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MANUSCRIPTS

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COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OKLAHOMA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
(CHOCTAW)

Compiled from original records
selected by

GRANT FOREMAN
1930
Choctaw Nation Febry 7th 1830

Friend & Brother.

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

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

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

I will be able soon to know what to do for the happiness for my people.

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

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

I am dear sir your friend & Brother

David Folsom

Hon R L. N. Johnson

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

OKLAHOMA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) David Folsom Will go with exploring party.)
Dear Sir:

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

Before this reaches you, you will have known the result of that Council. Let me be candid. I view the haste and precipitancy with which a few of the leading men hurried their proposition through the Council, as ominous of the future fortunes of the Choctaws. I anticipate confusion, distress & bitter repentance on the part of the many, - permanent satisfaction and profit on the part of but few. The nation, in my opinion, has been taken by surprise; the Council itself was taken by surprise: But few were in the secret (I was not of the number) and the governing motives of at least one leading man are too palpable to be misunderstood. But while I feel it to be imperiously my duty to say this much, I wish to be distinctly understood. I was for prudent delay, enquiry, reflection, mature deliberation. I had been among my friends two or three weeks previous to the council. I explained my views to them distinctly and candidly, and I wished them to explain and enforce the matter in the same candid manner to others. I wished the whole nation to act with their eyes open, and with a full perception of the difficulties around them and before them. I wished the Choctaw country west of the Mifsipsippi thoroughly explored. I wished three or four intelligent men to be appointed to visit the President, and learn from him distinctly and fully what terms would be granted to the Choctaws: - and then, that a Treaty should be framed with
the utmost care, and with provisions the most full & explicit. Every individual with whom I conversed previous to the council, concurred with me in these views, and had they been adopted, there would have been a Treaty next Fall with the full knowledge of the Choctaw nation, and with a fair prospect of their future prosperity, and happiness. I yet think I was right, and I know that my motives were pure and disinterested. I shall personally gain more if the proposed Treaty is ratified, than if I had have had the framing of the Treaty myself. I was called in to assist in framing the articles; I found them ready framed to my hand, and I was able to effect but few changes. A reverend gentleman (a Methodist Missionary) is entitled to the credit of having prepared the Articles of the Treaty.

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

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

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

Yours with respect

J. L. McDonald

Col. Th: L. McKenney.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws  John L. McDonald  Opinion of late council.)
Postscript. - In glancing over what I have written, I am afraid I shall not yet be fully understood. - You and I are, I think, governed by the same motives; - a disinterested desire to promote the permanent prosperity of the Indians. I could have wished that they might be permitted to remain here in peace; but that is now out of the question, and their removal is inevitable. All that I now ask for, therefore, is a good Treaty, - a Treaty that shall consult the permanent and lasting good of the whole, - and in this I have no doubt you will concur with me.

I have been strongly solicited by friends in the nation (of whom I have many) to embark my fortunes with the Choctaws, - and if the despotic features of the Treaty were abolished, I believe I should not hesitate. All I am open to advise from my friends, and I have never ceased to rank you among the number.

J. L. McDonald.

(0IA: 1830 Choctaws John L. McDonald. Opinion of late council.)
Choctaw Nation

Ap\textsuperscript{1} 19\textsuperscript{th} 1830.

To the Hon

The Secretary of War

Sir

Inclosed are two Letters forwarded to me in haste from a Numerous Council of two Districts of the Choctaws in which they disdain the appointment of Col\textsuperscript{o}. Greenwood Lafloor as Chief of the whole Nation. But have made other appointments for their Districts (viz) Mufhulatubbee as Chief to the N. East District and Nittukaichee as Chief of the Southern District. They are willing to receive propositions and Conclude a Treaty for their Lands in Mifsifsippi But protest against those proposed by the Lafloor & the Fulsom parties, already forwarded to the Government. I shall apprise the Governor of this State by the Next Mail of the contents of those Letters & c. as it is conceived that the Choctaws are under the protection of the State Government. By the next Mail I shall apprise you of the further proceedings of the Council.

I have the Honor to be

Yr Moft Obdt Servt

W. Ward Ag\textsuperscript{t} C. N. \\

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

Sir

I have not visited the Choctaws in their own country as yet, owing to the health of my family. I have seen several influential men from the nation, and received several letters from citizens of the nation, on the subject of a Treaty, and I cannot hear of a man that is willing to send a delegation to Tennessee. It would be impossible for apart of the nation to conclude a Treaty that would be satisfactory to all. If the Treaty is concluded in the nation every man, woman, & Child, can be present, that has a wish to be.

I have been invited to a large Council that is to meet at or near the Factory, on the Tombigbee in a few days, and had not sickness in my family prevented me I should have been present. It is to be hoped, they will settle their form of Government shortly and adopt a constitution, by which they will be governed when they arrive at their new home on the Arkansaw, & Red River. Should they continue under several chiefs of equal power so longe they will continue disunited and in a few years would become separated into different bands. The Government should act on this point with precaution, they may be forced to submission while east of the Mifs, but when in the mountains and barrens of the west, it would in all probability cost money and the lives of valuable soldiers to keep them at peace. Now is the proper time to get things settled in a friendly manner. There will be a form of a constitution submitted to them shortly. Perhaps on the 27th.
inst as there is to be a council at that time in the centre of the nation. which council I will be at.

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

don't give yourself any uneasines about the disputes between the parties in the nation, as they will come to a good under
I hope be encouraged standing in a short time, if let alone and not by persons who are not their real friends.

I have the honor
to be your ob\t serv\t

D. N. Haley

(CIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) D.N.Haley Endorsing claim of Gen. Gaines etc.)
Franklin 24 July. 1830

Friends & Brothers

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

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

Why should you solicit time to visit the country which has been assigned you to the west. Already you are well advised, that it is secluded in a pleasant agreeable climate, even more so, than that you are about to leave; & in all respects equally fertile. Bounded by the Arkansas to the north, & Red River to the south,
embracing nearly twenty millions of acres, it is country infinitely
& larger in extent
more desirable, than the one you occupy. All the information pof-
sefsed shews this to be the fact
Of your own accord
when, during last winter, you forwarded to your great Father
entire
a treaty ceding your country. He laid it before his great Council
the Senate; but in doing so, he told them of your differences
& discontent; & that while a portion of the nation, desired the
agreed
treaty to be approved, another was of a contrary opinion. The Senate
that
did not approve what you did. One reason was that the terms proposed
were too extravagant; but another and a strong one was, they did not
desire any arrangement to which the entire nation was not assenting.
with general approbation assenting. The same language is now
held. The same language te yeu disclosed to you. We want no dis-
satisfaction - no heartburnings to abide after a treaty shall be
made. Your great Father is satisfied, that your peace, prosperity
& happiness, depend upon your removal; but he will take no course
which shall not be entirely satisfactory to his red children. He
does not merely desire their removal, but he desires it to take
place under such circumstances, or shall conclusively satisfy them,
that justice & liberality are the terms upon which their departure
is solicitous for them to remove, tho still under such circumstances
is asked. Beyond the Wifs, he, as shall retain them as his chil-
dren & friends; a result which he is persuaded is to be obtained
only by suffering them to depart, with a full conviction that their
interest has been regarded & their happiness as a people consulted.

But these things cannot be so fully explained at a distance.
Mgr Naley your friend & agent, was so informed, & he was instructed
to tell you, that with a view to a perfect understanding of every
thing the President and the SecrY of War, would be in Tennessee this
summer, near to you, and face to face would confer with you. Now
that they have come, instead of meeting this, to enter into an arrangement for your removal as your previous acts and conduct had indicated a disposition you propose an examination of the country, information which already is sufficiently possessed, whereby to defer longer, doing that, which every sensible man in the nation perceives must happen must-be-more, if you would preserve yourselves as a nation.

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

A just regard to your happiness demands of you to pursue the course that has been suggested. Why then defer it? Why not at once arrive at a conclusion which reason & experience prove, is the only sure one to which you can arrive. It cannot be accounted for on any other principle, than that you are deceived & imposed upon by designing men, who would persuade you to error,
and to a course which cannot fail ultimately to involve your nation in ruin. I warn you, to be on your guard against these intruding & obtrusive advisers, who disregarding your true interest are advising you to a course, of which in the end, you may have cause for deep & lasting repentence. I urge you to such beware of these evil councillors, if they have any other object adverse to you, before them, than your good; On the other hand, what matters, can have influence with the President. In past times, you have known him to be your friend, & he will not now be different from what he has been. While as Chief Magistrate of the Country he will on all occasions consult the happiness & prosperity of the whites, I take occasion to assure you that he will never do so at the expense of his red children - no such course be demanded of him by the people.

Friends & Brothers. Your great Father is here, not distant from you, where it was understood you would gladly meet him, to treat for a final removal to a home, which promises to you greater happiness than that which you have. A country which will be yours, not on the principle of more occupancy, but one which your great Father will give you to hold forever, as his white children hold their lands - a country where being to yourselves in it & at a distance from the whites there will be none to disturb or make you afraid - where he can & will protect you from all interrupters. Such an opportunity in furthering your interest may occur. Your Great Father & his Secretary of War are here, to hold council with you, to extend to you terms liberal as can be admitted. Hereafter this may
not be the case! He may be constrained to send his com-
missions to see you, & then the advantages you now present
may be impaired. We It is in his power to pay all the ex-
penses of your removal, & to take care of you at your new homes
for twelve months until your Crops can be made. He may not have
inasmuch as it in his power hereafter to do this, for Congress may change
that policy which they have adopted, & thereby place it out of
reach in his power to do, what at present it is his power to effect.
The whole scheme of emigration, if it be now deferred, may
require hereafter, to be carried into effect thro your own means and at your own
you expense - Then, may call for help, when the power to extend it,
may not be possesscd -

Under these considerations your great Father has instructed
me to send his friend, & your friend, Mr. Jno. Donnelly, to converse
freely with you, & to tell you, in detail more than I have time
to write. Listen to his counsel, for he comes from your great
Father & will not deceive you. He comes to tell you the truth
- to point you to your true condition, & to warn you, of what
in a experience short time will convince you, that to remain where
you are, happy, & preserved as a nation, is what no sensible
& reflecting man can look to, or hope for. Where now are the
tribes of former years - the Tuscaroraws - Six nations, &
others which once, were numerous & powerful. Easy to learn
the vices, but slow to acquire a knowledge of the virtues &
disappeared morals of the white brothers, they have gradually failed, until
are they now they are scarcely known as a people. The same fate must be
yours; & reflection & observation should convince you of the
These things have repeatedly been brought to your consideration. A long time ago, your great Father, who at this time presides over the affairs of the Country told you truly what your condition would be, - what, the certain result that awaited you. Then, as now, you heeded not his opinions, but listened to the advice of bad men, who had no regard for you; & where object was to deceive. At present you may not, but by & by, probably it may be too late for you to be benefited, the truth of what he has asserted may be perceived - To discuss the matter longer is unnecessary: it is a waste of time & words to repeat, what so often has been told. Decide then fully in reference to the merits of your case & let that decision be final. Either you must make up your minds to become citizens of Mississippi, subject to her laws & her government, or conclude to remove, to the Country which has been assigned you beyond the Territory of Arkansaw: Already you have had ample time to deliberate upon this subject; & if further consideration & deliberation shall be necessary, your great father cannot undertake to promise, that any provision will be made for your removal & support, as is now the case. The people of this & liberal Country already complaining of the ample provision which has been made for the Indian brothers, may induce Congress to & your own necessities forbear further assistance and hence when circumstances shall compel you to remove, it may be at your own expense, & upon
your own resources - The government then may not supply the means of assisting you to your homes. How important is it, then that you should seriously reflect upon these things, & at once decide & act; it may presently be too late for you to do so.

Yr frend & brother

J. H Eaton

(CIA: 1830 Choctaws Hon. J.H.Eaton to Chiefs & Col. Arbuckle Rel to Exploration & Protection of Party)
Jackson Mis  
July 24th 1830  

Sir  

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

I have the honor to be  
Your obt Servt  

His Ex. A. Jackson  
President of the United States  

D. W. Haley /  

(OIA: 1830 Choctaw (Emigration) D.W.Haley Harm only in the Nation.)
Col. R M Johnson

Dear Sir

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

Mushulatubbee returned in writing for answer that he never would acknowledge either let the consequences be what it might -- That evening the Hostile party came dow to the House
where we were and marched up in platoons to the old Mingo who was in the middle of the yard within six paces and halted un-till all was formed, when the cowardly commander was told they were without arms but name the day and place and they should have a fight to his satisfaction his reply was that he did not want to fight only to restore peace and that he had nothing against him the chief Nettuckegee &c. &c. So he went away with his party and reported they made Mushulatubbee run which was faulse to my own knowledge, a greater Tyrent and coward I never have seen than this man Lefloure. He has now found that the Indians will not have him as King for life over them and he wants an excuse not only for his attempts upon their rights but is the first to oppose any Treaty, Gen. Jackson has sent on Mr. Don-nelly to try and get them to meet the Secy of War at Franklin Ten. and we are doing our best, but Lefloure will oppose every thing unlefs he can get all his everesious heart is set on. I have not time to give you a full detail of the opposition to the Treaty, The Misionaries, have come out purty fully in opposition to a Treaty.

Respectfully your friend

W Ward

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Hon. R.M. Johnson w.m. Ward
Reports of movements)
Council Ground. C. N.

Augst 10. 1830

Friend and Brother

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

1 George W. Hawkins 25 Uppullarter
2 Anthony Turnbull 26 Muttubbee
3 James Choat 27 Punnercha
4 Nicholas Cochnanen 28 Tuschertubbee
5 Robert Folsom 29 Ispemamastubbee
6 Thomas Leflore 30 Posontolerbee
7 Jerry Folsom 31 Tohoker
8 Lewis Durant 32 Tegbonerbee
9 David Sexton 33 Hicherpotubbee
10 William Hayes 34 Tunnupecheeffen
11 Punnissaw 35 Halbertubbee
12 Pestubbee 36 Hotarbee
13 Narharbee 37 Upberterger
14 Meety 38 Hussawerkeyen
15 Chartersmatahaw 39 Larfeter
16 Alfred Wade 40 Bullertubbee
17 John Wade 41 Metubbee
18 Lumeteah 42 Mason Willestson
19 Pullaha 43 John Q Adams
20 George Laman 44 Offahomah
21 Nerchubbee 45 Phillotubbee
22 Orwaschubbee 46 Chochubbee
23 Samuel Byington 47 Tunnuphocher
24 Isaac Folsom 48 Teasoway
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Approved Augst 10, 1830
Greenwood Leflore. Chief

(O.I.A.: 1830 Choctaws Wm.Ward Chiefs Result of a council to
condemn removal to the West. Compare. NOTE: All sig. same handwriting)
Choctaw Nation.
August 13: 1830

Hon J. H. Eaton
Secretary of War

Friend and Brother: I am requested by my father (who is the
United States interpreter to this Nation) to make known to you the fol-
lowing communication. That so soon as he was informed of the de-
cision of a Council held by Leflores party (which was that they
would not send a Delegation to go and see their Great Father the
President) he (my father) set out early this morning to attend a
Council of the Republicans with the intention of using his utmost
to get them to agree to send a Delegation to go and meet their
great father at Franklin. This Council will consist of the prin-
ciple men of the North East and Southern Districts, and from every
intelligence which we have heard the Republican Chiefs they are de-
termined to send a Delegation to go and see the President. Hapily
this morning father received a communication from the President
just as he was on the point setting out for the Council, and, also
one from yourself, with the advantages of which he will doubtlefs
succeed in getting the Council to agree to send a Delegation to
Treat with their great father and settling at once a business which
will redound to the name of the Choctaw.

At the Council held by Leflores party they wrote, as we have
been informed against the Interpreters, and requesting you to re-
move them from office. They have accused them of having been in the
practice of telling falsehoods and making out to the Indians false
Interpretation &c. This can be proven to be a base accusation,
and Father wishes that you would do him the honour of preserving Leflores letter that he may see what they have written against him fair and that he may have a chance of saving his character and the honor of his family from the disgrace which Leflore would in his vilnefs bring upon them. I have

The honour Dear Sir

of Subscribing myself

Your friend & Brother.

P. P. Pitchlynn

P S.

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

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws  P.P.Pitchlynn to Hon. J.H.Eaton. Defend- ing character of interpreters, etc.)
Honble John H Eaton

Dr Sir

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

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

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

Very respectfully

Your Obt Sert

John Donly

Columbus Augst 14th 1830
Choctaw Agency Aug 19th 1830

Sir

Agreeable to the request of Majr. Donley I did attempt to collect a general Council near the center of the nation at a place appointed to pay Leflours District Annuity. I had sent one of the Interpreters to notify the Southern Chiefs and Headmen. but to my surprise I found they refused to assemble at any place in Leflours District but appointed a council at a different place where both the Inte's attended, Majr Pitchlynn who will be the Bearer of this letter will give you a detailed account of the Council. At the request of some of the Colberts & Checkraws Pitchlynn has agreed to go on to Franklin Ten. to see you and the President of the U. States, who will be able to give you much information relative to the views and parties of the Choctaws which you will find no doubt to correspond with my former communications. Also It is expected that Col Dan Wright will be in Nashville about the same time, and I have requested him to call on you. Col Wright has lived on the Boundary line for many years, and his profession calls him to pass through the nation three or four times a year and has been an eye witness to the whole course of the views of the Choctaws, nearly as much as myself, and as I am unable to see you myself on account of bad health. I have requested Col. Wright to call on you & Pres't Jackson and enjoin you of the Best way to get these unfortunate people to consent to remove beyond the Mifsipsippi River.
I say unfortunate people and what in part makes them more so they have had bad advisers, who no doubt are 
trying opposed to the best Interest of the Indians and a righteous policy of the government and their only true friends. I presume that Maj. Donley has sent on the answer of Leflour and Folsom and a few of their followers, which answer you will readily see goes to imple-
cate the old Interpreters as being the cause of the division of this nation. when in fact it originated with the Indians not being willing to come under Leflour as the only chief of the nation.

I have the Honor to be very

Respectfully yours

M^O. Obd^t. Serv^t.

W. Ward Agt. C N  

Hon John H. Eaton

Sec'y of War.

(OLIA: 1830 Choctaws Wm. Ward Chiefs (Result of a council to consider removal to the West.) 2 papers)
Friends & Brothers

of the Choctaw Nation

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

Friends & Brothers

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

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

Brothers Listen

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

Andrew Jackson

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws The President, Andrew Jackson Talks to Chiefs. Letter to Sec. of War. To Comrs. Eaton & Coffee. All autograph.)
Franklin 27. Aug. 1830

To Genl Jn? Coffee
& Jn? H Eaton

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

Given under my hand at Franklin

Andrew Jackson

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws The President, Andrew Jackson Talks to Chiefs. Letter to Sec. of War. to Comrs Eaton & Coffee. All autograph.)
P. S. Instruct Mr. Donelly to appoint a day that the chiefs will be at Franklin — or if they will not come, but give assurances that they will treat, to appoint a day & place in the nation I want the chiefs to come here — Lafleur can influence the Cherokees, & as soon as we make arrangements with the Choctaws by sending Lafleur to the Cherokees, he can bring a delegation to meet us on our way to Washington in East Tennessee.

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

A. J.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws The President, Andrew Jackson. Talks to chiefs. Letter to Sec. of War. To comrs. Eaton & Coffee. All autograph.)
John H. Eaton and John Coffee, commissioners to treat with the Choctaw nation of Indians, this day arrived at Dancing Rabbit Creek. At the agency today, they instructed the Agent to address a note to the missionaries, suggesting it to be improper, and requesting that they would not attend at the treaty ground, which was done by the agent accordingly.

Thursday Sept 16th The Commissioners issued the following general regulation for the distribution of rations

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

J. H. Eaton
Jn? Coffee

Friday Sept 17th A correspondence, as follows took place between the Commissioners and the missionaries attending at the treaty ground --
To the Hon
Jno H Eaton, Sec: of War &
Genl Jno Coffee, Comr of the U S

Gentlemen

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

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

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

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

Your obedient servants,

Cyrus Kingsbury
Cyrus Byington
Loving S. Williams
Calvin Cushman

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

Treaty ground

18 Sept' 1830

Gentlemen

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

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

Again as soon as M'r Tally, another missionary was known to be here, for reasons of supposed correct policy, he was requested to retire. His answer was that he could not. These circumstances combined, show a determination on the part of the
mitionaries to be present, and to mingle in the councils here, at all hazards, regardless of our requests or instructions.

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

Much as we commend the laudable, and praiseworthy vocation in which you are engaged, the improving and civilizing the Indians - and teaching them the necessity of true and evangelical repentance and forgiveness, we cannot reason ourselves to the belief, that the present is a proper time, place or occasion for such undertakings. The whole population of the Choctaw Nation does not half equal any one of our settled counties. Two years have you been with them, and afforded repeated opportunities to preach to, and instruct them. The few days assigned for our object, which we believe to be of higher importance than any act of a temporal kind, that ever had occupied their attention, surely cannot impede the benevolent march of mind and morals that lies before you. Your religious exercises may interfere, will interfere. At any rate time will be consumed, and large increased expenses will be the consequence. The civilized man cannot serve two masters; - the untutored, still less can do so. He should have his mind altogether free and easy at such a moment
as the present, and fully to be applied to the whole subject matter that is before him. We approach the subject with distrust, resolved only upon one thing, that we will act candidly, fairly and liberally toward the Indians, and save them from the ruin which is anticipated to invade them.

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

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

Very respectfully

(Signed) J. H. Eaton

J. Coffee
Camp ground

18 Sept 1830

To the Hon

Jn O H Eaton SecV of War &
Genl Jn O Coffee, Comr of the U.S.

Gentlemen

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

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

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

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

It is doubtlefs known to the Hon the Sec: of War, and the Com of the U States, that there are various reports in circulation, among a portion of the nation, as well as among white people, prejudicial to the missionary character, representing us as speculators &c. We did hope, that the present would furnish us with a convenient and suitable opportunity of presenting correct and full information on this subject; and would
result in such explanations and arrangements, as the case might require. And we repeat the assurance, that the above are the motives, and the only motives, which brought us to this place.

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

We have the honor to be with respect

Your obedient servants

C Kingsbury
Cyrus Byington
Loving S. Williams
Calvin Cushman

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

18 Sept 1830

Gentlemen

We have received your joint letter: business with the council prevented a reply until now. We cannot request your stay. We prefer that you should go away; and in saying this, we intend nothing of disrespect to you, and most certainly nothing to the cause of religion. Our reasons we have already offered - it is that your labors here under all the circumstances which are presented, cannot be profitably employed. Of this you must yourselves be satisfied. A more unpromising moment, and a place less promotive of religious results could scarcely be dreamed of. Your absence may aid civil purposes greatly - Your presence cannot, we are persuaded, advance the
cause of religion in the least. We must therefore insist upon it, that you, and every other person engaged here, in missionary purposes, leave the treaty ground. And in saying this, we again beg to state, that nothing disrespectful or unkind, to any of you, is intended. We request this to be received as our final answer on the subject.

(Signed) J H Eaton

J. Coffee

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

Treaty ground, Dancing Rabbit Creek

Sept. 18th 1830

To the Mingoers, Chiefs, Captains

and Warriors of the Choctaw Nation

Friends & Brothers

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

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

Brothers: - You have missionaries amongst you - pious and qualified men, we hope and believe. Fail not to attend on, and regard their admonitions, while they seek to instruct the minds of your children, and to point you to the paths of moral duty and religion; but the moment they attempt an interference with your general, government relations, reject their counsels. These are subjects with which they have no right to meddle, and indeed should not interfere. They are matters which belong to the government, the Chiefs and the people, not to the mifion-
aries, who are placed amongst you for higher and nobler purposes— for Christian, not political ends. It is the peculiar duty of the Chiefs, for they are responsible to their people, carefully to watch over the affairs of the nation, not those who have no responsibility, no interest whatever. Through error of their advice, they may lead you on to a state of political wretchedness, of which, though they might hereafter repent, it will never be in their power to repair.

Brothers: We have come a considerable distance to meet you, under the direction of your Great Father. He had invited you to meet, and shake hands with him in Tennessee, that as a friend and father he might speak with you. He was informed at Washington City that you desired it. Arriving at home he sent Major Donly to you, with news of his wishes, of his desire to converse with you on matters of deep and lasting interest to your nation: you refused to come, and returned for answer that you could not. Well might your Great Father then have said "I will no more try to preserve you, but leave you to live as you can, under the laws of the States." When thus he was about to determine, to leave you, and no more persuade you to a course of happiness, a messenger reached him, bearing from two of the three districts of your nation, a memorial, entreating that commissioners might be sent. Anxious still for those who had fought by his side in behalf of his country, he determined to yield to that request, and to send those who would speak his wishes, freely and candidly, and thereby prove the desire he entertained to preserve you, notwithstanding his previous friendly offers had been rejected.
Brothers: By the direction of your Great Father, we have come amongst you. It is not your land but your happiness that we seek to obtain. Much delay and much talk, about a matter which all of you well understand, is needless. We have not time to be tedious; one of us, the Secretary of War, must very shortly return to Washington City. Here he cannot long remain, nor is it proper, or necessary that he should. You all know the important matters that are to be considered and settled, and can readily decide upon the course you intend to take. Speedily answer then, and say what you will do. Are you willing to remain here, and live as white men? Are you willing to be sued in courts, there to be tried and punished for any offence you may commit? to be subjected to taxes - to work upon roads, and attend in musters? for all these you must do. If under this state of things, it is believed you can be contented and happy, then dwell upon the lands where you live. But if you are satisfied that under such a condition of things you cannot be happy, consent to remove beyond the Mississippi, where you will be away from the white people, and from their laws, and be able to live under your own. You are called upon to say, whether or not you will remain for if this be your determination, then let us be done with the subject, and disperse to our homes. On the other hand if you shall choose to remove, so declare that, at once we may proceed to some definite understanding and arrange a treaty. This we are willing to do, and upon terms that shall be liberal. We seek no advantages; we will take none. Your Great Father would not approve such a course. He has sent us,
not as traders, but as friends and brothers, and to act as such, We will thus act, be assured. We come not to practice imposition upon our Choctaw friends, but to extend to them justice. This we will do.

