Affairs, or from the officer of the United States commanding the nearest military post on the frontier, or shall remain intentionally therein after the expiration of such passport, he shall forfeit \$1000. It is further provided that if "any person" shall drive, or otherwise convey any stock of horses, mules, or cattle, to range or feed on any land belonging to any tribe, without the consent of such tribe, he shall forfeit \$1. for every animal of such stock.

The 10<sup>th</sup> authorises the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and Indian Agents and Sub agents, to remove from the Indian country, all persons found therein contrary to law - and the President is authorized to direct the military force to be employed in such removal.

I have recited these provisions to bring into a small compass some of those particulars in which the law & this visit of foreigners, under the controul of a person, styling himself a citizen of the United States, conflict. It is evident that this course of things must not continue, or be permitted.

That this party will trade more or less with the United States Indians, in contravention of our policy, is not to be doubted. The opportunity is afforded to



them, under cover of a passport from the Agent of a friendly power, to tamper with those easily deluded people. It is unnecessary to go into detail. You will, as soon as this communication reaches you, represent to Mr. Connelly the views herein contained, & require him & his followers to withdraw from the territory of the United States immediately - and inform him that their commercial speculations must be pursued thro' some other channel; as we do not suffer, even our own citizens to mingle with the Indians, much less can we permit them under a foreign passport, or foreigners, to embarrass our relations with the Indians or others -

I regard this as a matter of great importance, and request your immediate attention to the instructions now given - and that a copy of them be transmitted without delay to Major Wilson, at Fort Towson, for his co-operation therein -

Very respectfully

Yr- ob. serv.

T. Hartley Crawford

Capt. W<sup>m</sup>. Armstrong

Choctaw Agency West.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File W 903-953. War Dept. 1839. W-953.)



War Department,

Office Indian Affairs,

29. July 1839.

Sir,

I received to-day the papers, of which copies are enclosed, and transmit them, together with a copy of the instructions I propose to give the Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the Western Territory on the occasion.

I deem the matter of sufficient consequence to ask for your special direction therein, and for submission, if you think proper, to the President of the United States.

Very Respectfully

Your Mo. Obt. Servant

T. Hartley Crawford.

Hon J. R. Poinsett,

New York.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File W 903-953. 1839. W-953.)



Choctaw Agency West

September 9th. 1839.

Sir

I had the honor to inform you on the 17<sup>th</sup> August that I would as early as possible give you the information you desired in relation to the Amount required to meet the expenditures for subsisting the different Indians.

These amounts are very large particularly the Cherokees the tribe is large, and the subsisting progressing for all the emigration for them some time makes the expenses very heavy.

The Department are aware that a very large quantity of provision was shipped to both Forts Gibson and Coffee for the different Indians, The emigration did not progress as fast as was expected by the Department. The consequence was that the provisions purchased Consisting of Flour Corn Bacon and Pork and shipped as above was likely to spoil, indeed it did so to a great extent. Capt Collins and myself was directed by the Dept. to make the best disposition we could of the provision, That portion of it at Fort Gibson was sold to Messrs Glasgow & Harrison, The Pork at Fort Coffee purchased for the Chickasaws was exchanged with Lorenzo Clark of Arkansas for Beef. These Contracts have all doubtless been forwarded the Department by Capt Collins.

The exchange of the provision was absolutely neces-



the purchase was unusually large, and proved a total loss  
 sary to preserve it from a total loss in the end, The Con-  
 tract with Glasgow & Harrison for the provision they received  
 I suppose is settled by Capt Collins.

The exchange of Pork to Col. Clark belonging to the  
 Chickasaws is not settled, when the late issue of seven months  
 to them was progressing I wrote Capt Collins to make an arrange-  
 ment with the Contractors to receive the Beef from Clark & he  
 done so. Clarke delivered some four thousand dollars worth  
 of beef. the remainder amounting to fourteen or fifteen thous-  
 and dollars was not delivered. I designing going down to Little  
 Rock at the close of this month, but my engagements will not  
 permit me to leave until the end of the Quarter, when I will  
 obtain from Capt Collins the papers &c. and endeavour to make  
 the settlement. I would be pleased to have such instructions  
 as the Department may choose to give,

The Chickasaw Contract for the Seven Months is finished  
 the roll shows 59.47. Indians which for the time according to  
 the contract price of rations, fifteen cents nine and nine  
 tenths of a mill, make about the sum of 204.000 leaving out  
 expenses of Commissaries, From this deduct \$25.000 paid, and  
 the same amount in my hands on the Receiver of Public Monies  
 at Pontitoc, There is a small party subsisting for the year  
 by Doak & Tims under a contract with Capt Collins What the  
 cost is I am unable to say. There is also a balance for  
 the twelve months subsistence under the Contract with Glas-  
 gow & Harrison this I am unable to say the Amount. of un-



til a settlement is made, if it has not been done by Capt Collins,

is completed

The ifsue to the Cherokees, up to 31<sup>st</sup> August, The Contractors have deposited for safe keeping in the Iron Chest at this place, about three hundred and thirty thousand dollars in provision Checks for ifsues to the Cherokees From this sixty five thousand dollars paid them is to be deducted, Also deposited provision Checks for Seminoles for Thirty seven thousand dollars, For Indigent, <sup>Creek</sup> Indians thirty three thousand dollars. For the Indigent Seminoles about twelve thousand dollars, A deduction of Nine thousand dollars for the indigent Indians, has to be made from the above, and one thousand dollars for the Seminoles which has been paid, the Contractors,

The Osages and Quapaws with a small party of Choctaws, will amount to some thirty or forty thousand dollars to be added to the above constitutes the whole amount up to the 31st August.

The Subsisting of Indians will soon be closed indeed it is now so to all but the Cherokees. whose year is not out, and to the indigent Seminoles. on the deep Fork. I have since I became immediately in charge of them endeavoured to close them up. I have been thus particular in mentioning the large purchases of provision that the Dept. may be fully in possefsion of the exchanges that were made, and be enabled to give such instructions as they may deem proper in the settlement of the businefs.



On the 21.<sup>st</sup> June, I had the honor to write you relative to the last party of Chickasaws brought on by Col<sup>l</sup> Upshaw, amounting to some five hundred, who were not subsisted for the seven months, for the reason that they were then drawing for the year. They are very desirous to receive the seven Months ifssue, especially the meat part of the ration I have declined doing any thing further, until directed by the Department This ifssue ordered to be made will close the subsistence,

Very Respectfully

Your Mo Obt. Sev.<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W. T.

T Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind<sup>d</sup> Affairs

Washington City.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A522-670-673. Choctaw Agency. 1839. A-673.)



## Choctaw Agency West

September 10th 1839

Sir

You will please find enclosed Statement of expenses, for Goods provision &C. furnished the Camanches Kioways &C. in their recent visit to this place, which I had the honor to communicate to you on the 8th June last, I would respectfully request to be directed to pay the Accounts so as to close them in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of this year

Very respectfully

Your Mo Ob<sup>t</sup> Sev<sup>t</sup>W<sup>m</sup>. Armstrong

Act Supt. W. T.

T Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind<sup>d</sup> Affairs

Washington City.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 597-609-674. Ft. Gibson.  
1839. A-674.)



Doct Linn

Dear Sir

I beg leave to refer you to M<sup>r</sup> Washington Hood for information about Origon & The Indians he can also give you some useful information respecting the rascally frauds which have been and are daily being practiced on the Government and Indians by the Fur Company. M<sup>r</sup> H is an engineer and will probably spend the winter in Wash<sup>t</sup>

I must now call your attention to one of the greatest frauds which have been practiced on the Government for years in the West. Harrison Glasgow & Co of Howard county obtained a contract some time since at Little Rock from Capt. Collins to supply the Indians with Beef Pork &c upon this contract they have ~~heard~~ cleared upwards of Five Hundred thousand Dollars and it being distinctly understood that he the said Collins is to have one sixth of this enormous proffit the contract bares fraud on its verry face. These same men obtained last Spring or Summer annother similar contract at an enormous high price. When a respectable man living at Independence, or Lexington, offered to take the contract at about one half backed by Geo. Colier he took the trouble to go all the way to Little Rock & says this Collins wood hardly look at his bid This information I got from on of the sub contractors he is a plain honest troothful man. he remarked he knew these to be facts. and although defering with the administration it was a shame the Government should be so cheated This information I derived in a private way an am not liberty to give his name.



I have understood this Capt Collins has been ordered to Washington to settle his a/c<sup>s</sup>. I hope you will not fail to have it looked into. he has been a fortunate office.

All of these partys are Whigs & I can assure you these men are using this money verry lavishly to brake our party down & in some plaices the Whigs are using this affair to our disadvantage some of the sub contractors are living in Saline County

If you have any particular friends about Glasgow you might get some inform.

Respectfully

J. Jones

Howard Nov 20. 1839

I hope you will keep an eye to the Va Military land Bill & many of your constituents are interested in it.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File L894. Washington. no date. Linn, Hon. L. T. J. Jones. Stating that Glasgow & Harrison, etc. 1839.)



Statement of Goods Provisions & C. Furnished the Camancha Kioway and other wind tribes of Indians who lately visited the Choctaw Agency, For the purpose of going on to Washington, By appointment with the late Col. Choteau, and who declined going further --

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John Connor (Interpreter) -		\$70.00
John DeHart Ferriage across Arkansas -		9.00
John H. Heald & Co.		
4 ps. Blue prints -	114 3/8 yds. @ .35	40.00
10 " Red Ditto -	327 1/2 " 20	65.50
4 " Checks -	196 1/2 " 25	49.12 1/2
2 Doz Butcher Knives -	300	6.00
2 " Papers Paint -	450	9.00
2 " Combs -	225	4.50
50 <sup>n</sup> Powder -	75	37.50
21 yds. Scarlet Cloth -	250	52.50
100 <sup>n</sup> Bar Lead -	12 1/2	12.50
2 Doz Handkfs. -	450	9.00
2 " Tin Cups -	150	3.00
23 <sup>n</sup> Tobacco -	37 1/2	12.00
7 ps. Binding -	37 1/2	2.62 1/2
8 doz Gun Flints -	12 1/2	1.00
8 Papers Needles -	12 1/2	1.00
2 <sup>n</sup> Linnen Thread -	125	2.50
23 1/2 Yds Calico -	50	11.75



4 Bridles	-	100	4.00
4 Brass Kettles	-	325	13.00
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>n</sup> Sugar.	-	14	.50
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>n</sup> Coffee	-	20.	.50
25 Col <sup>d</sup> Mack. Blankets	500		125.00
10. Axe. Part. Hatches	125		12.50
2 Painted Buckets	75		1.50
Sumner Grimes Beef & Corn	-		68.75
Jefsee Chissam Beef Corn & Bacon			<u>24.50</u>
			\$648.75

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W. T.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 597-609-674. Ft. Gibson.  
1839. A-674.)



Extract from a letter, dated 1<sup>st</sup> January 1840, received at the Department of State from the United States Consul at Matamoros, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 1840 -

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"During the last six months various small parties of Indians have arrived in this City at different times from the eastern part of Texas, consisting principally of Cherokees, Delawares, Kickapoos and Caddoes. They muster at present about eighty warriors, all of whom, it would seem have entered into the Mexican Service - They draw their rations and have been furnished with arms, ammunition, clothing, etc- Some of the head men have lately returned from a visit to their respective tribes, One of them, who speaks English and calls himself Jim, informed me that he had visited several Indian Tribes within the limits of the United States, particularly the Delawares. I have been unable to elicit from him anything of importance with regard to the object of the mission. It would be well, however to apprise the Indian Agents on the Western border of the U. States of these movements, in order that they may be on the alert and check any improper interference with the Tribes under their charge.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup>., a party of these Indians, together with several Mexicans, fell in with Six Texians, accompanied by two Mexican Servants, on their way from



Mier to San Antonio de Bexar.- They killed all the Texians, stripped them of their clothing and effects and brought the two servants prisoners to this place. It is said Col. Rofs was one of the Texian party" -

(OIA: Misc. File S 1708. Dept. of State. 1840.)



Department of State

Washington March 4<sup>th</sup> 1840.

Hon: Joel R Poinsett

Secretary of War -

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose for your information,  
an extract from a letter received at this Department on  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inst: from the United States Consul at Matamoros -

I have the honor to be

Sir:

Your Obedient Servant

John Forsyth

(OIA: Misc. File S 1708. Dept. of State. 1840.)



Saint Louis May 1<sup>st</sup> 1840

T. H Crawford Esqr.

Comif<sup>r</sup> Ind Affs

Sir -

Your letter of 7<sup>th</sup> April, asking information relative to a party of Whites that are Supposed to have been destroyed by the Camanches has been received, & we hasten to reply & put you in pofsefsion of all the information we have upon the subject: In the fall of 1838 Co<sup>l</sup> A. P. Chouteau, who was desirous of opening an intercourse with the Camanches, despatched his nephew E. Chouteau in search of them, (accompanied by a small party) & from whom we got our information. M<sup>r</sup> C. remained with them, some days, & during his sojourn in their Encampment a War party returned bringing in with them the Scalps of twelve or fifteen persons, that they had found & killed on the Colorado. They also brought in Tents, clothing & a considerable amount of Merchandize. M<sup>r</sup> C. says he examined their clothing, saddlebags &c very minutely, with the hopes, that he might thereby get some clue to the names of the persons killed - but without succefs - They were evidently a party of Traders, from the amount & description of Merchandize they had with them -

A few days after, another War party came in, bringing with them the Scalps & surveying instruments of a party of Surveyors that they had found & killed on the Rio Brasses..



These murders took place in the month of October  
1838.

With Much Respect

We are Sir

Yr Obt Srvts

P. Chouteau J<sup>r</sup> & Co

(OIA: Misc. File C 1195. St. Louis. 1840.)



Napoleon Mouth of  
Arkansas 15 Augt. 1840.

Sir.

I am detained here waiting the arrival of a steam Boat hoping to be able to get up by Water as far as Little Rock - from which place if I can do no better I will transport in Waggons a sufficiency of the specie I have with me - to commence the Cherokee payment - I am extremely anxious to reach the indian Country where I am fully sensible my presence is required but disagreeable as it is I must remain with the specie until I get at least as far as Little Rock.

My long absence from my Agency and my not being able to reach there for some days - will require explanation - with the accounting officers of the Treasury - in the delay of my accounts - which I must ask the favour of you to have explained you may be assured that I will get on as fast as possible - and inform you immediately on my arrival - of the situation of the Country. &c -

Respectfully. Y<sup>r</sup>.

Most Obt Servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W. T.

T. Hartley Crawford, Esq<sup>r</sup>

Commr. of Ind. Affrs.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 850-876-877. Napoleon. 1840. A-850.)



Fort Gibson

19. Sept 1840.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose you accounts of M<sup>r</sup>. Danenburgh - who was a commissary in the Cherokee Subsistence - M<sup>r</sup>. Danenburgh was employed by Capt Stephenson I found him engaged in the discharge of his duty - which he done faithfully as far as I know - at the closing of the Cherokee Contract - the other Commissaries were discharged leaving - still a portion of there issues unsettled - this is the reason of M<sup>r</sup>. D- being continued beyond the time of the other - I did not feel authorized to pay the within accounts and at the request of M<sup>r</sup>. D- have submitted them to you - I have put his per diem pay at two Dollars & fifty cents -

Respectfully Y<sup>r</sup>.

most obt Servt

W Armstrong

Act Supt W

T. Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>

Commr- Ind Affs

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A850-876-877. Napoleon. 1840. A-877.)



Fort Gibson

20 Sept 1840.

Sir

I am engaged in paying the Cherokees and will hand over to Col Logan funds for paying the Creeks & Seminoles - M<sup>r</sup>. Calloway Osage Sub Agent is daily expected. he will take up the annuity and goods for the Osages - the Creek goods are also here and will be paid over to them -

I have had a long Council with the Seminoles and feel great Confidence that they will be able to succeed in inducing there brethern in Florida to emigrate - they feel there weak situation here - and are very desirous to be strengthened by those in Florida - I am not deceived in there great anxiety - to induce there brethren to emigrate - I have been delayed in getting on beyond my time - but I will work hard to get off - The Seminoles are to receive there annuity in Ten day's after which - Capt. Page will start with the Seminoles. for Florida if nothing further is heard. - If I cannot get off with them I will start very soon after - for I have great Confidence in succeeding -

Respectfully. Yr,

Most obt serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt - W. T.

T. Hartley Crawford. Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Commr of Ind. Affrs.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A850-876-877. Napoleon. 1840. A-876.)



Head Quarters 2<sup>d</sup> Dep<sup>t</sup> W. Division  
Fort Gibson, September 22<sup>d</sup> 1840.

Sir,

I have received your letters of the 21<sup>st</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> and can inform you that the Issue of provisions to the Cherokees has closed, and that the supply to the Emigrants from Texas amounts to but a little more than three thousand dollars and to all, to one hundred and seventy two thousand three hundred and sixteen dollars forty seven and a half cents.

I have repeatedly urged that money should be forwarded to pay the contractor John Martin (of the Cherokee Nation) and his Friends, who have been compelled to borrow money to enable them to comply with the Contract, and have not received a reply to my letters on this subject, I have therefore urged Captain Armstrong Acting Superintendent W. Territory, to advance if possible from the Funds in his possession fifty or sixty thousand dollars to relieve the Contractor from his present embarrassments and in consequence of the Military work at Fort Smith having been discontinued for the present and the Quarter Master not having money to pay the Mechanics and Labourers, I have requested him to turn over to Major Thomas Quarter Master, thirty thousand dollars to effect that object, which he has done with the understanding that that sum will be refunded to him by the Quarter Master's Department at an early period.

It affords me pleasure to inform you that I have noticed of late a disposition on the part of the Seminole Chiefs in



this Country to be satisfied with the Country assigned to the Seminoles on the Deep Fork of the Cannadian, and as it is obvious that they desire to increase their numbers, I judge that those that return to Florida with Captain Armstrong and Captain Page, will use their best exertions to induce their people there to remove to this Country without further delay, or opposition.

I am, Sir,

very respectfully

your ob<sup>t</sup>. serv<sup>t</sup>

M, Arbuckle

Brigd<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. U S. A

To

T. Hartley Crawford Esq.

Commis<sup>r</sup>. Indian Affairs

Washington City.

(OIA: Western Supt'y File A 875. Ft. Gibson. 1840.)



Missionary House, Boston,

2<sup>d</sup> Oct. 1840.

Hon. J. R. Poinsett,

Secretary of War.

