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RATIFIED TREATY NO. 115
DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATION OF THE
TREATY OF OCTOBER 18, 1820, WITH THE CHOCTAW INDIANS

c. S.

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(Not all signatures printed)

Journal

of

The Commissioners

Appointed by the Government of the

United States,

~~to hold the same~~
to hold and conclude a Treaty with

The Choctaw Indians

Atashville, August 25th 1820.

(Copy)

We the undersigned, Commissioners, deputed to hold a Treaty with the Choctaw nation of Indians, by virtue of authority from the Honorable Secretary of War, bearing date the 12th day of July, 1820, empowering us to appoint a Secretary to the Commission, do, by these presents, appoint James R. Overton, Esq. Secretary to the same, with the compensation of five dollars per day, for the time he shall actually be engaged. In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands, this 24th day of August, 1820.

(Signed)

Andrew Jackson,

Thos. Hinds.

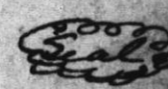
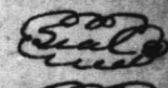
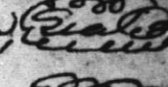

Atashville, August 31st 1820.

(Copy)

Memorandum of an agreement made and entered into this 31st of August, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, between Andrew Jackson and Thomas Hinds, Commissioners, appointed to hold a treaty with the Choctaw nation of Indians, at Oakes Stand, on the Natchez road, in said nation, on the one part, and William Carter, with Maj. William B. Lewis as his security, on the other part, Witnesseth, that the said William Carter with his security, undertake to furnish all the rations necessary to be issued to the said Choctaw Indians, at the place aforesaid, and during the pendency of the treaty, commencing on the 1st of October next. The aforesaid William Carter, with his security, further

agree, to furnish all supplies necessary for the accommodation of the Commissioners and suit, and chiefs of the aforesaid Indian nation, agreeable to a memorandum to be made out by Saml. R. Overton Esq. Secretary to said Commission; for which last mentioned supplies, the said William Easton shall be allowed a commission of twenty-five per cent on his purchases. The ration issued to the Indians, is to consist of one pound and a half of beef, one pint of corn, and one quart of salt for every hundred rations, for which the said Easton is to receive from the Commissioners, in cash, nine cents for each and every ration issued to the Indians, at the place and time aforesaid, agreeable to the returns to be furnished by the agent of said nation; or on failure of his attendance at the treaty, agreeable to the returns to be made by such other person as may be appointed for that purpose, by the Commissioners. To the performance of this agreement, we and each of us bind and oblige ourselves in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and affixed our seals, the day and date above written.

(Signed) William Easton, 
W. D. Lewis, 
Andrew Jackson, 
Thos. Hinds, by 
Andrew Jackson,
Commissioner.

Witness,

Saml. R. Overton,
Secretary.

Kashville, Sept. 2^d 1820.

A schedule of supplies to be furnished the Commissioners and suit, appointed to hold a treaty with the Choctaw Indians, was made out by the Secretary, and delivered to Mr. William Easton the Contractor. For the purchase and transportation of these supplies, the Commissioners furnished five hundred dollars, as per receipt.

Kashville, Sept. 11th 1820.

Maj. General Jackson and suit left this place on to-day, for Roaker's stand, on the state highway, for the purpose of holding a treaty with the Choctaw Indians.

Roaker's stand, Sept. 28th 1820.

Maj. Genl. Jackson and suit arrived at this place, on to-day.

September 31st 1820.

This day Genl. Thomas Hinds, one of the Commissioners, arrived at ~~the treaty ground~~ ^{at Mr. Roaker's stand} also Lieut. Graham, with a command of about 40 men ^{at the} Treaty Ground, October 2^d 1820.

The Commissioners having made some progress in their encampment, removed to the treaty ground, about half a mile below Mr. Roaker's. Some of the head men and warriors of the Choctaw nation ^{had} convened untill late in the evening, when the Little Leader, about nine or ten of his men and a dog arrived, and drew this nation.