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

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

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

Brothers: In 1820 by a treaty made with you at Dokes
Stand, by your present Great Father, an extensive and fine
country was given to you, for the use of your people. It was
a gift to you; for the country you ceded to the United States
was fully paid for. It was the understanding at the time that
the Choctaws would remove; and on that account was it, that a
large, saleable, and fertile country was provided for your na-
tion, and your people. Ten years have passed by, and you are
still here. The country intended for you, yet remains,
Brothers; A fertile country beyond the Missisippi, and another possession here, is more than you should expect. If you will not remove, other Indian tribes may desire to do so, and when they shall select to settle, a home must be furnished. Others wanting it, the country should not remain a desert. You must decide which you will take, and which you will live upon. Both countries you cannot possess, it is unreasonable to expect it. If you prefer to live under our laws and customs, remain and do so; and surrender the lands assigned to you, West of the Missisippi, or otherwise remove to them. Then your Great Father can protect you, and there, undisturbed and uninterrupted by the whites you can enjoy yourselves and be happy now and for years to come. Rest assured, you cannot be so here. But if you think differently, then, continue where you are. After the present time, we shall no more offer to treat with you. You have seen commissioners in your country for the last time. Hereafter you will be left to yourselves, and to the laws of the States within which you reside; and when weary of them, your nation must remove as it can, and at its own expense. Whatever you may determine upon, whether to remove, or to remain, our earnest and sincere wishes are, that you may be happy and contented. For you, we have the best feelings; our complexions are different, but our hearts and our nature are the same. The Great Spirit above is our common father. He has made us all & we are all his. Your friends & Your brothers J H Eaton

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

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

Tuesday 21st The Commissioners were desired by the Chiefs to submit the terms they intended to offer, that they, their Captains, and Warriors, might understand the matters to be acted upon fully. Whereupon the Commissioners consented that they would offer them terms, such as they hoped would be considered liberal. That the next day, at 10 o'clock they would meet the Chiefs Captains, and Warriors, and speak to them freely, as to the terms they would propose. —
Wednesday 22d. The Commissioners met the council at 10 o'clock. The Chiefs and their Captains present, except Nutakachee, who was reported to be sick from the bite of a spider. Order and silence being had, the Commissioners proposed for their consideration and approval, the outlines of the treaty they were willing to enter into. It is as follows.

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

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

4 sections to each Chief is
2 do to D Folsom.
2 do to R Cole.
2 do to J Pytchlynn.
2 Sections to J Juzan
1 do to Makay
1 do each to 39 Captains. 13 to each district. 39
½ do to 90 Captains & principal men 45. (30 in each district)

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

Annuity 2,500 for 20 years.

Removal and support of Indians for one year

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

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

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

Thursday 23d This morning, the Commissioners were informed that the Indian committee, appointed to consider the terms proposed, were about to reject them, and refuse to treat That it
was represented to them, there was but one spring and only one, in the country west of the Mifsifsippi, and that the laws of a state had been already extended over the Cherokees who had removed there -

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

12 o'clock. The Commissioners attended at the Council house, and received through the Chairman of the Committee, Peter Pytchlynn, their determination and report. They stated their great surprize at being informed, their Great Father had understood they were in distress and dissatisfied; and were surprized at being informed they could not retain the lands which by the treaty of 1820 had been secured to them. That they had concluded not to treat for a sale of their lands. The report being received; the Secretary of War rose, and made an address to them verbally, before the council - told them of their situation and condition, and of the impossibility, on the part of their Great Father, to prevent the operation of the laws of the State over them. That they had been badly advised, and were putting reliance in persons, who, while they professed to be their friends would be sure to forget them in the hour of
difficulty and trial. Their object, he well knew was to obtain the best bargain they could, and the Commissioners were prepared to give them one in all respects liberal, to the extent that they could hope the Senate of the United States would ratify. The government intended this as the last treaty, ever to be held with them, and it certainly was the last time that Commissioners would ever appear in their nation, to talk with them, on this subject. They had come as friends, and at their own request, to protect them from injury, not to caval with them about prices. As for their lands the government cared nothing, for they had enough. Their object was merely the possession of the country without regard to any thing of value or profit to be obtained from the sale of them. He called their attention to a printed letter to the War Department from two of the three of their districts, and which two of their principal chiefs had signed, in which they had said most feelingly, that they were distrested, and could not possibly live under the laws of the state, and begged that Commissioners might be sent to their nation, to conclude a treaty. For them now to state differently, showed their insincerity, and deception, That hereafter, their complaints would not be regarded, because they could not be confided in. The Secretary of War requested them to understand, that their removal was to be a matter for their own reflection and judgment. Unlesfs they really believed, in consenting to emigrate, their happiness could be promoted, he begged them not to think of removing. That they must go freely, and of their own accord, or not at all. They had to day declared that they were unwilling
remove. He supposed they had arrived at the conclusion that they
could remain where they were, and live under the laws of Missis-
sippi, and of course the commissioners had nothing more to say,
or to advise. They would now take their leave and go home. It
was matter of regret, he said that their judgment had erred so
much, in the decision they had made. Throughout, the language
of all of them had been, that they could not live under the
white man's laws. If such was not their deliberate opinion,
why had they avowed it, and why did they solicit the President
to send commissioners to treat with them, when they could not
but know, it was attended with great expense. He said, he well
knew that many of them could live anywhere, where he could,
their education & intelligence authorized him to say and believe
so; but the common un instructed Indian could not. For them to
live under laws which they could neither read, nor be able to un-
derstand, was expecting too much. And what are they to do, under
the decision just pronounced? Will they resist the laws? The
Sheriff must enforce them - will they oppose him with their guns
and tomahawks? While the Choctaws could raise one warrior to
resist, there would be found 100 or 1000 to oppose that resis-
tance and to enforce the law. These are things which seriously
they should have considered, before their decision was pronounced.
The commissioners, he said, had nothing further to remark, but
to take leave of them, and go home, and accordingly they retired
from the Council.

Shortly afterwards, they were waited upon by several per-
sons, of the committee, with a request that they would not leave
the treaty ground. That they had considered of the remarks
which had been made to them, and had no doubt, if the commissiioners
would remain a few days longer, that a treaty could. To this
the Commissioners assented.
Saturday 25th 9 o'clock. The committee on the part of the In-
dians, handed in a plan, presenting the grounds on which they
were willing to treat. It contained various objectionable
features; and amongst others a proposition to create a perpetual
stock of $500,000, at an interest of 5 pr cent, but redeemable
at the pleasure of the Choctaw nation after 20 years. The Com-
misisioners returned for answer, that the terms offered had been
fully considered, and that some of them were inadmisible but
that at 11 o'clock they would meet the chiefs & Warriors in
council and state to them, there, what they were willing and
disposed to do.

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

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

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

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

4 sections to each of the three chiefs 2 to include
improvements is ... 12 sections
4 sections to Col D. Folsom, 2 to include improvements is 4 "
2 to R Cole, & 2 to J Garland, former chiefs
2 Sections to the Speakers of east district.
2 to J. Pytchlynn & 2 to J Juzan

1 Section to 13 Captains, with others to be named and

to be placed in a supplementary treaty

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

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

And to those who may have had in cultivation as aforesaid,
a farm of 12 acres, and not more than 20 acres, a reservation
as aforesaid, under the conditions and restrictions aforesaid
1/4 of a section of land. The number not to exceed 450 persons.
And to those who may have cultivated, as aforesaid, a farm of 4 acres and less than 12 acres, a reservation under the restrictions and conditions aforesaid, of one eighth of a section. The number not to exceed 350 persons.

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

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

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

Likewise for each unmarried child, residing with him or her, on notice and a request made with the agent, in six months from the ratification, of such intention, said child shall be entitled, if over ten years of age, to half a section; if less than ten, to a quarter section, to adjoin the parents' location—
Say that only 200 remain.- is 200 sections
That 200 children are over ten years 100 "
200 do under ten years 50. "

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

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

Removal, expense of, and support one year

Education of 40 Choctaw boys, 20 years

Council house, Churches, and houses for Chiefs

Teachers and preachers for 20 years

1000 guns & ammunition, blankets & kettles

1000 axes, hoes, & ploughs.

1000 Wheels, cards, & 400 looms.

Blacksmiths, for 16 years.

Wheelwrights, for 5 years.

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

Pay of Chiefs for 20 years.

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

The foregoing having been read and explained, the three Chiefs, and other principal men, addressed the council, and urged the acceptance of the terms which were offered. The explanations being made the council broke up.
Sunday 26th Some conference at the Commissioners quarters took place this morning, between the Chiefs and some of the Captains, and head men, in which several alterations and additions were made, to the terms proposed. They insisted to increase the number of guns, and blankets, agreeably to the promise which was made to them in the treaty of Dokes Stand made in 1820.

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

Sir

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

Very respectfully

J. H. Eaton

Franklin 7. Octo 1830

Col. Reynolds & Gaines in charge of the Delegation

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

Respectfully

J. H Eaton
Sir

I received on the 12th Inst your favor dated Agency 29th Sepr 30; and on the same day a letter from Gen'l Coffee written at your request & dated Florence 2nd Inst.

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

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

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

I think however that Gen'l Coffee's letter written by your direction will have stayed him until he receives mine and that we shall all travel together.

I am about to dispatch a man to the Chickasaw agency by advice of Gen'l Coffee for Col. Reynolds plan of march. -- We
shall appoint a place of meeting on the Arkansas. -- Gen\(^1\) Coffee coincides with me in opinion that it is of no importance that we two exploring parties travel together.

I expect that my messenger will return from the Chickasaw Agency by the 20\(^{th}\) Inst before which time I hope to receive your instructions which Gen\(^1\) Coffee informs me will be forwarded me from Franklin T.

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

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

I have the honor to be

Your obed\(\)ty Servt

Geo. S. Gaines

The Hon:

John H. Eaton,

Sec\(\)y of War.

(CIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo.S.Gaines Asks for instructions,etc.)
To the Honorable Major John H. Eaton, Sec. of War.

Friend & brother,

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

We are respectfully your friends & brothers

Capts -- Nukpulla -- Nukpulla --
John Brewer (1) John Brewer (1)
Mahishtubbee - Mahishtubbee -
Sheekopa, lukna Sheekopa, lukna
Nakommastubbee (1) Nakommastubbee (1)
Nakommastubbee (2) Nakommastubbee (2)
Capts -- Meyashotta -- Meyashotta --
Pisetachahabbee Pisetachahabbee
Ahokletubbee -- Ahokletubbee --
John Garland John Garland
Koope Koope
Elatahlahopie Elatahlahopie
Pashishtubbee Pashishtubbee
John Brewer (2)  
his x mark
Ayapullubbee  
his x mark

Likewise a Secretary appointed by the council, Noel Gardner.

Done in Council  
}
at Yakne achakma,  
}
Oct. 16th 1830  
)

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

Israel Folsom, Clerk pro. tem pore.

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Captains in council  Joel Nail appointed chief)
To the Hon'ble John H. Eaton,

Friend and Brother.

We the principal Captains of the Southern District of the Choctaw Nation have recently understood that Israel Folsom, a brother of Col David Folsom, has been in some parts of our District encouraging the Captains to elect a Chief and to cause us to get divided. Our Chief Nittucachee has received a letter from several of the Captains stating that they had elected Joel H. Nail as their Chief. Sixteen have signed many of them are not known to be Captains. You will understand by this that confusion is going on by the influence of Israel Folsom and John Garland. We accused of having had money given to us by you. Some of our lives have been threatened very much. Particularly Hopicunchahubbee, a principal Captain of Chickasawha, and Onnahubbee, a principal Captain of Sixtowns. We wish you to write on immediately and let us be cleared if innocent which we hope we are. We still hold our Chief and will never forsake him. We have nothing against him. We have all told you he was our Chief and we still hold him. We the head Captains are still in favour of our beloved Chief Nittucachee. A few of the smaller Captains particularly the more ignorant have been influenced (as we have a strong reason to believe by Israel Folsom) to elect a new man for their Chief. We write you about our difficulties because we told you we would. We wish you to give us answer as soon as convenient. We have no more to say on this subject. We have no
Copy of the treaty. We do not understand it well. We wish you to send us a Copy as soon as possible and direct it to the agency or Demopolis. We have been looking for a Copy some time but have never received it. We are sorrow that one of the District has been better provided for with reservation than this. We would be glad if all were equally benifited. -- We are your Friends and brothers --

Iyacherhopia  his x mark
Speaker of the Southern District
Onnahubbee  his x mark
Hopicachahubbee  his x mark
Hopiahoomah  his x mark
Hopiatubbee  his x mark
Ticberunchahubbee  his x mark

Pierre Juzan

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

Your friends & Brothers

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

Pierre Juzan

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

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

/ 86 signers./

(0IA: 1830. Choctaws. Wm. Ward. (Choctaws satisfied with Treaty & country. Troops not required. Change of Chiefs.)

(A similar paper to above is signed by 150 persons; also one with 39 signers; also one with 27 signers; also one with 95 signers; also one with 30 signers; one bearing no captain, but containing signatures of 122 persons. See next page.)
We the undersigned and lawful Electors being in office having met in general council convened at Wolf Creek Northwestern district this 3rd day of Nov 1830. For the purpose of taking into deep consideration the propriety of electing another chief to supercede Greenwood Leflore and after mature deliberation come to the following resolutions

Resolved 1 - that all hold Greenwood Leflore totally unfit to rule a people who having forfeited his head by breaking a law he made himself in open council on the Robinson Road that he would not sell his country

2dly Taking up arms and marching with an armed band of warriors to a council convened at Wilson's Stand and there severely punished by whipping some of our most peaceable Citizens 3rdly He having expended the money unnecessarily such as purchasing powder, lead, plumes, drums and other unnecessary articles without the consent of the people of said district to the great injury and oppression of the poor and distressed warriors and women. 4th and his taking up arms and marching with an armed force of four or five hundred warriors into a peaceable quarter of the nation against the chiefs Mushalatubbee and Nittuckachee

5th His selling the country against the known wishes of a large majority of the people in said district and disposing of said lands in such a manner as to deprive the warriors generally of any immediate benefit. &co and making laws the most oppressive and degrading to the great mass of the people and also endeavor-
ing to establish a sort of Monarchial Government and furthermore threatened to destroy the property of the Citizens Living on the Yellubusher creek and some of its tributary streams if they did not submit to his arbitrary and unjust laws after making well the above we the subscribers do believe it our indispens-a-ble duty to remove said Greenwood Leflore our present Chief from office and appoint George W Harkins principal chief to succeed said Leflore removed for the term of two years or during good behaviour and furthermore that said George Harkins shall receive the same salary as the other Chiefs of said Nation during his continuance in office. The U. S. agent will transact business with George Harkins as principal chief of the North western district as he is elected by the majority of the same after the date of this article he will not hold Greenwood Leflore as a chief

_/ 39 signers/_


(See preceding paper.)
Yazoo

at Col. Lafleurs

6th Novr 1830

Sir

Your favor dated Franklin 7th Oct. Postmarked 12th, reached my residence at Demopolis on the 22nd. The copy of the treaty inclos'd for Netuckecchee was immediately forwarded to him.

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

Having had with General Coffee before we parted at the treaty ground a lengthy conversation on the subject of the mision since intrusted to Col.? Reynolds and myself in which he
imparted to me in confidence his views & opinions on that subject, and knowing that there will be no difficulty in meeting with the Arkansas other party on the Canadian Fork when the Colonel & myself can act together understandingly, I determined to proceed on the tour at once.

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

This strange & unexpected determination of Col? Lafleur, to
accompany the party agreeably to his promise to you places me in a most embarrassing situation.

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

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

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

Col. Lafleur proposes to send his brother and two or three other Captains, and is now gone to bring them in. I hope to enter the Mifsipsippi Swamp tomorrow, and meet Col. Reynolds about the 25th Instant some where on the Cannadian Fort of Arkansas.

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

I have the honor to be

very respectfully

Your obed Serv.

Geo. S. Gaines

The Hon. Jno. H. Eaton

Sec'y of War.

(CIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo. S. Gaines Special Agent Report of exploring party to West.)
May not be considered an intrusion to drop you a line.
Since writing you on the state of public feeling in the Choctaw Nation, I have received a letter from Col. Leflore assuring me that no fears need be entertained, as to the opposition to himself or the treaty, in his district. I have also received a letter from a particular and influential friend, assuring me that the excitement produced by Mr. Smith was rapidly giving way to a more reasonable feeling; that several of the Captains who had manifested their dissatisfaction, had publicly acknowledged their error, and regretted their course.
Col. Leflore informed me that a number of his neighbours, with their families, had set out for the Choctaw lands on Red River, and expected me to meet them at the site of Cantonment Towson, on the Kiamisha. My friend from the center of the District, writes me that my interpreter with a number of emigrants is on his way, and expects to meet me at the post of Washetta in four or five days.
Col. Leflore appears to calculate with certainty on the ratification of the treaty. I expect to cross the Mifsifsippi tomorrow.
Most respectfully Alex Talley

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

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Alex. Tally Nation will not oppose a treaty)
Choctaw Agency  Nov. 14th 1830

Sir

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

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

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

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

As soon as Congrefs meets and the Senate is full it might be as will the Treaty were ratified as there are some poor retches will always be meddling with the Indian subject untill it is put at rest.
I cannot believe any person from this part of Country will again attempt any thing as they find they must leave the nation if any other attempt be made.

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

I have the Honor to be very

Respectfully yours,

Obd Servt

W. Ward Agt C N.

Hon. John H. Eaton

Secy of War.

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

(01A: 1830 Choctaws (Agency) Wm. Ward Informs of some opposition to treaty by chiefs & missionaries.)
Little Rock A T
18. Nov. 1830

Sir,

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

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

In favor of Maj. Haley for 125
   do       do Johnston for 60
And Jno. McLean for 500

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

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

I have the honor to be

Respectfully

Your obed. Servt

Geo. S. Gaines

The Hon.

J. H. Eaton

Sec'y of War

(ULSA 1830Choctaws (Emigration) Geo. S. Gaines Expenses of tour.)
Hon J. H. Eaton
Sec'y War &c

Dear Sir,

In my last communication to you I stated that active preparations were making for a removal west of the Mifs. River -- I now have the pleasure of informing you that about seven or eight hundred of the Indians are already on their way & many more expected to start in the course of a few days -- There is a degree of Emulation among the Emigrants to be the first to arrive in their new country & thus have the advantage of making the best selections of land -- For those who have gone, many of whom will probably arrive there about the first of January, there should be some provision made as early as practicable -- A considerable proportion of them are poor & leaving with means hardly sufficient to sustain them on their journey, will reach the place of their future residence in a very destitute condition -- I have thought it best to urge the removal of the Indians as fast as possible that they escape the evils of intemperance which are flowing in upon the country on all sides & have caused the death of a considerable number since the administration of the Choctaw laws was arrested-- I am however by such a course assuming a fearful responsibility should not the U.S.Government sustain me by speedily making a comfortable provision for the new settlers -- If those who first migrate find the country a good one & receive early attention from the U.S.Government they will send back
such a report as will induce a speedy emigration of the rest &
at least all who are friendly with me will soon be there -- Five
or six of my most influential Captians have gone over with their
warriors & I expect my Speaker will soon follow to take charge of
them there -- Although there has been some dissatisfaction in the
country on account of the treaty, occasioned principally by the
white men residing in it, there appears now to be a general dispo-
sition to acquiesce in the course that has been pursued & to approve
of it as necefsary & proper -- I have been compelled to request of
the Agent the removal of two or three persons who I thought were en-
deavouring to create discord by imposing upon the minds of the weak
& ignorant-- In this district the people are generally satisfied
and I understand from Col. Fulsom with whom I lately conversed that
they are so in the district where he resides-- Should however any
reports reach you in relation to this matter which do not correspond
with my statements I hope you will inform me. that I may furnish you
with the proof that they can have no other foundation than malice &
ignorance --

I remain your

Ob! Serv!

Greenwood LeFlore
Chief of the North west
District Choctaw Nation

(OIA: 1830 (Emigration) Greenwood LeFlore On the subject of removal)
Dear Sir,

I think I can venture without an apology to ask your influence in favour of a people for whom you have always shewed a true friendship - You are too well acquainted with the condition of the Choctaws, & with the history of recent events, urging them to the conclusion of a treaty, for the disposal of the country they now occupy, to require any additional information at this time - The dissatisfaction which arose in some parts of the country, soon after the treaty was signed, through the interference of some white men, who acted from mistaken views or evil motives, has principally subsided and the people now appear generally disposed to acquiesce in the course which has been pursued, & are making pretty extensive preparations for removal -- Many, indeed, perhaps seven or eight hundred have already started & should those who have gone find the country a good one & receive the early attention of the U.S.Government the emigration will be rapid until all are removed - I consider it very important that the treaty should be ratified as soon as possible & I hope you will use your influence with your friends in the Senate to hasten this measure - Many of the people who are emigrating are poor & will suffer in the country of their future residence unless timely aid be extended by Government - The same causes which appeared to render it necessary that the Choctaws should treaty for the disposal of their lands & remove west of the Mifs. make it necessary that their removal should be accelerated as much as possible - They are exposed while they remain to all
the evils they so much feared as to be willing to sell their country and the sooner they can be reorganized in their new country under their own peculiar laws & regulations the better -- With these views I have urged their removal as fast as possible & I hope I shall receive the prompt & effectual aid of the U.S. Government -- Should any reports reach Washington which are calculated to retard the ratification of the treaty you may be assured that have no good foundation & if suffered to have any effect will but injure the cause they may be pretended to support - Most of the men of influence & correct principle in the country are warmly in favour of a speedy removal - Relying upon your influence in favour of what I sincerely believe to be the true interest of the Choctaws

I remain Dr Sir

Your Obt Servt

Greenwood Leflore
Chief of Northwest
District Choctaw Nation

To Sec of War,
Honbl
John H. Eaton
Sir
I send you a letter just rec'd from Greenwood Leflore with whom I am intimately acquainted he having spent 3 weeks at my residence in Ky. He is a very able man & the letter is genuine

Rh; M: Johnson

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Greenwood LeFlore On the subject of removal.)
Nashville Novr. 26, 1830

Hon' John H Eaton

Sir

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

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

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

It appears that the P. M. General has refused to make any allowance to me for the difference between the government repairing the road and having to do it myself agreeable to my bid I am
confident that if the F M General understood this Question as well as you do, no difficulty could exist and I must beg your kind services in giving him an explanation of the whole matter, or I am ruined by it -- at the same time I would be glad that you could understand from Mr Bary if it is probable that the department will soon place four horse stages from Tuscumbia to Natchez-- The Legislature is now in session and much feeling prevails on this subject.

Yours very respectfully

John Donly

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws John Donley Choctaws ready & anxious to remove. LeFlore has promised provisions in new country.)
Fort Smith A. T.
29th Nov. 1830

Dear Sir,

Knowing that you feel great interest in the progress of the Chaktaw exploring party committed to my charge I ought to have written you sooner: but really I have hardly had time since the receipt of your letter of the 16th ult: which overtook me in the nation on the 29th of the same month, after I had set out on my journey and too late to enable me to negotiate a draft on the Hon Sec'y of War, which I supposed I should find no difficulty in doing at the Post of Arkansas or Little Rock—To either of the places I supposed that my own pocket money would carry us.

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

I was compelled to pass through the neighborhood of Netuck-cichee & Mushulatubbee and thence to Col. Lafleurs to collect my party, and determined to push directly through the Mifsifsippi swamp to the mouth of White River in the hope of overtaking Col. Reynolds at this place or at Cantonment Gibson, but my party being difficult to collect, my progress was necessarily slow—

Col. Lafleur declined coming himself and appeared to experience some difficulty in procuring a respectable representative— I waited upon him three or four days before he succeeded in finding two respectable captains willing to accompany me — This delay increased my anxiety to come direct and as fast as possible,
and we entered the Yazoo Swamp with a pilot at his house who brought us after near five days travel to the Mifsifsippi River 30 miles above the mouth of White River -- by the bye there is some of the finest land I ever saw between Lafleurs and the Mip-
sifsippi river. The whole distance say 30 to 100 miles is swamp or bottom land: all rich but only a part elevated above high water.

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

I arrived here yesterday having travelled about 600 miles counting from my residence. An expres who I had sent ahead of me to Col9 Arbuckle of Cantonment Gibson requesting him to forward six weeks provisons for my party to some point on the Can-
adian has just returned and I am much cheered to find that Col9 Reynolds was there fitting out for the woods and to hear that we shall meet on the Canadian in a few days

Here all the wants of my party must be supplied -- Blank-ets clothing and some horses must be purchased several of their horses having fairly tired down. These things were not thought of by the Hon: SecY of War when directing you to limit my drafts
for my outfit expenses to $1000: and such disbursements do not properly belong to that account, yet the situation of the party make them necessary, and by aiding them to exchange their tired horses for fresh ones or purchasing fresh horses when required & found necessary some hundreds of dollars in the way of their per diem will be saved to the Government. Before I leave this place I will take receipts for such advances as I may make on account of their pay & forward them to the War Department.

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

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

The exploration should in my opinion be carefully performed calling the attention of the delegation particularly to the fine bottom lands on the Arkansas Arcadian & Red Rivers and their tributaries within the Chaktaw tract - and much time should be spent busily in viewing those lands and travelling to every
point where they are to be found so as to give the deligation some correct idea of their vast extent and capability of supporting a very large population. This will lay the foundation I hope for an arrangement removing the difficulties which Col? Reynolds writes me alarms him more & more as his stock of the information relative to the unappropriated country west increased.

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

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

I remain respectfully

Your friend

Geo. S. Gaines

Gen'l John Coffee

Florence

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

1st December 1830

Sir

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

In directing Gen. Coffee to limit my drafts for the outfit and travelling expenses of my party to $1000 -- I am sure you did not think of the great poverty of the Chaktaw Captains -- They set out so badly mounted and clad, that I have been compelled to aid them in exchanging their rited poneys for fresh ones and in some instances in purchasing when they could not swap, and also in purchasing clothing and Blankets for their comfort -- For the amount advanced in this way to each member of the delegation -- I have taken his receipt as a payment on account of his per Diem Allowance. -- Duplicates of which are enclosed together with an account of the several allowances made on account of pay amounting -- up to this day two hundred and ninety five Dollars and fifty seven cents for which sum I have taken the liberty to draw on you this day in favour of Messrs. Colville & Coffee at ten days sight. -
I have thought proper to render you an account now of my advances on account of pay to the members of the delegation as necessary. Doubtless such advances were not considered by you, but I feel confident you will approve of them under the circumstances as above mentioned; and would have ordered them had you known how unable some of the most influential men of the nation are to provide for a long journey.

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

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

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Sir

Your Obt. Servt.