Sir,

The Rev. John D. Paris, Rev. David R. Williams, & Mr. William H. Rice, with their wives, propose to soon to start for the Oregon country, under the patronage of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, to labor to introduce Christian & other useful knowledge among the Indian tribes in that quarter. Those who have heretofore entered that country under the patronage of our Society have been kindly furnished with letters from your Department, stating that they were authorised to enter and reside in the Indian country, and commending them to the protection, and friendly regard to any military officers of the United States, Indian Agents, or traders, with whom they might meet. The persons named at the beginning of this letter, and the Society which sends them out would regard it as a favor to be acknowledged, if similar letters might be furnished to each of them from your Department.

Very respectfully your

obedient Servant,

David Greene

Sec<sup>y</sup> A.B.C.F.M.

P.S. Please direct the letters to my care in Boston, Mass. D.G.

(OIA: Misc. File G 552. Boston. 1840.)



## Extract

Main Canadian

Creek Nation Feb<sup>y</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1842

At a council of Creek Chiefs and head men of the Creek Nation the following remarks were made to the undersigned by Opothleyohola at the place and date above.

Opothleyohola -- You have been sent here on business by the President to see the Indians - and we have some business about which we are constantly talking. We have claims; and have made out and sent the papers in relation to them, and I will now just mention the heads of them. When you look over the papers you will see all about it.

A number of years ago [1813?] the Creeks went to war among each other, and the whites were called in; and General Jackson came in and settled the war, and gave the Indians a talk at the close of it: Afterwards we heard that General Jackson was made President and a delegation of Creeks went to Washington to see him.

When General Jackson talked to the Friendly Creeks at the close of the war (1814?) he told them they had lost everything they had and that they must have a list of everything they had lost made out and they should be paid for it; and they understood that Congress had appropriated money to pay them and that was the reason they went to Washington to see the President.

The losses were all taken down and the Indians received a little money for them: but they were not paid half that was due.



When the Creek delegation went to Washington to see Gen.<sup>l</sup> Jackson they said to him - You were once a general in command of the Army and are now at the head of the government: When you were a general of the Army and in the Creek Nation at the close of the War, you told us at Fort Jackson, that we had a wide scope of country to the West and towards the big Sea - and that we had a great many bad neighbors in the West and South and that we must give up all the Creek Country West & South and that we should be paid for all our losses and claims.

When we told the President what we just said, he told us, that he had given us a talk a long time before, and that since then things were taking another turn; and that he would then give us another talk, and if we would agree to what he said he would do what we asked him to do.

When the President talked to us he said: I gave you a talk a long time ago; but I did not think you were going to be so badly off as you are; you are very poor and cannot live as you have lived heretofore, and you had better sell your country & go to the West: But if you Don't choose to do that, you must have your lands surveyed and each man have his own land and those that choose to sell may do so and move to the West.

General Jackson told us that if we would agree to do this and have our lands surveyed and let those go to the West who chose, and if we would all go to the West, that after we should all get to the West the door should be wide open for us to communicate with the government, and we should have all our claims paid. General Jackson told us that he had the money



there for us, but that he did not wish to pay it to us in the old nation, for there were a great many bad people of the Whites there who would get all our money away from us, and he did not wish to give our money to the White people.

General Jackson told us, that if we would move to the West there was a fine good country for us where we could make ourselves comfortable and happy, and that no white man should follow us to trouble us and that they should not come into the nation without our permission; that we should have our own laws here; and that we should have a good title to the country and should not be interfered with.

Agreeably to Gen<sup>l</sup> Jacksons request we had our lands surveyed and took a census of our people.

After this was done and each man had his own land assigned to him the White people came in among them and bought their lands: and when the Indians would not sell, the white men procured other Indians to sell in their name, and, so, stole it all from them; and that was what made all the difficulty In 1836

When we found we had so much difficulty in the old country we determined to come away and live in the West: But there were a number who had not sold their lands, and there were some whose names were not on the list, or had been lost off from it, and who were entitled to land, and we wrote on to the government about it: and they wrote back, that we must come away to the West and that those whose names were on the list and for whom there was no land left, should be paid out here.

Before we moved from the old nation there were some who had land and had not sold it, who had died and their children



were there and it was said, they could not sell their land: and we wrote to the government about it, and they wrote back, that we must let that be and come away to the West, and that the government would have the lands sold and that the money should be sent out to the Chiefs in the West and paid to the nearest connexions of the deceased.

Before we came away there was a difficulty got up, and general Jesup was sent there with a great many troops.

After General Jesup came among us we went referring to a friendly party and put down the difficulty, and returned home and got ready to come to this country, and another difficulty happened.

About the time we got ready to come away, a great many Indians had had their lands stolen from them, and it appeared as though they were dissatisfied and did not want to come away - and the Chiefs did not know what to do about it and they went to General Jesup about it: and general Jesup got general Watson to buy the lands, the Stolen lands, and a part of the money was paid there, and general Jesup told us we must take that money and come away to this country and pay the money on the way, and that the balance of the money should be sent out here and paid here; that there was a list of the names of the people who had lost land and the money should be paid to them here I.e. - General Watson paid half of the money, which was to be distributed on the way to the West, and the other half should be sent, to be paid in the new country -- E. A. H.7

We told general Jesup and the man that bought the claims, that there was only a portion of the Nation then in



Camp ready to come away; that there was another portion that would remain behind and that their lands must not be sold until they were ready to sell it themselves: and there was another portion in what was called Judge Torrens district, and that district we had nothing to do with - and we told General Jesup that we had nothing to do with that district. But it ~~seems~~ appears that the business was done differently.

When we started to come away to the West we were followed by a number of the whites and they took away a great many of our ponies: and we could not get a list of the names of those who had sold their lands until after we passed by Tuscaloosa; but as the Indians were suffering a good deal and were very anxious to get their money it was determined to pay /distribute/ some of the money to them /I.e. - that is - of the moiety paid by general Watson which had not, as yet been distributed/

I told them it was not right to pay the money until they got the list and could be sure to pay it to the right owners; but it was paid nevertheless - though not in my presence: - I did not see it paid.

When the Florida warriors (friendly Creek Warriors) were on their way back to this country they stopped at Mobile Point. Capt. Page had had been authorized to bring on the balance of the money due upon the lost lands /The Stolen lands, sold to General Watson?/ Some of the Florida (Creek) Warriors had claims upon the money and Capt. Page was at Mobile Point and paid them something and afterwards came on to this country and came to my house; and I asked him about the money and Capt. Page told he had paid those of the Florida warriors that had



claims upon the money all that was due to them, and that he had brought the balance here, which belonged to the people here.

This does not refer to any alleged claim for annuity.<sup>6</sup>7

When Capt. Page came here he paid the money for the lost lands or stolen lands, to a number of Indians: I thought the money was only due to those who had not sold their lands dis-tinguishing those who had sold their lands in good faith from those whose land had been stolen7; but Capt. Page paid it to many who had sold their lands in the old nation and had spent their money: - he scattered the money all around; and when the Florida Warriors got here they said that Capt. Page had only paid a part of what was due to them and that Capt. Page had told them he would bring the money on here for them, and that when they would get here, they would find it here ready for them; but when they got here, there was no money for them.

When the Florida Warriors came on here the Government sent on some money for them and a great many were paid: This has reference to their claims for services in Florida7 but there were some whose names were not on the list (muster roll) who were not paid: and there were two men sent on express in Florida who were killed - and a number died in Florida and their connexions have never got anything. This last subject falls within the report of the 28<sup>th</sup> of May and will be disposed of with that report. E. A. H.7

At the close of the old Creek War (1814) General Jackson told us we must not take up arms against the Whites, and must assemble our people and give them a good talk. When the people came together we had nothing for them to eat and we bought provision for them: and when we got ready to come away



to the West the White people levied upon our negros, upon those old accounts. General Jackson had told us that the government should pay for those provisions. And furthermore ~~when~~ the President /Jackson/ told us that if we would come to the country we should not suffer any losses: and we now think that we ought to be paid for what we had to pay the Sherokee on account of those negros. The amount we had to pay to get our Negros back was \$8500 /Eight thousand and five hundred dollars/.

Another claim is this: A number of years ago, at Mineral Springs, the Creeks made a treaty with the United States, selling a portion of their country to pay certain claims of Georgia people against the Creek Nation; and the balance of the money set apart for the payment of those claims, it was understood was to be paid over to the Creek Nation: but it has never been paid.

Another claim is for a piece of land a little below Hartford on the Okmulgee, which the government promised to pay for and has never done it.

Another Subject: Alabama forced its laws upon us in the old Nation and obliged us to pay money for debts that were not due; and the government promised to pay us back again: and they have paid nearly all - but there is between two and three hundred dollars still due, and we wish it paid.

When we made the treaty to come to this country we were told we should not be troubled with bad white men; and that no white man should come and live in the Nation without our consent; but there are white men in the Nation without our consent, and bad white men, too,



There were two white men who knocked a woman on the head and then crossed the line: and we told the Agent of it, but nothing was done about it.

Another thing - The government officers have once or twice paid us paper money that was not good, and we lost on it, and that made us poorer than we were. And now we wish to say that when the government sends any money to us we wish it to be Silver.

There are a good many wandering tribes of Indians on the borders of the Creek Nation interrupting our people & sometimes robbing them of their horses & other property. This is sometimes done by the Osages and we think the Creeks ought to be paid for their property. We suppose the government has an agent with the Osages and that he can be told to do something about it.

In my presence

E A Hitchcock

Maj- 8 Infy

Sp<sup>l</sup> Comm<sup>r</sup>

(OIA: Creek File H 1032-1033-1035-1046. Washington. H-1046.)



Washington City

April 7th 1842 -

Hon J. C Spencer

Sec. of War

Sir,

As a subject of considerable importance to the Creek and Seminole Indians, West of Arkansas, I have the honor to enclose the accompanying statement made to me <sup>by</sup> Roley Mackintosh, the principal Chief of the Creeks, on the subject of the apprehension of the latter, that the Seminoles are to be allowed to live within the limits of their country without being subject to the Creek laws.

I received verbal statements from the principal Seminole Chief, Micanopy, expressing the earnest desire of the Seminoles that they might have an agent to live with them, from the government of the U.S., and that they might be allowed to live under their own laws and usages free from the control of the Creeks; and they claim this under some promises alleged to have been given them in Florida.

The position of the Creeks in this question is fully explained by the preamble to, and the 4th Art. of the Treaty with the Creeks, concluded Feb<sup>y</sup> 14. 1833 and ratified April 12. 1834 - A part of the preamble is in the following words. - "Now, therefore, for the purpose of securing the great objects contemplated by an amicable settlement of the difficulties heretofore existing between the Cherokee and Muscogee, or Creek Indians, so injurious to both parties; and in order



to establish boundary lines which will secure a country and permanent home to the whole Creek Nation of Indians, including the Seminole Nation, who are anxious to join them" &c &c.-

A part of the 4th Art. of the treaty, is in the following words -

"and it is also understood and agreed that the Seminole Indians of Florida, whose removal to that country is provided for by their treaty with the U. S dated May. 9- 1832, shall also have a permanent and comfortable home on the lands hereby set apart as the country of the Creek Nation; and they (the Seminoles) will hereafter be considered a constituent part of said nation, but are to be located in some part of the Creek Nation by themselves; which location will be selected for them by the Commissioners who have signed these articles of agreement or convension."

In accordance with the provisions of the above cited article, the Commissioners on the 28th of March 1834 designated the country to be occupied by the Seminoles. See Book of Treaties to 1837 - page 573

Under this showing, it is clear that the Creek Nation has never agreed to relinquish their jurisdiction over any part of their country; but as Roley M<sup>C</sup>Intosh states, the Seminoles were to become a constituent part of the Creek Nation.

This view is not only confirmed by the 1st. Art of the Treaty of the 9th of May 1832, with the Seminoles, but it was "understood that an additional extent of territory, proportioned to their numbers (Seminoles) will be added to the Creek country".



Hence the right of the Creeks, as set forth by Roley Mc-Intosh is unquestionable and the right has not been forfeited by war, or misconduct and is at this moment entitled to full respect as entirely valid.

To understand the position of the Seminoles, reference must first be made to the treaty with them of the 9th May- 1832, by the 1st. Art. of which they agreed to join the Creeks West and become incorporated with them.

But this treaty was never complied with, except by about 450 of the tribe under Fun-e-tus-tee Hadjo. (Black Dirt): This Chief is now living in the Creek Nation, not far from Little river, and in an interview I had with him, he made no complaint of his position, as a part of the Creek Nation.

The other portion of the Seminoles now in the West have been emigrated under various circumstances.

Some have been sent as Captains in war, while others have consented to Emigration under arrangements made by various commanders in Florida. If, under these arrangements, any of them are under promises of having a country and a government of their own, I am not informed of the circumstances.

It is certain, however, that the rights of the Creeks could not in that manner be assigned away, but are still valid.

The Seminoles do not reside on the country particularly set apart for them by the Commissioners, but are scattered over the Creek Nation and even into the adjacent Nation of Cherokees.



Alligator and his band are altogether within the Cherokee country, remaining there by sufferance of the Cherokees who do not wish to give offence by ordering them out of the country; and some other bands are living on the Illinois, near Park Hill under the same circumstances - Coacoochee (Wild Cat) and his band are on the Arkansas, in the Creek Nation, but not in the particular portion of country designated for the Seminoles -

On the other hand, the Creeks are living indiscriminately in and about the country set apart for the Seminoles. The Secons, Chief of the Creek Nation, including the whole Tuckee Town and several other towns are in the heart of the country set apart for the Seminoles -

It is generally understood that the reluctance of the Seminoles to come under the laws of the Creeks proceeds in part, if not mainly from the apprehension that the Creeks being in the majority in their National Councils will use their power in recovering no small number of negroes, now in the possession of Seminoles, whom the Creeks claim as run-aways.

Some of the Seminoles within my own knowledge have had assurances in Florida, that on being sent to the West, they should be protected in the possession of the negroes sent with them.

I am of opinion that they are entitled to this protection, and it is certain they are now receiving it. But the practical effect is to take the whole of the Seminoles from under the operation of the Creeks' laws in other respects: and so long as the subject remains in this state there will be dissatisfaction in the country.



To meet this case, I respectfully submit the following suggestion, that at a convenient time - the payment of the annuity for instance, the Indian agent might propose an accommodation to this effect: that - Whereas circumstances have placed within the Creek country, the Seminole tribe of Indians from Florida where it is impracticable for them to have a separate government of their own, and whereas from similarity of language and usages it is reasonable that they should unite with their ancient friends, the Creeks, with many of whom, numbers of the Seminoles are connected by blood, it is agreed, by the undersigned Chiefs and Head men of the Seminoles, that they will consent to become a constituent part of the Creek nation provided the property of the Seminoles conveyed with them to the Creek country shall not be liable to attachment, or to be taken from them upon any claim or pretense of claim, <sup>founded upon any title</sup> antecedent to the Emigration, or removal of the Seminoles, without the sanction of the President of the United States.

I have added this last provision under the belief that some few peculiar cases exist in which the Creeks may be able to make a clear case in their favor and ought not absolutely to be cut off. I would place the decision with the President, because Indians do not recognize any government officer between their immediate agent and the President.

If the Chiefs and Head men refuse to come into this arrangement, I would tell them there is no alternative, but they must submit to the laws of the Creeks at any rate.

If they accede to it, I would have the Creek Council appealed to and efforts made to induce the Chiefs to acquiesce in the arrangements.



If the application should fail with the Creeks, I would have them informed that, as they were not instrumental in bringing the Seminole property within the country, they must not expect to profit by it - and that the Government will protect the Seminoles in their property.

The desire of the Creeks to maintain their jurisdiction in other respects may prevail with them in relinquishing control over the property of the Seminoles. - While, with the latter, the anxiety on account of their negroes may induce them to yield obedience to the Creek laws in all other matters - Of course, much must be left, in effecting such an arrangement, to the skilful management of the Indian Agent.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Yo: Obt. Servt.

E A Hitchcock

Lt. Col. 3<sup>d</sup> Inf<sup>y</sup>

Sp<sup>l</sup> Comm<sup>r</sup>

(OIA: Creek File H 7 (supplemental file) Washington.)



## Fort Smith Arks

21<sup>st</sup> Oct 1857.

Sir

I have the honor to submit the following Report in Compliance with instructions received from your office. - At present I am unable to make a detailed report as many of the Chiefs of the tribes occupying that portion of the Country leased by the Government for Indian purposes are absent or on the eve of leaving on their fall and Winter hunts -- Of the tribes of Wichitas and Keecheies I find in round numbers, twelve hundred souls. (nine hundred Wichetaws and three hundred Keechies) the two tribes having intermarried and are in the habit of living and hunting together, - They are now located in a village in Rush Creek about Sixty Miles West Fort Arbuckle, They express unqualified Willingness to conform to the wishes of the Department in every respect, and are anxious to have a Country allotted them, where with the assistance of the General Government for the first year or two they hope to be able thereafter by Cultivating the soil to avoid the necessity of following the Chase for a subsistence, E,sad,e-wah, the principal chief of the Wichitas in my interview with him stated, that he and his people desired to be treated as the Government had treated other tribes, that is, they wished Farmers, Blacksmiths, Mills and schools, the former until they could learn to raise Corn sufficient to do them, and the three latter furnished by the Government until such time as they could make sufficient progress in Civilization to replace them by people of their own tribe.



Of Wacoos and Tak waccones there are three hundred living on the Canadian about fifty miles north west of Fort Arbuckle, the principal men were absent on their hunt, Of them therefore I am unable to furnish detailed information. -

Of the Caddoes, Anadakoes and Tonies, there are three hundred and sixty five, living on the Washita twenty five miles south east of Fort Arbuckle, a portion on Red River and Keamechia, These people are in a deplorable condition, destitute of every thing, without a fixed habitation, or permanent villages, and are patiently waiting the action of the Department hoping that such arrangements can be made as will for the future place them in a more desirable situation.

Of Kickapoos, Shawnees, and Delawares, there are Two thousand five hundred of this number two thousand have been born on the soil and have never been off it, they are living on the Canadian and false Washita, at present. Scattered hunting, some of them West of the 100 Degree of Longitude, By a resolution of the Legislature of the Chickasaw Nation they have been ordered to leave the Chickasaw Country, I addrefsed a letter to Cyrus Harris Governor of the Chickasaw Nation requesting permission from them to remain until such time as the arrangement for locating them on a reserve Specially set apart for that purpose Can be perfected. The Shawnees and Delawares have never received their portion of the annuity paid the main body of their



tribes as they have declined going for it, They are unwilling to undergo the rigor of a northern climate and say that the reason occupied by their people is too small to support those already located on it.