~~Treaty Ground, Oct. 3, 1820.~~

A few of Puckshenube's men ^{also} arrived this evening, and refused to draw provisions, upon the ground that it was agreeable to an order given them by their chief. There were only about 7 or 8 in number. They however, consented to receive their rations, after a short conversation with the Commissioners, in which their interests and the views of the United States were explained to them.

Treaty Ground, Oct. 3, 1820.

Puckshenube and Pashametaha, two principal chiefs of the Choctaw nation arrived at this place with ~~about 7 or 8~~ ^{7 or 8} men. ~~Those coming~~ ^{Those coming} ~~by the latter only drew their rations.*~~

The Commissioners received a ^{communication} ~~letter~~ from Mr. Edward Holmes, informing them that David Holmes, had written a letter to the Indians of the Six Towns, recommending them to disregard the talks of the President their Father, and stating to them, that the country which he proposed to exchange with them was not desirable to the nation. This letter was considered by Mr. Edward Holmes, as intended to oppose the treaty, by preventing a general meeting of the head men and warriors of the nation. A letter was also received, which had been some time since written to Mr. James Peckland, by Genl. A. Jackson, with an insulting endorsement upon it. It related to the treaty, and was broken open before it reached the person to whom it was addressed. It was delivered to David Holmes, who stated, he left ^{it} with the Pres. Cyrus Kingsbury, by whom it was conveyed to

Mr. Peckland. From these and other circumstances, ^{verbal communications, and} added to the backwardness of the arrival of the head men and warriors of the nation, the Commissioners were induced to believe, that a combination had been formed by some of the white men and half-breds to prevent a general and full council, and if possible, to render an effort at negotiation abortive. Under these impressions, they dispatched, this evening, to the six towns, Edward Holmes and Mr. Stetow Mackey, as the bearers of the following talk:—

(Copy)

Choctaw Treaty Ground,
October 3, 1820

Friends & Brothers of the Choctaw Nation,
Your Father the President of the United States has been informed, that many of your nation have seized the Mississippi, and that a number of others desire to remove. He has, therefore, appointed the undersigned Commissioners, to convene the head men and warriors of this Choctaw children, and when assembled in a general council, to deliver to them a friendly talk. He desires to hear the wishes of your nation, and in treaty to do such things as will most promote the happiness and prosperity of all his Choctaw children.
With these instructions, we made known to the nation, through your agent, Col. John McKee, that a general meeting of the chiefs, head men and warriors was requested and expected at Doak's stand, said nation, on the 1st day of October, 1820. On that day, the undersigned attended at this place, and expected, that the chiefs, head men and warriors of the

Choctaw nation were on the road to the treaty ground, to meet us in council, and listen to the talk of their father the President of the United States. This is the third day we have waited to see you. Only about sixty chiefs and warriors have attended, and we are informed, that not more than one hundred are expected. We are told, that the chiefs and warriors have been advised by some bad men, to stay away from the council, and not come forward to hear the talk of your father the President of the United States. We have also learnt with much pain, that many threats have been made, declaring that any one should be put to death who attends the treaty, and consents to sell or exchange any part of the Choctaw land. Hear not these threats. The arm of your father the President is strong, and will protect the poor Indian from the threats of the white man and half breed, who are growing rich by their labor. They make slaves of the poor Indians, and are indifferent to their sufferings. They care not whether the poor perish, or are lost to the nation, if they can grow rich by their labor, and by driving on the main roads through the country.