Geo. S. Gaines

The Hon

John H. Eaton

SecY of War. -

(CIA: 1830 Choctaw (Emigration) Geo. S. Gaines Special Agent Report of exploring party to West.)
December the 8th 1830 Choctaw Nation

Col W Ward

Dear Sir

I have Receiued your note Requesting me to give a true detail of all that passed at the treaty Ground Relative to the conduct of the Com. of the US towards the Indians. Sir I being one of the Int. for the treaty that was made and concluded at Dancing Rabbet between the Hon Secretary of War and Genl. John Coffe en/the-ene-part Commisioners on the one part and the chiefs head men and warriers on the other part. I was present and heard all the propositions that was by the Com. of the U.S. to the Chocktaws which were all made on fair and friendly terms I saw nor heard no threats nor Saw nor heard anything like forceing the Indians to Sell their country there was about five thousand Indians on the treaty ground where I heard but very few Exprefs any Dif satisfaction in alusion to the treaty Some people has made some very Incorrect Statements about the Indians being gone home before the treaty was sign'd. which I know to be untrue for there was upwards of 5000 Indians on the treaty ground and I know that one half had not gone home when The treaty was signed there were two propositions made by the Commisioners and the Indians camps took them to their. for Days and Nights and were Read and Interpreted by many Capable persons as well as myself. there could be no Misunderstanding on the subject as it was Desired by many (I well know) to Sell the Country also the agent Does know that what I say is true I have seen some of the writings or publications in some of the Newspapers and beleive they are from the pens of
the Missionaries that have been patronised by Government and the Chiefs of the Chocktaws these people have here upwards of 12 years and have not shewn the first Scholar able to transact any business. The whole truth is that the treaty as entered into with the Chocktaws was as fair as any Treaty I ever saw and I have seen many as I have been a Residenter in this Nation forty five years and U.S. Interpreter ever since the year of 1798 I am with Respect your Most obedient Servant

M. Mackey U.S. Interpreter

(OIA: 1830 Choc'taws Wm. Ward Agent John Pitchlynn M. Mackey Commanding course of the Treaty Comrs. etc.)
Choctaw Nat. Decr. 11th: 1830

Col. WM. Ward

Dear Sir, I have just received your epistle requesting a detail of the subject matter in relation to the conduct evinced by the commr. on the part of the U. towards the Indians, I as one of the United States was present at the treaty made and concluded on the dancing rabbit creek by the Hon. Secretary of War and Genl. John Coffee commissioners on the part of the US. and the Chiefs, head men and warriors of the Nat. of the other part and do certify that I was present and heard all the propositions that was made by the comm'r. on the part of the US to the Choctaws which were generous and amicable, they sought no unwarrantable advantage over this people on the contrary they set forth their situation and elucidated the matter in such a manner that the Indians were perfectly satisfied with propositions made by the Comm'r. on the part of the US. as it respects the statements made by some persons in relation to the dissatisfaction of the Indians before the conclusion of the treaty and they retiring from the ground without assigning the treaty is false there must have been at least 4000 people on the ground when the last propositions were assigned which can be proven by the publick returns as it respecting the propositions that was made by the comm'r. on the part of the US to the Indians not being thorally investigated by them is not so for all the subject matter was in their possession 2 days for their investigation when the propositions were returned with few alterations and they were satisfied to close the treaty.

Yrs Reapty

John Pitchlynn

(CIA: 1830 Choctaws WM. Ward Agent John Pitchlynn M.Mackey Commanding course of the Treaty Commrs. etc.)
Choctaw Agency Dec. 13th 1830

Hon John H Eaton

Sec'y of War.

Sir

Your letter of the 13th Ult. has been duly Rec'd requesting some information respecting the Commissioner's conduct, towards the Choctaws at the late Treaty held with said Choctaws at Dancing Rabbet creek on the 15th Sept last. -- I have no hesitation in saying that the Department of the Com' towards the Indians was of a friendly nature entirely. Honorable to Themselves and the Government they represented, and respectfull to the Indians so far as I saw., I was on the ground at the commencement and end of the Treaty and saw no One sign the Treaty by any persuasion from any party nor did here but one man on the Ground (a half breed) oppose the terms, last offered to them; But they came forward Chiefs & Captains & signed the Treaty freely which no One can deny. It is true that many had gone away say one half or nearly Out of upwards of 5,000 who did attend; yet All the Chiefs and Ex Chiefs that had been removed were present and the great part if not all signed the paper in my presence.-- The proposeals made to them could not but be will understood; and I believe nothing would ever have been said or wrote but against the Treaty but for some designing white men; who I fear are wolves in sheep Clothing. -- I heared a report that one of the Missionaries had gone to the south to see the man that spoke against the Treaty to try and get up a Council or signers
against the Treaty and remonstrance to Congress to Brake it or prevent Its ratification. As soon as I heared the report and some threats, I went to the Mifision School near me and told them what I had heared. I told them that if I heared of their attending any Councils or were any way opposing the views of government I would order men out of the nation. fourthwith. Since then all is quiet and peace throughout the nation.

I herewith enclose to you Maj Pitchlynn's and Mr. Mackey's letters. which will no doubt contradict these evil fabrications which see going the rounds in the newspapers

I have the Honor to be very
Respectfully your
Mo Obdt Serv --

W. Ward U.S.Ag. C N.

(CIA: 1830 Choctaws Wm. Ward Agent John Pitchlynn M. Mackey
Comparing course of the Treaty Comrs, etc.)
South Fork Canadian
17th December 1830

Dear Gen,

We are encampt on this river about 15 miles from its mouth and Col. Gaines with his party joined us on yesterday and all is well and in good spirits and seem to proceed cheerfully. we have as yet traveled sloley and have examined the country minutely taking care to keep on the best land old Levi seems to be on his guard but as far as I have been able to learn the party is pleased with the country, the land is truly fine upon the watercourses with a sufficiency of timber we shall leave here on to-morrow and proceed up the Canadian about 100 miles or to the Crofs timbers where we shall turn south to the Poe Washataw and then examine the Red River and its waters. I think we can return to Cantonment Gibson in five weeks. When I learnt at the Cantonment that Leflore was not of the party I was at great loss how to proceed but as the greater portion of the expence had been incurred and we had been in the country some time I determined to proceed and set about collecting all the information within my reach and as far as possible to leade the Chickasaws through the most interesting parts of it that they might see that there was a good and sufficient country for them & the Chocktaws of which I cannot have a doubt but how it is to be obtained of the Chocktaws is yet to be devised - the Chocktaw seem well pleased with the Arkansas & Canadian and if they are not better pleased with the red river (which I hope they will) I feare they
will not sell this section of thare country The party is in fine health & spirits and our horses are in fine plite for the trip none has failed

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

I write in greate hast as the mefsenger is in waiting. Col Gaines sends his respects to you & would rite but for want of time

With Greate Respect
Your Obt Svt
Benjn Reynolds

Genl John Coffee

(OLA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Benj. Reynolds Location in the West.)
December the 30th, 1830 Chocktaw Agency

To the Hon John H Eaton Sec't of War

Friend and Brother Sir I am the Same as I was when we concluded the treaty I am well satisfied with the arrangements that we and agreed on at that place as to my own part but there appears to Some Dissatisfaction among Some of the people of the District not my own friends the true Republicans but David Folsom and a few of his followers who are all made under the Direction and controle of my Enemies the mifisionaryes a few of them has appointed David Folsom Chief and says if they cannot turn me out they are Determined to two Chiefs in the same District which never has been and I know never can answer a good purpose the fact is this the object is to get me out of office that Folsom or Some of his friends may get all the benefits that is to arise from the treaty that is a house built when they go west of the Misissippi and $250 annually as long as they Remain in office which I think is very unfair as I have been friendly to making the treaty I think I ought to keep the benefits arising office therefrom untill my term of Exspires if no longer as I have always been a true friend to the Amaracans both in war and peace in the late War I turned out at the first call and Remain'd till the End of the war and am still a friend to you and the Goverment of the UStates, the District I comand being in Debt to traders that was Licenced to trade in the Nation by the agent I wrote to my friend the Secretary of to make Some arangement for me to pay their Debts that is the only charge they have against me I have
no more but my best Respects to you and my old friend the president of the US

Mushuletubbee
Chief of the NE
District C N

N B As Sir

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

(CIA: 1830 Choctaws (Emigration) Chief Mushuletubbee Opinion of last treaty.)
Friends & Brothers

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

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

Brothers

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

Brothers - Bad men have said; and they have told his red children, that it was the intention of their great Father to drive drive them from their lands - to compel them to seek a new home; and in the wildernefs, to leave them to suffer. Believe not these idle tales - Your father has the frost of many winters upon his youth head. From early, he has lived near to the his red children- He has slept with them; toward them, he has always entertained feelings of strong regard; and will not fail to be their friend, if they have sought shall permit it, and repose confidence in him,- He will seek, for them a good home! & one large enough for all their purposes. He wants no land west of the Arkansa Territory for his white children, they will have enough without it- all that region of country west
of it, he desires his red children to live upon, & be happy - each tribe to have enough for all reasonable purposes, to be defined by certain, & fixed bounderies, - no more to be interrupted or disturbed. No laws of State of Territory, will be permitted to operate over them, but, left subject to their own - no wars will there rage. The Red man, in peace & friendship with their great Father, will have his favor, & protection, from all enemies & bad men.

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

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

Andrew Jackson

(OIA: 1830 Choctaws The President, Andrew Jackson Talks to Chiefs. Letter to Sec. of War, to Comrs Eaton & Coffee. All autograph.)
Cant. Gibson Jan'y 30th 1831

Sir

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

The Indians were all returning from their fall hunt and had as is their usual custom burned all the prairies and River bottoms, there is no cane on the Canadian above the South Fork, we were consequently compelled to change our course and strike for the head waters of the rivers putting into Red River, we passed the dividing Ridge and struck the Muddy Fork of Boggy, the inclemency of the weather compelled us to direct our course so as to camp each night where cane was to be had for our Horses, we continued our rout to the Fause Ouachitta then turned down that one days journey, crossed the prairie to the Leau Blus and travelled one day down that most beautiful River, the lands of which are particularly rich free from inundation and well timbered, I can better truly say that the whole country is much suited to sustain any kind of population than has hitherto been represented the Chocktaw lands are ample for them and the Chickasaw, and I think from what I saw & heard, they are disposed to make a treaty to that effect rather than remain where they are, In justice to Co. Reynolds & Co. Gains I feel compelled to say they manifested great zeal and a perfect knowledge of Indian character, or they must have failed in their attempt. the Chickasaws were very reluctant to proceed and urged every probable & possible difficulty, to continue the route those Gentlemen were equally fertile in resources to effect the object.
They will at the earliest moment after their return furnish you with a detailed report which I think will be entirely satisfactory. Lt Dawson with eight soldiers and myself who had been ordered to accompany the delegation parted from them on the 16th Int. on Leau Blue and directed our course N.E for the Head of the South Fork of the Canadian, the inclemency of the weather and difficulty of procuring subsistence for our selves & Horses compelled us to change our course for the Kiamichi Valley and return by way of Fort Smith notwithstanding every exertion, we were compelled to leave two Horses one public and the other mine, we used every industry to get in on account of Cap. King who had been very ill survive all the trip and was scarcely expected to get-ever, he is however here (Note: torn paper) mend and will take the first conveyance by water for home, I would be glad to know whether I am not entitled to pay for my horse under the circumstances and also transportation as I furnished myself, I will esteem it a favour to receive your advice on the subject, please offer my kindest regards to Genl. Jackson & Major Barrey I am, Sir Yr. Ob. Serv.


U S. Army

Hon. John H Eaton
Secretary War
Washington City

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigr.) Dr.J.W.Baylor Is he entitled to pay for horse lost on exploring expedition.)
Yazoo Choctaw Nation
March 10th, 1831

Dear General,

You are no doubt apprised of a party in Col. Leflore's district who became opposed to him on account of his having made a Treaty. This party has lately met and elected Mr. George W. Harkins as their chief and says they will not recognize Col. Leflore as chief for the time to come. Capt. Harkins is quite man a promising young, and may be useful to his people when they get of the Mississippi, and he gets arrives to a proper age to admin-ister to the wants of a needy people, but at present he is cal-lculated to injure them as a part of the district will not acknowl-edge him as along as Col. Leflore will serve. - and I hope for the prosperity of Mississippi, and the good of the unfortunate and ignorant Choctaws. that you will inform them they have no power to make chiefs within the limits of the State of Mississippi and advise them to dispence with it until they get to their new home in the west. by their late act they have laid themselves liable to a fine of $1000 - and 12 months imprisonment and should the law be enforced it would ruin every man of them, as it is known they are opposed to the Treaty. - I am informed that Capt. Harkins tells the Indians if they can hold out for four years (I suppose he aludes until you go out of office) they can then hold their country. Such talk is calculated to destroy the ignorant part of the nation. if Col. Leflore is dismissed from office by the government there will be at once a general oppo-sition to the Treaty. Should the Treaty fail to be ratified by
the present Senate a strate talk from you to the fractured party will at once silence them.

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

I have the honor to be

Your friend & Obt. Servt.

D. W. Haley

(1831 Choctaws D.W.Haley to the President. The Choctaws have elected G.W.Harkins as chief. Urges speedy removals. Suggests he be appointed to receive & sell cattle belonging to Choctaws. etc.)
April 1st, 1831 Choctaw Agency

To his Excellency Andrew Jackson president of the US of Amaraca

Sir, I address you as my father friend and brother to inform you that I myself and all the warriors women and children that lives within the limits of my command has made up their minds and determined to stay at their homes and I wish you to write and let me know whether we have to come under the laws of the State wherein we reside or not. We wish you to do all you can for us and make us as happy as possible. Any and all the warriors that wishes to stay and come under my banners I shall take them by the hand and protect them as far as I possibly can. I want you to let me know what quantity of land you will allow for me and my people we have always had about two hundred warriors at my command and they have the most of them wives and children more or less. I have nothing more to say but I hope our great above father, will bless and protect us in our own country if it pleases our great Father friend and Brother to let us remain in peace where we are no more but I remain your son & friend and Brother--

Hopiaskitenah or little Leader his mark

Hopiathlocko

Nockhatah

Anumbula

Iahocautubbee

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

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

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

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

Your friend

George W. Harkins

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

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

May 22th 1831

To Mr. G. Gaines.

Dear Sir

This is to inform you that we the people of the Southern district wish you to do the business for us, although Chief, Nithickachee himself will be at your house and see about the business which we want you to do for us - But he has no interpreters for him - Therefore we think it proper to send the letter to let you know - He was about to take Capt. Pierre Jezan with him, when he goes. But himself is now unwell on the account of Shoting himself by an excidence he was after the wild cow in the swamps and the cow was very Shy and danger there fore She ran up to him attempt to Stab with her horn - Then he was determine to shoot her But the pistle was unloaded then he began to load the pistle on the horse he just finish the loading she fire off and wound his right hand between thumb and little fin- gers, and one of the little fingers, bone is show. On this ac- count he could not come there and interprete he could not use, hand and write with I saw Col. Wm. Ward at the councilground 5 days ago. 2 Miles on the North from the place which last treaty was held. He says he is directed by the Sec. of war to inform us That he wants to let us have annuity in money, or If we paid the freight ourself then he would let us have in goods-- But I told him that I could not say anything without I see you what you think therefore I wish to know whither you would be willing for us to pay the freight ourself or not -- He says it would be
cost us about $100 for each district to the lowest price - We consider you as a great friend to us therefore you might not charge us anything - This was our reason we did not say anything about it until we know whether you would charge us - We should like to have annuity soon as possible we can --

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

Yours very sincerely

Nittuckachee
Chief of the Southern

Dear Sir

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

U Your friend and well-wisher

Mr G. S. Gaines

Pierre Jezan

(0IA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigra.) David Folsom Wishes Deringer rifles for emigrants from his nation.)
Choctaw Nation  June 16th 1831

Hon. Sec'y of War

Friend and Brother

We take the liberty to write to you in our own names, as we believe that you will receive a few lines from us your Red Brothers. We wish to let you know that one of us say Nittucachee has been to see our land west of the Mississippi and am fully satisfied with our bargain as made by treaty with Messrs Eaton and Coffee. We are now ready to remove and give up our Country here and comply with all the conditions of the treaty. Now we request that you will on your part as soon as convenient comply with all the provisions named in the treaty. In the first place we were promised good and faithful persons to take care of our old men and woman, Now our old Agent says he will never go beyond the Mississippi and we wish you to appoint George S. Gains to conduct us to our new homes, also we wish the guns to be given to our warriors as the place they may cross the Mississippi, also our cattle as many as can be drove that may desire it. We wish that arrangements may be immediately made respecting providing for our Journey. It seems to us right that the agent might let all those people who were entitled to Land under the cultivation provision of the treaty enter their names now as some were neglected and the time has expired and Col Ward thinks he is not at liberty to make further entries after the first of January. We wish you to give us directions about this matter also your general views on the different parts of the treaty. It appears that but few clearly understand some parts of the Treaty, and we want every thing right. We can sell our claims to the white people but some difficulty is about the President
approving of the sales- We think that now more than one half the nation will go of this fall if they can get away before cold weather. We wish you to send Nittucachee a medal, and small arms for each Captain who is to have a sword. Also 3 larger for each Speaker to the districts. We have agreed that Col of Leflors, district is to settle on the East Side, Kimbisher, west Nittucachee on the South side Mushulatubbee on the Arkansas River. The Sect. of War promised Nittucachee a sword which he expects. It appears that more of us will go all the way by land if we can get of in time before the Waters rises- It is expected that some of us will furnish our own provisions in that case we expect that the U. States will allow us pay as much as it would cost government. Twelve of the 99 medals we wish one size larger than the Balance. It is the understanding that all the Captains in the Southern district wish that Mingo Nittucachee may continue their Chief beyond the Mississippi as well as in this Country, and desire the officers of the U. States may acknowledge him as such - We wish to know the reasons for your giving the agent directions that our annuity Transportation is to be paid by us and not as heretofore, We wish goods and have given orders to Mr. Gains to purchase them which he is has done and will give them to us as soon as corn ripe. And the agent gets the money to pay for them. We wish the government may furnish us with the Black Smiths this fall in our new Country as we shall need much work for our farmers We must raise corn and not depend on hunting as we are accustomed to live like white people and cannot live by hunting wild game.
We find upon counting up the names registered in the Agents book there is 53 short of the Sixteen hundred provided for by the cultivation provision in the treaty which we wish to have the right to fill up the whole number. We wish also for you to furnish us tents. We have the honour to remain your friends and Brothers,

Test
M. Mackey US. Int.

Mushuletubbee  his x mark
Netuckeche  his x mark
Mingo Mu,shu,le,tub,bee  his mark
Mingo Netuckeche  his mark
Capt Hopeanchahabbee  his mark

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigr.) Choctaw Chiefs. Pleased with lands in West. Request P.P.Pitchlynn be appointed to conduct them thither.)
Tuscaloosa, 18th June 1831

Hon. John H. Eaton
Secretary of War.

Sir:

I have this morning parted with George S. Gaines Esq. and from a full conversation had with him I deem it my duty under the instructions given to suggest to the department the propriety of inviting Mr. Gaines to accompany the Indians from the east side of the river to their new homes. At the treaty it was understood he should go along to see justice done them and to prevent them from being forced or rashly pushed. As they say through the Mud, he does not wish to go but says he feels bound to do so: If invited, provided he can without too great a sacrifice. He says what is true that even if he could not go that the Indians then would not blame the government without it a bad effect might be produced— the Indians have been writing Mr. Gaines to know if he will go with them or not, every thing that has been done is approved of by Mr. Gaines— as to all the preparatory arrangements but he fears that without him or unless it is offered on the part of the government they will not go at least not so much satisfied. In this Mr. Gaines is too honest for anything of self as he does not wish to or intend to be their agent at their new homes. This I offer a suggestion with due deference for the consideration of the department, If approved of would it not be well for the agent to inform the Indians through their chiefs— that Mr. Gaines had been invited to accompany them agreeable to the verbal understanding at the treaty— and that he would take up the line of march the 1st of September— and that he would see
that good sound rations were furnished them and that every attention should be paid to their comfort, and that he was going, on the part of the indians, without having any labour to perform for the government. He would keep peace, it would have a good effect, with the other tribes— and have a tendency to keep down ground-lefs clamour, from those opposed to their emigration—

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

I have the honor to be Your Obed. Servt

F. W. Armstrong

PS. Please adrefs my letters to the agency --

(0IA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigr) F.W.Armstrong Indians wish G.S. Gaines to accompany them to the West. Wishes agent directed to pay LlFlores A/C.)
Post of Arkansas

27 July 1831

Sir,

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

The wagons are very strong well made & will be a long time serviceable in transporting provisions & stores-- About 20 to L. Rock to run from this place, 10 to Camp Phenix (old Fort Towson) & 10 to Fort Smith from Little Rock.-- It is very important that points of embarkation should be fixed & I beg to be permitted to recommend Memphis & Vicksburg for this point & Natchez for (Rapides of Red River) Alexandria or perhaps it would be more advantageous to send them all through this place. I have heard
nothing of Leflore & have been unable to learn any thing respecting him from any person here or at White River. It is very sickly down the river & very few Steam Boats running so that some delay must be anticipated in my excursion to the Choctaw nation.

With an afsurance of my best endeavors to facilitate & effect the removal of the Indians I remain Yr. very ob. Ser\(^t\)

Wm S. Colquhoun

Spec\(^1\) In. Ag\(^t\)

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

Resp[ply W.S.C.]

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

July 27th 1831.--

Sam'l S. Hamilton Esq'r)
Chief Clerk Indian Office)

Dr Sir:

Your two letters of the 24th & 25th March last came to hand in time, I have delayed to communicate on this subject up to now, so as to be the better prepared. The letter of Wm. Ward, Ag'n for the Chaotaw Indians to the War Department dated 28. feby--1831. a copy of which you enclosed me in your last letter, says positively that the chiefs & headmen, acknowledged the fact of plundering my property and that the damage & outrage was committed by a party of their tribe under the command of the late chief Pushmattahaw, on the Arkansas River in the winter of 1806 & 1807. which exactly agree with what I had stated. Wm. Ward, goes still further, he says that the chiefs & headmen of the nation acknowledge the fact, & that the transaction was notoriously known in the nation at the time & they remembered it well now notwithstanding the lapse of time. This, Sir, is perhaps the best evidence I could have that the amount of property lost by me, must have been large since it made, & still makes such impression on the nation, considering the length of time & the distance from the Chaotaw nation to the Upper Arkansas River. Wm. Ward, tells me in his letter of 28. February 1831. in answer to mine of 22d January last, and which you enclosed me in yours of 24. March last, nearly the same things as he says to the Department, but remarks that the Indians in acknowledging the fact of the out-
rage & damages and of being the aggresors cannot say to what amount there was property destroyed but Sir! the general tenor of both his letters to you & to me proves evidently that the amount must have been great. Mr. Ward, in his letter to me makes the following remark "If you know to what amount the Chactaws destroyed, it will be no bar against you not knowing the amount in this office, as "all the hedmen acknowledge that they did destroy your property "about the time you mention, but do not know to what am't."

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

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

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

I am Sir

Your very humble serv't

Joseph Bogy

(OGA: 1831 Choctaws James Bogy Old claim.)
Little Rock

4 August 1831

Sir

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

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

The season is very sickly & I do not think any time is lost by delay growing out of a want of decision as to the route as later in the season the want of water & the oppression of hot weather will not be felt & a more mature disposition of the move-
ment established. By tomorrows mail I will forward my receipt for the funds with which I now stand charged at the Treasury individually.

Hoping to receive at Vicksburg further communications, I remain

Very respectfully

Yr: ob: Serf

Gen. George Gibson

Wm. S. Colquhoun

Geny Gen of 3

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

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

It is correct that Major Eaton the late Secretary of War, and myself did propose and urge Col. Gaines to accept the appointment of traveling Agent with the delegation of Choctaws, who were to examine the country west of Mifflin and determine the place for the nation to settle on &c. and it is also a fact that Col. Gaines was induced to believe that he would be appointed to a further agency with the Choctaws, either in removing them to their new country in the west, or of being located there with them after their removal, he expected the influence of the Secty of War to that effect with the President, and under those impressions I presume he has committed himself with the Indians of the delegation, further than he otherwise would, or might have done, and which is probably the cause of their continuing to urge him, to procure them full payment for that service-- It is very desirable that those accounts shall be paid as early as possible, and the Indians provided for in their journey of removal, so as to draw them off from their present country to the new one, and thereby carry with them many of the Chickasaws who are inter-married with the Choctaws - we shall thereby get the influence of all who are thus connected of both nations, in bringing
about an agreement for the Chickasaws to settle on the Choctaw lands upon some terms or other - Col. Gaines is a very influential man with the Choctaws, they have generally more confidence in him than in any other white man, they urged Major Eaton to appoint him their traveling agent, and their permanent agent - and in that way he promised to use his influence with the President, and which seems to have been a disappointment to him - but of this he does not, nor has he any right to complain, the President has the right to appoint any person he prefers, notwithstanding the Sect'y of War recommends some other person - but inasmuch as Col. Gaines has not been appointed to any further service with the Choctaws, I would respectfully suggest the propriety of speedily relieving him from his engagements while on the exploring tour, &c.

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

I have the honor to be Sir with great respect
The Hon. Your obt. Sevt.

Sect'y of War Jn? Coffee

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

3d September. 1831.

Sir,

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

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

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

I am sensible of the great importance of putting the emigrants in motion so as to enable them to reach their new Country before the winter sets in - and am aware that losses would accrue (sic) to the government, and that much embarrassment and confusion would be the consequence of delay in removing a portion of the Indians this fall.

I am also sensible that the happiness and prosperity of the Indians would be consulted by their early removal and settlement beyond the reach of the jurisdiction of the State and Territorial government.
These considerations induce me to forego my own interest and inclination and undertake to discharge the duties of the appointment - I cannot however, promise to spend more than two months of my time in the woods this fall, as I had, under a belief that the gov't had lost sight of the intimation given the Indians at the late Treaty, by your predecessor, that they would be removed under my superintendence, made engagements to spend the ensuing winter in Mobile - I can however with convenience spend the latter part of the next summer and fall in this service.

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

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

With great respect

Yr obt St

Honble Lewis Cafs
Secy of War Washington

Geo. S. Gaines

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo.S.Gaines,Supt.to Cross River. Appointment.)
Demopolis, Ala-
3d September 1831.

Sir,

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

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

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

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

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

I shall however, immediately employ two temporary assistants to visit the principal settlements in Mingo Mushulatubbee &
Netuchelichee's districts for the purpose of disseminating the information contained in your circular which you have directed me to address to the chiefs and others, and to ascertain as nearly as may be the number who may wish to emigrate this fall, and shall charge Mr. Colquhoun to have the like service performed in Col. Lefleurs district without loss of time.

It has been suggested to me that the Yazoo River would perhaps admit of Steam Boats ascending as high up as Lafleurs, and that the emigrants could be carried from thence in Steam Boats to the West Bank of the Mifsifsippi or perhaps to old Post Arkansaw, but I doubt of the fact of the Yazoo being navigable during the fall months for Steam Boats. It has been further suggested that perhaps it would be better than to attempt to carry them through the Mifsifsippi Swamp to take them in wagons down to Vicksburg and thence in steam Boats up the Mifsifsippi to Point Checot or old Post Arkansaw—Mr. Colquhoun will be instructed to collect and forward me all the information in his power also upon these suggestions, and you may rely upon my adopting the routes and modes of travelling which in my judgment may be the least expensive to the government and most agreeable to the emigrants in conformity to the late Treaty—I incline at this moment however to believe that the road mentioned through the Mifsifsippi Swamp ought to be opened immediately in any event, as even should the Yazoo be found navigable in the fall months for Steam Boats, which I very much doubt, the roads would notwithstanding be indispensable for the accommodation of such as may choose to go their own way, and over which to drive their stock & Ponys—
So soon as I obtain the necessary information to enable me to make estimates of the probable expenditures for removal this fall I will make and forward the same to you. It would be well to have five thousand dollars placed to my credit in the office of the Bank of the United States at Mobile and a like sum in the immediately State Bank of Mississippi at Natchez, as the provisions will be principally purchased from Indians and the money must be paid as the provisions are received.