Of Commanchies there are about Six hundred living on or near the 100th Degree West Longitude, The wish of the Government were explained to those present and they expressed much pleasure thereat, but as the principal men were absent hunting, made no promises for their people. It is understood however, that they desire a reserve on the leased grounds. and will locate there if such should be the wish of the Department. and that many of those now in Texas would prefer in that case to remove from their reserves in that state and join this ~~side~~ idea I found to have been communicated by them to the white Settlers in the neighbourhood. It is perhaps well to remark that all the Commanches living in this scope of country express the most unqualified <sup>un</sup> willingness to being settled or located in Texas, They cannot be made at present to Comprehend what the United States have to do with Texas; they express a great desire to live in the territory of the United States, but decline to live in Texas. This sentiment is in part due no doubt to the fact that formerly previous to annexation great pains were taken to impress them with the idea that Texas and the United States were Seperate Governments and in part to their wars with the Texians. -

That the Indians named in the foregoing with the the



exception of the Shawnees, Delawares and Kickapoos will come under my Agency I presume there can be no doubt If any arrangement can be made for them until the Department Can be Consulted in the matter, I would be glad to have it done as I have as before stated taken the responsibility of requesting that they be permitted to remain until I receive further instructions from your office.

Very Respectfully

Your obt Servt

(Signed) A H M<sup>C</sup>Kissick

Witchita Agent &c.

Chas Rector

Supt Ind Affrs

Fort Smith Ark

(OIA: Western Supt'y File Ft. Smith. 1837.)



S C H O O L S



Scott Cty Kentucky Jany 5th 1829 -

Hon Lewis Cafs Sec of War

Dear Sir the undersignd Inspectors met on the 3<sup>d</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Days of the presant Instant at the Choctaw Acadamy And after an examanning make the following Report

We find the condition of the Acadamy to be in a State of prosperity the health of the Students to be good and on a perticular examination of the Students pease harmany And Genl Satisfaction prevades among Its in mates the Quarates Clothing and provisions are of good Quality and Abundant the Teachers Inployed we find to be abundant able and Efficient Gentlemen and the students making considerable progrefs in Thare Various branches of Education, The machanical operations are In a State of Prosperity and Genl usfulnefs in the Neighbourhood Shoe making Blacksmithing Wagone making & Tayloring is done with Neetnefs and Dispath and for further perticulars we Refer you to the to the Report of the Superintendant We have the honor to be with Great Respect your obt sevts

W<sup>m</sup> Suggett Che

A Brooking

B. Worlane

A Johnson



The undersigned having received from the Honble. Secretary of War a Notification of their appointment as Inspectors of the Choctaw Academy in Kentucky to inform themselves fully in relation to the entire organization and operations of said institution Met at the Same upon the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> days of July last (the two latter days being the annual examination and exhibition thereof) and Now pursuant to the request of the Department submit the following report -- " -- " -- " -- " -- " -- --

The Number, names and ages of the Indian pupils at present in this institution: the tribes to which they respectively belong; the time of their entering the Academy - the the Studies they pursue and their apparent capacity will be found in detail in Exhibit (No 1) accompanying this report, and made a part thereof -

The location of the Academy is admirably adapted to the health and comfort of the Students as also the advancement attainment of the general objects of its institution.

The surrounding neighbourhood is populous and highly respectable affording all the benefits of good Society; Whilst the Academy itself is beautifully situated upon the top of a high hill surrounded by a large natural forrest a spot the most desirable and inviteing for Study. The inspectors have carefully examined the buildings of this institution and those appurtenant thereto and find them well adapted to the purposes for which they are designed.



The School rooms are four in number two of which are thirty Eight feet long and twenty feet wide; and the other two are twenty feet square each - the dining-room is one hundred feet long and twenty feet wide together with sufficiency of lodging rooms

The Whole of the buildings are comfortable Neat and Cleanly and bespeak a supervisory attention highly creditable to those entrusted with the arrangement and government thereof -- ---

The Students are all well clad in <sup>a</sup> Style to secure Comfort decency and health and manifest in their appearance conduct and conversation every evidence of contentment & prosperity

Doct Hatch a gentleman of deservedly high standeing in his profefsion is the Physician of the Academy employed by the year to Superintend the health and minister to the Students in Sicknefs - Whose report to the undersigned is hereto appended and made a part hereof -- " -- " -- "--"---"

Mr Thomas Henderson the Superintendant Mr James D. Black together with two of the Indian youth Mr. J. N. Burrofsa and Mr. W. Trayhorn are the teachers in the institution. Mr Henderson is a gentleman of much excellence of Character, long experience in teaching and every way well adapted to and qualified for the Station he fills. -- --

The other gentlemen (who are Subteachers and afsistants in the School) are efficient active and industrious entirely qualified for their respective Stations. The an-



nual examination of the Academy commenced upon the 25<sup>th</sup> Ult. and closed with a public Exhibition upon the 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Examination took place in the presence of the inspectors and a Number of visitors and literary gentlemen- the exercises were principally in the higher branches of Mathematics and Algebra - in Geography and English Grammar - Arithmetic and Vocal Music - during which the pupils generally exhibited a progress in their Studies highly creditable to themselves & their instructors and perfectly satisfactory to every one present: indeed many of them manifested a proficiency in improvement and a development of genius, <sup>rarely found</sup> in the youth of our Color and Nation.

The Exhibition was attended by a concourse of two or three thousand ladies and gentlemen - It was conducted in a very becoming manner much to the amusement and gratification of the audience and Credit of the pupils -- Upon the Whole we cannot discover any inferiority of Capacity in the indian youth compared with our own - Their behavior - <sup>them</sup> the good order Which prevails amongst - their docility and rapid advances in Study must prove to all who witness them that Nature has gifted them with genius and intellect equal to any people on Earth -- --

In addition to the usual Academic Studies Several Societies have been organized at this institution for the more effectual improvement of its youth in good manners good morals and intellectual acquirements. For their names



and sepearte objects reference is had to the superintend-  
ants quarterly report of the date of the first instant.

The Public manifest great and increaseing interest  
in the progrefs and prosperity of this institution - It is  
visited by literary and other gentlemen from all parts of the  
Union when travelling through this country all of whom with  
the undersigned concur in the opinion that this institution  
in its every aspect is important and should be continued  
sustained and enlarged All of which is respectfully  
submitted

August 10<sup>th</sup> 1832

David Thornton Ch<sup>m</sup>

S. M. Noel

W<sup>m</sup> Suggett

J. T. Johnson

B. S. Chambers

J F Robinson

B W, Stone

(OIA: 1832 Schools (Choctaw Academy) Reports.)



Washington City. May 20<sup>th</sup> 1833.

To the Hon Lewis Cafs

SecY of War

Sir

The Bapt<sup>t</sup> General Convention of U.S. have been for many years engaged in the work of Indian Reform, and the collocation of the Tribes in the Territory west of the Mifsifsippi, is a measure which we believe to be eminently calculated to facilitate our benevolent operations. The views of the Government, as developed in the plan of Indian Colonization, elicits our warmest approbation, and it is our purpose to put forth more vigorous efforts than those which have heretofore obtained, that we may sustain, as a denomination, a full share of the labour & expense necessary to the accomplishment of this noable enterprize.

We wish to place distinctly before your Excellency, the Rev<sup>d</sup> Isaac McCoy of MO as an individual in whom we have entire confidence; & his employment in treating with some of the Tribes, or removing them, or surveying lands, or in any other branch of Indian businefs, could not fail to be beneficial to the Indians, & would prove, we doubt not, entirely satisfactory to the Gov<sup>t</sup>.

In Oct ober last, the Rev<sup>d</sup> Charles E. Wilson was put among the Choctaws, to examine their country & condition, & prepare the way for the establishment of schools & mifsions among them. He has recently been directed to fix his per-



with them, and we earnestly solicit his appointment as Teacher of one of the superior schools provided for in the late Treaty.

Our Schools among the Cherokees at the Valley towns, are in a flourishing state; & M<sup>r</sup>. O'Briant, who removed from Hickory Log station Georgia, together with about one hundred families who had for several years enjoyed his ministrations, is now building school houses west of the Mifs<sup>i</sup>; - in defraying the expense of which, we hope the Gov.<sup>t</sup> will afford us aid. The help asked for in the present case seems to be the more equitable from the consideration of the fact, that the Houses we built & occupied at Hickory log were abandoned without remuneration; & from the further fact, that our Missionary O'Briant conducted himself in such a way as to secure the friendship of the religious community as well as the civil authorities of the State.

We have two missionaries & their wives & families among the Creeks, & have contracted for the erection of school houses & other buildings upon the River Verdegris, about five miles from it's mouth. These buildings are to be completed within the present month, & will cost \$1200. Our expenses in the establishment of this Mission have been unusually large; our missionaries David Lewis & John Davis, are laborious & devoted men; they preach to a regular congregation of about 300, & have a Sabbath School containing 80 scholars; & the prospect of civilizing & evangelizing this Tribe is most cheering. Will you have the kindness to cause



our buildings to be inspected, & award us as large a proportion of their actual cost, as may be consistent with the State of the Treasury & the merits of the case?

The Puttawattomies are literally "a people scattered & peeled", and for more than fifteen years we have been endeavouring to meliorate their condition. We have already expended between twenty & thirty thousand dollars in the prosecution of this benevolent design, & altho' great success has not been vouchsafed us by the Most High, we are still unwilling to abandon the tribe. About 300 of their number are now on the Wabash, & others are daily joining them, with their faces Westward. Our Missionary, Mr. Simmerwell, who has resided as you know, Sir, many years in the nation, is with them, & in a communication recently rec<sup>d</sup>, he expresses a strong desire to accompany them to their home in the West, where he intends to spend the remnant of his days. Col. Pepper has intimated his willingness to gratify this desire, but at the same time suggests the propriety of obtaining for the measure the approbation of your Department. We ask that Mr. S. & family may continue with the tribe, & share with them, in Common, their travelling provisions. We conceive that this arrangement would be beneficial to the Indians, that it would have a tendency to keep them together, & to prevent, or remove any unpleasant collisions or difficulties which might arise on the journey. You will acquiesce, we trust, in this view of the subject,



especially when it is known, that the portion of the tribe now on the road to the Indian Territory, is composed of those individuals whose minds have been controlled by the persuasions of our Mifsionaries.

Mr. Simmerwell has had some intercourse with the Kickapoos. Their principal Chief is supposed to be a converted man, & he exerts a powerful & most salutary influence over his people. He tells them that the Great Spirit, in the good Book, has commanded his red children not to drink fire water; - & the majority of them have embraced the plan of total abstinence. This chief has sent to us again & again for a Teacher. Should his request be complied with, must we sustain the School exclusively from our Mifsion funds, or is there any treaty stipulation which contemplates the necessary expenditure for this object?

Excuse Dear Sir, the length & plainnefs of this communication. We are deeply interested in the present & everlasting welfare of the Aborigines of our country, & we feel, as Americans & as christians that we owe much to this poor, degraded, neglected, & perishing race! And we addrefs one too, who realizes & acknowledges the sacred character of Indian claims. Every act of your several official stations, & all the public documents touching this matter, sanctioned by your name, unite in bearing testimony to this fact. Continue to afford us, we entreat you, all pofsible aid, that we may do all the good we can to the poor Indians. Our



object is simple & definite,- we wish to civilize, & evangelize, & save them!

In behalf of the Convention, I have the honor to be Y<sup>r</sup>  
Servant in the Gospel of the Son of God.

Spencer H. Cone  
Pres<sup>t</sup>. Bap. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Con.

(OIA: 1835. Schools. S.H.Cone.)



Fort Smith

13, March 1834

Elbert Herring Esqr,

Com. of Indian Affairs.

Sir,

I advised you in a former letter that on the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst: I would Send the boys off in canoes, having procured fifteen and fitted them out for their Journey, when ready to set out, two of them were taken down with the Pleurisy, and while waiting for their recovery, Three of the boys, first ~~two/none~~ promised me from Red river of which you have been advised came in to the Agency. It became evident that the Sick boys would not go, and Adam Fulson a Treaty Captain required that a son of his that has been in Kentucky at School for some time Should return home having learned that he was doing no good --

The two Sick and this boy to return enabled me to receive the three boys from Red River, although they have disappointed me by 20 days. Therefore to Keep up the Number required at School, I have now Send Sixteen boys they are thus far on their way in the Manner before stated, the Weather fine and a prospect of a long dry Spell. Before the arrival of these boys from Red River, I had taken three or four boys that were too Small and one of those is too old. <sup>(indeed</sup> he is a man) I was forced to do this to get the number as instructed.

I hope to be in Nashville soon and from thence direct to Washington City. To close my accounts for they are too



long and complicated to remain in that way without Keeping  
man  
a ~~mere~~ uneasy life being so very uncertain.

If my brother William Armstrong is with you, please  
tell him that I will be on very soon

I have the Honor,  
to be with high

Regards Yr.

Obt. St.

F. W. Armstrong

C. A

P S-

These boys will I hope get to the Mifsifsippi in 10  
days. it will then take about 7 - or 8- to get the  
accademy

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Choctaws) F. W. Armstrong.



Talladega Cty. Ala.

Mardisville March 28<sup>th</sup> 1834

Sir

Your letter of the 1<sup>st</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> was received Yesterday and in reply. I can inform you that Immediately on the receipt of Col<sup>o</sup> Abert's letter to me, I applied to the upper Chiefs for their Quota of Boys to send on to the Choctaw Academy, they requested me to wait a short time for their reply. I have not received It yet. I shall therefore send on to Fort Mitchell Immediately for the Boys whose names has been furnished by Col<sup>o</sup> Abert, and if I receive no answer from the upper Chiefs by the time the boys arrive here. I will take them from Individuals. I have no doubt but that I can obtain the number required In a short time

I am respectfully

Your Obt Servant

Leonard Tarrant

Elbert Herring Esqr

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Creeks) L. Tarrant.)



Talladega County Ala

Mardisville May 31<sup>st</sup> 1834

Sir

After the receipt of your letter on the Subject of obtaining Twelve Indian Youths for the purpose of sending them on to the Choctaw Academy. I sent Immediately to Fort Mitchell for them that had been enroll'd by Col<sup>o</sup> Abert. and also requested them to furnish Six others as the upper Chiefs had positively refused to send any. they declined sending any but those first enrolled Alleging that It might offend the Upper Creeks - but appointed a time to send those which were enrolled and agreed to bring <sup>them</sup> to West point on the 25<sup>th</sup> Inst. Mr. Killough Went according to the time appointed With a Stage Waggon and two horses But four of the boys came and their parents refused to let them be sent on to the Academy Except Ned Crowell Who was himself extremely anxious to go on and his parents did not object. This was the third time I had got Mr. Killough to go for them Since the receipt of Col<sup>o</sup> Abert's letter from Fort Mitchell, The truth is they are opposed to sending their children. and after a reluctant consent has been obtained they Will not comply with their promise Marshall says he is able to school his children himself and Ilands is sending his son to school. I am of <sup>that if</sup> opinion the Government Would authorize me to take the whole of the boys where ever I might find their parents willing to send them, I could obtain them I am not however certain,



however  
If the Department will authorize me to make the Attempt,  
I will use my best endeavours as I have heretofore done in  
the Other way

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

Leonard Tarrant

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Creeks). L. Tarrant. Letter addressed  
to Elbert Herring.)



Talladega Co. Ala.

Mardisville July 24<sup>th</sup> 1834

Sir

Your letters of the 18<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> ulto have been received and will be promptly attended to. M<sup>r</sup>. Meigs is now in the Neighbourhood. as soon as he leaves. I will endeavour to collect the Indian boys and send them on to Kentucky. If I can obtain them, Immediately, I shall necessarily be absent from my Certifying District, until I can obtain the Boys. and the Evidence in support of the Claims of the Indians in Ufawla Town. M<sup>r</sup>. Thomas Crowell has not yet applied for the money which you instructed me to pay him.

Very Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

Leonard Tarrant

E. Herring Esqr

Office of Ind Affairs

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Creeks) L. Tarrant.)



Talladega Cty Ala

Mardesville Aug<sup>t</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> 1834

Sir

Yours of July the 17<sup>th</sup> has been received and in reply I have the honor to inform you that I attended a council of the tribe Afsembled by M<sup>r</sup>. Meigs at Tuckabatchee and that they have furnished me with a list of Twelve boys. to send on to the Choctaw Academy. the plan you propose shall be adopted. and the boys sent onto the Academy as soon as the horses or poney's can be procured. which will require some time as they are scarce and high and will be somewhat Difficult to obtain. This was the reason that induced me to think of sending them in a Stage or covered Waggon, but It never was intended that any of the boys should walk unlefs Occasional-ly and that for their own amusement. It is uselefs to complain of unavoidable evils, but If there had been no meddlesome White persons in the country the boys might have been sent long since

I am Sir Very Respectfully

Your mo. Obt Servt

Elbert Herring Esqr  
Office of Ind Affairs  
Washington City

Leonard Tarrant

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Creeks) L. Tarrant.)



## Red Clay Cherokee Nation

22<sup>nd</sup> August 1834

In General Council -

Whereas the Treaties of 1805 & 1819. between the United States & the Cherokee Nation contains stipulations of certain reservations in the States of Tennessee & Alabama for the purpose of securing a school fund, to be applied by the President for the benefit of the Indian Children in the Cherokee Nation East of the Mississippi, and whereas above forty two thousand dollars, the proceeds of said reservations is already invested in a five p<sup>r</sup>. c<sup>t</sup>. stock, the interest of which ought now to be Judiciously applied and whereas Certain unauthorized individuals have taken the right of selecting the Scholars & chosen the Choctaw Academy in Kentucky in which they are to be educated, the charges of Board & Tuition is very expensive, as well as the distance from this Nation is great, and consequently consumes a good deal of the money unnecessarily in the journey of Scholars in going to and returning from said school, And Whereas it of right belongs to the proper authorities of the Cherokee Nation to select the School & the Scholars who are to be taught by the aforesaid fund -

Resolved by the Committee & Council In General Council Convened, That the President of the United States be & is hereby respectfully requested to Order the withdrawal of said Scholars from the Choctaw Academy, that an opportunity



may thus be afforded to the proper authorities of the Cherokee Nation to make an impartial selection of the Scholars from this Nation to be educated by the fund aforesaid in such respectable Seminaries or Schools as will afford the greatest benefit & the means of education to as many Indian children as the avails of the school fund will maintain & Support.