Many of your poor Indian brothers have gone over the Mississippi. It is represented to your father the President, that a number more wish to go to that country. He has, at much expense, purchased it for you. He invites you to come forward, and tell him your mind freely, and without fear. You shall not be injured. He will protect you. Those who choose to move beyond the Mississippi, there is a good country for a small part of their lands here. Those who wish to stay and cultivate the earth, your father the President

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* When the Commissioners called upon Puckah ^{to} ~~ask~~ ^{to} know why he had given his headmen and warriors an order not to receive the provisions provided for them by the United States, he replied, that ~~it was not his intention~~ ^{to} grant any thing which might be asked by ~~his~~ ^{his} father the President, and did not wish to subject them to any expense. He was interrogated whether he knew what the United States wanted - and he acknowledged he did not. It was stated to him by the Commissioners, that they had been sent there to deliver a talk to the nation relative to their common good, ~~that~~ ^{that} his conduct was such as was displeasing, and would be so considered by his father the President of the United States. They also inform

them, that they understood many wicked efforts
had been made to prevent a full council of
the nation, and thereby defeat the attempt to
treat with them; that they had, therefore, determined
to remain upon the ground 40 days and
nights, until the fact could be ascertained,
and for the purpose of notifying all the head
men and warriors who were absent, to attend
at the treaty, and hear the friendly talk of their
father the President of the United States.

5.
wants to remain here. We therefore, desiring to see you
all at this place, so that each may make a choice
freely, and all be happy. You are all interested,
and must be heard. As the friends and brothers
of the whole people, you cannot refuse to listen to
the council and advice of your father the President
of the United States. As soon as you all assemble at
this place, we will deliver this friendly talk to his
Choctaw children. If you will not come and hear
it, he may never speak to you again.

This talk is sent to you by your
friends and our friends, Edward Holmes and
Middletown Mackey, by whom you will send us
an answer, informing us whether you will or
will not attend at the treaty, and hear the talk
of your father the President of the United States.

We are your friends & brothers,

(Signed)

Andrew Jackson,
Thos. Hindg.

Treaty Grounds, October 4th 1820.

About 80 head men and warriors of the
nation arrived at this place, on to-day, and re-
ceived their rations.

October 5th 1820.

The Red Foot, a chief and warrior of the Six
Tribes, came in today, bringing with him about
80 of his men, all of whom drew their provisions.

The Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury visited the Com-
missioners, and in a conversation with one of
them relative to the letter written by General
Jackson to James Pickens, and which was
left in his possession; he stated, that he had
never seen it, and was altogether ignorant
of the insulting endorsement made upon it.
Upon an explanation of the views of the United
States relative to the Choctaw nation, he gave
them his approbation.

In consequence of the head men and
warriors of Puckshomube not having received
any provision, about 60 in number left the
treaty ground, to return home. The Commissioners
explained to him, the disrespect and insult
which was thereby offered to ^{his} father the
President of the United States. They told him
that ^{his} father the President was disposed to
treat with them as friends and brothers, and
that if they refused to hear his friendly talk,
he might determine never to speak to them
again. He had Choctaw children by and
the clupifoppi, who were ^{our} friends and bro-
thers, and he might treat with them in future,
if his talk was refused to be heard, or in-
sultingly neglected. ^{as to others relative to the views of the U. States,} After this explanation, he
stated, that they had departed with his per-
mission; that they would return, with the whole
of his warriors, and he hoped all would be
well yet.

Treaty Grounds,
October 6th 1820.

This day ^{a principal chief} Mushulatuba arrived with
only two of the head men and warriors of the
District under his command. He stated, that a
number were on the road, and would be here
in a short time; that some were already here,
and that he would make a report of them on
tomorrow.

October 7th 1820.

Puckshomube and the other chiefs appeared
to be in a better humor, and gave us a ball play.
In the evening, Puckshomube made known to
the Commissioners, that he was desirous to hear
the talk of the President, intended to be delivered
to the Choctaw nation. The Commissioners inform-
ed him that it should be delivered to them as
soon as his head men and warriors should ar-
rive upon the treaty ground. He ^{observed} that
there ^{was to be} a great ball play on Mon-
day, at which all those belonging to his dis-
trict would be present. In that event, the
Commissioners stated to him, that the talk
would be delivered to them on Sunday eve-
ning.

October 8th 1820.

On this day, an confidential agent re-
ported, that the prospect of a treaty was be-
coming more flattering. ^{Some} of the head men

and warriors belonging to the District of Puckanucke
arrived at the Treaty Ground, and received the raton. —

October 9th 1820.

