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## **Ratified treaty no. 187, Documents relating to the negotiation of the treaty of June 18, 1833, with the Apalachicola Indians. June 18, 1833**

Washington, D.C.: National Archives, June 18, 1833

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RATIFIED TREATY NO. 187  
DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATION OF THE  
TREATY OF JUNE 18, 1833, WITH THE APALACHICOLA INDIANS



Florida  
Wascopu July 6. 1833

From Col

James Gadsden

Report - ~~Appalachian~~

trading -

Copy

of June 18. 1833  
with the report of  
report, assembly  
for Gadsden



Casassa

July 6<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir,

Indisposition, contracted from my late visit to the Indian Towns on the Appalachiola, has prevented my enclosing you before this, a final arrangement made with the two remaining Indian bands on said river - My letters for twelve months past have reported to you the obstinacy and indisposition of the Chiefs of those towns to treat for a removal on any conditions. Having at a very early period communicated to them the wishes of the Executive of the U.S. on this subject, explained the liberality of the Government to them, and explained to them their true interests; I had conceived it most advisable to leave the Chiefs to their own reflections, under a conviction that at the proper time and when convinced that the other Indians generally intended to move; they would readily accede to the propositions I was prepared to make them - A few weeks since I received through the hands of the Acting Governor a communication, signed by the principal Chiefs of both the bands, stating their willingness to treat with me, if I would revisit their towns - I lost no time in riding to the Sub agents, nearly equidistant from both Euchatunice and Mulatto King reserves, and inviting the principal Chiefs to meet me there - I found, to my disappointment however, that the Chiefs either did not rightly comprehend the communications which had been made me with the sanction of their signatures; or were unwilling to yield to the obligation I considered that Government had imposed on them

I found in the course of a consultation or talk, that a strong prejudice existed on the minds of Euchatunice Mulatto King and other sub Chiefs, against Blunt, and a very great distrust of the Supt. Richard - It was on this account they stated, that



They had hitherto declined meeting me by invitations to places where the Chiefs and the Interpreter was to be present - I mentioned to them that it was a matter of indifference to me as Commissioner who interpreted if the Indians were satisfied and having ascertained that they would listen to propositions provided they were communicated through Interpreters in whom they reposed confidence, I permitted them to nominate the two whose names are affixed to the Treaties; the one Jim Walker a colored man who resides in Mulatto King Town and has been long used by him as his Interpreter, the other a half breed, grandson of Eeouchatimecos and who was for a short time employed by Gov. Duval as Interpreter at Tallahassee. In the course of a long talk I discovered that the above Chiefs were as much indisposed to treat for a removal as ever, that the difficulties of effecting a negotiation with them had increased by delay - They have been exposed, ever since the question was first agitated, to so many disagreeing talks from unauthorized individuals; have been secretly influenced by so many who hoped in the negotiation to profit by the terms concluded on, and have listened to so many contradictory tales of the Creeks and Seminoles consenting to and again refusing to remove that they have become distrustful of that event, and without that event they could on no conditions be persuaded to migrate. In addition they have Individually been told that the Creeks had made treaties on more favorable terms, and were now realizing fortunes by the sale of the land the Government had given them -

To reconcile these conflicting opinions by inducing them to yield to any distinct proposition for removal was impassible, so long as there was a doubt in their mind as to the Creeks and Seminoles removing - To leave them without effecting any thing, was only exposing the Chiefs Eeouchatimecos & Mulatto King to the influence of those individuals and rumors which had already so distracted their minds - I deemed it therefore after some reflection and much



consultation with the Indians that the agreement signed and concluded on, was upon the whole the most advisable arrangement to be made - It would at once quiet the minds of the Indians, and remove them from the injurious influences to which I have alluded; and it could not but in some fulfil the objects of Government either by removing the Indians to where they can be protected, or by the voluntary relinquishment on their part of the protection guaranteed to them under the stipulations of previous treaties - I feel assured however that they will ultimately negotiate under the last stipulation of their compact, relinquishing their lands and coming in as parties to the Treaty of Payne's Landing - There can be no difficulty on this subject for they are a component part of the Seminole Nation; were parties to the Treaty of Camp Moultrie, and in the additional article in that Treaty by which reservations were made them on the Appalachicola, the Government reserved the right of ordering them, within the Seminole limits whenever it thought proper to do so - The difficulties hitherto thrown in the way of negotiation by Coconatimico & Mualatto King, were evidently with a view of ascertaining with certainty, that the Seminoles and Creeks really intended to migrate, and with the belief that delay would secure to them the most favorable terms - They now have, should they migrate, the right of selection between selling the sections to be laid off for them, and paying their own expenses, or of receiving 3000 dollars and having their expenses paid - After they have tried the land market and consulted freely with those who are their best friends, they will find that the latter proposition is the most favorable - I cannot believe they will ultimately (should the Seminoles remove) conclude to remain in the Country and come under the laws of Florida; for they have too much understanding not to foresee the evident consequences of such subjection - They want but time and when



convinced of the removal of the Seminoles we may  
rest assured they will follow - In the mean while  
I have suggested; and the suggestion has been well  
received, that each of the Bands send one or two young  
Chiefs, with the first migrating party of Seminoles to  
examine for themselves the Country on which they may  
be permanently located, if so disposed - I had deemed  
it best (the present reservations having been but imper-  
fectly located, in consequence of the high waters on  
the Apalachicola at the time they were marked and  
from their lines interrupting the regularity of our govern-  
mental survey that the lands awarded them under the  
new stipulations should conform to those surveys -  
The quantity (3) three sections, owing to the sinuosity of  
the river, will probably be very nearly as much in quantity  
as is contained in the whole of the reservations - were  
these lands brought into market at this time they  
would not, at the maximum command more than  
5 dollars the acre, or 900 dollars for each band, an amount  
somewhat within what the Government would have been  
compelled to allow under stipulations similar to those  
concluded with Blunt.

I have now closed my agency with the  
Indians; and as the service has been one accompanied  
neither with profit or pleasure; my only gratification  
must depend upon the approbation with which those  
services have met by the Executive of the U.S. & yourself  
as Minister of the Department to which those services ap-  
pertain

Respectfully Yours  
James Gadsden

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

Genl. Cass.

Secy of War