Be it further resolved, that the Principal Chief John Rofs, be requested to enclose a Copy of the foregoing preamble & resolution to the President of the United States for his information with such suggestions as he shall think proper to address the President as will induce him to grant the request of the Nation upon this important subject. --

W. Rogers (Clk)	(Signed)	Richard Taylor Pres <sup>t</sup> of
N <sup>l</sup> Committee		National Committee

Council

- |                           |   |                  |
|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| Sleeping Rabbit Speaker   | ) | James Daniel     |
| Protem Council --         | ) | Richard Fields   |
| John Watts                | ) | Joseph Vann      |
| Chunekee                  | ) | Thomas Foreman   |
| The Bark                  | ) | George Still     |
| George Chambers           | ) | John Baldridge   |
| A. Campbell               | ) | Samuel Gunter    |
| Tahquoh                   | ) | Hair Conrad      |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> R. Daniel | ) | George Blair     |
| Ed. Duncan                | ) | Nauhoolah        |
| Soft Shell Turtle         | ) | Old Fields       |
| Walking Stick             | ) | James D Wafford. |

A McCoy Clk to Council  
Committee



Bean Stick	)	Approved = Jn <sup>o</sup> Rofs Principal Chief
White Path	)	George Lowrey afst <sup>t</sup> p <sup>l</sup> Chief
Ja <sup>s</sup> Foster	)	Edw <sup>d</sup> Gunter Ex <sup>ve</sup> )
Chewalooke	)	Counsellor )
Charles	)	
Johnewayne	)	
Sutuakee	)	
Peter & Sweet Water	)	

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Cherokees East). John Ross. The names given at the left of the top of this page were included in the original under "Council.")



Head of Coosa Cherokee Nation

September 1<sup>st</sup> 1834 -

To His Excell<sup>cy</sup>.

Andrew Jackson

President of the U. States.

Honored Sir.

In compliance with the request of the General Council of this Nation, I transmit for your information certain preamble and resolutions, which were adopted at their late sefsion at Red Clay on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of last month --

Permit me to call your attention to the Conversations had with you on this subject by the Cherokee delegation, also to their written correspondence with the War Department relative thereto - and to add, that contrary to the expectation authorized by the order of that Department to Col<sup>o</sup> H Montgomery, together with what had pafsed between between the delegation and the officers of Gov<sup>t</sup> on the subject as refered to - That Major Davis of Ky one of the Agents appointed by the Gov<sup>t</sup> to value the improvements of the emigrating Indians, have taken it on himself to collect all the entire number of children, which the available interest accruing from the Cherokee school fund will educate, in the Choctaw Academy, and have Conducted them on, and placed them under the patronage of that Seminary-- This unexpected pro-



cedure is supposed & believed to have been performed thro',  
 the management of Col<sup>o</sup> R. M. Johnson and under the assumed  
 authority of Andrew Rofs -- It is proper that I should inform  
 you that the Cherokee people are not sattisfied with this  
 course of conduct. -

In order therefore, that a fair and sattisfactory ar-  
 rangement, <sup>in regard to this subject,</sup> may be adopted, - so as to ensure justice and the  
 greatest practicable good, to the interests of the Cherokee  
 people; it is hoped <sup>that</sup> you will grant the request of the General  
 Council as exprefsed by the paper herewith submitted - I  
 have the Honor to be,

Sir, Y<sup>r</sup> Ob<sup>t</sup> Hb,le Serv<sup>t</sup>

Jn<sup>o</sup> Rofs

(OIA: 1834 Schools (Cherokees East). John Ross.)



Talladega Co. Ala.

Mardesville Oc<sup>t</sup>. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1834

Sir

Your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> Ulto. has this Inst<sup>t</sup> been been received, and in reply. I have the pleasure to inform you, that the Creek boys, (Six from the upper and Six from the lower Towns,) are now on the road to Kentucky. they left this place On the 29<sup>th</sup> Ulto in fine Spirits for Kentucky. Pony's were so high that I deemed It most Advisable to hire them, they were Obtained at \$10.00 a piece. When the Amt of expences is ascertained I shall be compelled to Draw on the Department, to meet my engagements with the Persons I have employed to Collect and ~~and~~ to take them on to the Academy as pr Advice &c.

In reply to that part of your letter that mentions the Deposite to my Credit of ~~of~~ forty one thousand nine hundred Dollars in the Insurance Bank of Columbus the proportion of Creek Annuities Due the Creeks East of Mifsifsiippi permit me to observe that this is the first Official Information I have had of the Deposite -

It is true I have heard that It was there. and have appointed the Next Week to pay off the Annuities at M<sup>r</sup> Shropshires in the Fish Pond Town of Indians near the Tallapoosa River, all necefsary Steps have been taken in conformity with the Regulations I am Sir

Very Respectfully Your Mo Obt Servt

To Elbert Herring Esqr

Leonard Tarrant

Office of Ind Affairs

Washington City

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Creeks) L. Tarrant.)



Columbus November 7<sup>th</sup> 1834

To The Public

Gentlemen - Those young men are on their way to Choc-taw Academy - "Scott County Kentucky" by Special instructions rec<sup>d</sup>. from the War Department and we have furnished them the necefsary Clothing - Cash &c. in accordance with said instructions - and as they have no Supervisor - and understand very little of the english language - and have a very imperfect and limited knowledge of the world; it is hoped the good people on the road will aid in furthering them on and not see them imposed upon nor allow them to drink any spirits - knowing as we do their nature - and should their means fall short - the Hon<sup>l</sup>. R. M. Johnston will furnish any thing in reason for them to whose house they are going

Very Respectfully

Yr Obt. Servants

John Pitchlynn

Andrew Weir

Sylvester Pearl

Their names are as follows

- Richard M. Johnston - principal)
- George Washington )
- Lewis Cafs ) They Have a letter to J.
- John M Clair ) H Hough Esq- Nashville
- Thomas L. M<sup>c</sup>Kinney ) Tenn<sup>e</sup>
- Andrew Weir )
- Geo. S. Gaines )
- Charles Henderson



They have a letter to Capt- I- Edmondson City Hotel  
Nashville and also one to Mr A Throckmorton Louisville  
Kenty

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Choctaws). Thos. Henderson.)



Choct AcadY

7th Nov 1834

Hon Lewis Cofs

Secy of War.

D<sup>r</sup> Sir

I herewith forward you the names and ages of 8 Choctaw youths just rec<sup>d</sup> in this institution under the authority of the Dep<sup>t</sup> given to Majr Jn<sup>o</sup> Pitchlynn and also the majrs letter on the subject

This number added to the former number of Choctaw Students will give us Six more than our <sup>usual</sup> quantity - but this will be a very happy arrangement as we so frequently <sup>have</sup> a difficulty ~~te~~ in procuring boys to fill vacancies - having these six Choctaws over & above our number will enable <sup>us</sup> to have the vacancy fill<sup>d</sup> without further difficulty of about that number which will have to be sent home next spring.

Very respectfully

your Ob. Servt

Tho. Henderson Supt

(OIA: 1834 Schools (Choctaws) Thos. Henderson)



## Names and ages of Eight Choctaw

youths rec<sup>d</sup> in the institution on 16<sup>th</sup>

Nov. 1834

George Gains	aged about	...	17 years
Charles Henderson	do	...	15 do
Andrew Weir	do	...	15 do
Jn <sup>o</sup> M Clair	-- do	---	16 do
Sam <sup>l</sup> Leonard	-- do	---	15 do
Doctor Cotton	-- do	---	16 do
Tho. Brainard	-- do	---	16 do
B. Worland	-- do		18. do

(OIA: 1834 Schools (Choctaws) Thos. Henderson.)



Mardesville Ala

December 13<sup>th</sup> 1834

Sir

I have put into the mail my account against the United States. Incurred in Collecting and sending the Creek boys to the Choctaw Academy. I have also sent the accounts and vouchers On which my account is founded. I have paid every cent of the money and would be glad how soon It can be remitted to me as I have been compelled to borrow the greater part of it, In a former letter I advised you that I would draw upon the Department for the am<sup>t</sup>. this I have not done, but preferred borrowing the money for a short time. The price was so high, of ponys, I thought it best to hire them at Ten Dollars apiece. One of them Died and Mr Hogan was compelled to hire Another While on his way for which he paid seven Dollars his progrefs was some what retarded by high Waters. and the Dillatory movements of the pony's as some of them became tired, It will be seen by Examining the the Account of the Outfit of the boys, as rendered by Hogan & Lawyer that I had to purchase the materials and have their Clothing made. I purchased plaid and had Cloaks made instead of Coats as the cold Weather was setting in. I agreed to bear the expences of a person to go with M<sup>r</sup>. James Hogan and afsist him in bringing back the pony's as one person could not do it himself. I was compelled to Employ some person to collect the boys as I had frequently tried to get them to deliver them to me And they had always failed. Jimboy's account I thought



the most unreasonable as he had made Col<sup>o</sup> Hogan pay him Ten Dollars before. and afterwards became dissatisfied and Claimed \$72.00 I paid him the Account forwarded and prevailed on him to be satisfied With that am<sup>t</sup>. enclosed is a Receipt from the Superintendant of the Choctaw Academy. (the Duplicate I have retained) for the bridles, Saddles, Saddlebags, & Blankets ~~which~~ Which M<sup>r</sup>. Hogan left in his possession, he says the boys arrived in health and fine Spirits &c

Should there be any informality in my account which can be corrected by an Agent properly authorized, - please afford the Hon Sam<sup>l</sup> W Mardis that Opportunity as he has a letter of Attorney from me Authorising him, to do all such business for me

Very Respectfully

Your Mo Obt

Servt

To

Leonard Tarrant

Elbert Herring Esqr

Washington City

(OIA: 1834. Schools (Creeks) L. Tarrant.)



Washington City

25 April 1835.

C. A. Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind. Affrs

Sir

I must apologise for again troubling you. - I omitted in my last - to state to you that the One hundred dollars worth of books - furnished some time ago to the Choctaws - have been of great advantage - they have all been distributed - and I would again solicit further aid in this way if it can possible be obtained - There is so many obstacles in the way of educating indians - that it requires care and attention to succeed - When the school - is furnished and the books are ready to put in the childrens hands it would seem to leave no excuse - inconsiderable as the price of a book may seem - it may still keep an indian from school - unless furnished gratuitously -

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Pott<sup>s</sup> who is a public teacher amongst the Choctaw's - has at his own expense put up a school house - (seperate and distinct from his own -) for educating female Choctaws - he has also a lady engaged as a teacher and living in his family, - who has charge of this school - I would respectfully ask if some aid cannot be given Mr Pott. from the Civilization fund. he is going great good as the delegation now here will cheerfully state -

Respectfully Y<sup>r</sup>.

Most obt Servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong.



Regulations to govern the workshops at the Choctaw Academy from and after, the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 1835., agreeably to instruction from the War Dep.<sup>t</sup> dated 7<sup>th</sup> March 1835

We The undersigned inspectors of the Choctaw Academy with the Supt have adopted the following Regulations to govern the mechanical department of this institution in future. Viz  
 1<sup>st</sup> No student shall be compelled to perform labour in any of the shops, or learn a trade only by his own free choice, or by the Special directions of his parents; and in the former case he shall be permitted to quit when he pleases, and in the latter, at the instance of his parents.

2<sup>nd</sup> All the materials to carry on the shops, and suitable Workmen to instruct shall be procured on the best possible terms ~~terms~~ by the Supt. and advice of the inspectors

3<sup>d</sup> A set of Books in good style by double entry shall be Kept. or cause to be Kept by the Sup.<sup>t</sup> Showing all purchases of Materials or Stock to furnish the shops, the proceeds of Sales, together with the amount of manufactured articles on hand, which Books Shall be balanced and inspected at the end of every quarter by the inspectors

4<sup>th</sup> The workmen employed to impart Mechanical instruction to the youths, who may work in the shops: Shall not only be decent Men of Sober and steady habits, but well skilled in the particular Arts of their respective professions.

5<sup>th</sup> The nett proceeds of the Shops (after paying all the cepts thereof) shall be divided among the boys who perform



labor, according to their respective capacities, and proficiency in the respective arts; a part of which shall be given to them during their stay at the Academy; and the balance on leaving the school.

6<sup>th</sup> We would suggest that although no Student is to be forced to perform any labor in the shops, contrary to his wish, yet all that choose to do so, shall be under suitable and prudent discipline, such as the Supt by the advice of the inspectors, shall introduce, to ensure habits of industry, and obedience.

Wm Suggett Ch

Tho Henderson Sup<sup>t</sup>

B Worland

A Johnson

A Brooking

S. M Nael /?/

Jas F Robinson

John T. Johnson

(OIA: 1835. Schools. (Choctaw Academy). Inspectors, Sup't.)



Hon Board of Trustees

In obedience to the regulations which govern this institution, I resume my pen, for the express purpose of making known to you the present situation of the institution as far as Health & sickness are concerned

The health of the boys has for the last three months been as good if not better than experienced the last twelve months. The few cases which have occurred during this Quarter have (as I conceive) been successfully treated in as much as all have been relieved of them and restored to good health

I have viewed with feelings of complacency the gentlemanly deportment, cleanliness, and total abstinence of the boys from every thing that would have a tendency to debilitate the system, impair the constitution, and render them unhappy subjects on earth

The young men have taken an active part in almost every thing that had for its object the peace and happiness of the institution; by instilling into the minds of those who are incapable of governing themselves the importance of cleanliness moderation in their diet, and the indispensable and important principles which act as a preservative against those diseases incidental to our climate, so that the energies of all combined have preserved them from fatal diseases which have spread devastation in our country

Every thing that is necessary to make them comfortable is amply and bountifully supplied by their great progenitors



to whom they are indebted for preservation, and civilization in those arts and sciences now understood and practised by thm honor is reflected on the names of the Two venerable patriots who have conducted this institution in such a mysterious and unparaluled manner, It is to them that we are to feel grateful for the Health and happinefs of the institution

very respectfully

submitted by

Ew.<sup>d</sup> L. Branham

To the Trustees.

(OIA: 1835. Schools (Choctaw Academy) Superintendent.  
Reports.)



9 N. Washington, D.C. June 10, 1836.

Hon. Lewis Cals

Sec. War

Sir

I beg leave respectfully to solicit your attention to the circumstance of teaching the Indians to read in their mother tongues severally, and upon what we term the new system. This system is found to be so exceedingly simple that even adults unaccustomed to the study of letters can learn to read in their own language in the course of a few weeks.

Upon the new system books have been printed in the Choctaw, Creek, Shawanoe, Delaware, Putawatomie, and Otoe languages. and to the Shawanoes is issued a small monthly periodical.

Many of the natives could be hired for twelve or fifteen dollars a month as assistant teachers, to instruct classes of adults as well as children, which could be convened at appointed times and places, and who, under the superintendence of a missionary, might be rendered extensively useful.

I would respectfully suggest the enquiry whether a portion of the funds of the government applicable to the education and civilization of the Indians might not be advantageously applied in hiring Indian teachers as above intimated? Should this suggestion receive your favourable consideration, I would respectfully suggest that such missionaries as have been engaged in teaching upon the New System be allowed,



through your agents or Subagents, as the case may be, such sums as you may deem expedient, to be employed in hiring native assistants teachers, to teach upon the New System, and that the missionaries be required to account for the sums which they shall severally receive by reporting to the agents or Sub Agents the manner in which the same has been applied and the results of the application.

For the purpose of making the experiment I would respectfully recommend that allowance be made for the Shawanoes, the Delawares the putawatomie emigrants, and the Creeks of Arkansas.

Most Resptfy.

Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

Isaac M<sup>c</sup>Coy

(OIA: Schools. Washington. 6/10, 1836. McCoy, Revd. Isaac.)



## Fort Gibson

Gov M Stokes

July 2<sup>d</sup> 1836Sub In<sup>d</sup> Agent

For Cherokees West

Bot of E W B Nowland

Sundry Articles for David Miller to Wit

1 Linan Coat	-	6.50
2 p <sup>r</sup> do Pants	-	5.50
1 p <sup>r</sup> Shoes		2.25
2 Shirts	-	3.00
1 Hat	-	6.00
2 p <sup>r</sup> Cotton $\frac{1}{2}$ Hose		1.00
1 Vest		1.50
1 Satine Stock	-	1.50
1 Silk Handkerchief		1 00
1 p <sup>r</sup> Suspenders		50
2 Combs		75
1 Knife		<u>50</u>
		\$30.00

Received Payment in full of the above act.

E W B Nowland

p<sup>r</sup> A,G,A,Doyle

(OIA: Schools (Cherokee West) S36-37. Ft.Gibson. 1836.)



Gon M Stokes

Sub Ind Ag<sup>t</sup>

For Cherokees West

Bot of E W B Nowland

Sundry Articles for William Rogers to Wit

1 Linen coat	-	\$6.50
2 p <sup>r</sup> do Pantaloons	-	5.50
1 p <sup>r</sup> Shoes		2.25
1 Vest	-	4.50
3 p <sup>r</sup> Cotton $\frac{1}{2}$ Hose		1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 p <sup>r</sup> Suspenders		50
2 Silk Handkerchiefs	-	1.75
1 Black Stock		1.50
$\frac{1}{2}$ Yd Irish Linan		37 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Fine Black Hat		<u>6 00</u>
		<u>\$30.00</u>

Fort Gibson

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1836

Received Payment in full of the above act

E W B Nowland

p<sup>r</sup> A.G.A.Doyle

(OIA: Schools (Cherokee West) S36-37. Ft.Gibson. 1836.)



Cherokee Agency, Fort Gibson, July 7<sup>th</sup> 1836.

Estimate of the Expense of sending four Cherokee Boys  
from the Cherokee nation West, to the Choctaw Academy in  
Kentucky; and bringing two Boys back to the Nation. -

	Dolls.
Expense of transportation for four Boys to the Choctaw Academy in Kentucky; and the return of two Boys to the Cherokee nation West --	431.75.

Outfit and Clothing for three Boys, Tho. Jefferson Rogers, William Rogers and David Miller a \$30 each --	90. --
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Services of the Conductor of the four Boys to the Academy, and of the two to be returned home. --	100. --
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Expense of Collecting the Boys for the journey--	10. --
	\$631.75.

M Stokes. Sub-Agt<sup>t</sup>

for Cherokees.

(OIA: Schools (Cherokee West) S36-37. Ft. Gibson. 1836)



Choctaw Agency

14. July 1836.

Elbert Herring Esqr.

Commissioner of Ind. Affr.<sup>s</sup>

Sir.