I shall keep you constantly advised of my operations.

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

Yr obt Servt-

Geo. S. Gaines

Col: Geo. Gibson

Commisary Genl

of Subsistence

(0IA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration) Geo.S.Gaines, Supt. to cross river. Appointment.)
Choctaw Agency 4th Sep. 1831

Sir

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

Capt Joel Nail who is here from Nethuckhadjers district is willing to engage to remove out of that district east of Pearl river any number of emigrants to Vicksburg at a fair price. Will you please say whether you will permit that mode
& how much you will allow for each company of 100 persons - He
will furnish waggons & provisions. A majority of Nethuckcad-
gies district will be about 150 miles from Vicksburg. Capt
Nail requires no advances but would expect to be paid at Vicks-
burg on the embarkation of the emigrants from that place. I
am of opinion the mode proposed by Capt Nail (who is fully
capable of the performance) a good one & will save infinite
trouble. I therefore have to request whether you will permit
similar arrangements throughout.

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

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

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

I calculate on their Rendezvous on the road to Vicksburg.
The first Mushulatubbes at this place. Col. Leflores near Doaks
Stand & Nithuckcadjies at or near Jackson in the State of Missis-
sippi 100 miles south of the agency. The wagons to be at those points loaded, the Rolls made out & provisions issued. Myself or some other person to go ahead & have the steam boats ready. &c.

I am Sir

Yr. very ob. serf.

Wm. S. Colquhoun
Special Indian Agent

Gen. Geo. Gibson
Com. Gen. of S

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

W.S.C.

(OIA: 1831 Choctaw (Emigration) W.S.Colquhoun and G. LeFlore Transportation.)
S:te Genevieve M° 18th Octr. 1831.

Honble Lewis Cafs.)
Secretary of War )

Sir: you

Permit me to address these lines on the following subject.

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

The original papers affidavits &c concerning my claim were some years afterwards lodged in the Indian Office at Washington city. The officer at the head of that Bureau wrote that they were sent, or to be sent to the Chactaw Agent, for information & for him to report, but several years having passed away without any report being made, notwithstanding my inquiries, and being myself at Washington city last winter I made the necessary inquiry & found that those papers had not been sent to that agent or if sent not received by him, and were entirely lost or mislaid. I then requested M: Hamilton to write to M: Ward the agent for the Chactaw, for information concerning those papers and also in relation to the Plunder committed on my property by the Chactaw Indians, & wrote myself to M: Ward, concerning the transaction & gave him the time & place where the outrage was committed. The result,
was that the chiefs & headmen of the nation in council acknowledged themselves to be the aggressors & admitted the fact of Robbing me at the time & place stated by me, & even named the chief (Push-mattahaw, a leading chief, now dead) under whom they were, & that the transaction was still fresh in their memory notwithstanding the length of time, but they could not say the amount of property destroyed or taken away.

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

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

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

I have also a certified copy by Gen'l Clark of the bound for the Licence granted at the time, the original Licence having been taken by the Indians.

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

I am Sir very Respectfully

Your obedient & humble Serv:

Joseph Bogy

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws James Bogy Old claim.)

Gen'l Char: Gratiot.)
Washington City. )

Sir!

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

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

I am Sir Respectfully

Your very obed. & humble Serv.
& country man.

Joseph Bogy

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws James Bogy Old claim.)
Little Rock, A T
Octr, 31st 1831

Sir

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

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

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

No further intelligence of the Movements, of Emigrants,

Very Respectfully

I have the honor to be

Brigr. Genl. Geo. Gibson
Comr. Genl of Sub.
Washington D. C.

Your Ob Servt,

J Brown Capt, U.S.A.
Supt. Rem. & Sub. of Indians

(OIA: 1831 Choctaw (Emigration) Capt. Jacob Brown. Reports.)
Vicksburg Nov 23rd 1831

Hon. Lewis Cafs
Sec'y of War.

Sir

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

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

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

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

My opinion is that no important business can be done untill next spring, as all the nation is in commotion at this time.
However I have advised Genl's Coffee & Eaton to let me know what was expedient to be done, and due attention should be paid to their Orders.

I have the honor to be

Respectfully your

M' Obd' Servt

W. Ward Ag'l C. N.

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

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

It would seem that Steam Boat hire was very high & indeed it is too true, but I assure you every exertion by advertisement & otherwise has been resorted to in order to procure them on better terms. The disgusting sight of a vessel loaded with human beings under no control or regularity,
leaving their evacuations in every direction through the whole range of the Cabins & deck, would create in the mind of any one an additional allowance for the transportation. This party now embarking of Fishers consisted of 200. they are a wretched set of beings nearly naked & have marched the last 24 hours through a sleet & snow barefooted if I could have done it with propriety, I would have given them shoes. I distributed all the Tents & this party are entirely without

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

Hoping I may not disappoint your confidence in me I remain very respectfully

Yr: Ob: Ser

Gen Geo. Gibson

WM S. Colquhoun

C. G. S

Spl In. Ag

(OIA: 1831 Choctaws (Emigration) Wm.S.Colquhoun. Transportation)
Jany 19th

Nashville

3rd January 1832

Genl- Gipson (sic)

Dr Sir

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

I have prevailed on my brother William to go to Arkansas with me. The truth is- I prefered confidential company because the small sized water in the proposition directed by your letter makes the moving quite a bundle and - the rapacity of the Mississippen settlement about the swamps makes me feel the risk- greater than I thought it was when at Washington-- you see a few days ago a set of villains boarded while around the steam boat "Toronto" and plundered & burned her--

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

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

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

Please inform the Honbl Secretary of the Subsistence of scrawl -

I am with great

Respect your obt Servt  F.W.Armstrong

Genl. G Gipson

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

(Clipping attached to foregoing letter.)

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong Reason of delay at Memphis, Wm. Armstrong will accompany party over Mississippi.)
Vicksburg 12 Jan. 1832

Sir

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

I received a letter from Capt Brown desiring to know our authority for the issue of a quart of corn to the ration & forage to the "Pack horses" I replied to him that Col. Gaines had received instructions relative to pint of corn extra. & that I had received a letter allowing corn to the "Pack horses"

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

The death of Mr. Geo. B. Gruchten receiver of Public monies at Clinton (Mount Salus) vacates the appointment - I mention the
fact which is very recent so that if the app\textsuperscript{t} is not made before the arrival of my letter you may have it in your power to aid in conferring it on some one worthy of it.

I am Sir Yr. ob. Ser\textsuperscript{t}

Wm. S. Colquhoun
Spl. Agt

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

(0IA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigr.) Wm. S. Colquhoun Details of progress of party thro the swamps & by boat.)
Hon. Lewis Cass
Secretary of War.

Sir,

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

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

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

The commutation Indians will be promptly paid on their arrival say about 400. in Number. I have handed over to Capt. Brown thirty five Thousand dollars and forwarded his receipt to Genl. Gibson agreeable to his instructions.
Some legislation it would seem will be necessary in order to carry into effect the Choctaw treaty should this be the case afford. I hope to reach Washington in time to some information which will be important in governing the whites that are intruding amongst the Choctaws - and who cannot be effectually reached by the present intercourse law.

Respectfully your

Obt. Servt.

F.W. Armstrong

C.A.W.M.

Hon. Lewis Cafs.

Secretary War.

(OIA: 1832 Choctaws (Emigr.) F.W.Armstrong Rel to Emigrated Choctaws. Has appointed Maj. Langham Asst in removals. 4 letters.)
Fort Smith 8- Feby 1832

Honb. Lewis Catgs

Secretary of War.

Sir

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

The emigrating party of Chactaws that will settle on this river this season have not yet arrived— they are now about one hundred miles off. The river within the last four days has risen sufficiently high for the steam boat which is looked for in two days. She will have on board articles belonging to the Chactaws— left at the Rock, also the ploughs— from Montgomerys Point.

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

It will not be necessary to commence opening the contemplated road— from this to red river untill April or May
Col. Arbuckle I learn will be in Washington by the time I get back. and after conversing with him I will be enabled to give the precise point from which the road will leave this river.

I have heard nothing of the last Rifles ordered from Philadelphia.

I leave here day after tomorrow for Red river.

I have the honor to be with high regards

your Ob: St

F.W. Armstrong

C A W. M

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully John H. Fowler

(OIA: 1832 Choctaws (Emigration) John H. Fowler Gives his views on the subject.)
Rankin May 22th 1832

Dear Sir,

I embrace this opportunity to write you a line to inform you that I have read your letter by hand of Mr. Tyson. I should like to do all in my power to assist you in getting the Choctaws to emigrate to their new home. I am on my way to the west. I shall be gone two months when I return home I will write you. Then I will be at your service. I hope you will visit our section of country and see me. I would be glad to see you at my house any time you can make it convenient to call at my house.

I remain your Friend,

Greenwood Leflore

Capt Colquhoun

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) Wm.S.Colquhoun Relative to accounts, etc.)
On board the Steemmer - Hunter of Tuscaloosa

May 23 - 1832

Capt W. S. Colquhoun

Dear Sir

I Landed at Mobile on the 30 of April; know on my way have I traveled by water 15 hundred miles to New Orleans then across the Mobile. I started from my new home on the 11 of it March & have been much detained - I have maid much my business to Inquire about the different routes for the emigration for the present year. I have thought that my District on the Southern had better land on the Mississippi at Natchizes or some convenient Point Near that place. as the great body of the Sixtowns on that District Lies Near the boundry Line or nearly so; When we Rondavooze near the center of the body of the People we will be nearer Natchezes then to Vicksburg by several miles & would Travel through an old settled Part of the contray which I Must think Provisions can be obtained for Lefs money If sow it will bee a great Saving to Government & a Shorter distant for the Indian to Travel; at the Mississippi there can bee Steam Boats Imployed to carry all heavy plunder & old Lake & children the boat can run up to Monrow in about 2 days & discharge her Load the stock can gow thru to Monrow; as I have Been told that can bee a good summer road thru to Monrow or to the Post of Washataw. There there is a good road to Genr Halls Where we Intersected from Ecorapaba you can Look at a Map of the contray, & you will find it from the Southern district to bee the Shotes rought. I saw Col G. S Gains & we talked about the rought I have stated above to you - he thinks favourable and wish to state to you
as I stated to him If this will meet your views I have no doubt but all party will be satisfied. I have no doubt but you have been thinking about the different roughs; your opinion on the various roughs I should like very much to hear; your early reply will meet a lasting favour of your friend

Joel H. Nail

Capt W. S. Colquhoun

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

Your obt Srvt-

Joel H. Nail

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) Wm. S. Colquhoun Relative to accounts, etc.)
Western Choctaw Agency
23rd May 1832

Dear Sir,

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

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

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

The Troops have not yet completed the Road. I will travel the new rout this time as far as Kiamesha and then fall into the old Road.
Col. Bean is here with me and will set off to join the Road cutters on tomorrow. Lieut Rains and myself will accompany him back of Cavanole mountain and to the mouth of Frish Maline for the purpose of looking out a Road from that place to intersect the one the Troops are now opening, back of the Cavanole mountain I will then proceed on after the waggons to Towson.

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

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

Enclosed is a petition from Mittuocachee and his captains

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

With sentiments of Respect

Your Obt Humb. Servt-

D. McClellan

Sub A, C, W,

Majr F. W. Armstrong

C A. W.

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

Genl. G. Gibson:

Commrsary. De.pt-

Sir

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

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

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

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

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

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

I have the honor
to be your
Obt Sert.
F. W. Armstrong
S. A. W.

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

Sept 1. 1832

Sir.

Col. Arbuckle has represented to the Department, that some Choctaws had applied to your Sub agent M't McClelland, to build houses on a point of 12 or 15 acres, below the mouth of the Cotou.

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

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

I am Sir

very respectfully

Your obt. Svt.

John Robb

Major F. W. Armstrong

Actg. Secy. War

Sir,

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

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

Respectfully,

Your Ob't Serv't

J. P. Simonton

Dis'b Ag't Choctaw Removal.

Gen'l Geo Gibson

Com'y Gen'l Sub

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) J.P.Simonton, Dis'b Agent Arrival - Estimate of funds required.)
Sir--

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

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

The Missi Swamp is no doubt in very bad state for travelling, as it has been raining hard here for the last twenty four hours.
The party to which Capt. Page & Col. Rector are attached (consisting of about 1800) will reach here tomorrow.

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

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obt Servt

J A. Phillips
Disbg Officer
Choctaw Indians.

Brig. Genl. Gibson
Washington City
D C

in haste.

(0IA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigr) Lt.J.A.Phillips (Oct. 31st. 1000 emigrants crossing river at Memphis.)
Choctaw Camp, mouth of Rockroe
White river, Munroe County
Arkansas Ter\(^\circ\) Nov\(^7\) 8\(^\text{th}\) 1832

Sir,

I am at this place as Afs\(^t\) Superintendent charged with the duties asigned me by my principal Maj\(^T\) F W Armstrong and some special ones, by Cap\(^t\) Brown p\(^t\) D Agent.

I daily expect to be superceded by Col Wm Armstrong whose arrival is expected. But as the mail passes today, I deem it my duty to report that on the 5\(^\text{th}\) 141 of the U States teams & those hired in the service had arrived, a number within 15 of the whole required for the Choctaw removal.

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

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

I have permitted the Teams to disperse in the neighborhood to situations, which the Drivers may deem safe from contagion. They have mostly done so.
Until this calamity the Agents of Government had cause to congratulatethemselves that their arrangements had been fortunate aswell as judicious. Much will devolve on the Maj'rs Armstrongs and it cannot be hoped that they can be fortunate -- I do not think that Wagoners will haul the baggage and particularly the sick, if the migration should be resolved on- and should it be attempted there is a probability that the civil authorities of the Territory may prohibit their pafsing through the country; - or the people of neighborhoods may withhold supplies or destroy those that are provided -- It is certain there will be much excitement.

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

Yr Ob' Serv'

A. S. Langham As't Sup'n

The Com: Gen'l of Subsistence
&c. &c

Washington City

(0IA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigra.) A.S.Langham Reports panic caused by cholera among 455 emigrants brot by steamboat Reindeer.)
10 Nov 1832.

Sir.

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

from Vicksburgh I hope to meet my brother at White River— I understand from a traveller of respectability— that about Thirty Teamsters with their waggons & teams have left the landing in consequence of cholera reports— and I fear we are to have a serious time in getting on.— if we escape here and the cholera is at White River with the Vicksburgh party I will endeavour to keep this party separate— We have however had seven deaths since we left Memphis— which is in part pronounced cholera— I do not my-
self believe we have as yet a case - but that those that have died - so suddenly- were produced by severe exposure.

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

I understand that at Rock Roe the White River landing - the provision & ferage will thereafter be furnished by contract we are purchasing beef here at 2½¢ per pound and corn at fifty cents - a bushel - I am very clear in the opinion that a great saving would of been effected by Capt Page & the disbursing officers - continuing on.- and furnishing as they did on the east side of the river- the corn contract I learn is at 93 cents a bushel for 140 or 150 teams it will cost the government a large sum--

Respectfully

I am acting here as
Assist. to T W Armstrong

Genl George Gibson
Comm. Genl Subs.

Washington

(0IA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration Wm. Armstrong Indians arrived at St. Francis by land and water.)
On Board U.S. S\textsuperscript{t}Snag B\textsuperscript{t} Helepolis  
Montgomery Pt Nov\textsuperscript{r} 24\textsuperscript{th} 1832

Dear Sir

I rec\textsuperscript{d} yours of 19\textsuperscript{th} Inst, last night from Capt Hinkley, and as you request, will proceed to state as near as I can what took place on Board the Helepolis on the 18\textsuperscript{th} Inst, between yourself, and Mr Colquhoun, also your conversation with the Chief Ne li.ca.che. relative to the Indians receiving Blankets at this P\textsuperscript{t} -- The Chief with an Enterpreter came to my state room Door at the time you were writing to Capt Shreve in sd Room, and spoke something of Blankets, the Chief I think said, that he had understood that Blankets would be ifsued to the Indians at Montgomerys P\textsuperscript{t} and you explained to him that they were not to be ifsued at this, but some other P\textsuperscript{t}, the name of which I do not recollect-- The Chief then went away, and as I thought appeared satisfied-- Very soon after the Chief left the Room, Mr Colquhoun came to the Room apparently much agitated, you were at that time I think, copying the letter to Capt Shreve -- Mr C- said something about Blankets but I do not recollect precisely what it was, and you began to explain to him that this was not the time, nor place at which the Blankets were to be ifsued-- M- C- then became very violent, and abusive in his language-- It was about this time I think, that you said to him, that you could, or would give him a Paper that would relieve him from any further duties -- M C- continued his abuse in a still more violent manner - Saying that he had worshiped you, but that now he considered you, or viewed you as a tyrant-- I am not certain that you then said that he, C- was
drunk, but C-- immediately came over the Words Drunk; Drunk; - and then repeated Sober, Sober by the Immaculate God - immediately after those words I heard the report of the Pistol - I was in the Room when he fired, and did not see him, immediately on the report of the Pistol, you arose from the Table at which you had been writing, and Colquhoun met you at the Door, and struck you twice on the head with the Pistol -- You quickly succeeded in wresting it from him, and threw him on Deck where you gave him repeated blows on the head and face with his own Pistol-- The Ball passed through the Bulkhead of my Room, immediately over my Cot, and went into the Kitchen.

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

Very respectfully Your obd Servt

John Sowers

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong to the Sec'y of War. Relative to suspension of Colquhoun.)
Hon.1 Lewis Cafs.
Secretary of War.

Sir.

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

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

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

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

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

On reaching the mouth of White river we were detained a short time- the weather extremely bad. Mr. Colquhoun learned the treaty-blankets were at the mouth of White river- he pre-
vailed on Chief Mituchachee to - insist that the blankets - that his party would be entitled to - should then be issued - thereby detaining - four boats - and the cholera then pressing hard on us, - with difficulty - I satisfied the Chief, - that at all events the blankets &. should not be issued - until they reached their new homes - a short time after Mr. Colquhoun came in to the Clerks room on board the Helioplis - where the Capt of the boat and myself were settling our business - Mr. Colquhoun demanded that the indians should receive their blankets - charged me I informed he with being a tyrant & cruel - he so astonished me that he might consider himself out of service - that he had nothing to do with the blankets - and that he ought first to have come to me - before he soured the minds of the indians - by going to the Chief to make a noise - he became outrageous in favour of the poor indians and was so excited that I told him to get sober before he came to me - on this business - he was evidently under the influence of liquor. I then set down - and began to fold a letter to Capt Shreve - and was directing it - not noticing him nor supposing him he meditated my life - the first thing I heard was the report of a pistol - I jumped up and he made at me with the Pistol Clubbed - I knocked him over - and took the pistol from him - and broke it over his head - stuck the brich into his head and beat him until I thought I had killed him - believing that from the distance he fired - and the blood flowing freely, that he had given me a mortal wound - in this as yet appears I was mistaken the ball entered near the middle of the head and passed along the
scull making two holes in the skin of the head glanced upward and lodged in the boat-timber. I have requested Capt. Sowers of the Heleoplis to give all the particulars-- who was present -- on his getting his statement I will forward it forthwith - to you.

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

Respectfully

Your obt. Servt.

F. W. Armstrong

S. A. W

Honl. Lewis Cafs.

Sect War.

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

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong to the Sec's of War Relating to suspension of Colquhoun.)
St Francis 50 miles
from Memphis Dec. 17 1832

Sir.

I arrived here on the 15th on my return from Nashville.
I have in charge the funds for F W Armstrong

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

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

They consider themselves entitled to some compensation
- up to the time & place I received them I have informed them
that I would state to the Dept- their wish - and that altho.
the government was now taking them in charge - as an act of humanity - yet the department would - if they judge it right make them some allowance -

Respectfully.

Your obt servt

Wm Armstrong Supt

Choct. Removal

Genl. George Gibson

CommisY. Gen'l. Subs

Washington.
Choctaw Agency West

Decr 18th 1832

To

Honbl. Lewis Cafa

Secty. of War

Sir

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

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

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

I felt much gratified in thus being enabled to prevent the bad effects, which this liquor would have produced in making our muster difficult and subordination to proper authorities impossile, & am induced to think that the method taken by the War Department to stop the introduction of whiskey, under the Act of Congress of 9th July, has been and will be a great
blefsing not only to the officers of Government connected with
the Indian Department but to the Indians themselves, in fact the
good effects already are evident and generally acknowledged.

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

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

Very respectfully
Your mo. obt Servt.

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

Therefore you see we have a man doing commifion businefs,
living on the Indian land and knowingly violating the Law. If
the military have the Jurisdiction of this landing, as was un-
derstood by me at the time we conversed about it at Washington,
I have nothing more to say, If however the Agent have the con-
trol of the old Fort or place where Rogers lives; the means re-
quired to carry into effect the Treaty; the intercourse law,
and your instructions must be furnished.

I have the honor

to be most Respectfully

Your mo. ob† Servt.

F. W. Armstrong

G A M

(OIA: 1833 Choctaws (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong Report etc.)
Muster Roll of a Company of Choctaw Indians who have emigrated West of the Mifsipsippi, under the direction of Lieut. J. Van Horne, U. S. Disbtr Agent for Removal and Subsistence of Indians, and on this 18 Dec'r 1832, turned over to Lt. J. R. Stevenson U. S. Disbtr Agent near Kiamichi River --

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<td>Robert W. Nail</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Van Horne</td>
<td>2nd Lieut 3 Inf.</td>
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</table>

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigr.) Lt.J.Van Horne Journals of parties conducted by him in Fall of 1832.)
Route from Rockrow on the West bank of White River 7 miles below the mouth of Cache river, to the Choctaw Agency near fort Smith Arkansas river

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Miles</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Station</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Grue</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>1st</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; MRS Blacks</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2d</td>
<td>&amp; ifsuing Station No. 1</td>
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<td>&quot; Head of prairie</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3d</td>
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<td>&quot; Irvines</td>
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<td>4th</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Crofs Roads</td>
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<td>5th</td>
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<td>&quot; Palarm bayeau</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>&amp; ifsuing Station 3</td>
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<td>&quot; Military road</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7th</td>
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<td>&quot; Cadron Crofs&amp; ferry</td>
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<td>Plummers</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>&amp; ifsuing Station 4</td>
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<td>&quot; Fletchers or Ellis'</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9th</td>
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<td>&quot; Crofsing pt. Remove</td>
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<td>Ferry to Blunts</td>
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<td>10th</td>
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<td>&quot; Logans Gallack</td>
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<td>11th</td>
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<td>&quot; South side of Arkansas</td>
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<td>sas river Crofs&amp; ferry</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12th</td>
<td>&amp; ifsuing Station 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Shoal Creek</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13th</td>
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<td>&quot; Caney Creek</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>&amp; ifsuing Station 7</td>
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<td>&quot; 6 mile Creek</td>
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<td>&quot; Big Creek</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>&amp; ifsuing Station 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Greggs</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Choctaw Country</td>
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</table>
Route from Rockrow on the west bank of White River, 7 miles below the mouth of Cache river, to fort Towson Red river

To Grue 14 miles first days travel

" Mr's Blacks 13 " 2d " & ifsuing Station 1
" Evans' 17 " 3d "
" Arkansas river 15 " 4th " & ifsuing Station 2
" 5 mile Ck 5 " 5th days march after crossing ferry
" Herricane 13 " 6th days march & ifsuing Station 3
" Lockhart 10 " 7th days march
" 10 mile Creek 10 " 8th " & ifsuing Station 4
" Quechitta 10 " 9th "
" Bayeau de Lisle 15 " 10th " & ifsuing Station 5
" Callaway's 12½ " 11th "
" Highnights 12½ " 12th " & ifsuing Station 6
" Antoine 12 " 13th "
" Old Still house 14 " 14th " & ifsuing Station 7
" Washington 12 " 15th "
" Johnston's 9 " 16th " & ifsuing Station 8
" Mine Creek 10 " 17th "
" Saline Creek 10 " 18th " & ifsuing Station 9
" Coratot 10 " 19th "
" Little River 15 " 20th " & ifsuing Station 10
" 6 miles West of Little river Saline 12 " 21st "
" McCanns old place 14 " 22nd " & ifsuing Station 11
" A place, from McCanns 17 " 23rd " & ifsuing Station 12
" Fort Towson 17 " 24th " & ifsuing Station 12

(OIA: Choctaws (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong, A.L.Langham, J.T.Fulton to Capt.J.Brown, Disb.Agent, Arrangements for meeting & disposing of parties, routes, appointments, requisitions, etc. Copies of 5 letters and papers.)
Washington City
March 22d 1833

Dear Sir-

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

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

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

I was present at a conversation between youself and the person above alluded to-- but heard no charge alleged by you against Mr G. Goins, late Sp[1] A. C. R of fraud and corruption-- I did hear you, however, say, that during the previous year, the Choctaws had been so much indulged that they were spoiled. They now looked for much more than, under the Regulations, they could be allowed.--
Major C. expressed himself dissatisfied with those Regulations -- and contended that the Indians did not receive the privileges which their late Treaty guaranteed-- Your reply was, in substance, and I believe in the very words, that, an Agent holding such opinions and expressing them publickly had better leave the service-- This early expression of your disapprobation seemed to me, to influence his subsequent conduct--

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

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

Very Respectfully Your Ob St.

Major F. Armstrong

W P Montgomery

(оля: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) J.W.Armstrong to the Sec's of War Relative to suspension of Colquhoun.)
Washington City, D. C.
March 31st, 1833.

Gen. G. Gibson

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

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

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

I refer now to the Hon. Secretary of War to prove that my Brother & myself did both object to engaging in the Choctaw removal, because Maj. Gaines might feel, that we had not acted like
Friends towards him, and we were not willing to forfeit the friendship so long enjoyed by us, and which I now cherish with great interest.

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

I have the honour to be

with respect

Your Obt. Servant

F. W. Armstrong

C A

(OIA: 1832 Choctaw (Emigration) F.W.Armstrong to the Sec'y of War Relative to suspension of Colquhoun.)
Fort Smith
Rec'd May 4th
Gen'l Geo. Gibson
Com'y Gen'l Sub.

Washington City, D.C.

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

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

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

The Old Emigrants of 1831, whose time of drawing provision has expired (most of them having raised no crops last year) are now begging for provision to keep from starving,
sacrificing their annuity for about one sixth of its value for the same purpose, and must fare worse if possible. I can recommend nothing to relieve them, for I believe were they supported another year the same again would happen, though the situation of widows and orphans is to be lamented.

I am Sir —

Very respectfully your

Mo. Obt. Servt. —

G.J. Rains Lt. & Dis Agent

(0IA: 1833 Choctaw (Emigr) Lt. G.T. Rains Rel to the purchasing of cattle for Choctaws & the starving condition of Emigrants of 1831.)
Sir

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

Respectfully

Genl. Geo: Gibson


Washington

A.W. Everett

Gainesville 15th May 1833

(postmarked Clinton Ala June 6, 1833)

Rec'd June 21st

(0IA: 1833 Choctaw (Emigration) A.W.Everett Agreement relative to Ecor de Fabre Expedition.)
Mr. J. D. McGee I warn you & Benjamin Moor Juneyear to attend at Capt Willingham's on the 7th day of this inst by 12 o'clock with each of you a gun and ammunition for the purpose of defending the rites of our Country now invaded by the Indians.