Agreeably to promise, the principal chiefs
of the nation gave us a ball-play on to-day,
which was closed with a dance in the evening.
All the Indians ~~came~~ ^{seemed} to be in a good humor,
and as far as we could judge from appearance,
in a favorable temper for negotiation.

October 10th 1820.

In conformity with an appointment made
by the Commissioners, they met the chiefs, head men
and warriors of the Choctaw nation, in council
this day. They informed them, that although their num-
bers had not returned, yet they had determined
to deliver a talk to those now present. They also
observed, that the same talk would be given to
those who were absent as soon as they arrived. It
was as follows:—

Choctaw Treaty Ground,
October 10th 1820

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Choctaw Nation,

Friends and Brothers,

Your father, the President of the Uni-
ted States, has been informed, that a number of
his Choctaw children are gone and settled on the
West side of the Mississippi River. He has also
been told, that many more of the chiefs and warri-
ors of your nation are anxious to remove. They

wish to obtain a new country there, in exchange for
a small part of their lands here.

It is stated to your father the President,
that a large proportion of his Choctaw children
are in a distressed condition, and require his friend-
ly assistance. They live upon poor land, and are not
willing to cultivate it. The game is destroyed, and many
of them are often reduced almost to starvation. A few
are to be found in Alabama, Louisiana and Miss-
sissippi. A number are scattered over the country,
from Pensacola to New Orleans. Many have become
druggans and drunkards, and are dying in wretched-
ness and want. Humanity requires that something
should be done for them. Your father, the President,
entreats you to assist him in providing for your
friends and brothers. You cannot refuse it. Some
of your nation work and hoe well, but a great
number would be much benefited by removing
to a new country, where the means of supporting their
squaws and children are more easy and abundant.

Your father, the President of the United
States, is anxious to make all his Choctaw children
happy. He has sent Genl. Skins and myself, as
his confidential friends, to shake you by the hand,
and assure you of his friendship and regard. The
Choctaws have always been the friends of his white
children, and your father the President wishes them
to continue to be so. As your father and friends, he
wants you to listen to the talks delivered to you, as
coming from himself. He has directed us to point
out to you a country beyond the Mississippi, where

his Choctaw children, who have removed may settle,
and where those who wish to go over, may live and
be happy. Those who chuse to stay here, may do so,
and be happy likewise. Then all the Choctaw chil-
dren of your father the President will be satis-
fied.

The greater part of your country here,
is very poor. Those who will not be industrious and
plow the ground, cannot live on it long. For farm-
ing, you have more land than is necessary. As a
hunting ground, it has not sufficient game. With-
out a change in your situation, the Choctaw na-
tion must dwindle to nothing. This is what every
good and wise chief will endeavor to prevent.
Your father, the President foresees it, and has cho-
sen you a larger and better country, where all
those who will not cultivate the ground, may live
by hunting. The land is rich, and water good. The
fish, fowl, and game are plenty. He has, at much
expense, procured this new country for his Choctaw
children, where he will protect and defend them. Unless you
make an exchange, and a part of your nation will go
and settle upon it, and have a line marked, your fa-
ther the President cannot keep it for them. His white
children are anxious to live upon it. He looks forward
to the time, when the great body of your nation will
be compelled by necessity to remove. This friendly offer
of a new country is now made to you, where you
can either plow the ground, or hunt the deer, the bear
and the buffalo. If this timely proposal is refused, it
may never be offered again. The wise and rapid settle-
ments of his white children, may put it out of the

power of your father the President, hereafter to make
the exchange. When that time arrives, your land will
be more poor, and the necessity of your moving greatly
increased. Your nation will then be in a situation truly
distressing. The ^{poor} chiefs and warriors will be compelled to
cultivate the soil like their white brothers, or struggle
about as a lost and miserable people.