Immediately upon receiving your order to send on fifteen Choctaw boys to the School in Kentucky - I despatched Mr. Clarke to Red river to procure ten boys which he did and during his absence I obtained the remainder in this district and succeeded in getting the boys off - on a Steam Boat on the 9<sup>th</sup> of this month --

The boys are more intelegent - and bid far to do better than any who have gone on- I prepared them with cloathing here. and gave Mr. Clarke funds to defray their expenses- on to the School, - and directed him to take charge of such as should be returned from the School - and also gave him very particular directions to attend well to the boys - and to guard them from going about the Boats-engine - Upon the return of Mr. Clarke the accounts will be made out - and forwarded - I took the necessary funds from the School money in my hands which will not be required until the accounts are forwarded and the amount returned me --

You will find enclosed a list of the boys with their ages & -

Respectfully

Your Obt Serv t

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Choctaw Agent



By the same Boat Gov. Stokes came this far with three Cherokee boys - and returned again - leaving them with M<sup>r</sup>. C.

(OIA: Schools (Choctaw) A39 etc. Choctaw Agency. 1836. A-26.)



Choctaw Agency Septr 1<sup>st</sup> 1836

C. A. Harris Esqr

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

Sir

You will please find enclosed the accounts with vouchers for the collecting clothing and taking on the fifteen Choctaw boys, as I was directed to do, by communication from the late Com<sup>r</sup> of Ind Affairs of May 13th 1836.

Mr Clark the gentleman who conducted the boys on, in evry case practicable, took duplicate receipts for the expenditure and delivered the boys safely at the Academy. I did not make him any allowance, beyond his actual expenses; he is the Clerk in my office. If the Department should think him entitled to additional pay, they will make the allowance. The boys were each furnished with clothing to make them comfortable; on the way, they slept in the cabin of the boat, on their own blankets; and the expenditures were as economically made as were possible; the season of the year made it more difficult to get on and any thing like travelling expenses has greatly increased; hereafter when the boys are to go on to the Academy, I would recommend that it be so arranged that they leave here in June, they will then be able to return by water.

Mr Clark had to get back with his seven boys at a greater expense, by land from the mouth of Arkansas river in consequence of the boats having stopped running.



The accounts for the return of the seven boys will be forwarded in a few days. It is necessary that I should explain the credit of Seventy dollars given M<sup>r</sup> Clark by Co<sup>l</sup> Johnson, for which he gave his receipt. M<sup>r</sup> Clark had made greater expenditures in taking the boys on, than he expected; and upon arriving at Co<sup>l</sup> Johnsons, he received from him Seventy dollars, for which the Colonel informed him he would draw upon the Dept, it is therefore taken from the amount of expenditures made for taking on the boys; and will therefore be paid Co<sup>l</sup> Johnson. I have advanced the money necessary from other public monies in my hands. I was directed to draw for the amount, but would prefer to submit the whole accounts to the Department; and when approved would respectfully request the sum expended by me to be returned. The funds to enable the boys to return were advanced by Co<sup>l</sup> Johnson, for which M<sup>r</sup> Clark receipted, the account for return of boys will be sent next week.

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt.

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Choctaw Agent.

(OIA: Schools (Choctaw) A39, etc. Choctaw Agency. 1836. A-39.)



Pushmataha District

Sep<sup>r</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> 1836

Cap<sup>t</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Agent for Choctaws

Sir

In conformity with your request I herewith <sup>transmit</sup> the report of the school under my direction. The want of proper books & schollars sufficiently advanced, has prevented me from carrying out any particular system of education. In giving instruction however, I have combined the Lancasterian with the common course generally pursued in english schools. In consequence of sicknefs which has prevailed during the summer & still continues, the schollars are not as punctual in their attendance nor as numerous as they otherwise would have been. The abilities of the children are in every respect equal to those of white children who reside in civilized land. A few individuals only manifest a desire for the improvement of their children.

My present number is Twenty three (all except one having commenced in the Alphabet)

5 males reading in Testament	) 2 females spelling
9 Do. Spelling	(
7 Do, Alphabet	)

Five might now receive lefsons in writing had they stationary provided.

In my intercourse with the Indians I have not seen a single loom & but one spinning wheel.



To my knowledge there are no mechanics in the district.

I believe there are none who depend entirely on hunting for a subsistence; but resort to the Buffalo range occasionally as pleasure or necessity may dictate. They are more of an agricultural people. Their country is well adapted to agriculture & were they to raise cotton it would be a source of considerable revenue to them. They have not as yet raised any with the exception of a few individuals rather as an experiment & the soil is found to be well adapted to its growth. They raise corn potatoes melons Beans & a few other culinary vegetables. The aspect of the country is diversified presenting in places a broken surface in others quite rocky; but there is I believe ~~there is~~ but small part that is not susceptible of cultivation

I am not able to say any thing in regard to its mineral resources

About forty miles from the mouth of the Kiamichi there is a salt spring which yields a large quantity of water & has been worked for family use; the product as represented to me is thirty two to one. In addition to this there are several other salt springs in the district.

In the vicinity of the first mentioned spring there is a medicinal spring said to be beneficial to debilitated systems & the scurvy which has prevailed greatly for the last 18 months. It has not been analysed I believe. Those who have used it represent it as being highly impregnated with sulphur and iron



300

In regard to water privileges it is very destitute.  
I have seen none sufficient to propel a mill more than six  
months in the year

All of which is respectfully submitted

by Your Obdt Sevt

Ramsay D Potts

U.S. Teacher Pushmataha

district Choctaw Nation

(OIA: Schools(Choctaw) A39 etc. Choctaw Agency. 1836. A55)



Choctaw Agency

16. Sept 1836.

C. A Harris. Esqr.

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Ind. Affr<sup>s</sup>

Sir

You will find enclosed the Account for bringing back the Seven boys from the Academy in Kentucky - The expenses have been greater than they would of been had the river of been Navigable - you will discover that Vouchers for all amounts of much magnitude have been taken - Col. Johnson gave Mr. Clarke \$320. for which he gave him a receipt. and the expenditures exceed that sum \$107.87 $\frac{1}{2}$ . one of the boys went on to Vicksburgh near which his mother resides; not having yet emigrated -- You will find also the names - Ages & of the boys who left the Academy. their residence &.

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt.

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Choctaw Agent -

(OIA: Schools (Choctaw) A39 etc. Choctaw Agency. 1836. A-46)



Choctaw Agency West

Sep. 18th 1836.

William Armstrong Esquire

Sup<sup>t</sup> Ind. Affairs &c.

Sir,

Since I made my report on the 30th Sep<sup>t</sup> 1835, in regard to the Choctaw School under my direction at this place - I have to state that for a space of about two months during the sickly season last year, the school was discontinued, also for a short time during the last winter & spring, Since that period the school has progrefsed slowly, until within a short time back- It is now I think in a prosperous condition there are eight scholars, five girls & three boys, who attend punctually, and others who attend occasionally. It it believed the school will increase in numbers hereafter.

Five of the scholars who attend at present have made considerable progrefs in spelling, reading & writing & one of them in arithmetick.

I have the honor to be Sir

With great respect

Your Obt Servt

Fr<sup>s</sup> Audrain

(OIA: Schools(Choctaw) A39 etc. Choctaw Agency. 1836. A55)



Cavenole Mount

Sept 20<sup>th</sup> 1836.

William Armstrong Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Sir

Since my last report as respects the school under my superintendence, I have to inform you, that from three to five scholars have occasionally attended my school, at present there are none, owing to sicknefs. I have already informed you that I am willing to remove to any station where I can be useful, as it is my belief that a school cannot be obtained here --

respy yours.

Allenson Allen

(OIA: Schools(Choctaw) A39 etc. Choctaw Agency. 1836. A55)



Pine Ridge, Ch. Nation

22<sup>d</sup> Sept. 1836.

Sir,

In compliance with your request of the 27<sup>th</sup>, Ult. I have the pleasure to forward the accompanying statement relative to the schools in the Choctaw Nation, under the patronage of the "American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions."

The general system of instruction has not differed materially from that practiced in good schools in our own country. The capacity of the children is generally good, & their progress commendable. At some of the schools a part of one day in each week, has been devoted to instructing the females in sewing & knitting.

Our experience teaches us, that where children do not understand English, & where they board at home & hear nothing but Choctaw spoken; instructing them in English while at school is not likely to be of much advantage to them unless they attend for a long time. We have therefore preferred instructing such in their own language first; & if they have time & capacity to go further, we then teach them in English.

We have not been able, since the removal of the Choctaws, to establish boarding schools among them; & the advantages of giving them an English education are not as great as they were formerly. At some of the schools the attendance of the scholars, has been quite irregular.



On Red River, & for 20 or 25 miles North of it, including a portion of the waters of Kiamichi & Little River, the general aspect of the country is good; & the land more productive than in the old Nation. Cotton grows well, where it has been tried. Crops the present season are good, and the country healthy. In some places the Choctaws are making good improvements.

There are a number of good mill seats in the country, & a good saw mill & grist mill, have been put in operation by Col. Nail.

The Mineralogy of the country has not been investigated. There are in places appearances of abundance of iron. Two salt springs & two Sulphur Springs are known; one of the former is considered valuable, and preparations are in progrefs for working it, but their progrefs is slow.

The time has been so short in which my report was to be made, that I am unable to be as particular as otherwise I might have been.

All which is respectfully submitted by

Your Obt. Servt.

C. Kingsbury

Capt. William Armstrong

Act. Supt. Wst<sup>n</sup> Ter.

Choctaw Agency -

duplicate



Choctaw Agency Sept 28<sup>th</sup> 1836

Capt W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Sir,

When I presented my last Report, I hoped the present one would prove more interesting; but I am sorry my expectations have been almost entirely disappointed. The original design of boarding the Scholars has been neglected with the exception of one family. I have seldom had more than two Scholars - and all have attended very irregularly. Still the short time these youthful aborigines have attended it has been proved their minds are capable of rapid improvement. It has been a sense of deep regret that while the generality of the citizens are well able to make arrangements for boarding, still a most strange indifference has been, and still is, manifested. The full blood but poor Indian has frequently enquired - when the School would begin - and I have replied - it was already open, but that it was necessary for them to support their own children. They have turned away with a dejected look, expressive of a strong desire to have their children educated. Some of the most interesting youths I ever saw, are thus deprived of the means of instruction solely on account of the distant location of the School and the inability of the parent to support them. Did but a trational and generous sympathy exist I am persuaded my School would be filled: but untill a kindly and united effort is made for Boarding, there will never be the



most distant prospect of a School.

In regard to Agriculture, so far as I know, the Indians deserve much commendation. There is scarcely a family of the full bloods but what raise a little Stock, and cultivate some of the most useful vegetables. The mixed breeds have considerable Stock: - and if things continue to progrefs in the same manner, in a few they will be well off indeed. Was the same value set upon Education as other objects, a very ample share of happinefs would follow: - and there blefsings sanctified by a Divine influence would make the Words of <sup>the</sup> Psalmist strikingly applicable to these untubored members of the human family - "Happy are the people in such a case; yea happy is that people whose God is the Lord."

I am Sir,

Yours Most respectfully

Joseph Smedley

To Cap<sup>t</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong  
Sup. of Indian Affairs

(OIA: Schools(Choctaw) A39 etc. Choctaw Agency. 1836. A55)



## Choctaw Agency

6 Oct. 1836

C. A Harris Esqr.

Comm<sup>r</sup>. of Ind. Affr<sup>s</sup>.

Sir

Since I sent on my report upon schools I have rec<sup>d</sup> from Mr Rind and Mr. Kingsbury their report which I herewith enclose, M<sup>r</sup>. Rind has but lately commenced, and will be a valuable acquisition as a teacher, M<sup>r</sup> Kingsbury reports quarterly and my report was made from the previous one -

I would respectfully ask if some aid cannot be extended to those Schools. under M<sup>r</sup>. Kingsbury. the one taught by Mifs Louisa Williams is particular deserving of aid -- The report however of M<sup>r</sup>. Kingsbury show conclusively that he is doing great good for the Choctaws - and as he states he has expended for these Schools about Twelve thousand dollars of the funds of the American Board of Missions I have thought that probably from the Civilization fund they could have say five hundred dollars refunded to them -- to aid further in teaching

Respectfully your

Obt Servt

W Armstrong

Act Supt West. Ter<sup>y</sup>



Choctaw Agency

Oct 20. 1836

C A Harris Esqr

Comr of Ind Affairs

Sir

The public schools in the Choctaw Nation require books, the sum to purchase a sufficiency for all would not be much, if the purchase was made at some place where they could all be procured, which would ensure an uniformity in all the Schools; and the teachers could then be furnished as the books might be wanted. If the Department approves of this mode of procuring them (they cannot be had here) one or two hundred dollars would do for a considerable time, if that amount was sent on.

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt Wes<sup>t</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>

(OIA: Schools(Choctaw) A39 etc. Choctaw Agency. 1836. A62)



## Choctaw Agency

September 22<sup>st</sup> 1837

Sir

I have the honor to submit the following report on Schools in this Superintendency. Accompanying which, is a statement showing the names of teachers, locations, number of pupils, their proficiency &c. by reference to which you will see that there are 217 males and 46 females taught in the Public Schools; and 98 males and 82 females taught by the Mifsionaries, in the Choctaw Nation, and 94 males and 63 females in the Cherokee Nation making in all 600 pupils in my superintendency,

There are not as many Mifsionary schools in operation in the Choctaw Nation, this year as formerly but they are better attended, The bad health of some of the Mifsionary teachers, and other causes not know to myself have induced several to leave the nation, consequently the number of schools has decreased,

Last year the Missionaries had twelve schools in operation teaching 228 pupils, This year they have only six schools teaching 180 pupils, making an average of 30 pupils to a school, while the average last year was 19. These facts go to show that the teachers have been making greater exertions and that the Indians estimate the importance of education more this year than formerly. Where suitable persons have been sent among the Indians as Mifsionaries, to teach as well as preach, and who practice what they



preach and show by their conduct and their exertions, their benevolent intentions, the Indians are not long in becoming convinced of their good intentions, and usefulness among them, and not only reconciled but anxious that they should remain amongst them.

But in most cases such men are not sent out, such of the kind as are in this and the Cherokee nation, M<sup>r</sup> Washburn M<sup>r</sup> Kingsbury, M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kenzie and others, are very useful in every way, they make themselves so by their exertions as Preachers, Teachers, Physicians, advisers, &c; and by their deportment and conduct, render themselves popular, Such men are wanted in the country, and are welcome to the Indians. The time has passed when men can be picked up in New England without talent, industry, energy, or the proper spirit and sent among these tribes to be useful. Such men not only render no service, but by their inactive dronish habits, set such examples as white men should not set before Indians, render themselves unpopular, and injure the cause which they were sent out to promote, Men of this description not only ought not to be sent out; but should be prohibited from coming among the Indians

It would be better for the Societies if they are compelled to support such men to keep them at home, and not send them out to injure the cause they cannot help, The Indians are becoming too intellegent and well informed to bear with such men. A majority of the Mifsionaries in this country are of the above mentioned kind, and to these facts, may be



imputed the great unpopularity of Mifsionaries in the Indian Country,

The Mifsionaries in the Choctaw Nation are certainly more useful than they are in other nations, it is owing to the fact that they are well imprested that they have no more privileges than other white men in the nation and are therefore compelled to deport themselves towards the Indians in a manner to conciliate their good will; and to render themselves useful to the Indians, to be allowed to live among them,. and are held themselves responceible to this Office for their conduct, If this was the nase in other nations they would be useful and efficient auxileries in carrying out the policy of the Government instead of being the cause of so many complaints. It would be well if the Mifsionary Boards in the States were imprested with these facts, instead of being under the impreesion that they had a right to send men into the Indian country to settle and live among them without the knowledge of the Agent or consent of the Indians, and that the Mifsionaries be compelled to report to the Agents and procure a permit like other white persons before they are allowed to settle in the Indian country, They would then not feel themselves so irresponsible and know better upon what terms they would be permitted to remain,

The Public Schools are in a better condition than formerly they are not so well located as the Mifsionary schools owing to the circumstance of the buildings being erected before the Indians were permanently settled, some



of the locations being very far from the settlements, and the Missionaries coming into the Indian country more recently, chose their own locations immediately in the thickest settlements but as the Indians are becoming more sensible of the importance of education, they are adopting measures to obviate this inconvenience by moving nearer to the schools, or boarding out their children therefore there will soon be as many pupils in attendance, as the teachers will be able to attend to. Of the eleven Public schools in the nation, one has no scholars in consequence of the school being so far from the settlements, that the children cannot attend, The other Ten are attended by Two hundred and Sixty three pupils making an average of more than Twenty six to a school. The average is not so great as the Missionaries but as soon as the inconveniences already referred to are removed they will average more than the Missionaries, as they will be more responsible to the Agent, and under his supervision, will be required to leave nothing undone to keep up their complement of pupils.

The school taught by M<sup>r</sup> Wilson is near this place, <sup>however</sup> having but lately gone into operation his pupils are well advanced and attend regular, it promises to become an important school.

M<sup>r</sup> Potts preferring to go among the Wild untutored full blood Indians, where they had always been opposed to education, had many difficulties to encounter, the prejudices of the Indians, the consent of the children after the Parents were willing that they should go, and many other causes to make it ar-



duous task, has finally triumphed over all, and has his full complement, such is the spirit that he has created in his neighbourhood by his exertions, that he has found <sup>it</sup> necessary to erect another building at his own expense for the purpose of keeping a female school connected with his, to be conducted by a lady, supported by some benevolent society in the states.

M<sup>r</sup> Rind's school is in a flourishing condition, the Indians in his neighbourhood are rather luke-warm upon the subject of education; and will not make their children attend regularly but the children who do attend are improving very much, he informs me that such was the indifference of the Indians upon the subject that the Chief called them together in council and urged them to send their children and encouraged them in every manner.

M<sup>r</sup> Duke is a native, his health has been so bad that he has not been able to make a report, and has since resigned when his school was last heard from he had Thirty two scholars some of whom were very well advanced, This school is in a neighbourhood where the people have arrived to a great degree of civilization, and who appreciate education, I therefore feel the importance an efficient teacher being appointed at an early day and shall appoint one as early as practicable

M<sup>r</sup> Perry has Twenty three male pupils, In this neighbourhood there is a female school conducted by Mrs M<sup>c</sup>Kinzie supported by the Methodist Missionary Society, where all the domestic arts are taught the pupils in addition to the other branches. These schools are in a flourishing condition.