J. B. Shetford Warner
by authority

this the 6th day of Nov 1833
Agency 20th Novr' 1833

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

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

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

F. W. Armstrong

C A

(OIA: 1833 Choctaws (Agency) F.W.Armstrong. Orders to Military.)
Agency 21st Nov' 1833

Col. Whorton Rector


Sir

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

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

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

Capt. McLellan will keep an exact account of all expences incurred in the performance of this duty.

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

F. W. Armstrong

C A

Col. W. Rector

Afst Agt. Ch. Removal

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

25th Novr. 1833--

Sir

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

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

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

Very respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

W. Rector

Aft. Agt. Rml. Indians

Major F. W. Armstrong

Choctaw Agent.

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

Choctaw Agency W. T.

Sept 22, 1834

Capt Clarke

Commanding Fort Towson

Sir

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

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

I am with high regard

Your Obt Servt

(signed) F. W. Armstrong
C. A.

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

Com. Gen. of Subsistence

Sir

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

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

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

I have the honor to be Your obt Sert.

F. W. Armstrong  C A

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

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

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

As the Choctaw Annuities are paid to the heads of Families, it became necessary to enroll the whole nation, preparatory to, and before payments could be made. This I have done, and personally attended to the entire enrolment, and have had the Pay Rolls written up, ready for making the payments, whenever the Agent shall direct. The enrollment of the Choctaws, I found to be no small moment of labor, inasmuch as I had to traverse the greater part of their Country to prepare Rolls for, and muster 119 companies occupying over two hundred sheets of Pay Rolls of Folio Post size, which, (for want of Blanks,) had to be ruled, captains written, &c.
The payment of the Ten Thousand Dollars to those Families that did not receive any Land Benefits in the Old Nation, is deferred until the payment of next year's Annuity. This was found necessary for the purpose of getting a correct list of such claimants prior to making payments, which could not well be done at this payment. This duty is attended to by my Agents, and the 31st of January next is fixed on for closing the records.

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

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

I had ere this expected to have received several sets of the "Regulations concerning superintendencies, &c. and the Regulations concerning the payment of annuities, together with Blank Forms, adapted to the various objects of disbursements. If none has been forwarded on the receipt of this communication, I must request of you to forward six sets of the Printed Regulations, a complete set of Forms, and also the Book containing the late Indian Treaties.
The late period of the pafsage of the act of appropriation for the payment of annuities, rendered it absolutely impossible to transport the funds to the frontier, make the payments, and get the accounts to Washington for settlement within the time specified. I am in hopes, however, to forward you the vouchers for the payment of Annuities to the Choctaws and Cherokees, on or before the close of this month; and for the other tribes, (with the exception of some items of Treaty stipulations) on or before the close of the present year.

Very Respectfully

I have the honor to be,

Your Ob't. servt.

J Brown Capt. U. S. Army
S.W. Dis. Age. Ind Annuities

Elbert Herring Esqr.
Comm. of Ind. Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

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

Fort Leavenworth Nov. 26th 1834

Sir,

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

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

I have the Honor to be with

great Respect your obt. Sert.

To The Honorable

H Dodge Col

Lewis Gafs Secretary of War

Commdg U S Dragoons

Washington City

(OIA: 1834 Choctaws Col. Henry Dodge U.S.Dragoons. Rel. to his services at council at Ft. Gibson.)
Choctaw Agency
January 10th 1835.

Elbert Herring Esq.

Com. Indian Affairs

Sir,

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

It will be seen that Evans complains that Rogers has forcibly taken possession of a quantity of salt, which said Evans contends had been delivered to him by Keener, in the presence of Rogers. The complaint filed and marked No. 1, in the accompanying documents will show the ground upon which he rests his claim.

The articles of agreement between Evans and Keener marked No. 2, will show in what way Evans became interested with Keener. In support of the claim proof is offered to show that Rogers stood by and connived at the delivery of the salt by Keener; and further that Lewis Rogers even aided in marking and putting up the salt in barrels. It is therefore contended that Rogers
should have made his objection to the sale of the salt by Keener at the time; otherwise he (Rogers) could not sustain a claim, if any he had, to said salt, in as much as he failed to make the demand for the salt in due time, therefore he lost his right, if any he had. A reference to the Article of agreement or lease between Rogers & Keener, No. 5, will show Roger's claim & right to the sale in question.

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

But after a full examination of the agreement between Rogers & Keener; and the fact shown by the testimony of two
witnesses that Mr. Evans did know that Keener and Rogers the
rent salt amounting to 1660¾ bushels of salt as proven by Mr.
Evans own witnesses (Smallman) In answer to a question by Rogers
to witnesses, he stated that Evans had actually audited the set-
tlement between Rogers & Keener; and had made the entry in his
own hand writing in Keener's book; showing that Keener did at that
time owe Rogers 1660¾ bushels of salt. It is also in proof that
Mr. Evans, before he bought the salt from Keener now claimed, sent
his witnesses Smallman, to look at the contract between Rogers &
Keener. Therefore he cannot be considered as having purchased
innocently, because he did not know that Rogers had a preference
by the terms of the lease for the rent salt from Keener; and also
that Keener owed Rogers then by his own settlement more than the
1660¾ bushels of salt now claimed. From the terms of the lease
or agreement it was optionary with Rogers at what time he should
demand the rent salt; and I do not consider that he would have
been justified in interfering in Keener's sale to Evans, until
the last moment when he saw that the rent salt was going off; and
self preservation required that he should seize on the salt to
secure his rent. Rogers too, it will be seen by the lease to
Keener was not authorized to sell salt at the Saline more than
what was barely sufficient to purchase the necessary supplies
for the use of his family.

To close this case I am clearly of opinion that Rogers
had the right, under his lease to hold the salt. It will be
recollected too that Rogers is a native Cherokee, and that all
he looked for was his rent. If Mr. Evans had advanced the amount
of the salt in question to Keener, they were both white men; and Evans has his remedy.

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

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

I have the honor to be

Your Obt Servant

F W. Armstrong

A. S. W. T

Choctaw Agency Jan 29, 1835

Elbert Herring Esqr

Com of Indian Affairs

Sir

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

I have the honor to be

Your Obt Servt

F. W. Armstrong

A. S. W. T.

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West (Agency) F.W.Armstrong. Papers in case of slave confined for murder.)
Choctaw Agency West -
8th August 1835

To the Hon, Sec. of War;

Dear Sir; I regret much to inform you that we have lost, by death, our worthy friend and Agent Majr F. W. Armstrong. He died of a short but painful sickness. And as I presume there will be many applications to fill the vacancy, I take this early opportunity to notify you and our great father the President, that so soon as the chiefs and head men of the other two Districts return from the Treaty with the wild Indians in the West, we shall convene the constituted authority of this Nation, and recommend certain persons, whom the Choctaws have confidence in, one of whom, we desire and respectfully request him to appoint for our next Agent; As we believe the 13 Article of the Dancing Rabbit Treaty gives us the right to recommend our Agent to the proper Department, we shall do so as soon as practicable. We believe much depends on the kind of a man, we have for our Agent, in the advancement of our people in the paths of knowledge and civilization, therefore I hope that our father the President will act with liberality and indulgence towards us his his unfortunate Red children.

Will you please lay this before the President?

I have the honor to be very

respectfully your most Obdt Servt

Joseph Kincaid  x
mark

Chief Moosholatubbee District

Sir,

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

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

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

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

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

I have the honor to be

Sir

Very Respectfully

Yo. Obt. Servt.

John Stuart
Capt. 7th Inf.
Comdg. Fort Coffee
Choctaw Nation

Elbert Herring
Commissioner of Indian Affairs --

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West (Agency) Capt. John Stuart, Acting Agent, Misc. letters.)
The country occupied by Meshulatubbee district of Choctaws, lying between the Arkansas river, and the Ozark Mountain; which divides the waters of the Arkansas and Red river, is considerably broken by hills and mountains, which have a general range nearly parallel to the main Mountain. Those ridges are often several miles apart; and are covered with a short-timber, principally of the oak kind and are more or less covered with sand stone and the soil poor. In the vallies between the ridges lies the tillable or fertile land through the centre of which, in every case, there runs a Bayou or water course, the borders of which, are for the most part, covered with a narrow belt or strip of timber; and the space between that and the ridges, is generally, prairie without much rock. In those vallies immediately on the water courses, are to be found the present Indian settlements, which are most commonly made near the mouth or confluence of the Bayous with other streams.

There are but very few springs of water within this district of country; and the water now made use of, by the inhabitants, is taken almost entirely from the Bayous, the most of which ceases to run for months together, during the summer & fall; but where the settlements now are, or in other words, near the mouth of many of those streams, water is to be found in pools or low places in the Bayous, during the driest times. But that is not the case nearer to their sources; and when the settlements extend higher up wells
will have to be resorted to, as the only means of procuring water, during the summer and fall months. The land immediately bordering on the Arkansas river is alluvial, and is equal in point of fertility to any soil in the United States. That bordering on the Poteau and other large streams, is also fertile, but is not so extensive.

The best and most valuable timber is confined to the river bottoms; & consists of Black Oak, Overcup Oak, Walnut &c, there is no white oak, or Poplar, in the country, Pine is to be found in the mountain only. Some parts of the prairie land is tolerably fertile; and will produce grain middling well, for fifteen or twenty years, after which it will require manure; one objection, however to the prairie land of this country, for cultivation, is that the whole surface, is broken by a kind of hillock peculiar to the prairies of the west, which are from one to three feet high, and from ten feet to thirty yards in diameter across the base, they are very much in the way in ploughing; and what is still worse, the rain that falls on them runs quickly off, on to the surrounding flat surface; and thereby gives the flat space an over-proportion of water, which it cannot absorb, and which if not taken off by small rills, remains on the surface until evaporated by the atmosphere, which in some cases requires several days, and even weeks, during which time the soil is soft and often mirery. Those hills or lumps are irregularly planted over the surface; and are seldom fifty yards apart,
and are generally not near so much; and often in the course of their growth, two or more of them have become united together. They are dispersed over all the flat highland, both timbered and prairie, that is clear of stone and gravel. The timbered land, however, that contains those hills was originally prairie; and has been encroached on by the timber, which is advancing, by regular progression over all parts of the prairie land. It may be asked why the ridges & mountains are covered with timber before the flat portion of the country? The reason to me, is very obvious, the ridges are rocky and the soil poor; and consequently the grass & herbage is comparatively short & light; and the fires do not pass over it with such fury as it does over the fertile plain; & thereby gives the timber an opportunity to spring up.

There are various conjectures respecting the formation or cause of those hills. Some are of opinion that they were formed by the sea, others, that they are the work of human hands &c, but I am very clearly of opinion that they have been occasioned by a small animal of the mole kind, called the Salamander or Gofer, which lives principally under ground; and in place of breaking up the surface, as the mole does, in moving from place to place, they excavate their way by throwing out the clay into small hills; and in the fall when the weather becomes cool, several of them collect together, and excavate a hollow near the surface of sufficient capacity for winter quarters, for the whole party, into which they carry a large quantity of grass and other vegetable matter.
for bedding. The next fall, this process is renewed at the same spot, which increases the bank of clay on the surface; and the grass &c, carried below being protected from the annual fires, will decompose and form earth, large quantities of grass are also covered and protected from the fire, by the clay which is thrown out on the surface. This process being carried on at or near the same place, by generation after generation of those animals for thousands of years, has formed the hills in question.

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

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

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

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

I am Sir very respectfully

Fort Coffee
Choctaw Nation
1st October, 1835.

Your Obt Servant
John Stuart
Capt. 7th Inf:ty
Actg Agent

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

October 1st 1835.

Elbert Herring Esqr.

Com' of Ind. Affairs -

Sir

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

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

The paper herewith enclosed marked:

A, is an Abstract of Licensed traders within the district.
B, is a statement in relation to the seizure of spirits.
C, is a List of persons employed in this district.
D, is a Report of the Schools within the same.
E, F & G, are Reports of the different School teachers. 
H, is a description of the country.

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

I have the honor to be Sir

Very respectfully

Your Obt. Servant

John Stuart

Capt 7th Inf
Acting Agent

Mushelatubbees District

(COPY)

Fort Coffee 25th Oct 1835

To Capt William Armstrong

Choctaw Agent

Sir:

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

Very respectfully Your friends &c

(Signed)

Joseph Kincaid

Chief M. District

Meshula tub bee
Im a lee chee
Pis tam bi
Ko e ho ma
wm Bohannon
Ton a ha cha
Ho she ho ma
Ko e to ba
Ho pah ka no ah
Tush ca ha jo
Ah korch au tub bee
Hock loon tub bee
Ho she ho po ah
R. M. Jones  Clerk

True copy

Attest Geo. W. Clarke

To the Honourable Elbert Herring
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Sir;

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

A strange, novel and oppressive system, is about to be established, and put into execution, and without the interposition of the Government, our trade is stopped and our characters traduced—The case is this; on the 28th Inst an Indian Council was held at the Agents Office and he personally present; when and where they drew up a paper which we have seen, but could not obtain from the Agent a copy; charging us with various crimes of a dishonest character—This Council was convened and set within the distance of four hundred yards of our store, and not the least intimation had we of the intent or character of it—By that Council, our characters, as men, were assailed and traduced, and our mercantile transactions put in great embarrassment—In the evening when the Council had adjourned, we, by accident, learned from the Indians, that we had been the subject of the Council, whereupon we immediately repaired to the Agents office, and requested that we might see the proceedings
of the Council. This the Agent complied with, and promised to send us the next morning a fair copy. The next morning we waited until after breakfast for the promised copy; But it being delayed much longer than we expected, according to the promise of the Agent, we again waited upon Capt. Armstrong, and requested him that he furnish us with it, in order that we could meet it and shape our defence.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We subscribe ourselves your Obt-

and Humble Servts-

Pickett & Gregg

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West Pickett & Grigg. Relative to a refusal of a license to trade.)
Being requested by Messrs. Pickett & Gregg, Traders, in the Choctaw Nation, to measure their yard-stick, which we accordingly did, and do hereby certify that is full three feet in length by the English rule -

/indecipherable/

Lewis Harmans

Choctaw Agency

Decr. 31st 1835

(OIA: 1835. Choctaws West. Pickett & Grigg. Relative to a refusal of a license to trade.)
Being requested by Pickett & Gregg to measure their yard by stick; and do here certify that it was a full yard in length. I do furthermore certify that I have in my intercourse and dealings with them have always found them fair and honorable in their business transactions and as far as my knowledge extends have full confidence in their justice and accuracy of their mercantile dealings.

Thos. Wall

Fort Coffee

Decr 31st 1835

(OIA: 1835. Choctaws West. Pickett & Grigg. Relative to a refusal of a license to trade.)
Choctaw Agency Dear 31st 1835

Dr Sir

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

Pickett & Grigg

To the Honbe

A H Sevier

(OIA: 1835. Choctaws West. Pickett & Gregg. Relating to a refusal of a license to trade.)
I do hereby certify, that I have known Messrs. Ricketts & Gregg, Traders in the Choctaw nation, for a number of years, and for the last two years have had extensive dealings with them as merchants and have allways found them, honest, honourable and correct, and being situated immediately in their yard, am frequently in their store, and have never heard any difficulty between them and any other person, either Indian or whiteman about their accounts -

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

Choctaw Agency
Decr. 31st 1835

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

Choctaw Nation West

1st February 1836.

Sir,

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

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Yr. Obt. Servt.

John Stuart

Capt. 7th Inf.

Elbert Herring Esq.

Commissioner of

Indian Affairs.

Fort Coffee

10th February 1836.

Sir,

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

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

Captain Fulsom further says that Mr. Holland Coffee informed him about the last of December, or 1st of January that
the Commanchies had in a formal manner notified him that he must
remove from his present Trading establishment, or that they
would compel him to do so by force of arms, to which he bade
them defiance, and it is for time, to show the result, he is
entirely ignorant of the cause of their being offended at him.

My informant Captain Fulsom says that he understood while
out, that as the Wild Tribes who met the Commissioners in council
last August were on their return home, they were very much af­
flicted with disease, and that all of their leading men except
two, had died before reaching their respective homes, which was
the cause of producing considerable dissatisfaction in the minds
of the Indians towards the whites, as they were of the opinion,
that the sickness and death of their chiefs, was occasioned by
something given to them by the whites while attending the coun­
cil.

Captain Fulsom further understood, that the Articles of the
Treaty entered into between the United States Commissioners, and
those Western Tribes, in August last, was not torn up by the In­
dians as has been represented, but was placed by one of their
Chiefs, in the hands of a white Trader, for safe keeping.

Another Choctaw Captain whose name I do not recollect,
was also out at the same time, and in the same range of country
that Fulsom was in; and lost while there, two Boys of his party,
and does not know whether they are lost in the woods or killed,
he himself is still out on search of them, while the main body
of his hunters, have returned home.

A considerable excitement prevails at this time among the
Indians residing near the line of the Arkansas Territory, respect­
ing a report that has been put into circulation by the people of the Territory, which declares it to be the intention of Arkansas, when she becomes a state to extend her state Jurisdiction over all of that part of the Choctaw and Cherokee nations, lying within the original boundary of the Territory.

Some of the Indians are quite easy on the subject, and say that the Government of the United States has ceded that country to them and has pledged the faith of the Government to sustain them in the exclusive right of the occupancy and Jurisdiction thereof; except in cases set forth in Treaties, when Congress can enact certain laws, for their Government, and they further say, that they will rely confidently upon the faith of the General Government to sustain them against all intrusion coming from Individual States.

While others are apprehensive that from some heretofore unexpected construction of the Laws they may again be required to undergo the distressing consequences of another removal.

I have made a brief statement of the last mentioned report direct to Mr. Herring Commissioner of Indian affairs, as Capt. Armstrong the Superintendent is absent, but have not communicated it to any other source.

I am Sir Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.

Lieut. W. Seawell (Signed) John Stuart

South West. Frontier.

Head Quarters S. Westn. Frontier
Fort Gibson Feby 16th 1836.

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to transmit (for the information of the Government) a copy of a letter received from Captain John Stuart the commanding officer of Fort Coffee, under date of the 10th inst, and I can add that it would give great dissatisfaction to the Cherokees as well as to the Choctaws in the event our Government should promise, or agree, that the Western boundary of Arkansas Territory as now established, should under any circumstances or at any time be removed further West.

The information Captain Stuart has received in relation to the comanche Indians, having ordered M. Coffee to leave his Trading establishment, or that they would remove him by force was received here late in December, except that it was not then understood that the comanchees had notified M. Coffee that they would remove him by force, - and I am of the opinion that they have not threatened to do so, - as it is believed they have not visited the Trading House of M. Coffee since some time late in November or early in December last. The information received on this subject was communicated to the Honorable the Secretary of War on the 29th of December last by Governor Stokes and myself.

I am informed that two or three days since, a citizen of the United States of good character arrived in the Creek settlements near to this post from the Province of Texas who reports that Benjamin Hawkins, a half breed Creek (who left this with his family for Texas two or three years since) with an of-
Officer of the Mexican Government had of late endeavoured to induce the Indians, who have left our country and settled between our upper settlements on Red River and Nacogdoches, to commence war on the inhabitants of Texas, this it appears has been for the present avoided in consequence, of some of the Indians being opposed to it, and having notified the Inhabitants of the project of Hawkins, and the Mexican officer,- Hawkins in consequence of the failure of his plans, found it necessary to leave that country immediately, and is probably at present with the Creeks settled on the Canadian River. I have no doubt, from information that I have received, that there is an understanding between Hawkins and several of the principal Chiefs of the Creek nation, that they are to remove with their people to the province of Texas as soon after their arrival here as convenience will permit. In Texas they expect that an extensive tract of country will be assigned to them, or that if it is refused, they will possess themselves of it by force.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Your Obt. Servt.

M. Arbuckle

Brevt. Brigdr. Genl. Commg

Arbuckle, Gen. M.

to

Brig. Gen. R. Jones
Adjt. Genl

Washington City.

Newport Ky
March 28th 1836

Gentlemen!

Your communication requesting a certificate from me, relative to your conduct as Traders in the Choctaw Nation, is received, and in reply I have to state my surprise, that it should ever have been made a question, and confidently assert my belief that it has been thro' the machinations of one Individual or more, who promise themselves to promote their own interests in your expulsion from the vicinity of the Choctaw Agency.

So far from supposing that you were guilty, at any time, of any impropriety as Traders among the Choctaw Indians, I have always thought that you furnished these people gratuitously with more, and gave them better weight and measure, for their money and peltries than other merchants similarly situated, and have no doubt but that R. Jones U. S. Interpreter, your former rival in trade (and as great a scoundrel as ever lived) is at the bottom of this business, assisted probably by no small ill will of the Agent, who doubtless would willingly dispense coming in contact with any of the connexions of the injured widow of Maj. M'Clellan, as a salve to an upbrading conscience.

You are at liberty to make whatever use you please with this letter, whose contents are founded upon an intimate acquaintance with you while dealing largely with you for nearly three years, and the Choctaw Indians, with whom you traded while I was U.S. Disbursing Agent.

I am Gentlemen very respectfully

G.G. Raina Lt. U.S.A.

Mefs. Pickett & Gregg
Merchants at Ch. A.

(OIA: 1835 Choctaws West. Pickett & Grigg. Relative to refused of a license to trade.)
Ho. of Reps 7th May 1836

The Hon. L. Cafs

Sir.

A portion of the Choctaw Indians amounting to some three or four thousand still remain in the limits of the States of Alabama and Mississippi, a large proposition of whom are anxious to emigrate to the West, if the means were provided by Government.

Letters have been received by the Mississippi Delegation stating that the Choctaws in Mississippi are in a state of much excitement and have already burned several houses on the frontier. There is some reason to fear, that they may catch the war spirit now prevailing so extensively among the tribes of the South, and under this impression we respectfully call your attention to the matter and hope you will ask an appropriation for the removal of such as are willing to emigrate. The object is to introduce this appropriation into the bill to carry into execution the Cherokee Treaty, which will soon be before the House.

I concur in requesting this appropriation--

R. J. Walker

I also concur in requesting this appron.

J S Lyon

I have the honor to be,

Very Resp'y.

Y. Mo. Obt! Servts,

David Dickson

J. F H Claiborne

M. T Black.

(OIA: Choctaw (Emigr) File 70. Washington, 5/7, 1836 (#70). Dickson, Hons. David, J.F.H.Claiborne & 3 others - Delegation. Requesting that an appropriation be called for, etc.)
At a Council begun and held at the Choctaw Agency the 27th June 1836 Present Joseph Kincaid Chief, Immeleeche, Hock a loon tubbee, Pis tamba, To ne hajuh, Ah none pis sub bee, Tan up ca homah, Hos she ho mah, Hah lah tah, John McKinny, Adam Fulsom, John Perry, Ko a to ba, Lewis Perry, Ko e ho mah, Fah lah mone tubbee, Tus ka ha jah, Hole bah, George Pusley, Jerry Kincaid & Charles Captains, present, convened for the purpose of investigating the charges preferred by a Council held on the 28th Decr 1835 against Mefars Pickett & Gregg by order of the Secretary of War. John Gregg of the firm of Pickett & Gregg appears in his own proper person & defends

1 Capt3 Pistamba & Pursley & others state that they informed Mefars Pickett & Gregg that they could not give them leave then to build a house that but few of their people was over - and when they did come if they were willing that they had no objection - that they knew the treaty give the government the right to license traders that they left the Agency for their location near Samboy fifteen or twenty miles, that when they returned again Some time after, their house was nearly finished

Question by Mr Gregg - Would you not of objected to any other white trader at that time - Answer - We would

2 Capt Ko e toba States that he is a poor man and has some times to go in debt that he purchased some time since two blankets from Mefars Pickett & Gregg; that they were thin & bad blankets that Mefars Pickett & Gregg threw the blankets out of the doore and shut it & told him the price was four dollars a piece that he went to his camp that night it rained & the blankets came
to pieces, that he made a bill of sixty dollars with them that himself and brother in law made a hunt and returned with three hundred weight of Deer Skins & made a calculation and thought it would discharge the debt that some time after Mr Pickett told him he owed a balance of sixteen dollars - he came in some time after again and paid twenty dollars which he thought discharged the old debt. Some time after he came again and Mr Pickett began to ask him for money and peltrys and to call over the old account for blankets &c he told them when he began trading he had dealt a great deal with white men and would continue with them unlefs he found them to deceive him, that he found they were cheating him and he would have no more 1/6 dealings with them, that he still owes them but calculates to have no more to do with them when he pays them up.

Question by Mr Gregg - When was it you got the blankets
Answer - it was last winter was a year ago - and I was told at the Store at the time that the second day after would be Christmas

Question by same - at what time was your account Sixty dollars
Answer - I had a small account before - and at the time of getting the blankets it amounted to Sixty dollars

Question by Mr Gregg - When did you make the payment of the three hundred pounds of peltry you speak of to liquidate the debt of sixty dollars -- Answer - the first of the Spring following

Question by same - did you make any other payment shortly after that in peltrys to any amount -- Answer -- Shortly after
the time I made the payment of Sixty dollars, I sent by my Son-in-law peltries to the amount of twenty dollars which when weighed by Mefsr s Pickett & Gregg amounted to twenty dollars

question by same - did you get goods from us after the council of 28th Dec. last -- Answer - I did to the amount of five dollars and sent peltry to pay it shortly afterwards

3 Question by Mr. Gregg to Joseph Kincaid Chief - You have been dealing with us for some time have we ever deceived you or charged you too much - I leave near to you and often sent to you for things without taking any account of, my company would get things and I found that my account amounted to more than I thought the people of my company for whom I was charged would tell me that they had paid their own accounts, one of the persons I recollect to be now dead a woman named E lah pa oka the other I do not recollect - but as I first stated I was not then particular so as to remember their names at a council it was determined to give the Delawares then travelling here some presents the chief Moo sho la tub bee had the articles procured from you they were to be paid for by the nation, I found some time after that those articles were charged to my account, I objected to it and they were taken from it - I never told Mefsr s Pickett & Gregg of any difficulties about charges

4 Capt. Im me lee chee - States that he had an account with Mefsr s Pickett & Gregg. that he paid a dollar - & when paying the account Some time $1$ after he found that the dollar was not credited and he had to pay it again, that him and his company had an account with Pickett & Gregg of upwards of $100.$
that he went forward and paid it — but afterward an account of ten dollars was brought, and rather than have a difficulty he paid it again, I was also charged with twenty five cents worth of Sugar which I had paid for when I got it, the spring some time afterwards the account was presented and when I insisted I had paid it, it was stricken off. It was at the annuity before the last that I paid the account of about $106. I afterwards had to pay a balance of ten dollars which I had paid when I paid the account of $106. at the last annuity I paid up all my accounts except ten dollars, which was to be paid in peltry — Six dollars of which has been paid — and four dollars yet due.