Your father, the President of the United
States, does not wish to drive you from your lands
by force. nor does he ask you to sell it, or give it
away. He has not sent us here, to cheat or to threaten
you. All these things have been told you by mis-
chievous persons, who are enemies of both his Cho-
ctaw and white children. They have been busy in
circulating falsehoods amongst you, and you should
hate them. We have come to show you, that what
your father the President wishes you to do, is as
much for your good, as for that of his white children.
If your game is destroyed, if you
all remain here, you must cultivate the earth like
your white brothers. You must also in time, become
citizens of the United States, and subject to their
laws. Your father the President gives you your
choice. If you agree to make an exchange of a small
part of your land, it will be for the benefit of the
poor and helpless Indians, who will not plow the
ground, and whom you cannot support. He wishes
it made upon terms that are just and honorable, and
such as will best promote the interest and happiness
of all his Choctaw children. Your father the President
has no desire to deprive you of a home, but to pro-
vide for one part of your nation, a better country,

where they can enjoy more comfort and contentment. Many of your headmen and warriors have already settled upon it. In this new country, you can exchange a small part of your land here. The State of Mississippi has not land enough to support and protect themselves. They want a small part of your country to cultivate, and could their government house upon it must be first upon Choctaw land in a short time, and you can now exchange it to advantage. The people of Mississippi are five times as many as your people. You have three times as much land as they have. They have not land enough to live upon. You have more land than you can cultivate. It is useful to yourselves and to the white people. You can let your white brothers have a small part, and there will be still enough for you. We do not wish to obtain land from you that you want, but only what you can spare. With collapse a country without settlements, the people of Mississippi are much exposed to the invasion of your enemies. The Choctaw nation is equally exposed. A portion of part of your country is necessary for your defense. As many of your headmen and warriors are gone and settled over the Mississippi, your father the President must strengthen the hands of his white children and supply their place. He will then be able to protect his white children, and the whole of his Choctaw brothers on this and the other side of the Mississippi River.

Your father the President, expects no difficulty with his Choctaw children, if they will attend to those who tell them the truth, and govern upon those who tell them lies. Those who fall within the bounds of the ceded land, and wish to remain on this side

of the Mississippi, let them do so. They shall have suitable reservations, to include their improvements, and be protected by our laws. If they prefer removing, they shall be paid for their improvements. Those who are poor, and unwilling to become farmers like their white brothers, let them go. They also demand the care and protection of their affectionate father, the President of the United States. They are his children, and he will not neglect them. He has directed us to make provision for them, by ceding them a new country. There they can live in abundance, and acquire riches and independence, like some of those now residing in this nation. As all quarters are accommodated, and the interest and happiness of all consulted, there cannot be any honest opposition made to the friendly proposals of your father, the President of the United States.

Upon the subject of your schools, no difficulty can arise. Your father the President, will do every thing in his power to accomplish the object of your nation. He has very much to educate and civilize his Choctaw children. He will secure to the school now established here, the funds and property belonging to it. Additional funds shall be raised out of the ceded land, to establish one here and the Mississippi. The funds to be applied to this purpose, shall be so divided, as to extend its support to both schools. Then all the Choctaw children of your father the President, will enjoy its benefits. No loss or injury shall be suffered by the change, but additional aid given to them. They shall also be regulated, that their funds cannot be misapplied. The advantages of these schools will thus be secured to the

you, as well as the rich, on both sides of the Mississippi.
Many of your nation are already beyond
the Mississippi, and others are every year removing. At
least one third of your head men and warriors
are gone over. Your father the President, is disposed
to cede you the country where they are settling. He is
desirous of collecting all those who are chaffing about
in every direction, into one settlement; and by keeping
his Choctaw children together, to perpetuate them as
a nation. Those beyond the Mississippi wish it, so
that they may not be lost to their white and red bro-
thers. Now is the time to accept of this friendly pro-
posal. You will then preserve that strength and
respectability, which have always been the boast
and pride of the Choctaw nation. If you refuse
it, you will be divided amongst yourselves, and
must be easily conquered by your enemies.
Members of your will be scattered over a country
not your own. They will be without a home, or the
protection of their white friends and brothers. The best
part of the nation will be destroyed. It will
be mixed with different tribes, as are many others
of the Red children of your father, the President of
the United States.