M<sup>r</sup>. Watson is well located his pupils attend regular and are pretty well advanced; and his school may be considered in a flourishing condition,

Doct<sup>r</sup>. Allen has but lately moved to his present location, having tried another part of the district, without success, his school is in a fine condition very full, and regularly attended, His medical services render him very useful in his neighbourhood

Mr. Lewis's school is small but is well attended and his pupils are far advanced,

M<sup>r</sup>. Hotchkins is located among the full bloods in the neighbourhood of M<sup>r</sup>. Potts. and had similar difficulties to contend with he has overcome all and has a fine school,

M<sup>r</sup>. Smedley is located four miles from the nearest house consequently he has no pupils. Arrangements are making for boarding the children, when this is done he will no doubt have a fine school, as he has the capacity

Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Kenney is a native, and has but lately taken charge of his school he is every way capable to teach and possessing considerable influence in his neighbourhood, he will, no doubt, soon have an excellent school,

All the teachers represent the capacity of the children as soon as that of the Children of the Whites, some represent them as docile and attentive and very eager to learn, others represent the capacity as good, but their disposition to idleness hard to overcome, but the greatest complaints are that the Parents do not exercise proper authority to compel them to at-



tend, consequently their attendance is some what irregular.

According to the plan first laid down in the expenditure of the six thousand dollars school fund, there were to have been established four schools in each district, but at the time the houses were erected, Pushmatahaw district, being the remote Western part of the nation, the settlements had not extended much beyond the Kiameechee their Eastern boundery, only two houses were erected in this district. The settlements are now extended Westward, and large numbers have settled, and are about settleing in the country on the Blue and Boggy and their tributary streams, I therefore request to be authorized to erect the other two houses, one to be located in the settlements above refered to, and the other, whenever I may find it most convenient to, and desired by the people.

There are no public schools in the Cherokee Nation all are supported by the Mifsionary societies, The school at Dwight under the superintendence of M<sup>r</sup> Washburn is a very flourshing institution it is supported by the American Board of Foreign Mifsions, It is divided into two departments Male and Female, in addition to the intellectual branches, they are taught all kinds of labour appropriate to their sex, thereby forming habits of industry, which will be of great benefit to themselves in after life, this school would not suffer from a comparison with the common schools in the most favoured parts of the United States



The other schools as shown in the statement are doing much good, There are several other schools in this nation supported by the Methodist Missionary Associations, which are doing much good, but as no reports having come from them, I am unable to give any definite account of them,

Arrangements are about being made to establish some Missionary schools in the Neosho Sub Agency, with proper management they will be able to improve the Indians of that Sub Agency, as they are more inclined to educating their youth, than they were formerly.

All of which is most respectfully submitted

I have the honor to be

Your Obt Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act. Supt. West<sup>r</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>

C. A. Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> In<sup>d</sup> Affrs.

(OIA: School (west'n Supt'y) File A253. Choctaw Agency. 1837.)



Cho. Academy. Oct<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1837.

Hon J. R Poinsette Sec<sup>y</sup> at War

Sir We the undersigned instectors having met on tuesday 3<sup>d</sup> of October 1837. and proceeded to examine the General condition of the School and find it prosperous and for particulars we refer you to the reports of the Superintendant and the attendant physician - The Shoe Shop and Black Smiths Shops are in a more favourable condition than they have heretofore been

Most respectfully your Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>,

W<sup>m</sup> Suggett Ch

R. M. Catta

William Johnson

A. Brooking

B. Worland

A. Johnson

(OIA: School (Choctaw Academy) File S151-257-588. Scott Co.  
1837. Schools-S-588.)



The Inspectors have this day completed their quarterly examination of the Choctaw Academy; having been occupied the 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> of this present month of March. and they are happy to represent to the Sec of War that the School is flourishing in its various departments of learning and in the mechanic arts and also that there is an apparent zeal & fidelity in the Superintendant & all the assistants to promote the prosperity of the institution - the Inspectors feel a great anxiety for the prosperity of the School and they have from time to time adopted additional rules for the Superintendent who has manifested every disposition to conform to their wishes & advice - the arrangements of the School are comfortable & profitable to the happiness & advancement of the Students the Superintendent will go more into detail & send on a list of the students, their ages, &c

All which is respectfully Submitted

W<sup>m</sup> Suggett Chr

A Brooking

R. M. Catta

W<sup>m</sup>, Johnson

A Johnson

Thomas Jett

B. Worland

(OIA: School (Choctaw Acedemy) File S151-257-588. Scott Co. Schools S-257.)



Choct. Acady Ky

18<sup>th</sup> Dec 1837.

D<sup>r</sup> Col.

I herewith enclose to you a copy of some additional regulations introduced into this institution at the suggestions of M<sup>r</sup> Harris.

He requested in his communication that when I should form such rules as would embrace the Subjects mentioned in his letter that I would transmit him a copy - When you look it over please have it sent to M<sup>r</sup> Harris

The school is in good condition no one sick at this time except two boys with bad risings; and they are getting well

Most respectfully

Tho. Henderson

(OIA: School (Choc. Academy) J70-105-148-163. Senate. 1837.  
Evidently addressed to Hon. R. M. Johnson.)



## Copy

In addition to the regular Rules of the Choctaw Academy, the following regulations are introduced Viz.

1. In future no holidays shall be given in this institution, except Christmafs, Newyear's-day, Easter, Whitsunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
- 2 At the annual examination a vacation of one week only shall be given after the examination shall be over.
- 3 In addition to the debating society, I would recommend the organization of a Society to be formed by the larger Students and afsistant teachers to meet Semi-Monthly for the purpose of taking into consideration all matters of Self-government, duringthe hours of amusement, the time of vactions, and holidays; together, with every other matter which shall have a tendency to promote their own hapinefs, facilitate their Studies, and advance the principles of civilized life
- 4 The Students who are Studying Astronomy, Surveying & Book-keeping Shall meet in the front room at the house of the Sup<sup>t</sup> every night during the winter, and spend two hours in reviewing the Studies of the day under the immediate inspection of the Sup<sup>t</sup> except the wednesday Night of every alternate week, each one shall produce a letter composed by himself ad-drefs<sup>t</sup> to some friend or relative in his own nation



Which letter shall answer as a subject of composition, and shall be inspected by the Sup<sup>t</sup> and at the end of every three months a premium shall be awarded to the best performer.

- 5 The afsistant teachers at the end of every month will furnish the Sup<sup>t</sup> with a list of the names, tribe and progrefs of each Student who is not capable of writing letters; for the purpose of communicating their condition to their respective agents.
- 6 It is also required that each afsistant teacher shall cause every Student who can write, to spend a part of every alternate wednesday in writing a letter to some friend in his nation which shall be corrected by the teacher, copied by the Student and presented to the Sup<sup>t</sup> & as in the other case the best performer shall receive a premium.

Tho Henderson Supt

(OIA: School(Choctaw Academy) J70-105-148-163. Senate. 1837. J-163.)



Choct. Acady Ky

21<sup>st</sup> Dec 1837

D<sup>r</sup> Co<sup>l</sup>

In answer to yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Inst you will please to say to M<sup>r</sup>. Harris that at least three or four Cherokee boys may be sent home next summer.

On the subject of the Omaha boys you will please inform the Dep<sup>t</sup> that they will not be prepared to be useful to their people short of 18 months or two years -- one of these boys was permitted to work in the Smith shop, who continued until he could do good work, but during last fall his health became bad and the Doctor advised me to take him from the shop and put him to review his learning in school, which I did; and shall continue him in school ~~until~~ until his health will justify putting him again <sup>in</sup> the shop to complete the trade.

The other boy is learning the tailoring trade, when he completes that, and reviews his studies sufficiently; they may be sent home and be very useful to their people

Most respectfully

Your Most Ob<sup>t</sup> Servt

Col. Rich<sup>d</sup> M Johnson

Tho Henderson

Washington City



Choct<sup>t</sup> Acady Ky

22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 1837

D<sup>r</sup> Co<sup>l</sup>

I would beg leave to communicate through you to Mr Harris the propriety of introducing in addition to the work shops, a System calculated to instruct the youths of this institution in the businefs of agriculture upon a small scale.

This could be done by proper management, without any material interruption to their regular Studies; and doubtless would be an important acquisition to every student destined to shed the light of civilized life among the indians -- What will an education avail them in their present uncultivated condition without some knowledge of cultivating the soil? - this subject I have frequently mentioned to you in our private conversations on the improvement of the Indians,

I think if you would get Mr Harris who appears to be a most excellent practical man to take some interest in the promotion of this plan, that it would <sup>have a</sup> most salutary influence and result in much benefit to the respective tribes.

When I can learn Mr Harris' views on this subject I will then take the liberty of giving mine fully.

Most respectfully

Tho Henderson

(OIA: School File J166-167-170. Choctaw Academy. Senate. 1838. J-166.)



Quarterly Report showing the condition of the Choctaw Academy Scott County Kentucky on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 1837.

The condition of this institution in many respects has been improved during the last quarter - the regulation for the comfort and convenience of the Sick, under the direction of Doctor Benedict is admirably calculated to ensure the best success in effecting the most Speedy recovery from disease.

We have had Some Sicknefs, and one death in the institution during the last quarter; and although we have a few slight cases on the Sick list at this time, the general health of the students has been remarkably good. On the Subject of health and cases of Sicknefs I beg leave to refer to the report of D<sup>r</sup> Benedict herewith.

As to the moral condition of the institution, I flatter myself, that it is much improved for the better, from the fact, of having had so few cases of immorality before the school during the past quarter.

A religious, or moral lecture, is delivered to the Students regularly every Sabbath; and preaching during the week once a moth -- The mental improvement is under flattering and very encourageing prospects - the School convenes at a very early hour; the teachers attentive, rigid and efficient

The rules of the institution are promptly enforced and discipline rigidly and kindly observed



The Supplies for boarding, clothing, medical attendance Stationary, Books &c are ample and abundant and of the most Substantial kind

The workshops are in better condition than at Some former period; and they admit of further improvement, by extending the authority of the Dep<sup>t</sup>, requireing the boys who enter a Shop to remain there until they become masters of the trade

The introduction of letter writing, may be productive of much good, and render great Satisfaction to the parents of the children seperated from them at so great distance

Minute details of facts and every necefsary information is given monthly by the Sup<sup>t</sup> to the parents of Such children as are not able to write for themselves, through the agents of the respective tribes.

All of which is respectfully Submitted

I have the honor  
to be your Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Tho Henderson Sup



To the board of inspectors of the Choctaw Academy, The undersigned, physician to said institution respectfully reports.

That during the quarter ending Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 1837 there have been thirty four cases reported for medical aid - To wit,

Fever	--	22 - severe - 8, mild - 14 -
Enlarged Spleen	--	1 --
Scrofulous white swelling	1 --	still under treatment -
Pleurisy	--	3 - severe - 2 --

One case, convalescent from a most violent attack, now under treatment.

The residue colds & local inflammations &c.

Died of Tubercular consumption November 30 Robert A. McCabe, The only death under the treatment of the present incumbent since 12<sup>th</sup> April.

The case of Dr A. Nail, is again presented to the consideration of this board. His merits have, thus far, equalled those of any youth known to the undersigned; and his pecuniary needs for books, appear to be the only limit to his proficiency. He is in present need of Doan's Manual of Anatomy Doan's Surgery Illustrated, Coats's Botany and Materia Medica, and Howard's Improved Botanic Practice, Costing in all about forty Dollars --

All of which is respectfully submitted

Horace T. N. Benedict

Jan<sup>y</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup> 1838 -



Senate Chamber,

Jan. 27, 1838

My Dear Sir,

I have rec<sup>d</sup>, yours allowing the purchase of the Books for Doctr Nail an Indian youth at Choctaw Academy for which I thank you. - as I have not the report of Doctr Benedict please send me a list of the Books which he recommends & oblige

Rh M Johnson

N.B. enter the Books on your own letter enclosed & enclose it to me which is sufficient

R M J

C. A. Harris Eq

(OIA: School File J174-177. (Choctaw Academy) Senate 1838. J-177.)



I will ask the favour of giving to Doctr Nail a  
Choctaw the Books he desires as a reward for his  
services as recommended by Doctr Benedict

respectfully

Rh: M Johnson

13<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1838

(OIA: School File J174-177. (Choctaw Academy) 1838.  
Senate. J-174. Addressed to C. A. Harris, Comr. Indian  
Affairs.)



Cincinnati March 28 1838

Sir,

I have just read Mr Cornelius Roger's application to you for a pasport, I can do certify that Mr Rogers is a citizen of the United States & that his object is, as stated in his request.

Respectfully yours

Geo. L. Weed Ast. Sec<sup>y</sup> For<sup>n</sup>

Mission S.V.M.

To Joel R. Poinsett

Sec. of War

Washington

(OIA: School File R 229. Cincinnati. 1838.)



Cincinnati. March 28. 1838.

Sir

It is my desire to pass through the Indian country to the Columbia River in company with the Missionaries of the Am. Board as an assistant and Teacher.

For this purpose, I wish to obtain from your department the passports required by law - Will you have the kindness to forward it to me at Independence, Missouri; so that I may receive it before the first of May, as that is the time appointed for departure with the Am. Fur Company.

Your Obt servt

Cornelius Rogers

Joel R Poinsett

Secy of War

Washington

D. C.

(OIA: School File R229. Cincinnati. 1838.)



Report Showing the condition of the Choctaw Academy in Scott  
County Kentucky on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1838

The present condition of the institution, and the progress now making by the students, are fully as prosperous as at any former period.-- and although during the past quarter, we have had some difficulties to settle among the students, yet, at this time, the most perfect Submission, and contentment Seem to exist

Our chief difficulty in this institution, has arisen in a good degree, from having young men too far advanced in life, when they first enter the school -- When the Indian character is formed, and the habits, customs, and the roving disposition settled, the calculation of doing much good need not be hoped for.

When the uncultivated Indian has pass<sup>d</sup>. his 18 or 20<sup>th</sup> year of age, he cannot stand close confinement, nor, will he readily, submit, to rigid government., which has necessarily to be enforced -- They too soon become dissatisfied and before they are able to appreciate any of the advantages of an education, get restless, and want to return home. At this time unfortunately this school consists of a portion of students of that description.

The most rigid discipline has to be enforced in order to sustain that obedience and submission, which have heretofore characterized the institution -- I would therefore, respectfully suggest to the Dep<sup>t</sup>., the propriety of instruct-



ing the Indian agents in making future selections, of youths for this school, not to send any one over 15 or 16 years of age -- The most suitable age to become useful is, from 10 to 15; beyond that age, unless it should be to complete an unfinished education but little good need be hoped for. or expected.

The school, is now well organized and under good discipline, furnished with efficient teachers, who discharge the duties of their respective stations faithfully

The spring and Summer clothing of a neat and good quality has just been given out - the boarding lodgings & Medical departments have been ample and Satisfactory.

The Shops though not in as good condition as could be wished; yet they have been, much improved recently, by having each Shop nearly fill<sup>d</sup> with a sufficient number of boys to be proffitably employed.

The general health of the Students is good having at this time but very few on the sick list and they are improving and will be in a day or two be able to be in school.

All of which is most respectfully submitted

Tho Henderson Sup

Choct. Acady.

(OIA: School File J-208. Academy, Johnson, A. & 3 others.)



To the Board of Government Inspectors of the Choctaw Academy, The undersigned in making his fourth quarterly's and first annual report, has the pleasure to annouce, that the health of the institution is, at this juncture, in general, good.

During the quarter ending April 2<sup>d</sup> 1838 there have been twenty one reported for medical treatment, as follows,

To wit -- Fever seven -- Severe 3 - Mild 4 - Total - 7 -

Pleurisy two -- do- 1 - do 1 - - 2 -

Disased spleen one -- Convalescent, under treatment.

Diarhoea two - both severe - recovered -

Scald head one - - - - do -

Total ----- 13 -

The remaining 8 were wounds, contusions &c. &c -

With pleasure unfeigned, and a gratified heart to Him who ruleth all things well, the announcement is made that we have lost no case of acute disease during the year, and that we have lost only one case of a chronic character, which was a well developed case of Tubercular Consumption.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Horace T. N. Benedict.

I would also beg leave to state that the assiduous attention, and the skilful administration of Dr A. Nail has contributed much, very much, to the succefs of our Botanic remedies, (for we use no others) and that he continues to merit the confidence of his principal, and the fostering



care and protection of the War department. His equal for probity, sobriety, assiduous application to his duties, and increasing skill in the curative art, we have seldom, if ever, witnessed --

respectfully H. T. N. Benedict

(OIA: School File J208. Academy. Johnson, A. & 3 others.)



Choctaw Agency, West

June 27<sup>th</sup> 1838

C A Harris Esqr

Com<sup>r</sup> In<sup>d</sup> Affairs

Sir

Previous to leaving Washington I was directed by the Department, as early as possible to send on a number of Choctaw, Creek, Cherokee and others indian boys, to the Academy in Kentucky, I find that owing to the Small pox being through the Country, it will not be practicable for me to send the boys before fall, Indeed it would be imprudent to do so, even could I get them, I shall go on to make the necessary arrangements to have the requisite number ready by the first rise of the water in the fall say not later than November. I regret exceedingly that I cannot fulfil the wishes of the Department, but it is now so late in the season, and the small pox amongst the Choctaws Chickasaws and Creeks. I hope it will be considered a sufficient reason for postponing, the sending of the boys on

Respectfully

Yr, Mo, obt, Sevt,

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt. W. T.



Pushmataha Dist, July 19th 1838

Capt. W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Agent for the Choctaw Nation

Dear Sir

Below I proceed to give my school report up to the first of July

The U, S, district school which I have given for distinction the name of Bennett, is located 4 miles north of Red River 8 miles west from Providence; and about the same distance from Goodwater Station, on a bluff 40 feet above the level of a creek called Standing Whiteoak In the bed of this creek, recently has been found a never failing spring of very cold water strongly tingured with iron, The land here may be considered good second rate producing 30 to 40 <sup>of corn</sup> bushels per acre, the growth of timber is red white and black oak, hickory, dogwood and elm

As yet there has been no dwelling house built at this station, and the teacher is compelled to make use of the school house for a dwelling and teach in a cabin belonging to an indian, who kindly lent it for a short time that the school might go into operation, but is now very anxious to occupy it himself,

There has been in the school since- it commenced 27 scholars - 17 boys and 10 girls, - 12 boys and five girls have attended tolerably well, The average number for each teaching day has been 12 - When the school commenced there was but one who knew all the alphabet,



There are now, reading in the Testament 1, - Spelling in trisyllables 6, in disyllables 7 in monosyllables 3, - One boy who did not know a letter is nearly ready to put to reading

The school has labored under many disadvantages common to a commencement among a rude and uncultivated people, some circumstances peculiarly discouraging have attended this effort, especially the lack of provision and clothing among the indians and the evile effects of the use of whiskey, not long since an indian while drunk made an attempt at the life of the teacher, but manifested great sorrow when sober

I now hope the worst of the difficulties have been surmounted, and from the recent good attention of the scholars, and the pacific disposition of the parents, am disposed to believe that the school will prosper

Our greatest want at present is a good house to teach in and a supply of books

The ability of the children to learn is equal to that of white children and requires only the fostering hand of science to develop their mental capacity - All of which is respectfully submitted -

Chas<sup>s</sup> G. Hatch U.S. dist. S. T.-

P.S. I thought it unnecessary to state the time the school commenced as that has been already noticed in my



previous letter, As I have not received any instruction how I should particularly make out my report, I have followed the dictate of my own judgment

Yours very respectfully

Chas G. Hatch

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw Agency. 1838. A-490.)