5 Capt Jerry Kincaid States that he purchased a dollars worth of Sugar which he was told was Six pound and a half — that he did not know anything about weighing with those round weights, he went home and had a pair of small stilyards and weighed the Sugar and found it two and a half pounds short — he purchased again and found upon weighing it at home to be the same way — he then told the Chief that they were not fair dealers and wished him to inform the Agent he also sent his little boy to the store with a fifty cent piece of Silver for some coffee and sugar, the boy returned and told him that they only Counted the money for thirty seven cents. which was the amount of the Sugar — He came then to Capt McClellan Sub agent and told him of it — Pickett & Gregg sent for him and paid him the other 12½ cents — He was in the store and on the counter with some others, Mr. Pickett took down some goods and commenced them off. He thought then that they were not good men for Such treatment, He did not know whether or not Pickett was mad it was last Spring was a year He sent for the Sugar
Capt Hock loon tubbee States that when he first came to the country he viewed Pickett & Gregg as friends that he made an account of forty dollars - and at the annuity paid them thirty stating that in ten days he would bring the balance -- which was agreed to, that he had some money left and started to their store door that Pickett followed on after him and at the store door stopped him and told him he must pay the other ten dollars, that he done so - and reflected that he had dealt a great deal with White men and it made him feel bad to be used so he determined then to deal no more with them, it was in 1834. when he received my pay as Captain, He owed but the forty dollars at the time he paid the thirty -

Question - did you not buy from us Sugar Coffee & a bolt of binding on credit - Answer - I bought those articles and paid the money at the time

Capt Joseph Pickins States he was not present at the Council but he will say a few words, at the first annuity paid after we came over, it was paid in bills, I was present in the pafsage at the Store when the Indians would come to Mr Gregg and have the bills and say they would take half goods and the balance in silver that after some time Mr Gregg told them that his Specia had give out- but he would examine if he had more, and would take the bill into the house, and bring out a different bill - He was with another man who purchased at Tom Walls a pair of shoes at $1.75 and came to Picketts and asked for shoes, at that price to Change Pickett told him he had shoes at $250 and threatened to give him hell, to give him thunder he felt angry and thought it bad treat-
ment - question - did you examine or take hold of the bills - answer - I did not take hold of \textit{the} bills but know they were not the same, I cannot read or write

Question - did we ever refuse to credit you - Answer - I do not know that you did except for a pair of saddle bags which I got some time after and paid for -

Capt. Tonchajah - that in 1834 when he was paid his Captains pay he owed Pickett & Gregg forty dollars. that he was paying Col Gibson twenty dollars that he owed him, when Pickett came to him and told him to pay him his money that he took a hold of him and hurried him to pay, that he done so and paid five dollars too much which he always thought Pickett got - he paid them off and never had any thing more to do except twelve dollars which he yet owes them. which he could have paid, but thought they treated them badly furthermore he purchased some articles after the above credit of $12.

Hoo she ho mah - States that he owed a debt of fifty or seventy dollars to Pickett & Gregg - that he had violated a law of the nation by introducing whiskey and was sentenced to pay twenty dollars that when he received his pay as captain he told Pickett that in consequence of having the twenty dollars to pay, he could only pay him thirty dollars, Pickett told him to pay him the fifty dollars he had received and the Government would pay the twenty dollars he done so and the next day the Choctaw light horse called on him for the money he then found Pickett had deceived him. he has never paid the debt to the nation for was in the habit of dealing with his company with Pickett &
Gregg that he paid off the account and after he got home he found he had overpaid them Six dollars and a half he returned and got Capt. Jones to go with him to Pickett and examine and found he had overpaid and received the six dollars and a half in part pay for a saddle, it was shortly after the annuity of 1834. I never returned but once with an account ever charged overpaid States

10 Capt Adam Folsom - That last summer he sent an order by Adams for some goods amounting to Twelve dollars 37½ cents - Some time after he came in and Pickett presented him with an account for thirty three dollars then we had a sharp dispute and Pickett turned off and left him - in 1834 when he was paid his Captains pay he paid off a former account and when he came in Pickett had charged it again in his account - question by Mr. Gregg -- What amount did you pay at the time you speake of - Answer - I paid my account at different times and know I paid it off at the time I received my Captains pay - I never got nothing since I got the goods by Adams except a lancet which was given me. he has no recollection of owing any thing at the time Adams got the goods - in 1834, when he paid his account - except the Articles not recollected he says he has paid for the following articles, 7 yards of blue linsey at 75 cents per yard, / word blotted - probably balance/ on beads - (not recollected) 4 1/3 yds twilled domestic at 37½ (not recollected) 5½ yds blue domestic at 25 cts per yd. one paid of brogans at $2.25. - 1 small pockett book 75 cts. paid for - these articles were purchased about last winter a year ago -

11 Capt. Koe hoo ma - States, that at the last annuity he was very Sick - that Mr. Pickett presfesd him hard to pay him an account he owed them, that he took Goodall and an other Indian
with him to see him pay the account he done so and over paid them four or five dollars which was noticed by Goodall and re-funded, he states he would of lost it, if Goodall had not of been had by- he heard before that they were in the habit of taking more than their accounts from others is the reason why he took Goodall with him he has not dealt with them since, he offered to buy a pair of leggings which they refused to credit to him

12- Capt. Lewis Perry - States he has nothing to say. Question by Mr. Gregg - have you not and your Company dealt largely with us and have we dealt fairly by you - Answer my Company have never made large accounts - and have always paid them, I have dealt considerable with you, and never had any difficulty - the allways amount dealt was upwards of $200. at one time - I was Satisfied except I thought the goods high, but when I went to Fort Smith, I paid there about the same

13 Capt Jones - States that Capt Hoose homah came to him and he went with him to Pickett & Gregg and upon examination of the books it was found he had over paid Six dollars & a half which was paid him by Pickett & Gregg

Capt Jones Statement continued

Ho she ho mah further informed him, he had become responsible for his Company and that when they made accounts it was charged to him, that one of the Company paid his account & that when he went to pay - the whole account was charged to him,

Capt Ton nup o hoo ma - States that he was with his father who was a Captain but is now dead that he was knowing to his paying the account of his Company, but his father told him he had paid the debt and that he himself owed five dollars which he has
paid - but there is some in the Company who yet owe him - at the
time the five dollars it was all the debt owing, by my father
his
and me, when he succeeded my father as Captain, he told Pickett
his
& Gregg to give him a paper in my own name which they did and was
his
paid being all the account charged to my father,

14 Ben Camp (Warrior) States that he sent a dollar to Pickett
& Gregg for Sugar, his bag weighed a half pound he understood the
sugar to be selling at seven pounds for a dollar and when the Sugar
came to him it weighed five pounds without the bag,

15 Capt. Pis tam ba - further States that he was present at
the store of Pickett & Gregg and there came two Choctaws who had
peltry's one sold but the other refused to sell, the peltry's were
weighed the one who did not sell took his down to Tom Wall where
they came to several dollars more than at the first weighing

16. A ba neen tub bee - (Warrior) States that he brought a
fox Skin to the Store for another man to get a bar of lead, that
Pickett & Gregg looked at the skin and told him to throw it away
which he would not do, after some time Pickett took the Skin
and he purchased two dollars worth of domestic, which he put
across his Saddle when he went to start he found two holes made
by the mice in the domestic, which he took back to Pickett,
Pickett then gave him a half yard of domestic and told him to
patch the holes - he refused to do so and took back his money

12 Capt. Jones questioned by Mr. Gregg - you have known us
as merchants for the last three years - you have been a merchant
and are now so at this time here and are also United States
Interpreter - answer - I have had considerable dealings with
you as merchants some thing like five or six thousand dollars,
at one time you owed me upwards of four thousand dollars & I am
United States Interpreter at this time, which you paid me fairly
There were
and honorably, except some small articles got by M:r S: McAfee and
charged to me which I paid - I have considered that you got a
liberal share of the Choctaw trade, I know nothing of the charges
referred to except what the Indians told me
18- Question by W:m Armstrong to Capt Lewis Perry - did you
not object to M:rs Pickett & Gregg at a council held in 1835 -
Answer - I did. I sent my son for some things - and afterwards
found out that I was mistaken
19- Question by M:r Gregg to Chief Kinkaid - What do you know
of the Charges made by the council against us. answer - I know
nothing but what the Indians stated to day which are the same I
always heard -- question by the same At what time did you hear
of the holding of the council of 28 the Decr. last - Answer - I
knew of it for some time as many complaints were made and I con-
cluded it was best to call a Council and lay the Complaints be-
fore the Agent all of which was done
20
28th June 1835
Ko e to ba requested to see his account, which was refused
by M:r Gregg - question by W:m Armstrong - do you wish to see the
books for the purpose of aiding you in giving further testimony -
Answer - I wish to see the books for the purpose of paying my
account at some future time - question by M:r Gregg did we not
tell you to get some inteligent Choctaw to come with you and ex-
amine our books - answer - I never heard it.
Capt, Jerry Kincaid - states that not expecting to be called on - he had not /mentioned one thing which he will now do - he had a beef hide - and brought it to the store, which he had weighed with his own steelyards and suspecting them the hide by his own steelyards weighed twenty three pounds and by Pickett & Greggs twenty pounds - he disputed with them some time - until finally they offered him a dollar for Sixteen pounds which he took and afterwards, quit selling hides to them - . Question by M? Gregg - do you understand figers or English - answer - I understand weighing with a pair of my steelyards - I do not understand english - it was about two years since that I brought the hide - about the time there were three stores at this place.

question by M? Gregg to Capt. Jones - What was the usual price given by the traders for hides - Answer - ten cents - two of these Stores were within thirty or forty yards of each other & the other, three or four hundred yards - Pickett & Gregg was close to the one nearest the Agency they were together

Capt. McKinny questioned by M? Gregg - do you know anything of the charges brought against us by the Council - Answer -- I was absent at the time and know nothing of it,was sorry to hear of such a fufs between you and the Choctaws - question by the Same - do you know anything of Captain Jones saying to the Choctaws to come to the Council, and stick to what they had said. I know nothing myself - question by the same - did Capt Jones state to you,that you had two traders here now and that the Agent had said as you now had two if you wanted no more, had you not better say so in the Council - Answer - he did.
24 Question to Capt. Jones - did not the Agent tell you that as there was two traders here - if the Choctaws Council would request him not to licence more at this place that he would not do so - Answer - he did & this I stated to Capt McKinny & Wall - the latter a merchant

Question by Mr. Gregg -- have you used your influence to have us put out of the nation as traders & what was your reasons Answer - I have used my influence to have you put out in consequence of the many complaints of frauds practised upon the Indians by you - in telling Capt McKinny & Wall to request the Council to have but two traders here McKinny made no reply Wall said he would have no objection but was afraid it would not do, -- Question by M'r Gregg -- Previous to the Council did you make any arrangement with any person to enter into merchandising Answer - after the Council had been appointed I think I recollect of having some conversation with Wall about going into trading. I also requested Mr. Wall to attend the Council -

To Capt. McKinney
25- Question by M'r Gregg - What have you heard Mr. Clark the clerk here State about us - Answer - he asked me if I was going to support Pickett and Gregg, that he had often heard them abuse the Choctaws, and that if he knew as much as we did M'r Millard the & himself being present to whom we alluded - I stated that Pickett me and when I was friendly to a man & Gregg had been friendly to a man, I was so; at that time the Agent came in and observed that what I said was right - I never heard any others say you abused the Choctaws -

26 Question by M'r Gregg to Capt Pursley do you know any thing about the charges brought against us by the Council Answer - I
know nothing except what I have heard - I have had considerable dealings with you but always paid for what I got and never had any difficulty, I was always satisfied you dealt fairly with me -

Question by same - What did you believe or know of our dealings with the Indians - answer I never saw you cheating Indians

question by the Agent - What have you heard the Indians say in relation to their dealings - answer - I have heard the Indians say they believed they had cheated - but I never saw it myself

27. Question by Mr. Gregg - to Joseph Kinkaid - did you ever hear Capt Jones say that Pickett & Gregg had cheated the Indians.
answer - I know nothing about it -

28. Question by Mr. Gregg to the Agent - do you know any thing of Capt Jones talking to you about us -

Answer - Capt Jones being the Interpreter has frequently talked with me about Pickett & Gregg and I understood from his conversations generally that he had no confidence in them as traders - I do not recollect of his saying they ought to be removed from the nation, that was a question that I should of considered indelicate - I do not recollect to have stated that but one trader should be licensed here - yet I consider that there is not business for more than one trader and have no doubt said so.

29. Question to Capt McKinny by the agent - has Mefsr's Pickett & Gregg called on you at your house and who was with him - and what was his object - Answer - Mr. Gregg came to my house with Mr. McCurtin and wished my people if any of them were his friends to come to the Council ground - I told him I would tell me people that were here to come to the Council they were absent many of
them. Question by Mr. Gregg - did I not tell you to tell the people all to come in and to speak out for, against us - Answer you did- I stated to Mr. Gregg that this was an inconvenient time to come to a council that it was a contrast between traders and traders and not the people themselves.

30. Mr. McCurtin Says. I went with Mr. Gregg to Mr. McKinny, I was at this place and we went up together, distance about twenty three or twenty five miles, you told me you had promised to pay a visit for a long time to McKinny. Pursley and Lewis Perry we went on up to gather you asked me to be your interpreter at the Council I told him that the Agent would object as I was not a sworn Interpreter you told me that you wanted all to attend at this council that the other was a small one and you wished all to come friends & foes and speak face to face.

31. Mr. Bartlett questioned by Mr. Gregg - are you not now a trader and a Partner of Capt Jones - Answer I am now the partner - The day of the Council in the evening I passed here on my way to Towson - I met Capt Jones and he informed me that Pickett & Gregg would be ordered out of the nation that I ought to come here - I informed him that I had not the means Mr. Jones remarked to me if a man would do a fair business and on reasonable terms he could do a good business he then informed me he would write to me that he had known me for some time and knew my character as a trader with the Indians - nothing was said in the letter about no other trader coming here - after I returned from Towson and came over to see the agent to get a license I called on Mr. Pickett Mr. Gregg. Mr. Gregg said he would be glad to sell out. I objected
stating that he would not sell me such goods as I wanted but if he would sell me the Indian goods and the buildings that for the sake of getting the houses I would do so if we could agree.

32 question by the agent to Capt Jones - did I not tell you that if you and Wall did not sell goods upon fair terms to the Indians, that I would license traders that would Answer - you did.

33 Mr. Ring States that he saw Capt. Koehoma with some two or three packs of skins at the store, that he was dissatisfied with the weight, that he (Ring) came up, and examined and found that the skins did not weigh more than Gregg had told him, he informed him that he had tried the scales with the Fort Coffee Scales and found them correct - that he understood Koehoma to say he had weighed the skins at home - and they weighed more - that the scales were the same Gregg purchased of Lieut Moore disbursing agent -

34 Tup pa na hoo ma, In ne go a hoo ma, Lewis White, and I a neen tubbee, warriors of Capt McKinny's Company State that they have gone in debt and have dealt with those men and have never had any difficulty, and were Satisfied.

35 Capt. McKinny States that he always advised his people not to go in debt more than they could pay which is the reason he supposes they have never had any difficulty

36 Capt Hock loon tub bee - States that he offered to buy a blanket from Pickett & Gregg that they asked him seven dollars for it, he told them he had dealt with white men in the old nation and could get two such blankets for Seven dollars there, that they found he had money and was going on to Fort Smith, and
they finally sold him the blanket for six dollars, they requested him not to tell the Choctaws what he gave for the blanket, that he thought as he did not Steal the blanket he had a right to tell what he gave for it

37. Capt. Hock loon tub bee States that on yesterday he thought he owed Pickett & Gregg for a bridle but upon examination he finds it was for sugar and other articles to the amount of three dollars and not for the bridle he produced at the same time a receipt for fourteen dollars and 37½ cents 26th June 1835. up to that time which receipt is dated 19th of August 1835.

38. question to Joseph Kinkaid, did the Agent tell you that he had promised, the buildings occupied by Pickett & Gregg to Jones & Bartlett - answer no -  

39. Capt Folsom States that the Chief never told him so.

40. At this stage of the investigation the Indian Testimony being through, the Agent informed the Indians, that as the investigation was now through except the whites and the examination of the books, that he wished them to say whether or not they wished the license of Pickett & Gregg renewed. to this M F Gregg objected as he had not had his books examined but if the Indians would not remain, he was willing for them now to say, yet wished the whole testimony, if they could not be kept, altho he wished books and every thing examined he was willing they should say now, to this the agent replied that it would take more time than the Indian would now give that the books would not alter their decision.

41. Thomas Wall States - that he asked the Chiefs permission to come to the Agency and sell goods he replied that he could
not come because the Agent had promised it to another person and that he was too late as the agent had told him so,

42 The Books of Mefars Pickett & Gregg were exhibited to prove in relation to the dead as stated by Joseph Kincaid, the same as stated to have been given by the Choctaws by the delawares then travelling - the books of Pickett & Gregg show that Joseph Kincaid is charged with beads as stated on the 16th of August 1834 and the books also Shew a balance due of $123. with some other articles got since

43 The books of Pickett & Gregg show that Capt Hoek loon tub bee paid Nov. 26th 1834 forty dollars leaving a balance of two dollars carried to his new account, the books further show articles got up to 26th June 1835. which was paid Aug. 19th 1835 and a further account of three dollars which was paid 28th June 1836 in the presence of the Agent. and he thought he owed for a bridle but now is satisfied it was for the sugar & coffee which he paid

44 The Books of Pickett & Gregg show that Capt Ton ne ha jah did pay forty dollars on the 26th Nov. 1834 leaving $12.81 which is carried to a new account with some articles got since for which he owes as said books show amounting in all to $17.06

45 The books of Pickett and Gregg show that Capt Hoo she ho mah. commenced dealing in 1833 and continued, on until April 19th 1836. at one time in January 16th. 1834 a balance appears in favour of Hoo she ho mah of $687½ and on the 26th Jan.y he is charged on the books with a saddle at $12.00 - he then paid the balance and squared off the books which do not shew at any time after or before a balance in favour of Hoo she homah and
the books yet shew a balance of twenty dollars.

46) The books of Pickett & Gregg shew that in 1834 Nov. 26 Capt. Adam Folsom's accounts was balanced - and that none of the particulars charged therein are of the same description and quantity of articles as stated by Adam Folsom except a pair of brogans at $2.25. which by reference to the blotter dated Sept 17.. 1834 the books further shew an account commencing Nov 28. 1834 - and the articles regularly charged, as stated by Folsom in this account the brogans at $2.25 are charged Nov 28th 1834. the books shew a continuation of the account commencing 1st Dec. 1834 and ending 22d June 1835. amounting to $22.81 which account was proven by David & Charles M McClellan to be correct they having sold the articles except 87½ cents for powder & flints.

47) The books of Pickett & Gregg shew that on the 24th Dec. 1834. Ko e to ba owed a balance of $49.37½ & Charles M McClellan states that Ko e to ba had a paper with that amount on it, that he also brought in peltries to the amount of $32.81½ for which he credited him with on said books as appears the peltries were credited at 20 cents per pound which was on the 23rd May 1835 - a further credit is shewn for peltries on the 12th July 1835 - of $23.87½.

48) Statement of Capt. David McClellan late sub agent for the Choctaws - question by Mr. Gregg what do you know about the Council held here after the first emigration of 1832. in relation to licensing Mefrs Pickett & Gregg - answer - In the year 1831 Mr. Pickett applied to me for license to trade, I answed him he could get a license if no change took place - which was previous
to the appointment as agent of F. W. Armstrong at the time of the application in 1831 - I was not then related by marriage to either Meffrs/Pickett or Gregg - Mr. Pickett in that year married my niece - after I had promised him the license, at the council spoken of I was on Red river and when I returned the Indians spoke to me and objected to white traders coming into the nation, I told the Indians that I could not attend to their request as the government had given the Agent the power to grant license - the license granted by me were granted by me was sanctioned by the Agent and I heard no more of it. the law & Treaty was examined by Maj'r. Armstrong and me, and when the Indians found that the Government had the right, I heard no more about it. The Chief upon his arrival expressed himself in favour of white traders in preference to half breeds - after Oak la no wa who was the principal man of the first emigration was informed of the rights of the Government license traders - he appeared satisfied and friendly and dealt considerably with Pickett & Gregg indeed he appeared particularly so. and so. expressed himself In the year 1833. there were three stores located at this place and it is my opinion that Pickett & Gregg got two thirds of the trading done here on through the year 1835 - In the trade and intercourse with the Indians Pickett & Gregg always seemed courteous and friendly & I never heard any complaint from the Indians of any kind I know that when articles got were from the store such as presents for to give away to other nations it was customary to charge them to the Chief such was the case with Moo shu la tubbee the old Chief - I have no recollection of Capt Jerry Kincaid coming to me about a fifty cents
worth of sugar which he states in his evidence

49) The books of Pickett & Gregg show that Oakla no wa commenced dealing with them on the 17th Nov. 1832, and traded to the amount of $221.25. up to the 1st January 1833 which account as appears was got at sundry times.

Charles M McClellan states that the above time of Oakla no wa commencing to deal was about the time Pickett & Gregg began to sell goods that there was no other trader here at that time, that he was present at the Council of 1832 when the Indians then in the nation objected to Pickett & Gregg or any other white traders coming into the nation Oak la no wa was then head man. He stated that Col. Pitchlynn an intelligent half breed Choctaw told him to object to all white traders coming into the nation - that he often heard Oak la no wa express himself the friend of Pickett & Gregg and said he for his part was anxious to have white traders--

50) Statement of Israel Dodge - States he has known Pickett & Gregg at the Choctaw Agency upwards of two years, that he is the blacksmith and resided within fifty or one hundred yards of the store - has been frequently at the Store has never seen any thing in them but what was friendly and accommodating to the Indians, never heard any thing of difficulties about accounts have been much at the store and have seen considerable of dealing with the appeared Choctaws and every thing, fair, question - by Mr. Gregg do you know any thing of our yard stick being tested or any other kinds of measures previous to the Council of 28th Dec. last answer I was in the store, when Maj. Armstrong the Agent came in and told Pickett his yard Stick was too short, he had a small stick in
his hand and took Picketts and measured it, and it was shorter
I then told Maj' Armstrong that we would go into the Shop and
measure his, we done so - and upon measuring we found that Maj' Armstrongs yard stick was about the 8/12 of an inch too long. we
went into the store and/and and /and compared again and found
them to be of the same length after altering Maj' Armstrong - after
this Maj' Armstrong went on home - and I heard him expref s no
disatisfaction - nothing was said further except that he said
the yard stick ought to be ferruled to keep from wearing off
I know nothing of any measures or weights being incorrect the
half bushel I tried 1/2 by my own which was sealed and I have al-
ways been satisfied with the weight and measures - Of the partic-
ular charges made by the Choctaws I know nothing, but I do not
believe that Picket & Gregg would be guilty of them --
51) M. John Victor states that Capt Dodge told him that the
yard stick of Picket & Gregg when compared with Maj' Armstrongs
was about the 1/8 of an inch too short but when Maj' Armstrongs
was measured it was found an 1/8 of an inch too long which made
one too long and the other too short --
52) Capt Jones - States that Majr Armstrong informed him that
he sent to the Store for some linnen for his negroes perhaps ten
yards and that when he got it, it fell short of measurement a
half yard - by his yard Stick
53) M. John Griffith. States that he was in the porch of Majr
Armstrong when some linnen which he had sent for to Pickett &
Greggs store came home. that Mr'd Armstrong measured it with her
arm, and said it was not enough- that Majr Armstrong asked him
for a yard stick - he got him one made by Mr. Lowry and he measured the linen and found it about half a yard too short, he then went over to the store, and when he came back he said the yard stick was about the 1/8 of an inch too short, and that he directed Mr. Dodge to make one and ferrel it so that it would not be whittled off as Mr. Pickett said was the case with his

54) Charles M McClellan States - That in 1832 when Pickett & Gregg came here as traders he was acting as clerk with Lieut. Rains disbursing agent for the Indians, and continued so until the latter part of 1833. During which time Pickett & Greggs store was between the office & the house where he boarded, he was frequently in the store in passing, and frequently aided them in the store, in weighing, charging and in selling. Afterwards in 1835, in the month of February he became their clerk and so continued until the last of July following, as to their general character as traders he never saw any thing incorrect, neither in weighing, measuring or charging. He always thought they kept as fair & plain books as he had ever seen, and that he has the fullest confidence in their books they were always very kind and friendly with the Indians and I never knew of any difficulty, that he was present when the Choctaw brought the fox skin - and remember that he bought the domestic which had a hole or two eat by the rats, for which he was given in a yard or two, and went out well satisfied, but when the Indians began to laugh at him, he returned and demanded his money back and got it, from my knowledge of the books I never knew of any person being charged twice with the same article; that from his knowledge of the trade he would say
that he thought Pickett & Gregg got at least two thirds of the Choctaw trade at this place.

55) The books of Pickett & Gregg - Show that on the 28th of Novr 1834 Capt Imma lee chee paid sixty dollars which closed his account of $151.50 up to that time, the account goes on until Octr 24th 1835 when he paid $106.12 which closed his account except $18.623 which is marked as having to be paid in Peltries, and carried to his account below which amounts to $10.50. up to 21 Novr 1835 which closes his purchases on the books, he is credited at different times with twenty four dollars and fifty cents which also closes his credits leaving a balance of four dollars and fifty cents now due as the books show.

The within is the evidence: so far as taken by me, 30 June 1836

Wm Armstrong
Choct Agent

(OIA: Choctaw File A19. Agency.)
Choctaw Nation

7th July 1836

To Capt W. Armstrong.

Choctaw Agent

Dear Sir; It becomes my duty to inform you as our Agent, that I have been badly treated by Mr. Little mail rider on the route to Fort Towson, who takes advantage of his being U.S. mail rider, and has taken the liberty, to ride up to my house, and in my own yard, setting on his horse, abuse me, more than ever I was abused by a man in my life, and even threatened me with his horse whip, all of which, I had to submit to, on account of his being U.S. mail rider., And now sir; I apply to you for redrefs; However all that I ask is that he be removed from the limits of my country, as soon as possible; or otherwise I shall be under the necessity of seeking satisfaction with my own hands, at all hazzards. He has fell out with me, because I stated to Mr. Clarke (Post master at the Agency) the facts in relation to the two failours, he made on this route last Winter. He is a man of no respectability, as he has publickly taken up with a slave negro in the Nation for his wife; I do not conceive that such a white man ought to be countinenced in the Indian country; In conclusion I respectfully request that you adopt such means as to have him forthwith removed from the Nation.

I am verry respectfully your
friend and Obdt Servant

Vaughn Brashears

Choctaw Agency

8th July 1836

Elbert Herring Esqr

Comr of Ind Affairs

Sir

The enclosed communication from Vaughn Brashears was received this day; and I have felt it my duty to forward it to the Department, with a request that it be laid before the Postmaster General - Brashears is a Half breed Choctaw, lives on Kiamechee about half way between this and Towson, is a respectable Indian of a numerous connexion; and knowing him as well as I do, I am astonished that he has submitted to the insult, complained of. If the mail rider should be killed with the present excited state of the public mind in this country, about Indian wars, it would no doubt be magnified into an open act of hostility against the Government, and perhaps troops sent out to inquire into it.