Should this kind offer of your father
the President be rejected, it must proceed from the
false statements of some of the whitemen and
half breeds living amongst you. There are a few,
who have possessed your minds, and endeavored to
make you unfriendly to the treaty. They are anxious
to keep you in a state of poverty and servitude. You
ought not to take their counsel and advice, in opposi-
tion to your father, the President of the United States.
They ought to be contended with their reservations. They

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should be more just to you, and not wish to make
the poor Indians any longer slaves to them and their
children. This, your father the President will prevent,
if you desire it. Tell him your mind freely, and you
shall be relieved from your oppressors. Their object must
be riches and power, which you are bound to resist.
Your father the President, feels very friendly for all
his Choctaw children, and is willing to do every thing in
his power to prevent this imposition. One part of
the nation is as dear to him as the other. He is deter-
-mined to see justice done to the whole of his Cho-
-ctaw children, and not let one part make fortunes
unjustly out of the other. It is his desire, that all
should be treated honestly and fairly, and provided
with a country, where they can live in peace and
plenty.

This is an important subject to the Choctaw
nation. It is your duty to consider well before you
decide. Your existence as a nation may depend upon
it. The peace, power and happiness of the Choctaws may
be destroyed by a hasty and rash decision. Your fa-
-ther the President instructs you to be cool and cauti-
-ous, and to study your true and lasting interests. He
has always been your friend, and is desirous to
promote these valuable objects. If you neglect them,
you alone must feel the consequences. Your wel-
-fare is very near the heart of your father, the Pre-
-sident of the United States. It is his duty to give his
children counsel and advice; it is theirs to determine
whether they will accept them.

Your father the President has directed
us to speak freely to the whole of his Choctaw children
upon these subjects. He desires every one of them to ex-

Keep their wishes and feelings also, without fear or restraint. When he talks to you, he tells you the truth, and expects you to be equally candid. He has heard with much pain, that threats have been used, to prevent the poor chiefs and warriors from expressing their opinions upon the subject of a treaty. He is, therefore, directed by him to lay before you in full council, that no threats shall be used. If any one attempts it, he shall be severely punished as he deserves. The voice of the poor Indian shall be heard, as well as that of the half breed and whiteman. They shall not be imposed on by the few, who have gotten rich by the industry of the poor, who occupy some of the valuable stands on the main roads, and wish to keep the poor Indians there, to enrich themselves by their labor. The whole of the nation are deeply concerned, and all must be heard. Your father the President will protect the poor as well as the rich, and expects that every one will speak out with boldness. His arm is strong, and he will not allow you to be injured. Your rights shall be respected. Express your wishes with freedom and candor, and make such a choice, as will most promote your safety and happiness.

As children of the same family, we entreat you to do justice to one another. Let every one judge and act for himself. Those who want to stay here, let them do so. If any wish to remove, beyond the Mississippi, let them go. Here, they have a country that is old and poor; there, they will settle one that is new and rich. Here, they have no game; there, they will have a plenty. Here, they are separated from their friends and relations beyond the Mississippi; there, they will be collected together, as one people. Here, they cannot support their squaws and children; there, they will live in peace and abundance. Will the real

Indian chief and warrior consent, that these people shall be cut off and lost to the nation? They are our friends and brothers. They have fought by our sides, and assisted to make us chiefs and great men. Will you desert them, and suffer them to be destroyed? or compel them to mix with other tribes who may be our and your enemies? We may use them under the necessity of raising the hatchet against our own friends and children. Your father, the President of the United States, wishes to avoid this unnatural state of things. He wants to send an agent, and establish a school among those who have gone over the Mississippi, and take you all by the hand as friends and brothers. Will you do up for your Choctaw friends and relations, than your father, the President of the United States? Will you not unite with him, and assist to make them happy? By removing beyond the Mississippi, they receive no annuity. They have also left their lands and schools behind them. For the country here, they ought to have land where they live. It is your duty to provide for them, and preserve them as a part of your nation. You can do so, by exchanging a small part of your country. This land belongs to your brothers beyond the Mississippi, as well as to you. It is out of your power to deprive them of it. You should not permit a few designing whitemen and half breeds to make the attempt. It would be robbing your brothers beyond the Mississippi. It would be ungrateful to those who have shed their blood in our battles, and helped to make us chiefs and headmen of our nations. It would be injustice to yourselves and your children. Your father the President, will not desert this part of your nation.