Rattlesnake Springs

Oaklafaleah district

July 19th 1838

To

Capt W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Supt, Ind, Affs. West

Sir

In compliance with my duties I transmit to you a report of the School under my care, I am truly sorry that I cannot present you such a report, of the improvement of the people and Children, as I had fondly hoped from the pleasing prospects which presented themselves on my arrival in the district, Every thing then appeared to be on the forward march, The fields, the stock and every thing looked prosperous; and the people appeared extremely anxious to improve; But Sir, there has a sad change taken place, The people appear to have lost all energy their fields are but poorly attended, their stocks of hogs have died and very little care is now taken about any thing; drinking is carried on to great excefs, the little property that they have (unlefs some very energetic means are used,) will soon be destroyed, or sold for whiskey much has already been disposed of in that way -

The school has been very poorly attended, the Children have their own way at home, and they attend just as they please; They are however, improving slowly, but I fear that schools in the nation are of very little value, I believe that if the money that is now expending for



schools in the nation, was applied to sending the children to different schools in the States, the benefit to the children and nation would be greatly enhanced. The advantages of the country are truly great, and if the Choctaws would improve their present opportunities, they would soon become a prosperous and wealthy people, There is but a poor supply of corn raising this season, I believe no cotton will be raised this year, The salt works are not in operation this season. I have not learned of any mines. &C.

As I suppose the department wishes matters of fact I submit my report as such, which will be corroborated by report from some of the other teachers,. I do not write these things of all, for there are many Christians and intelligent full bloods and half breeds, that look at the threatening destruction of their tribe with pain. and anxiety. Much has been <sup>done</sup> by the intelligent part of the nation to keep the people together in sentiment and improvement, but such measures have been taken by those in authority, that the intelligent part are without influence

Yours Verry respectfully

H. G. Rind



Shawnoe Town

July 21<sup>st</sup> 1838.

Dear Sir,

It becomes my duty to report to you as Agent for the Choctaws the condition of the societies in this nation attached to the Methodist Episcopal Church -

This is my 2<sup>n</sup> year in this nation; & as a missionary I would just say that the prospects of this dis<sup>t</sup> (i e. Red River dis<sup>t</sup>) are being overcast by a gloomy cloud -

The quantity of ardent sold to the Choctaws is indeed astonishing & unless a stop is put to it certain ruin must ensue to most of the full blood Choctaws -

We number in society about 800 members who are considered pious - one school for females with 14 scholars - one for males attendance irregular - The Christian portion of this dis<sup>t</sup> have flourishing crops of corn & will have a considerable am<sup>t</sup> for sale -

Yours most respectfully -

J. W. P. M. Kinzie

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) A402-490. Choctaw Agency. 1838. A-490. Letter addressed to Capt. Wm. Armstrong.)



## Clear Creek Choctaw Nation

22<sup>nd</sup> July 1838

Sir

In compliance of your instructions to me of last year. I undertake to make my anual report for the school under my charge my school is small. at no time exceeded Sixteen schollars. and for the last two months only from four to six, four of that numbe that have attended regular have advanced in reading Writing and Arithmatic as fast as the generality of White children, the ballance have progrefsed in proportion to their attendance, in Splling reading and writing, their dispositions are mild and tractable, and could with a regular attendance become useful to the nation, my schollars all speak english I had flattered myself that I should be able to make a more favorable report, and it must be attributed to the indulgent disposition of the parents in not enforcing that regular attendance necefsary to procure an education. I can say but little on the face of the country more than in my last years report. Crops of corn will be short of last year one fourth, by drouth

Respectfully Yours

Capt W<sup>m</sup>. Armstrong

John T W Lewis

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw Agency. 1838. A-490.)



Good Water July 23<sup>d</sup> 1838 -

Capt W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong  
S<sup>upt</sup> of Indian Affairs.

Agency, Akks. -

Dear Sir

In offering my report of this School for the past year, I would state that we have had in all forty eight Scholars. Nearly one third of these were only transient attendants. - When Mr Hatch commenced his school, four of our regular scholars who were boarded here, returned to their homes & attended his school. - Our average number for the

last six months has been - 20. -

In Arithmetic - 5. -

Reading in Testament & spelling 10. -

In Writing - 10. -

" Easy reading - 8. -

" Words of 3 syllables - 10. -

" Four or 6 letters - 3. -

We have thought best to require our scholars in the first place to acquire a tolerably thorough knowledge of spelling before they attempt to memorize. We have not therefore till within a short time required any lessons save reading, spelling and writing. -

If it was proper for me to express an opinion, I would say there has been improvement, both in letters and manners. Some in the first Class have not misread a word in spelling for a week together & that Class have <sup>been</sup> twice



through Websters Spelling Book. - In disposition they are docile & obedient. - Toward each other kind & affectionate. There has been but one case of discipline since the school commenced. - And I do not know of a single quarrel. - In regard <sup>to</sup> their capability of receiving an education, I see no insurmountable obstacles. With the advantages they have had, their improvement has been equal to any other children. - And if they had parents or friends to help them out of school we should see much more rapid improvement. -

In regard to the "Face of the country, Soil, Timber, Mines, Salt Springs" &c. I presume you would not want any further information. - In regard to industry, I think in this immediate neighborhood there has been less than <sup>in</sup> former years. - Twelve young men mostly from this vicinity left about two months since to join the Spanish Army. - Another unhappy event took place some time since on the opposite side of the River in which a white man & an indian lost their lives. - This circumstance seems to have left a settled hatred on the minds of the people in this vicinity towards the Texians. -

Another cause of no little excitement was the murder of an old Woman who was called a witch. - This was done by the Six Towns. - The trial of the murderers has been postponed. - And add to all the other incidents the extreme dry wether & the prospect for another year is truly melancholy. - These & other causes have taken up much time &



attention which might have been devoted to more useful purposes. - The introduction of Whisky of late has nearly put a stop to evrything that is desireable or useful. And I am of opinion if there cannot be some measures adopted to stop it we shall have to stop all our schools. - Children cannot be induced to attend school without food or clothing, & they will soon be destitute of both. -

I hope the above report will be satisfactory, if not I would thank you for any suggestions. -

I am respectfully

Your humbt Servt.

Ebenezer Hotchkin

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw Agency. 1838. A-490.)



Copy

Shawnee Town Choctaw Nation

July 25<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir

Agreeable to your instructions I herewith transmit the following Report. viz. This school commenced two years and nine months since, My present number of scholars is 15. Seven of the boys are not regular attenants as they live at some distance from the school, it is not convenient for them to attend as regular at all times of the year as those who live in this settlement.

I have 8. regular scholars, 7 of the 15 read fluently and write a very good hand, One spells in three syllables, seven of the fifteen has lately commenced, Their dispositions mild and cheerful, their intellectual powers good and I think if rightly cultivated that they will be an honor to the nation

The intelligent part of the people are very anxious to have their Children instructed in the English language and a few of the full bloods, but the major part of the full bloods care but very little about the education of their children, The people are quite industrious, there are but few who will not raise corn enough for their own consumption, and a number will raise to sell, Owing to the late frost there will be but very little cotton raised this year We have raised a small quantity of Wheat Rye and Oats, I am quit feeble with the billious fever

I remain your Mo Obt Sevt

Capt. W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

(Signed) Moses Perry

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) File A 402-490. Choctaw Agency.



Pushmataha District July 26<sup>th</sup> 1838

Capt W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act<sup>g</sup> Sup<sup>t</sup>, W, T,

Sir

Agreable to your instructions I herewith submit the report of the school under my charge for the year 1838

The Indians the past year have been very indifereent on the subject of education. Last fall I succeeded in obtaining a young lady to take charge of a female school (supported partly by the Baptist Board of Mifsions & partly by myself) hoping that it would be an inducement for the Indians to send their girls to school where they would in addition to letters be taught needle work &c; but they manifest as little desire for the improvement of the female as male children.

My school consists of Twenty Six schollars

Reading, writing, Geography & arithmetic	7	
Spelling, reading, & writing	13	
Alphabet & monosyllables	<u>6</u>	26

The female school under the charge of Mifs L, H,

Taylor nine

Reading writing & Geography	1	
Spelling	6	
Alphabet	<u>2</u>	9

By comparing this with my report of last year you will find a decrease of thirteen boys & an increase of six girls.



Could a school upon a manual labour system be established in some central part of the nation, where in addition to letters the mechanic arts would be taught: & then, after having acquired an education & trade inducements were placed before them by the Government or their nation to prosecute them the most beneficial results would no doubt follow. The little apparent benefit resulting from education is a great stumbling block to the rising generation

The free use of ardent spirits is a great hindrance to their improvement. I think I may safely affirm that three times the quantity has been consumed the past year than at any subsequent period since I have been in the nation. It is carrying disease & death in its train; & unless measures are taken by the Indians as well as the United States, the most disastrous results will follow

The capacities of the children are certainly equal to the whites Parental neglect is one of the greatest obstacles the teacher has to encounter.

This section of country presents a variegated surface & a variety of soil, from the rich loom, to the barren upland. Much of the upland would be good & abundantly rewards the cultivator for his labor

The amount cultivated in this district is about 6000 acres including the emigrant Chickasaws

The produce is Corn, Pumpions, Beans, Peas, Mellons & a small quantity of Wheat & Cotton

The probable amount of corn raised is Twenty thous-



and bushels, which will scarcely be sufficient for consumption. But a small quantity of the other products are raised

The timber Black, white & red oak, black & white walnut, ash hackberry, hickory, Sycamore, Pine, white maple, dogwood, Pecan Ironwood

There are no indications of mineral within my knowledge

Salt springs are abundant & might be made very productive if well worked. Two of them are worked at this time, one by a white man which is very productive; the other by a half breed which has not been as much so. I am not able to state the amount made

There are about two hundred Slaves in this district

There are no mills & Water power is very scarce

All of which is respectfully submitted

by Your Obedt Srv<sup>t</sup>

Ramsey D Potts

U, S, Teacher Pushamataha, D,

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw Agency. 1838. A-490.)



(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw Agency.  
1838. A-490.)

Greenfield Aug. 9. 1838 -

Capt. W. Armstrong

Act. Supt. West<sup>n</sup> Ter<sup>y</sup>

Honorable Sir:

The following is the report of the

1 - - - School at Lukfata -

Mifs E. Colough Teacher

Term of tuition - 9 months & 3 weeks -

No of Males 27 - Females 14. Whole No. 41 - Average No. 19.

Full Choctaws 22 - Mixed 19 -

Reading in Eng - 31 - Choctaw 28 - Writing 22 -

Geography 4 - Arithmetic none -

Improvement good -

Contributed for the Support of the School - \$12-00

Due by Subscription to be paid out of their

annuity - 23-00 = 35-00

2 - - - School at Bok Tuklo 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles N-W. of Lukfata -

Mrs Wood - Teacher -

Term of tuition 5 months - No. of Males 15 - Females

12 - Whole No. 27 -

Average No 18 - Full Choctaws 17 - Mixed 10 -

Reading in Eng. 19 - Choctaw 13 - Writing 7 -

Geography 1 - Arithmetic none - Improvement good -

Contributed toward expenses of the School \$35.- 00 -

The Church -- (residing principally

at Bok Tuklo.)

Added by profefsion 1 - Certificate 1 -



Excommunicated 1 - Dismifsed by letter 1 -

Deceased 2- Present No - 20 -

Attendance at public worship -

At Lukfata from 10 to 30 -

At Bok Tuklo from 30 to 100 -

#### Temperance -

There has not been much whiskey brought into either settlement - A Temperance Society was organized in May, which now numbers about 50 members -

#### Industry -

There is still a great want of industry - Generally Corn was planted too late, and many neglected their fields to attend ball plays - Some field promise a pretty good crop - A few will have a little corn to sell - One man raised 25 or 30 bushels of wheat - Several talk of sowing wheat next autumn -

There was some cotton raised last year, but none planted this season - Pork & Beef are very scarce -

The people generally are better clothed, than they were two years ago.

There is a Salt spring at Bok Tuklo, - but no salt made there-

There is no mill in this vicinity - but there is one good water power, and some prospect of a mill being built -

No mine has yet been discovered -

Respectfully - Yr. Obt. Servt.

Joel Wood -



(Copy)

Pine Ridge August 10<sup>th</sup> 1838

Capt William Armstrong

Superintendent In<sup>d</sup>. Affrs West

Sir

Your favor of 30<sup>th</sup> July has come to hand. My report this year will be very brief. I have labored principally in the neighbourhood of Fort Towson. I cannot report anything favorable in regard to the state of morals or religion, at Fort Towson the attendance on preaching is pretty good, In the neighbourhood there are much drinking and Sabbath breaking, two evils which usually go together

Four only have been added to the church under my charge since the last report, Whole number in church 20.

The school at this place taught by Nifs Burnham has been small and the attendance of many of the scholars very irregular.

Whole number of Scholars. 20

Avarage attendance 8

Males 11 Females 9 -

All are taught in English

16 can read 12 wright

several have attended to Arithmitic (the simple rules) and a few to the elements of Geography, Improvement good in those who attend regularly.

Mifs Burnham is absent or I could give a more particular account of the school,

Respecting the face of the Country, soil, production, &c. I have nothing to add to the report of last year.



I have a brief Report from M<sup>r</sup> Wood and as his Report may not reach you in time I will give an extract from it

Two have been added to the Church

Whole number 20.

School at Luck,fa,ta.

Mifs Eurice Clough teacher

Taught 40 Weeks

Males 27. Females 14 whole number 41 -

Avarage attendance 19.

Full Choctaws 22 Mixed do 19.

31 Read in English - 10 in Choctaw only

18 In both languages

22 Write 4 have attended a little to Geography

improvement generally good

The people besides aiding in building the school house have contributed 12\$ towards the support of the school and have subscribed 21\$ not yet paid

School at Bok tuck lo

M<sup>rs</sup> Wood teacher taught five months

Males 15 Females 12 whole No 27.

Avarage attendance 18.

Full Choctaws 17 Mixed do. 10.

Read in english 19. in Choctaw 13.

7. wrote 1 in Geography.

Improvement good

The people have contributed to the support of the



school 20\$ to complete the house 14\$

M<sup>r</sup> Wood has a temperance Society of 56. members mostly Choctaws.

Industry is increasing fields have been enlarged and houses improved

The Sabbath is well observed by the Church members  
Family government is gradually improving

Female influence is rising, domestic duties better understood and better performed. Education is more valued

Respectfully

Yr Mo ob Servt

(signed) C. Kingsberry

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw Agency. 1838. A-490.)



Dwight 16<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1838.

Capt W. Armstrong,

Actg Sup<sup>t</sup> W. T. Ch. Agency

Sir.

I have the honor to submit the following statement in compliance with the request contained in your favor of the 14th current.

The whole number of pupils belonging to the school during the past year was one hundred & thirteen. <sup>57 males & 56 females</sup> The average attendance through the year not far from eighty five. The school is divided into male & female departments. The schools are kept in seperate houses. A gentleman has had the care & instruction of the males. The females are under the tuition of two ladies.

The male school consisted of four clafses, the studies as follows.

1<sup>st</sup> Clafs. Contained eight pupils. Studies reading, spelling, writing, geography, grammar, arithmetic & book keeping.

2<sup>d</sup> Clafs. Contained ten pupils. Studies, reading, spelling, writing, geography & arithmetic.

3<sup>d</sup> Clafs. Contained 8 pupils. Studies, reading, spelling, writing & arithmetic.

4<sup>th</sup> Clafs. Contained the remainder of the pupils. Studies various. Some read with some ease, & studied arithmetic, others could only spell & some did little more than get the alphabet & the sound of the letters.

The female school consisted of five clafses.



1<sup>st</sup>. Clafs contained six pupils. Studies reading, writing, arithmetic geography, grammar, history & composition.

2<sup>d</sup>. Clafs contained ten pupils. Studies reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic & geography.

3<sup>d</sup>. Clafs contained eight pupils. Studies reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic & geography.

4<sup>th</sup>. Clafs contained eight pupils. Studies reading, spelling, & arithmetic.

5<sup>th</sup>. Clafs contained the remainder of the pupils. Five could read & spell with a good deal of fluency. The rest learned the alphabet & began to spell.

Different kinds of reading books & different systems of arithmetic & geography were used in both divisions of the school suited to the advancement of the pupils. Much pains is taken to learn the children to speak the English language with ease & accuracy. Most of the <sup>male</sup> pupils are also taught to read the native language. Both divisions of the schools have been regularly instructed in sacred music. Several hours of each day are devoted to manual labor; - by the boys to agriculture, by the girls to sewing, knitting, spinning, carding & domestic labors. The improvement made by the pupils has been most gratifying in every branch to which they have attended. These youths now afford a very fair promise of usefulness to their people.

A school has been kept up at Fairfield under the superintendence of Doct. Palmer. The average number of pupils



has been about twenty-five. A gratifying improvement has been made by the pupils at both those schools, but I am not sufficiently acquainted to give the details.

Very Respectfully,

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

Cepha's Washburn.

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) FileA402-490. Choctaw Agency.  
1838/ A-490.)



Eagletown Augt. 24, 1838, (Choctaws)

Cap<sup>t</sup> William Armstrong

Act. Supt. West<sup>n</sup> Ter.<sup>y</sup>. -

Sir

About one year since, I wrote you in reply to your communication, bearing date June 26<sup>th</sup> 1837. -

And as an annual communication was requested. I feel a pleasure in once more attempting to write you. -

At the present time, there are no schools under my particular care. - There is one near me, which has been taught by Mr Abner D. Jones, a teacher who was sent here & who is employed by the American Board of Mifsions. - I have often visited his school. - During the winter the average number of scholars in attendance was twelve, but during the summer it was twenty. He had a larger number of scholars enrolled. But they were irregular, in attending school.