I have heard of Little the rider between this and Towson, making the attack on Brashears; and to avoid any difficulty, I would request the Post Office Dept to have him dismissed as a mail rider, by Caffrey & Holoway the present contractors.

Respectfully

Your Obt Servt

Wm Armstrong

Choct Agent

Head Quarters, Army of the South,  
Tuskegee, Ala, August 8th 1836

Sir:

Since my letter to you of the 31st ultimo I have received the inclosed instructions by which you will perceive that the Choctaws to be removed are those within the State of Mifsisippi- You will accordingly confine your measures to those only whom you may find within the State --

The Indians, I am informed, will probably be dispersed over the Country in the house of a fortnight, engaged in picking cotton- it is not probable, therefore, that any considerable body of them can be collected during the cotton harvest- It is desirable, however, that arrangements be made with as little delay as possible, to ascertain their disposition and inclination as to emigrating - You will take the necessary measures through the proper Agents to obtain the information desired: and in the mean time you are authorized to arrange your accounts for settlement - after which you will repair to the State of Mifsisippi, and enter upon the duties assigned you, and carry into the execution of them all your accustomed energy -

Report to General Gibson in order that if the Instructions which I have given to you, if not approved by him, may be countermanded.  

I have the honor to be-  Sir,  
Your Obt Servt

Captain J T Taylor  
(Signed) Tho S. Jesup  
Superintendent of  
Choctaw Emigration  
Major General  
Montgomery, Alabama-  
Comg Army of the South

(OIA: Choctaw(Emigr)File T 38-45-48-54 #86. No number on this letter.)
Chocchuma Mifs Aug. 12th. 1836

D Sir

I find that an appropriation has been made for the removal of the Choctaw Indians West of the Mifsipsipi River, should the contract not have been taken, please communicate to me the requisitions of the Government &c on the subject, and I have no doubt that from my experience of Indian carresstor & thorough acquaintance with the Country generally that I shall be able to take the contract on such terms as will be satisfactory to the department for. Ability &c allow me to refer you to my friends E. B. Grayson Esq. Honbl Jno L Irwin Esq. Speaker Ho Rep. Mifs. or Genl. Greenwood Leflore former Chief &c

Respy Your Obt. Servt

Jno, J. Nicholson

Honbl C A Harrifs

Secretary of War.

Washington City

over

Chocchuma Aug. 16

Dear Sir:

I have had the pleasure of an acquaintance with Mr Nicholson since last December, and from that acquaintance I can reply recommend him to the Dept as a proper person to carry into effect the object of the Government for which the $50000 was appropriated viz - the removal of the Choctaws west of the Mifsipsippi. Mr Nicholson is the post master at this place, and has every way a fair and respectable standing.

very Respectfully

Yr obt. Servt & friend E B Grayson

(OIA: Choctaw(Emigr) File #7. Chocchuma, 8/12, 1836(#7) Nicholson, John S. Proposes to take a contract, etc.)
I have been anxiously expecting to hear that the annuity for this year to the Indians had been forwarded to Capt Brown. The season of the year for fall hunting is close at hand and the Indians are extremely importunate to receive their money before they set out on their fall hunts. I hope soon to hear that it is on the way. In looking over the appropriations for the Indian Dept as advertised in the newspapers I discover that Seven hundred & twenty dollars is allowed for Blacksmiths and Assistants. Heretofore the Blacksmiths that have found their own shops and tools have been paid Six hundred dollars and the Assistants two hundred & forty dollars. This is the provisions of the law of 1834 approved June 30th which gives to a Blacksmith four hundred & Eighty dollars and when they furnish their own shop and tools an addition of One hundred and twenty dollars. I have seen no law passed upon the subject since 1834. The Blacksmiths here furnish their own shops and tools and have received Six hundred dollars per annum. Although I have not been officially notified of these changes of appropriations but believing that it will produce some difficulty with the different Blacksmiths I have thought it proper to state the fact for the consideration of the Dept. I have not seen any appropriation for Coal for the different shops. This is an article extremely difficult to procure in the Indian Country where labour is very high.

Respectfully your Obt. servt.

Choctaw Agency

August 26th 1836

Carey A Harris Esqr

Comr of Ind. Affairs

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 23d July, enclosing an act of Congress in favor of Joseph Bogey for Six thousand dollars, for depredations committed by the Choctaws in the year 1807; and with directions to retain the above sum from the Choctaw annuity. I will endeavor to satisfy; and explain as far as I can, this act of Congress, to the Choctaws, at their General Council, the 1st Monday in October; which will probably be before or about the time Capt Brown will pay the annuity. I have named it to the principal Choctaws, that I have seen; and I am sorry to say, that they recieve it with great indignation, so much so, that I am not certain that they will recieve the balance of the Annuity, they say that it is twenty nine years since the depredation is charged to be committed, that they have made several solemn treatys since; and that they know nothing of it. I have told them that it is an Act of Congress; and if injustice has been done them, that upon a fair representation - Congress would probably relieve them, that this was their only alternative as the law must be obeyed; it is unfortunate that at this particular time, such an Act should have been passed, there is a general restlesnsnefs amongst the Indians, that has not as yet extended itself to the Choctaws, indeed I consider them as holding the balance of power amongst the different tribes, and should they change their feelings, it would soon bring about
serious difficulties. I can assure you that as unimportant as this Act of Congress may seem it will require great prudence to counteract its effect.

I will furnish the Revd Mr McCoy with the field notes &c., to enable him to survey the lands assigned the Cherokees under their late treaty.

I am also happy to be informed that one thousand dollars a year is appropriated for a Clerk in this office.

Respectfully
Your Obt Servt

Wm Armstrong
Act Supt West TerV

(OIA: Choctaw File (A21-23-34-63-80). Agency A34.)
Louisville, Kty, 16th Octr 1836

General,

I have received yours of the 3d instant and noted the contents-

I have been delayed here longer than I could have wished in consequence of a violent attack of inflammation in the eyes which, for a time, rendered me unable to write and delayed my making up any accounts for expenditures, on 2/c of the QM Department - I shall be enabled to leave this for the Choctaws in a few days, and will push the emigration to the utmost of my power -

I send you, herewith, a copy of the last letter rec'd from General Jesup relating to the removal of the Choctaw Indians, and I hear from numerous persons residing in the State of Missippippi that the General was correct in regard to the Indians being greatly scattered during the Cotton harvest --

Very respectfullly

Your obt Sert

J T Taylor

Capt & Comy of Sub.

General Geo Gibson

C G Sub.

(0IA: Choctaw (Emigr) File T 38-45-48-54 #86. Louisville, 10/16, 1836 #86.)
Van Buren Arkansas Octr 26 1836

Honbl Secretary of War

Sir

In the life time of Major Armstrong late Choctaw Agent we sold him for the use of Public Black Smith shop, for the benefit of the Choctaws, a Bill of Iron & steel amounting nearly to sum of $200-00 - the Major died before the settlement of the account, and when the present agent - Capt Armstrong arrived we placed the act in his hands (where they now remain) for settlement, he promised that the act would be settled in a very short time this has been upwards of Twelve months, and no settlement; and he now says he has no authority to settle the same, and does seem not even take the trouble to lay the matter before the Department our object is now that the department will order Capt Armstrong to take up the subject and have it investigated in order that we may receive our money so long detained, you will please answer this as early as practicable

Respectfully Your obt Servt

Pickett & Gregg

(0IA: Choctaw File Van Buren, 10/26, 1836 (P47) Pickett & Gregg. Request Capt. Armstrong may be directed, etc.)
Louisville 28 Octr 1836

General,

I have received yours of the 13th inst. calling for copies of all written instructions and verbal ones given me by Major General Jesup relating to the removal of the Choctaw Indians -- also when I obtained permission from the President at Nashville to proceed to Louisville to settle my accounts, whether or not I explained to him (the President) that I was under orders from General Jesup to repair to Misisipi to remove the Choctaw Indians --

I have the honor to send you herewith the desired copies of the several communications from General Jesup refering to the Choctaw removal - No. 1, 2, 3 & 4 - I had much conversation with Major General Jesup on the subject, also with Brig. General R Armstrong and it was the opinion of both those Gentlemen that little or nothing could be done as to the removal of the Indians whilst the Cotton harvest continued as they were generally employed to pick Cotton, and I was authorised by him (General Jesup) to proceed to Louisville for the purpose of settling my accounts, and unless which authority, I should have been compelled to leave the service to effect that object.

I met the President some 30 or 40 miles from Nashville on his way to visit the Lady of the late General Coffee, and I presented him with a communication from Brig General R Armstrong read after he had the communication, I also delivered to him a message from General Jesup and informed him that I had been ordered to Nashville on account of a call by Major General Gains on the
Governor of Tennessee for Troops, when he remarked that he had
countermanded the call of General Gains. I then remarked to
him that with his permission I would proceed to Louisville from
Nashville for the purpose of settling my accounts which he
granted, but remarked he wished me to hurry back as he was very
anxious for the War in Florida to be brought to a close - When
I informed him that was under orders for the purpose of remov­
ing the Choctaw Indians but do not recollect whether I informed
him that my order came from General Jesup or not, as he was
travelling and was to meet on that day his fellow citizens by
appointment at Columbia, Ten, and I did not communicate more than
I deemed necessary --

I regret, Sir, that I have been compelled to delay thus long
ere I entered upon the duty which was assigned me by Major Gen­
eral Jesup, and if I had not been afflicted with a severe and
protracted inflammation of the eyes, which rendered me incapable
of writing, I should have left this the first of the present
month for the Choctaw Indians

Your communication of the 13th Inst. found me here and
whether it would best meet your wishes that I remain at this
place to be relieved by Captain Phillips or proceed to the
Choctaw Nation and await there for him, I am at a loss, from
the nature of your communication to determine - Capt Phillips
has a Brother residing in this place who informed me on yester­
day that he understands his Brother, Capt. P., has but very
lately arrived in New York from the South and that his health
is very bad and is doubtful whether he is able to enter on the
duty assigned him, under these considerations I deem it best
to remain here for your further orders, and at the same time
take the liberty of remarking that if it meets with your appro-
bation, I shall most cheerfully enter on the duty as Superintend-
ant of the Choctaw removal and push it to the utmost of my
ability --

Very respectfully

Your Obt Servt

J T Taylor

Cap & Comy of Sub

General Geo Gibson

C.G.S

Washington City

(0IA: Choctaw (Emigr) File T 38-45-48-54 #86. Louisville,
10/28, 1836 (T38).
Choctaw Agency
24 Dec 1836.

C. A. Harris Esq.
Comm'r of Ind. Affrs

Sir

Upon my return here from Fort Gibson I find the delegation of Chickasaws mentioned in yours a short time since - I shall propose to them to go to Red river where the annuity will be paid to two district of Choctaws - and to endeavor to take over with me the Chief of this district with some of his leading Captains - and assemble the other two districts on Red river. I find great opposition to admitting the Chickasaws - but I hope something can be done - which will be acceptable to both parties

Respectfully

Your Obt servt

Wm Armstrong
Act Supt West Ter

Choctaw Agency
March 30th 1837

C. A. Harris Esqr
Comr Ind Affairs

Sir

The Choctaws wish me to inform the Department that they are aware the treaty provides for the erection of forts in their country - that they have no objection; and are willing that a reservation of a mile from the centre, each way, should be taken, so long as it shall be used for that purpose, but they object to the taking of any portion of their land, if the Fort is to be located on the line at Fort Smith, unless the nation shall be indemnified.

Respectfully

Your Obt Servant

Wm Armstrong
Act Supt. West. Ter. N

(0IA: Choctaw File A156. Agency 3/30,1837 (A156) Armstrong, Wm. Informs that the Choctaws are aware that their treaty provides for the erection of forts, etc.)
Sir.

When this place was taken possession of for Military purposes in the Summer of 1834—There were several Choctaw families residing in the immediate Vicinity, one of which cultivated Corn on a part of the ground now occupied as a Garden by the Troops of this Post, and within One hundred and fifty yards of the Fort, The public Horses and Oxen destroyed the Crop then growing before the corn became ripe, and the Indians claimed, and Received therefor, of the United States, the sum of twenty five Dollars — and Removal to an other place — Several other families who resided about a fourth of a mile from the Fort, remained until they gathered their Crops after which they all Removed for the Reason of being greatly annoyed by their contiguity to the Fort, on leaving the premises the most of them burned their Houses and fences one of the party however by the name of Lewis McCan did not burn either House or fence, but left them entirely waste, in which Situation they Remained undisturbed for near a year, when the Rails of the fence were Removed to the Fort, and applied to making the necessary enclosures arround it — Since which time McCan has come forward with a claim urged and Supported by the Chief of the District, for One hundred Dollars, for the improvement, and for damages sustained by him, in being compelled to Remove by Reason of the encroachment of the Troops so nearly upon him, This claim was first laid before the Agent Capt. WT Armstrong, who has Requested me to lay the case before the Department to which it most Properly belongs, with a view if pos-
sible to obtain for the Indians a Remuneration for their losses. I therefore beg leave to address you on the Subject believing that to be the proper channel through which the case should first pass from me - I am inclined to think that not only McCan, but all of the other Choctaws who have Removed under similar circumstances should be Remunerated by the Government of the U.S. for the losses - which they sustained in their Removal. The land they Occupied is very Rich and their Situations were very desirable--

I will be extremely thankful for early advice on this subject, in Order that I may be able to inform the Agent and the Indians of what they may depend upon --

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Yr. Obt. Sert.

John Stuart

Capt 7th Inf'y

Genl. R. Jones

Adjutant Genl.

U. S. Army.

(COPY)

Choctaw Agency 15th August 1837

To
Capt William Armstrong
Choctaw Agent &
Capt R D C Collins
Princpl Dis§ Agt

Friends & Brothers

We have considered upon the proposition made by the Secretary of War, through you, to furnish us goods for our annuities, purchased at the lowest prices in the Eastern Cities,

We are now settled and cultivating the soil, and raising stock, and our wants are numerous, and like those of the Citizens of the United States, we require all the kinds of goods and groceries that are used by the citizens of Arkansas, and prefer our annuities in money to enable us to purchase these things which are too numerous and various for the Department to buy in the Eastern cities and bring to us, besides receiving our Annuities in goods would break up our traders who are settled amongst us to furnish not only goods, but a market for our skins, peltries, stock &c, and whatever we may have to offer for market.

Under these circumstances we consider that it would be improper in us to receive anything but money for our annuity

Thomas Lafl ore
Net,u,cha,chee
Joseph Kincaid

(Chiefs)

(OIA: Choctaw File A259-293 12/ , 1837, (A293) Armstrong, Wm. Choctaws desire their annuities in money; give their reasons.)
Choctaw Agency 25th Augst. 1837

Sir

In consequence of my absence to Fort Towson where I have been engaged in attending the annuity to the Choctaws, I did not receive your communication of the 22nd July until my return today. I will in a few days see the Chiefs of the Choctaws and communicate the wishes of the Government, in employing two hundred warriors, against the Seminoles of Florida. I regret exceedingly that I had not have been permitted to accompany the Choctaws, and to have commanded the detachment. If I did not believe that it would be there unanimous wish that I should do so, I would not make the request. I have known them intimately for several years, having emigrated them to there present residence, and acted as there Agent, and I hope it will not be considered vanity in me, to say that however patriotic the Choctaws may be, and strongly attached to the Government of the United States, they might feel great reluctance to going to Florida unlefs I went along. I beg leave to refer you to Mr. Harris the Comissioner of Indian Affairs Maj'r Lewis or the late President of the United States, as to my ability to discharge the duty to which I aspire, I am not advised of the wishes or feelings of the Choctaws in regard to there going to Florida, but I have no doubt, had I been authorized to say to them that I would accompany them, that a much larger number might have been procured, and my fear is that they will not wish to go with so few in the party. In the mean time
I shall endeavor to carry the views of the Government into effect.

Respectfully

Yr. Ob't Serv't.

Wm Armstrong
Act. Supt. West'n Ter'y

Hon'l J. R. Poinsett
Secretary of War.

(OIA: Choctaw File A244-280. Agency 8/25, 1837 (A244) Armstrong, Wm. Wishes to accompany company of 200 Choctaws enlisting for services against Seminoles in Florida.)
Choctaw Agency  
10th Nov. 1837  

C. A. Harris, Esq,
Comm'r of Ind. Affrs

Sir

In the last communication I had the honor to address the Dept.- I expected then to have gone to Florida with the Choctaw Volunteers - but in consequence of a communication just rec'd from the Secretary of War, in which he says a mistake was made in the amount I was authorized to offer to the Warriors for six months service in Florida - that instead of $270 it should of been but $71-22¢ for six months - There is now here five hundred Warriors mustered into service- under the order of 22d July - from the War Dept.- there answer will be given me in the morning - as to whether they will go on or remain - some of those Indians have already marched. One hundred & thirty miles - and are greatly dissatisfied - at the change in there pay. I am confident that not one will go on - and of course I shall remain and attend to my duties here - I have never seen the Choctaws so highly excited - as they are on this occasion - when I receive their answer I will communicate to the Dept.

Respectfully your
most Obt Servt

Wm Armstrong
Act. Supt W. T.

(OIA: Choctaw File A-244-290. Agency 11/10, 1837 (A280). Armstrong, Wm. Notified of mistake in amt, offered to Choctaws, etc.)
Sir,

M[.] H. G. Rind, one of the district Teachers in the Choctaw Nation, having filed in this office his request that a portion of his salary be paid, monthly, to M[.] W[.] A. Rind, his father, living in the District of Columbia, and being willing to comply with his wishes, I have to request that you make the necessary entry in the books of your office, and give the requisite notice to the disbursing officer, so that M[.] Rind be paid $133.33 only, instead of $208.33, his quarterly allowance; it will be requisite, however, that M[.] Rind give a receipt each quarter for the whole amount of the last mentioned sum. The disbursing Agent Capt Collins, will be charged with the portion ($75) paid here, and credited with the whole sum receipted for by M[.] Rind

Very respectfully

Yr. Mo. Ob[.] Sert

C. A Harris

Comr

Capt W[.] Armstrong

Choctaw Agency

West Missi:

Fort Coffee
6th March 1838

Capt. W. Armstrong
Actg Supt. W. T.

Sir

The Military road leading from Fort Smith to Horse Prairie, was opened in the spring and summer of 1832, and a ferry was soon afterwards established on the Porteau river, by Thomas Wall a Choctaw, who for the purpose, located himself at Fort Smith.

In the spring of the year 1833, I was ordered to reoccupy when Fort Smith with a Company of the 7th Infantry, I found Wall at that place in possession of the ferry at the crossing of the Military road on the Porteau river, within two hundred yards of Fort Smith, he also occasionally crossed persons over the Arkansas, shifting his Boat from the one river to the other, around Belle point, on which Fort Smith was situated, and within the Choctaw Nation; I also understood not only from Mr. Wall himself, but from others that he claimed the point at Fort Smith, by right of occupancy, which right according to the best of my belief has never been relinquished.

The re-occupancy of Fort Smith, could not have been considered as dispossessing him of his right of occupancy, unless he had have been paid for the same which was not done, and the troops only claimed the space occupied and enclosed by them which did not cover either the ferry on the Arkansas, or on the Porteau, and when the troops abandoned the position, in the summer of 1834, the whole possession again reverted to Wall,
who has held a claim to it, ever since, and I am clearly of the opinion that he is as much entitled to an occupancy there, as any other Choctaw is to any other position within the country, where he did not actually reside and cultivate, Wall did not within the last few years reside at Fort Smith, but he had the position held, and occupied, by his agent or tenant.

I am Sir

Very Respectfully

Yr. Obt. Sert

John Stuart

Capt 7" Inf

(0IA: Choctaw File H341 Washington, 5/4,1838 (H341) Harkins, Jones & Juzan Delegation. Inc. letter from Capt. John Stuart to Capt. Armstrong, etc.)
Washington City April 7, 1838.

C. A. Harris Esqr.
Com.mr. of Ind. Affrs

Sir. The undersigned, have had the pleasure of an Introduction to you by our Agent Capt William Armstrong - by whom you have been informed of our appointments as delegates by the Choctaw General Council; to lay before the proper department claims which our nation and people have against the government of the United States - In accordance with our instructions - we beg leave first to submit to you the papers in relation to the claim of Joseph Bogy which has been taken from the Choctaw annuity by an act of Congress and the money paid to Joseph. Bogy - It is unnecessary at this time perhaps to say much about this claim - We cannot however forbear, mentioning the fact, that after a lapse of twenty nine years, from the time the depredation was charged to have been committed - this claim is brought before Congress - and as you are already aware Six Thousand dollars of our annuity has been taken from our people,- without giving them an opportunity of being heard - We therefore look to the Government of the United States, to do us that justice which we are entitled to receive - The enclosed statements made by those of our people, now living who were present, at the time the depredation was said to have been committed, is the best evidence we have to offer - One of them is an old Chief, whose character for honesty and fidelity is unquestioned by those who know him, - such is indeed is the character of all whose statements are enclosed. We respectfully request, after you shall have examined the papers in relation to this claim
that you will either send it to Congrefs or give us your friendly advise as to what course we should pursue

Respectfully your most Obt Servants

George W. Harkins

R. M. Jones

Pierre Juzan

(©IA: Choctaw File H317. Washington, 4/7, 1838 (H317)
Delegation. Submit statement by Mu-shu-la-tub-bee and others of their nation, etc.)
Washington City April 20th, 1838

C. A Harris esqr

Com. Ind. Affairs

Sir,

It is stipulated under the 15th Article of the Treaty concluded with our people at dancing Rabbit Creek, that whenever the Choctaws shall elect a 4th Chief, to superintend and govern upon republican principles, he shall receive annually for his services Five Hundred dollars, for twenty years - Now the Choctaws have established a republican form of government, and are in a state of improvement, and only need qualified and efficient men, to conduct the affairs of the nation, to become, at no remote period, an interesting and prosperous people — We therefore respectfully request in behalf of our Nation, that the government will grant the Choctaws, the pay of the 4th Chief, as an inducement for suitable persons to aspire to the office of Chief, which amount, to be equally divided amongst the three Chiefs of the Nation — Agreeably to our instructions we beg leave to state to the department, that the Choctaws do not wish a mill wright sent amongst them, as promised under the 20th Article of the Treaty at Dancing Rabbit Creek. - They have not the means to purchase the necessary materials to erect mills in the Nation, and no individual is willing to furnish them, at his own expense, and have a mill built, which in part, would be subject to the claims of the public - We therefore hope the government will allow the Choctaws the money in lieu of the services of the mill wright, to be subject to the disposal of the General Council —
We have also been instructed by our people to call the attention of the department to the 17th Article of said Treaty which stipulates that after their first years removal to the west, ten Thousand dollars should be divided amongst such, as received no reservations under the Treaty— as they assert it was misinterpreted to them at the treaty and they universally understood, that the government would pay the amount, independent of the twenty thousand dollars allowed for twenty years—and as the amount has been taken from what they considered their annuity, to pay their own people, they hope the government will do them the justice to allow them the additional amount of ten Thousand Dollars. The majority of the Choctaw people, have expressed a wish, that the clause under the 13th Article of the late Treaty, which stipulates that the Agent shall fix his residence convenient to the great body of the people; be carried into effect as early as practicable.

The clause under the 20th article of said treaty which provides that the United States shall erect a house for each Chief; has caused much doubt and enquiry amongst our people, and they wish to know whether those houses were designed to be the private property of the treaty making Chiefs, or as public buildings, to them and their successors in office— In order therefore to put this question to rest, we respectfully request the decision of the department— Also for the satisfaction of our people we hope the department will inform us, what quantity of lands have been set a part under the 6th Section of the 19th Article of the treaty, for the benefit of orphan children of
the Choctaw Nation, and what disposition has been made of them; and beg leave to state to the department, that those orphans are much in need of assistance from some source or other, and it is very important that those lands be disposed of, and the proceeds applied as soon as possible for their relief—

The Choctaws are anxious to receive the balance of the wheels and looms due them under the 20th Article of the treaty, as early as possible, but if it is not convenient, or in the power of the Government to furnish them soon, they will be satisfied to receive the money in lieu thereof, and employ native mechanics themselves or apply it to some other beneficial purpose in the country.

Your early attention and reply to the above Interrogatories, will confer a great favour on the undersigned—

We have the honour to be, very respectfully your most obedient Servants

George W Harkins
Pierre Juzan
R. M. Jones
Choct. Delegation

(OIA: Choctaw Fils H329. Washington, 4/20, 1838 (H329) Harkins, Geo. & others, Choctaw Delegation. Request in behalf of the Nation that the Government will grant them the pay of a 4th Chief, etc.)
C. A. Harris esqr  
Com Ind. Affairs

Sir. We beg leave to submit to you the enclosed letter from Capt. John Stuart commanding officer at Fort Coffee to William Armstrong Supt W. T. in relation to the claim of Mr Thomas Wall a Choctaw, for the point of land occupied by him adjoining the Arkansas line on the river, and lately purchased by the United States from Capt Rogers for a post - If we are correctly informed the government intend to erect a Fort on the land purchased of Capt Rogers, and may probably design to take possession of the point of land occupied by Mr Wall between the purchase and the Porteau River - We are aware the United States, by the 11th Article of the treaty of 1830 have the right to establish military posts within the Nation, but as this Fort will probably be within the State of Arkansas - the question arises have the government the right to use any portion of the Indian country for military posts, unless the same, be according to the treaty. In the case however of Fort Smith, it is an individual occupancy - and if the fort should find it to their advantage to occupy the point within the Choctaw line, we hope Mr Wall, will be compensated for his right of occupancy - If however we are correct in our views, we do not see how the government can establish a military post within the State of Arkansas and use any portion of our country in connection therewith - The article alluded to was indirectly intended for forts in the Indian country - It may be well to remark that the 18th Article
of the same treaty agrees "that in the construction of this treaty, whenever well founded doubts arise it shall be con-
strued most favourably to the Choctaws We ask the favour
of an early reply to this, as we expect to leave in a day or
two

Very respectfully your
Most obt Servants
R M Jones
Geo. W Harkins
Pierre Juzan
Choctaw Delegation

Harkins, Jones & Juzan Delegation. Inc. letter from Capt
John Stuary to Capt. Armstrong, etc.)
Pontotoc

Mississippi 4th May 1838

Hon. C. A. Harris

Indian Department

Sir

As I have not the honour of your acquaintance, or of any correspondence with the department over which you preside, I much fear you will think me rather intrusive in thus addressing you, but the subject upon which I write being of important interest to me & which I respectfully submit to your consideration, will I trust in some degree excuse me --

On my return home to Holly Springs from the West of Arkansas where I have been engaged during the winter as Medical Director in the Chickasaw Emigration, I received a letter from my friend & relation, the Hon. Andrew Bevine, enclosing me a copy of a letter from you to Capt T. S. Crofts, Williamston Miss. informing or directing that Gentleman to employ me as medical Director to the Choctaw emigration now under his Superintendence & althq the copy of the letter is dated so far back as the 3rd of January last, yet I have had no communication directly or indirectly from Capt C on the subject, I understand he is now west of Arkansas with a party of emigrating Choctaws & as I am with the Captain totally unacquainted & not knowing whether he rec'd your letter or not, may I respectfully solicit from the Department such information & instructions as it may deem necessary - I have been here some time together with Mr. Brook & Colonel Upshaw collecting all we can of the balance of the Chickasaws, We hope to be able to make a start for the West by the first of next month -
Permit me now Sir, to return you my sincere thanks & to express my grateful acknowledgements for this mark of kindness & attention & to assure you that no exertion of mine shall be wanting to fulfill the duties of the appointment you have given me with satisfaction to the Indians, and I trust & hope with the approbation of the Department,-

I have the Honour to be

Most respectfully

Your most obd Servt

J. Walker

We expect to be at Memphis in about five weeks from this time on our way West & at Little Rock, Ark, about two weeks after- I hope to hear from the Department on receipt of this - at either of the above places.

(OIA: Choctaw (Emigr) File W505. Pontotoc, 5/4, 1838. Walker, Dr. J. (Says on his return from Ark. he recd. letter from Hon. A. Beirne, etc.)
Little Rock


Thos. Irwin Esqr.

Dr Sir,

The Steam Boat. Erin passed here yesterday with about 200. Choctaws on Board

Having no information relative to the manner by which they are to be subsisted after their arrival West - As a matter of Justice to the Govt. and to the Indians I deem it but right that the Indians for the time being (or until I can hear from the Com^r) should not want food - I must therefore particularly request you and Mr Kingsbury (to whom I have Just written.) to attend particularly to this matter

I of course will be responsible for such rations as they may absolutely require to support them until they can make some arrangement to support themselves, or until I can hear from Washington - As there is no appropriation for the Subs^t of those people you will be extremely particular. not to give them more than absolutely necessary to keep them from. want.

R D C. Collins
Capt U.S.A

(OIA: Western Supt's File (Emigr.) Little Rock.)
Nunnawah Council Ground

October 11th 1838.

To
Capt W W Armstrong
Choctaw Agent.

Sir

We the undersigned Chiefs and Councilmen in General Council assembled, have learnt that the Troops stationed in the State of Arkansas near Fort Smith, have crossed over the line into our country and cutting and destroying the timber in our nation and have also taken possession of a ferry and point of land at Fort Smith occupied and possessed by one of our citizens M° Thomas Wall. Now we cannot see by what authority those encroachments are made on our rights, by a Military Post Established within the limits of the State of Arkansas.

We are aware the Treaty concluded with our people at Dancing Rabet Creek gives the United States the right to Establish Military Posts in our Country to which we have no objections, but we cannot view the course taken in any other light than an assumption of power not granted in any Treaty stipulation. Therefore we hope you will take the necessary measures to represent to the proper Department that we expect the Government to compensate our injured citizen M° Wall for his possession at Fort Smith, and to make good the damages done to our people by cutting the destroying timber in our country.

We are very Respectfully
Your friend

(signed) Pierre Juzan Chief
John McKinney

Oak char yar

P.P. Pitchlynn Speaker of the house

David Folsom

Jeremiah Folsom

Thomas Hays

George Hudson

John Lake

Nat Jones

Allen Carney

Pis turnbee

Willis Stull

Samuel Worcester

John Q. Adams

David McCoy

Cha ta ma ta ha

John Hoomah

Nuch ho ma ha jo

Posh ho ha cubbee

Ho pi o cha hubbee

Chief

Speaker

Chief

Speaker of the house
Tush co lut tah  x
mark

E yar sha ho pi ya  x
mark

Adam Folsom
Andrew Jackson
Charles Tapen.
Nat Folsom

Robt M Jones
Joseph Riddle
William Riddle
Peter Folsom
Adam Lucas

(OIA: Choctaw File A488. Choctaw Agy. 10/29, 1838 (A488)
Armstrong, Wm. Forwards copy of a communication from Choctaw
chiefs, etc.)
Washington Jan 16th 1871

Hon. E. S. Parker

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Sir: I am this morning in receipt of a letter from
Boggy Depot Choctaw Nation, in which it is stated that
Agent Griffith has made application for funds to establish
a new Agency for Choctaws and Chickasaws at or near Bogy
Depot, and has related two reservations, but leaves the
decision to yourself; and requesting that I would furnish
such information on the subject as my familiarity with the
neighborhood enables to do. I have heard of only two loca-
tions - one at the old town called Boggy Depot and other
near the Newtown - or South Bogy Depot. The old place is
the water of
sandy and unhealthy, and, all the wells, (of which there
quite a number), without exception I believe, are quite
salty. The new town or South Bogy Depot is situated on a
high plateau, partly timbered and partly prairie - Where
the location
the water is good and healthy, between the two places, on
the road from Sherman Texas to Fort Smith & Fort Gibson
about 4th of a mile south of old Boggy Depot. This is a
beautiful location for an Agency, on a high rocky hill,
but not difficult of access, in a fine grove of timber
and having prairie on three sides of it. And if I were
called upon to locate the Agency I should prefer that to
any other near Boggy Depot. It is near enough for the
convenience of transacting business with the people of
both Towns, and is on the main thoroughfare thro the Indian from Baxter Springs to Texas Country from Fort Smith to Texas - and, And, is in the forks of the two roads leading acrofs Clear Bogy Creek - one by way of Old Bogy Depot the other crosfing below, about two miles where there is no Swamp on the south side of the Creek, which is a large one - and but little on the North side. There are bridges at both Crofsings. but at the upper one there is swamp which in wet weather becomes Very boggy for a mile or thereabouts on each side of the Stream. Just below the upper bridge, too - Delaware Creek empties into Boggy - & in high water Delaware Creek, in consequence of a sluise from Boggy into it - becomes as difficult to crosf as the Boggy Creek - and frequently travellers after crosfing boggy - going South, cannot crosf Delaware Creek & are forced to remain at the Toll house until the Creek runs down.

The lower Bridge crosfes Boggy about a mile below the mouth of Delaware and also below the mouth of Sandy Creek - and will in my opinion be the principally travelled route as soon as ample supplies of provisions are prepared for Sale at South Bogy Depot for the immense number of emigrants who pafs through to Texas. This will I think better mail route. soon as accommodations are provided. For the above reasons I have no hesitation in exprefing the opinion that as a permanent location - the site herein described, between the two Towns is the most eligible in the neighborhood -
considering health and the convenience of people likely to have business at the Agency.

I am Sir, Very respectfully

Douglas H. Cooper

(OIA: Choctaw G-39. 1871.)
"Net proceeds fund" Claim
of the Choctaws $2,981.247.30

Abstract of an investigation and report by Mr. Bartlett
of the Land Division, Indian
Office in 1876

At time of the Treaty of 1783 Choctaws were in possession
of the territory now known as State of Mississippi. The
treaty reserved a certain part of the land, to the Choctaws, upon which to live and hunt,

By the treaties of 1801, 1803, 1805, 1816 the US. became
repofsefsed of large tracts of the land reserved under
treaty of 1783, giving the Indians therefor money con-
sideration

By the treaty of 1820. In consideration of the cession of
their right to 4,150,000 acres in Mifs; the U.S. reserved
for the Choctaws, 15,000,000 acres between Arkansas & Red
Rivers, as their home. The treaty provided a reservation
of 54 square miles in Mifsissippi the proceeds of the sales
of which were to be applied to the education of such of the
Choctaws as chose to remain in Mifs; with the promise to
become citizens; and for those who preferred to live under
the laws of Mifsissippi, separate settlements were provided -
consisting of a tract of one mile square, including improvements for each.

By the treaty of 1825 The Choctaws re-ceded to the U.S. a part of the lands (the 15,000,000 tract) reserved for them by the treaty of 1820, which ceded part was found to be within the Territory of Arkansas and for which reception the U.S. gave them $6,000 annually, forever.

By the treaty of 1830. The Choctaws ceded their right to 10,423,130 acres in Mifsipsippi, in consideration of which, the US. gave to them a fee simple title to the 15,000,000 acres (lefs that part receded as being in the Territory of Arkansas) reserved previously by the treaty of 1820 for their occupancy and use; also $20,000 annually. To those who desired to remain in Mifsipsippi subject to the local laws of the State, giving due notice thereof, this treaty by the 14th article provided a special reservation of 640 acres to each head of a family for himself; one half that quantity for each child over ten years of age & a quarter section to each child under 10; a residence upon such special reservation entitled the reservee to a grant in free simple to the land. About 150 heads of families representing about 1000, it was then estimated (by (Commrs) would remain; the Choctaws claimed 200 heads of families; the number increased to more than 14000. This provision was the cause of great trouble and discontent; frauds were commit-
ted; finally a settlement of the difficulty was made by granting reservations to 143. heads of families, amounting to 334,101. acres; and under the act of Congress of 1842 it was provided that scrip to amount of $877,900 Should be paid to satisfy one half of the amount of each Claim additional to this 143. heads of families. Furthermore, in 1852 an appropriation of $872,000 was made to be accepted by the Choctaws as a release all claims under the 14 article of the treaty of 1830, and which was accepted by their authorized agents Nov 6- 1852

In November 1853 Choctaw Delegates appeared before the Government with a Claim to lands which they had abandoned east of the Mifsifsipi river, based upon the fact asserted by them, that a large number of claims under the 14th Article of the treaty of 1830 had been rejected; and it would appear that from this time (In 1853) forth the Choctaws claim that the 18th Article of said treaty by which the US. pledged the lands, ceded in Mifsifsi, as security for the money stipulated to be paid to the Choctaws, was in effect a pledge to pay them the net proceeds of the lands Sold in Mifsifsipi; this claim was rejected.

In 1855 The question was reopened by the effort of the U.S. to make a treaty in the interest of the Chickasaws, so that
they should be made independent of the Choctaws & have lands of their own; this was effected, the Choctaws releasing a part of their land in the Indian territory for the purpose and receiving in consideration therefor $600,000. The Choctaws in the negotiations labored to have their claim to the net proceeds recognized in this treaty, but in vain;

Treaty of 1855 they however consented to a provision in the treaty to have the question submitted to the see US Senate - Article 11. Article 12 of this treaty provides that whether the Senate shall award them the "net proceeds", or a sum in grofs, the amount shall be accepted in full settlement of tribal and individual claims &c.

On the 18 March 1856 the Senate referred the Subject of the Claim to the "net proceeds" to their Committee on Indian Affairs. Owing to difficulty in obtaining correct and trustworthy information, delay of action occurred and it was not until the 15 FebY 1859 that the Committee finally reported. March 9, 1859 the Senate adopted resolutions, to the effect that the Choctaws be allowed the proceeds of such lands in their cession as had been sold up to the 1st of January 1859, deducting the cost of survey &c, and estimating the sale price at the rate of $125 per acre; that they be allowed $2 ½ cents per acre for the residue of the lands; that the SecY of the Interior cause a report to be made to Congrefs of the amount due the Choctaws, according to the principles of settlement in the case thus adopted.

*(Quere)
In May 1860 The Secretary of the Interior reported that the proceeds of the lands sold up to January 1, 1859 amounted to $7,556,578.05; and the residue of lands unsold, at 12½ cents per acre, amounted, $522,046.75, or a total of $8,078,614.80, from which he deducted amount fixed under the treaty of 1830, and for selling and surveying the land $5,097,367.50 The amount contemplated by the Senate award would therefore be $2,981,247.30. The Secretary of the Interior at the same time reminded Congress that the Choctaws received $530,000 for part of their land in the Indian Territory, to the Chickasaws and for another part leased under the treaty of 1855, they received $600,000 - which sums he deemed justly should be deducted making the amount of the award $1,851,247.30.

This report was not acted upon by the House of Representatives; but the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in June 1860 reported a bill proposing to award to the Choctaws $2,332,560.85. The Senate did not act upon the bill. During the same session Mr. Sebastian, Chairman of the Committee offered the substance of it as an amendment to the appropriation bill (Indian), which the Senate rejected.

At the next session an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill (Indian) was adopted by the March 1861 Senate allowing the Choctaws $1,202,560.80, which amendment was rejected by the House of Representatives. A second Conference Committee of the two branches of Congress agreed upon a compromise which was accepted.
to the effect that $500,000 be paid to the Choctaws, one half to be paid in money, and one half in United States bonds to be issued by the SecY of the Treasury - $250,000 in money has been paid. The bonds for $250,000 have not been as yet issued, (June 1876)

Act of Congress July 5, 1862 declared all appropriations or acts for aiding Indians should be suspended at the discretion of the President.

Congress March, 1865 enacted that in lieu of bonds authorized to be issued by act of 1861, the SecY of the Treasury should pay to the Secretary of the Interior $250,000 for the relief of members of the Choctaws and other tribes, who had been persecuted and driven from their homes for their loyalty to the U.S. - and this amount was so paid

Choctaw treaty of 1866 that all rights and immunities heretofore held by the Choctaw and other tribes, and individuals, or to which they were entitled under treaties and legislation heretofore made, are to be in full force if not inconsistent with this treaty.

From that time (1866) until now effort has been made constantly to have the Treasury issue the bonds for $250,000; and to obtain an appropriation of the full amount of the "net proceeds" as awarded by the Senate in 1859. The SecY, of the
Treasury refused to issue the bonds for the reason that by the Suspension Act of July 5, 1862, and the Act of March 3, 1865, (see above) his authority in the premises was taken away. The Attorney General, however, subsequently (in 1870) gave the opinion that the treaty of 1866 reinstated the Secretary with the power conferred by the Act of 1861; but in 1871, the issuing of the bonds was enjoined by parties who have claims against the Choctaws' agents - and this is the Status of the Controversy on that point at the present time.

In May 1868 Mr. Butler of the Committee on Indian Affairs in the House of Reps reported in favor of the appropriation of $2,332,561, the sum fixed by the Committee.

In July 1868 the House Committee on Indian Affairs through Mr Windom reported in favor of that Sum.

In June 1870 the Senate Judiciary Committee proposed to fund the balance of the Claim fixing it at the same amount.

In 1871. Mr Harlan of Senate Committee Indian Affairs and Mr Shanke of same Committee of the House of Reps reported in favor of the same amount.

In the House of Reps on 19 January, 1875, Mr Comings moved as

(Quere) is this right) /referring to asterisk above/
an amendment to the Indian appropriation bill then under consideration by Committee of the Whole, a section providing for the payment of $2,981,247.30 to the Choctaws in settlement of the net proceeds claim, the sum awarded by the Senate. On the 20th January the amendment was amended and the sum fixed at $2,332,561. Upon being brought before the House, the measure was defeated by a vote of years and nays.

Review by Mr. Barttell

1-. By the treaties between the Choctaws and the U.S. previous to 1860, the land the Choctaws occupied was kept in reserve as a temporary hunting ground and abiding place, to which no title was given, except such as would be given to tenants at will.

2-. That whenever the U.S. made payments to the Choctaws for their lands in Mifsipsipii, it was simply in consideration of a release of temporary privileges.

3-. That so far as the treaties of 1820 and 1830 were not fulfilled, the cause lay in the failure of the Choctaws to accept in good faith the provisions which were intended to civilize and make citizens of Such of them as chose to remain in Mifsipsipii.

4-. That the reservation under the treaty of 1820 and the grant in fee simple to 15,000,000 acres made in the treaty
of 1830, was a perfect and complete consideration for the
in Mifs.,
lands, abandoned and ceded to the U.S.

5. That the reservation Articles (14th 15th) in the treaty
of 1820 were faithfully observed by the United States and
that the allowances to "Heads of families" were extended
far beyond the honest requirement of the rule, and beyond
the demand of the Choctaws themselves

6. That the payment of money to the Choctaws under the
settlement act of 1852 and their receipt in formal re-
lease of claims therein covered, effectually bars all individ-
ual claimants under the treaty of 1830, while the Claim to
the net proceeds under the pledge of the Mifsipsippi lands
as security for similar obligations, arises from a misappre-
hension of the nature of a mortgage.

7. That the Senate Award of 1859 under the treaty of 1855,
was made hastily without a full knowledge of the facts as
is plainly shown by the Subsequent and repeated acts of the
Senate in substantially revoking its own award; and in the
House of Reps. in refusing to recognize it.

8. That there was no justification for the appropriation
of $500,000 in 1861 for the benefit of the Choctaws Save as
an act of Charity to a tribe in need but of general good
character
9. That the treaty of 1866 affirming all obligations of treaties and Acts of Congress previous to the rebellion, did not give force to the award of 1859. Since that award had not legally become a part of the treaty of 1855.

10. That the repeated Acts and uniform action of Congress in rejecting the net proceeds claim as such totally and in part whenever it has been discussed and brought to a vote, is significant of its character and ought to be decisive against its further consideration.

11. That every obligation of the U.S. to the Choctaws under the several treaties involved in the question considered has been fulfilled: the net proceeds claim never had any validity: the appropriation of $500,000 should be regarded as a gratuity; and the present memorialist should have leave to withdraw.

Indian Office
Nov. 1875

W.B.W

(OIA: Choctaw B. 18½ (1876))
The Honorable,  
The Secretary of the Interior,  
SIR:  

With a view to carrying out the instructions of the Department, contained in its letter of July 2, 1903, (I.T.D. 4630, 5262-1903) the Commission, on July 3rd, directed Mr. H. Van V. Smith to proceed at once to the State of Mississippi, there to superintend the work of aiding indigent and identified full-blood Mississippi Choctaws in removing to Indian Territory. A copy of the instructions given Mr. Smith was, on July 24th, transmitted to the Department.

I now have the honor to quote below, reports made by the Commission's Special Agent, Mr. Smith, under date of July 29th and August 8th, which will serve to acquaint the Department to a degree with what is being done in the premises:
"Meridian, Mississippi, July 29, 1903.

Commission to the
Five Civilized Tribes,
Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to instructions of the Commissioner in Charge, dated July 23, 1903, directing me to "proceed at once to the State of Mississippi to carry out and superintend measures in aid of indigent and identified Mississippi Choctaws, who desire to remove to the Indian Territory within the six months from the date of their identification as provided by law", I have the honor to submit herewith report of conditions as I find them to date, with brief account of the action I have so far taken under said instructions.

To all those identified full-blood Mississippi Choctaws, whose six months' limit expires Friday, August 14, I have mailed letters in the following language:

"Meridian, Mississippi, July 27, 1903.

Dear Sir:

Under instructions from the Secretary of the Interior, through the Dawes Commission, I am now in Meridian, Mississippi, for the purpose of aiding indigent and identified fullblood Mississippi Choctaw Indians to remove to the Indian Territory, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Congress of March 3, 1903.

On February 14, 1903, you were identified by the Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes as a full-
blood Mississippi Choctaw. The six months provided by law, within which you may remove to and make settlement in the Choctaw-Chickasaw country, expires on Friday, August 14, 1903.

Therefore, if you wish to acquire lands in the Indian Territory, but are in destitute circumstances and do not have the money to take you there, you are requested to call on me or write to me immediately at Meridian, Mississippi, and I will at once investigate your condition and provide free transportation and free rations as your status and circumstances may justify and require.

Prompt action in your case is absolutely necessary as the six months' limit has nearly expired. It is desired that all identified fullblood Mississippi Choctaws, shall avail themselves of this effort of the government's to assist them in getting their Indian rights.

A special train will leave Meridian, Mississippi, for the Indian Territory, on Wednesday, August 12, 1903, and if you wish to go, you must be in Meridian on Tuesday, August 11th.

In replying to this letter use the enclosed envelope which does not require a postage stamp.

Very respectfully,

H. Van V. Smith,
Special Agent of the
United States Government
I have scattered broadcast in the sections where the full-blood identified Mississippi Choctaws live special notices, of which the following is a copy:

"SPECIAL NOTICE

TO

FULL-BLOOD MISSISSIPPI CHOCTAWS.

Under instructions from the Secretary of the Interior through the Dawes Commission, I have been charged with the expenditure of the $20,000 appropriated by Congress to aid indigent full-blood Mississippi Choctaws who have been identified as full-blood Mississippi Choctaws by the Commission, and who desire to remove to the Indian Territory within the six months after the date of their identification as provided by law.

I have lists of all identified fullblood Mississippi Choctaws. With many of them the six months will soon be passed.

Those identified full-blood Mississippi Choctaws who wish to go to the Indian Territory, are requested to call on me or write to me immediately at Meridian Mississippi, and I will go at once investigate their condition and provide free transportation and free rations as their status and circumstances may justify and require.

Prompt action is necessary for those whose six months' limit has nearly expired and it is desired for all who wish to avail themselves of this effort of the government's to assist in getting their Indian rights.
None but identified full-blood Mississippi Choctaws are included in this notice.

Meridian Mississippi, July 27, 1903,

H. Van V. Smith,
Special Agent of the United States Government."

Address, Meridian, Mississippi.

As an additional means of disseminating this news among the Indians, I have secured the services of five competent men who are thoroughly familiar with leading fullblood Choctaws in this community, and have dispatched them to the Interior with instructions to explain to the identified fullbloods the benevolent nature of the government's offer, and that I am here for the purpose of extending to the indigent ones, on behalf of the United States, such aid as may be necessary to assist them in getting their Indian rights.

For this purpose, I estimate the cost to the government of $500,000 to August 14th.

Under separate cover I report names and compensation of those whom I have employed to date.

I am informed by the railroad companies that contractors so called have removed to the Territory about eleven hundred Indians, both full and mixed blood, and that they expect to move a thousand or more between now and fall.

I have information also that some twenty-five or thirty Indians who had gone to the Territory in the spring and early summer have returned and reported to their neighbors that
there is a great scarcity of water in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations, and advised them not to go. These particular Indians it is reported, were landed at or near Ardmore and were pretty roughly treated.

It has occurred to me that it would be a good idea during the summer months, to land the Indians at Tishomingo where there is an abundant supply of good water. In Mississippi these Indians are accustomed to good water and plenty of it, and, I understand, they enquire particularly as to this feature when talking among themselves and with white people here about going to the Indian Territory. Should the Commission wish to give any specific instructions on this subject I shall be pleased to govern myself accordingly; otherwise arrangements will be perfected to land the Indians at such points in the Choctaw-Chickasaw country as may be found most feasible, expense, time and other conditions to be duly considered.

My head quarters in Meridian will be at the Federal Building where I occupy the same quarters heretofore used by the Commission.

Very respectfully,

H. Van V. Smith,
Special Agent of the
United States Government.

"Meridian, Mississippi, August 8, 1903.

Commission to the Five Civilized Tribes,

Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the fol-
lowing telegram of the Commissioner in Charge, dated August 7, 1903, which was delivered late yesterday afternoon:

"No report from you as to approximate number you expect to bring or date or place of arrival. Commission should be advised as to this at once; should brought to either Tishomingo or Atoka. If not attended by too much expense it would be bet-
ter to land them in Tishomingo."

Following is a copy of my reply:

"Telegram received. From present indications expect to move four hundred next Wednesday. Speculators have caused considerable uncertainty among Indians as to Government's real purpose, which has delayed es-
timates of number to go, but I have now got matter well understood by fullbloods and applications for government assistance coming in fast. Indians general-
ly show preference for Choctaw Nation. As service to Atoka will be quicker and cheaper shall ship there unless otherwise ordered. Final bid of railroad com-
panies will not be made until tomorrow or Monday."

Until yesterday, it was not possible to give an intelli-
gent estimate of the number of identified fullblood Missis-
sippi Choctaws likely to be moved at Government expense. Previous to that time applications for assistance were very few. Most of the post offices where the Indians re-
ceive their mail are located in the Interior, and with few exceptions mail matter is sent those offices only two
or three times a week. On the other hand this section is literally overrun with speculators who, in endeavoring to secure contracts with these Indians have made all sorts of misrepresentations as to the real purpose of the Government in offering to aid indigent and identified fullbloods to remove to and make settlement in the Indian Territory.

From letters received direct from the fullblood Indians and the reports from the five clerk-interpreters in the field I estimate there will be approximately four hundred fullbloods to be removed to the Indian Territory at Government expense on or before the 14th instant. This estimate is based of course upon the assumption that all those who will make application for assistance are found to be, upon careful investigation in destitute circumstances. It is unquestionably a fact, however that in addition to being more or less in debt 99 per cent of these Indians have not a dollar in the world. There are now between sixty and seventy fullbloods here ready to remove to the Territory and I do not find one of them able to go without assistance. Their household effects were brought to Meridian in one wagon. All things being equal I had favored landing the first movement of Indians at Tishomingo, as indicated in my report of July 29. But I now understand from conversation with the Indians that a majority of
the Mississippi Choctaws prefer going to the Choctaw Nation. While I have not closed a contract with any railroad, if the rate finally agreed upon is the same to both points movement to Atoka would be quicker by five or six hours and attended by less expense in the matter of subsistence en route.

Mr. Stringfellow called on me this morning and endeavored to exact a promise from me that I would move at least one hundred and fifty of these Indians to Tishomingo stating that his company would be better able to guard the best interests of the Indians than like concerns in and around Atoka. I told him that it had not been decided to what point in the Choctaw-Chickasaw country the Indians would be moved; that under my instructions I must deal directly with the Indians and not through agents or attorneys; but that if he would wire his request to the Commission I would be guided by whatever instructions might be sent me in the premises. I am satisfied Mr. Strongfellow will not make this request of the Commission.

The railroads yesterday quoted flat rate of $11.50 for full tickets, one half for children between ages of five and twelve, and children under five free. I refused to accept the rate and referred the matter back for reconsideration, especially so as this rate has been in force for some months on movements of ten or more Indians, and I thought it too high on a movement of several hundred. The railroads have promised to reconsider the matter and advise me today or to-
morrow. The Queen & Crescent and the Mobile & Ohio, being the initial lines have absolute control over the question of naming this rate and I have reason to believe there is concerted action on their part to maintain the old tariff of $11.50.

As soon as final rate is agreed upon I will wire the Commission naming the point of destination and the route over which the movement will be made.

Very respectfully,

H. Van V. Smith,
Special Agent of the
United States Government."

The desirability of landing these Indians at one of the Allotment Offices of the Commission in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations is apparent, and in view of the added expense incident to their transportation to Tishomingo, it has been deemed advisable to bring them to Atoka, suitable camping facilities being available in that vicinity. Tents will be provided for the purpose of sheltering these Indians until such time as they can be placed upon their respective allotments.

As will be inferred from the reports of Special Agent Smith, the work of the Government is seriously hampered by the operations of agents and companies whose object is to secure contracts with identified Mississippi Choctaws for their allottable interest of the lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations. Doubtless radical measures will needs be adopted in order to frustrate the efforts of these spec-
ulators, and necessary steps will be taken by the Commission to protect the interests of the Indians.

Reports will be made to the Department from time to time as to the progress of this work and the existing conditions, pursuant to the instructions contained in the Department's letter above referred to.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) T B Needles
Commissioner in Charge.

Through the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(0IA: 52106-1903.)