They were taught to read Choctaw in a Choctaw spelling book, & Testament & such other books, as are printed in that language, And the more advanced scholars were taught to read & speak English. & to write. A few attended Arithmetic, nearly all are pure blooded Choctaws, & understand the English language but to a limited extent. - Their conduct, disposition & capacity are all good. - Certainly as much so as is usual in common English district schools. - But in one respect they fail. They are too fickle in regard to attending school punctually & regularly. -

In the church under my care, there are now ninety



members, Some have removed about 70 or 90 miles West.

Where some of them have been organized into a church under Rev.<sup>d</sup> C. Kingsbury's care. The attention of those who still<sup>me</sup> reside near to the ordinances of the gospel, is quite uniform & encouraging.

This portion of the Choctaw Nation is well watered & fertile. It abounds in excellent springs of water, & in oak & pine timber.

I am unacquainted with any mines. - It is commonly reported that there are salt springs. One was worked more than a year since by Col. David Folsom. But for some months little or nothing has been done - Whether the works are badly constructed or whether the water is weak. I am unable to inform you. - But I apprehend that a man of skill, could make valuable improvements at these salt works. -

It is not in my power to report any advance in agriculture among the Choctaws generally on Mountain Fork - Many of them are industrious & raise corn to sell - Others are idle & intemperate. But few enlargements have been made to their fields, while many large corners grow up to weeds, grafs, & bushes. - The crop last year was sufficient to meet the wants of the population. But considerable quantities were carried into the State, & sold, as is reported, for whiskey. - There has been a great quantity of corn this summer, The present crop is light, owing to a drought of long continuance, and to the fact that the Choctaws do not plough their fields deep, nor often enough, while their corn is growing. -



Very little cotton is raised this year. -

There is an excellent mill dam on the Mountain Fork about two miles from Eagletown. A mill was commenced there last year. But I believe it has been relinquished, A Competent mill wright was greatly needed, - Were this seat owned by some men in Tennessee, I think there would soon be, at least, a grist mill, a saw mill & a cotton gin, in operation - The land below this seat on the river is very fertile for several miles. There is an abundance of Pine timber, near - Now it is on some accounts painful to see such privileges lost. -

I am under the painful necessity of reporting an increase of intemperance, idleness, ball playing & Sabbath profanation, The Sabbath is often selected as a day for ball playing. - Since about the first of Jan<sup>y</sup> 1837. ten persons within my neighborhood have died through intemperance. Still, but small quantities of spirits are introduced into the Nation - But when the day shall arrive, that spirits shall come in unrebuked & unrestrained then alas for the Choctaws, for schools, & churches!! -

A Temperance Society has just been formed here - & chiefly by Captains & others, who are not professedly religious people - I hope & pray that the evils of drunkenness may be arrested. - Our church is a temperance church. -

It may also be proper for me to state that with the aid of an Interpreter, I have translated the book of the Acts of the Apostles from the original Greek into Choctaw. And we have commenced the book of Genesis, & proceeded as



far as the 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter, in translating the same from the original Hebrew into Choctaw. -

I will only suggest for your consideration the importance of having the Choctaw laws translated & published in their own language, as well as in English - I think such a measure would aid the cause of education, besides other more direct advantages. May the blefsing of Heaven rest upon your person, & all your efforts for the thousands of Red men, who are under your supervision -

With much respect I am Yours &<sup>c</sup>

Cyrus Byington

(OIA: Schools (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw Agency. 1838. A-490.)



Copy

Sugar Loaf Mountain

September 1<sup>st</sup> 1838

Sir

My school has had a torable number of scholars thir-  
teen attend regularly and some eight or ten occasionally  
they are spelling and reading and a few begin to write,  
I have made it a part of my businefs to go round and try  
and induce the Choctaws to come to school, I am a Choctaw  
myself and wish to see my brothers educated, they have  
schools over the nation, and every opportunity given them to  
improve the rising generation

The Choctaws in our section of the Country have raised  
a plenty of corn and have good stocks, a few families Weave  
and spin, Others are desposed to drink Whiskey whenever it  
can be brought into the nation, This is a great evil to  
our people, And if it were not for the Laws and the Light  
Horse of the nation large quantities would be Introduced

There are no Mines in this part of the nation, stone  
coal is found in several places, there is one grist and  
saw Mill which runs only part of the year, the Country is  
sich produces Corn Beans Pumpkins &C. Those who work have  
plenty to live on, and raise fine stocks of Cattle and  
Hogs

Very respectfully

Capt W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Yr Mo Obt Servt

Choctaw Agent

(Signed) Thompson M<sup>c</sup>Kinney

(OIA: School (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw Agency.  
1838. A-490.)



(Copy)

Choctaw Nation

September 8<sup>th</sup> 1838

Capt W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Choctaw Agent

Sir

Agreeable to your order of August 22<sup>d</sup> 1837. I send you the following report

The number of Scholars that have attended my school since my last Report is 27. The number that attend regularly 15. They are learning spelling reading writing Arithmetic Geography and English grammar. Their improvement is equal to any Children I was ever acquainted with, relative to the face of the country I can add nothing to my last Report. As to the production of the present year it will not meet the consumption, I think by one third if not more owing to the long drought we have had,

Respectfully

Yr Mo obt Servt

(Signed) A Allen



Choctaw Agency Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir,

It devolves upon me, as a teacher, among the Choctaw tribe of Indians, to give you an annual report of the school under my charge I therefore beg leave to submit the following

At the time of my last annual report I had only fourteen scholars. During the past year thirty six have attended; though many of them have been irregular. Eighteen of these are males; the rest are females. Their degrees of advancement are very different; from Latin and Methematics, down to the alphabet; though a majority read and write.

The branches I have taught during the past year are the following, viz. Latin, Algebra, English Grammar, Geography, Arithmetic, Wiring, reading and Spelling.

In point of intellect, I have been able to discover no difference, between the Choctaw youth and the whites in similar circumstances. Many things, however, operate against the progrefs of education among the Choctaws, and, indeed, Indians generally. Parents are not sufficiently strict, in enforcing upon their children, the necefsity of strict attendance, which is very necefsary in order to succefs in any businefs and peculiarly so in the acquisition of knowledge. This want of strict attendance is followed by a train of evil consequences. The uneducated parent finding that his children does not improve so fast as



as he anticipated; begins to conclude that the time spent, is worth more than the acquisition; and consequently, withdraws them from school -

We, frequently, find this to be the case among the whites, and surely we need not be surprised if the unlettered Indian should act in the same way. I am fully satisfied from observation and experience, that, the boarding school system is much better calculated to secure success, than any other that can be adopted in the Indian country, because the pupils are at all times under the immediate control of the teacher. During the last year I have had two half breed Choctaw boys living with me; and their progress was much more rapid, than that of those who came from home. This year I expect six and I have no doubt the result will correspond with the experience of the past year.

Sickness is another cause that operated against our schools in this nation; especially in the latter part of summer and fall; when bilious complaints are prevalent. The small pox has prevented operations in my school, and two others in this district, since about the middle of July. I am however happy to state that the disease has disappeared in this immediate vicinity; which enabled me to recommence school on the 8<sup>th</sup> inst. The ravages, which this disease has made, in some settlements in this District, are truly appalling. Some large families have been entirely swept off; and in others perhaps one or two survive to mourn the loss of all that was near and dear to them. The crops are not so good in this District as usual. In the spring, during



your absence at Washington City, the Indians having few restraints imposed on them, by the military authorities, gave a loose rein to their propensity for ardent spirits, and neglected their farms early in the season. This forced them to plant their corn, without having the land properly prepared; and then the drought in July and August coming on their late corn makes the crop fall very much short of former years. The Choctaws have a fine country and possess all the advantages which soil and climate can bestow, for the acquisition of wealth. The soil is remarkably fertile, and if properly cultivated will produce exuberantly all the grains, grasses roots and vegetables to which this climate is adapted. And surely no country is better calculated for raising stock profitably. The Kentuckians and Tennesseans, make fortunes at raising stock and driving it to market, in the Carolinas and other Southern Atlantic States, at a great expense; and I see no reason why, the people in this Nation cannot do the same; when they have a better country to raise stock in, a shorter distance to drive it, and a better market.

The face of the country, in many places, is highly picturesque, and grand; affording the most pleasing prospect, of hill and dale prairie and timbered land. Water power is rather scarce in this District especially in summer, as the streams then fail; though they in winter afford plenty of water for any kind of machinery.



All of which is respectfully submitted by

Your Obt. Servt

William Wilson

Capt W<sup>m</sup>. Armstrong

Sup. Ind. affairs Wes. Ter.

(OIA. School (Western Supt'y) File A402-490. Choctaw  
Agency. 1838. A-490.)



Quincy, Adams Co. Illinois

October 15th 1838.

Hon: C A Harris,

Com: of Indian Affairs

Washington City.

Sir,

Last spring application was made to the Dept: of War, for pafsports for several gentlemen & their families, who expected to crofs the prairies in the early part of the summer: they have never been received; perhaps, through some informality in the application.

Providentially the company has been detained, but expect to leave early next spring, with the caravan of the Am: Fur Company; and I would Sir, most respectfully request the requisite pafsports from the head of the Indian Dept: for the following persons, and their company -

Rev. C. Stewart Renshaw & wife, of Ohio.

Rev. Harvey Clark & wife of N York -

and their Company -

The Company will consist of two or three farmers with their families. -

The object we have in view, is to locate among the Indians west of the Rocky Mountains, and teach them Christianity, and the arts of Civilized life.

Very Respectfully &c

C Stewart Renshaw

Quincy Oct 15th.

The Rev. Mr Renshaw is now preaching in the Congre-



gational Church in this place, & we feel assured of the benevolence of the object of himself & Company in these enterprises.

Robert Tillson

P. M. Quincy, Ills.

Quincy October 15.<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Hon. C. A. Harris

Com<sup>r</sup> of Indian Affairs

Sir,

I am acquainted with the Rev. Mr Renshaw who is at present engaged in preaching for the Congregational Church in this place, and who desires passports for himself and company, with a view of engaging in a missionary enterprise to the Indians in the region of the Rocky Mountains, and I trust that no difficulty may interpose to interrupt his benevolent purpose - I am satisfied of the high respectability of the persons who are expected to compose the Company, and that the expedition is set on foot for the most benevolent purposes -

I am very Respectfully

Y<sup>r</sup> obt Servt.

Richard M Young



## Choctaw Agency West

October 31<sup>st</sup> 1838

Sir

The school reports which I have the honor to submit for this year does not exhibit a very flattering prospect for the cause of education amongst the indians. The Choctaws who have more public schools than any other tribe, show quite a falling off since last year. This is mainly attributable to the introduction of the Small Pox by the emigrating Chickasaws during the past spring through the most of the Choctaw Country and as might be expected in every neighbourhood of a school, was the means of braking it up. The deseas is subsiding and the schools again commencing.

Another serious difficulty arises from parents not exercising proper authority over there Children, they are not desposed to coerce attendance upon the school, in some cases this is done, and whenever a regular attendance is had, the progrefs in learning is good.

The Choctaws are generally desirous of educating there Children, in the summer they require some of their Children to labour, and in the Winter many of them are too thinly clad to attend, Yet under this disadvantage the schools through the Nation have done much good. The teachers are generally men of good morals and exert happy influence through the country

The boys are taught to speak english read write and cypher



I find no difficulty in furnishing the requisite number of youths for the school in Kentucky whenever called on. While the other tribes seem unwilling to send their Children to school, I may safely say of the Choctaws that in every way in which an opportunity for education is offered, they are ready to avail themselves of the benefit, The Manual labour system especially where Children have have had the advantage of such schools as are amongst the Choctaws, would certainly be the means of doing great good. I am clearly of opinion that it is the only plan that will succeed well amongst the indians. The object seriously to sending their Children so great a distance as the school in Kentucky. They are unwilling to be seperated four or five years from their Children. This difficulty would be obviated by Manual labour schools in the Indian Country. Children would be under the controul of proper teachers where the different branches of education, as well as agriculture, spinning, weaving &c. would be taught,

The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Cephus Washburn at Dwight Mifsion teaches the Manual labour system, his school has done much good amongst the Cherokees, There is no other school in the Indian Country upon this plan,

The Choctaw Academy in Kentucky has educated many of the most intilgent men in the indian country, they can be seen in their Councils taking the deepest interest in the welfare and prosperity of ther people



The Mifsionary schools have done much for the education and good morals amongst the indians. There reports will be found enclosed with this communication,

The Creeks have no Mifsionaries or indeed schools of any description amongst them, they are opposed to every thing like religion, and only lately would they agreed for a school being located amongst them, One is now preparing to go into operation on the Arkansaw,, It is also contemplated to establish another on the Canadian, with a judicious selection of teachers and proper management it is to be hoped that the prejudices of the Creeks will be removed, and that generally schools will be established in the nation

The Cherokees have no public schools. and but two or thre of any description, When the emigration shall be completed it is to be expected that the number will be greatly increased

Respectfully

Yr. Mo, Ob<sup>t</sup> Ser<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act Supt W T.

C. A. Harris Esq<sup>r</sup>..

Comm<sup>r</sup> In<sup>d</sup> Affrs.



Choctaw Agency West

December 5<sup>th</sup> 1838

T. Hartley Crawford Esq<sup>r</sup>

Comm<sup>r</sup> of Indian Affairs

Sir

I was in hopes that some direction would have been given by the Department about retaining Fort Coffee for a school, but as the Commanding Officer has directed the doors, window Sash and plank all to be taken to Fort Smith the buildings are left with nothing but the Walls &C. and unfit for use without great expense. The Choctaws upon the abandonment of the Fort by the Troops have taken possession of the place, by order of the Authorities of the Nation, The claimant having resided there before the Fort was erected, and not being paid for the improvement &C. it was therefore determined by the Nation that this was the best claim that any individual of the Nation had to it, As the Government had withdrawn there troops from the Post, The buildings were worth nothing, but had they not have been striped would have answered for a school upon a large schale as the place is occupied it will not now be easily procured

Respectfully

Yr, Mo, Ob<sup>t</sup>, Sev<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Armstrong

Act. Supt W TY

(OIA: School (Choctaw) A363-481-504. Washington. 1838. A-504.)



## Choctaw Academy Ky

23<sup>rd</sup> September 1839

Sir

Yours of the 13 Inst enclosing an extract of instruction to Gen<sup>l</sup> Milroy has been duly rec<sup>d</sup> -- In the event of the Mianies sending ~~seending~~ for the boys of that tribe now at this school - they shall be furnished with a suitable outfit of clothing and money for traveling expenses, of which the Dep<sup>t</sup> will be immediately advised.

It is a matter of deep regret that the Indians cannot appreciate the advantages of education more highly than they do; and, that all our labour and toil to cultivate the minds of their children should be so little regarded by them. -- It is true that many prejudices have existed against this institution ever since it was located in Kentucky; these have been gotten up from various quarters and under various circumstances and have been managed with much art and skill to the great injury of the school: some by the boys themselves who had become impatient and tired of close application to business or study; and some by designing men in the nation, and others by enemies to Indian reformation in the bosom of our own country.

With all these we have had to struggle and combat for the 13 or 14 years -- as to the grounds of complaint heretofore exhibited against the school, we have this gratification, that, upon an investigation it has uniformly turned out that they have arisen from the most trivial circumstances and have been more ideal than real.



If the Indians of the North or South are so prejudiced against the school that they cannot consent to send more boys, I am at a loss to ascertain upon what ground their objections are predicated; for sure I am that the great boast of talents and education among the Choctaws and Potawatamies, is, of persons who have been educated at this school.

We always expected that many, like our own youths would make but little or no use of an education after it was procured, and moreover that many out of so large a number would be sent from the nation who had not sufficient intellect to become scholars & that others who had, would on their return home fall back into their Indian customs and habits and soon forget what they had learned.

I have often regretted to observe one unfavorable trait in the Indian disposition to do justice to this institution; that is, while they have been disposed to speak in the most unfavorable terms of a few, whose minds were not capable of receiving instruction, (and had on that account to be sent home); or of others who lacked moral courage to resist the temptation of vice, and thereby rendered themselves useless and rediculed after their return home; they have pass<sup>d</sup> by unnoticed the meritorious and the many who have done credit to the school and have been an honor to the nation and to themselves --



Although I have been so often mortified at the unreasonable complaints coming from that part of the nation from whom I had reason to expect the most grateful acknowledgments; yet, I have the pleasing consolation on my part, of realizing the great and incalculable advantages resulting from this institution to the Indian tribes -- this school can boast. of having produced a greater number of the best schollars. and mechanics; some of the best accountants and School teachers, as well as, some of the best practical farmers and merchants, than any other institution of which I have any knowledge. -- A Smithshop is conducted in the Choctaw nation by young men from this institution; and I am told that a shoe and boot shop. is managed profitably in the Potawatamie country by young men who learnt, at this place - I rec.<sup>d</sup> a letter not long since from one of the young<sup>men</sup> who was educated at this school, who infomed me that he was employed to teach a school at \$500 a year; and from another that he was acting as clerk on good terms -- I have also heard from many others who are doing well, but those of whom I speak came to the school in a perfect state of nature -- I have also been informed that many who became pious while at this school continue to conduct themselves orderly and in a christian like manner. Any information of this sort must be highly gratifying to one who has grown grey labouring to improve the condition of that devoted people.



I have had the honor of presiding over this institution for the last 14 years as Superintendent, during which time I have always entertained the deepest solicitude to impart every species of knowledge calculated to ellevate the Indian mind above that state of savage degridation and superstitious darknefs under which they have lain for so many ages past. I have endeavoured to soe the seeds of piety and benevolence to lay the foundation of moral rectitude, to cultivate Social affectionate and <sup>brotherly</sup> temperment of mind, to stamp upon the young, and all, the high reverence and responceibility we owe to the Creator I have labored incefsently to show the evil consequences of vice and the end to which it leads -- I have endeavored by every means to contrast between good and bad actions, and to show the difference between good and bad men. I have studied the most useful course of education: that which I thought was best suited to their condition.

This I intend shall be my cause, as long as I shall have the Superintendence -- any instructions you may please to give will be promptly obeyed

Very Respectfully

Your Most Obt Servt

T. Hartly Crawford Esq  
City Washington

Tho Henderson Supt