which has assisted to fight his battles, you should not desert them. By preserving them, they will give you strength, and hereafter assist in your defence. If you withdraw your brotherly protection from them, your nation can never prosper by such conduct. Every wise and good chief will condemn it, and the Great Spirit above will look down upon it with displeasure.

This is the second time the confidential friends of your father the President, have met you in council. If you refuse to listen to his talk, it may be the last he will ever send to the chiefs, headmen and warriors of this nation. He has Choctaw children beyond the Mississippi, who desire his protection, and who will attend to what he has to say. The next attempt to treat, may be made with them, instead of those on this side of the Mississippi. If you will refuse to be governed by his council and advice, he will give you up to the influence of those who are unfriendly to both his white and Choctaw children. He can no longer look upon you as friends and brothers, and as deserving his fatherly protection. Think seriously upon these matters. Pause and reflect before you decide. If you suffer any injury, none but yourselves will be to blame. If you will be advised by your friends instead of your enemies, you must feel the effects of your folly.

(Signed) Andrew Jackson.
Thomas Smith.

At the close of the above talk, Puckshew-nubbe, a principal chief, observed, that the white people had the advantage of the Indians, in being

enabled to convert their talks to writing. He said, that the Commissioners were better informed than the Indian chiefs, and know already, as well as he did, the strength of the Choctaw nation. It was his wish, that all he had to say, as well as the talks of all the chiefs and head men, should be taken down in writing. He also requested, that such half-bred, who could read and write, might be permitted to perform this duty, to see that there were no mistakes, and that every thing was well done.

The Commissioners in reply, informed this chief, that they wished all the proceedings conducted in writing, and that they would willingly comply with his request. They stated to him, that his father, the President of the United States, had not sent them here to impose upon his people, but to promote their interests, by doing every thing in ~~their~~ ^{the} power to preserve and protect the whole of his Choctaw children; that they had committed the talk to writing, ^{which they then} delivered to them; so that they might read it over frequently, and understand its contents. It could not then be misrepresented by designing and mischievous persons, who were hostile to the best interests of the white people, as well as those of the Choctaw nation.

One of the Commissioners remarked, that he had once known the strength of the Choctaw nation, at a former period, when they followed him to battle. He said, he felt like a guard and father to their chiefs, headmen and warriors, and entreated them to deliberate well upon the talk just delivered to them, before they decided

upon the course to be adopted. They promised to do so, and gave each other the hand of friendship before their separation.

October 11th, 1820.

The chiefs, headmen and warriors of the Choctaw nation were convened at their council house on to-day; but the Commissioners received no communication from them as to the result. They were, however, informed by their confidential agent, that the prospect of a treaty still continued to promise a successful issue.

October 12th, 1820.

The chiefs, headmen and warriors were again convened at the council house this day; but nothing definitive as to their determination, was communicated to the Commissioners. Appearances continued to be favorable.

Middleton Mackey and Edward Holman, who ~~was~~ ^{had been} dispatched as runners with a talk to the Indians who were absent, and whose it was believed were either not notified, or prevented by treaty from attending the treaty, returned this evening. They reported that 80 or 90 warriors would be here in a short time. All they saw promised to come in; and stated to the runners, that they had not been notified by the chiefs, of the pending negotiation.

October 13th, 1820.

Puckshemuttee, a principal chief of the nation, informed the Commissioners, that some of his headmen and warriors were disposed to go into

council, and it was the wish of others to have a challenge. He stated, that he did not wish to ~~quit~~ his business, but to do one thing at a time. The Commissioners replied to him, that his view of the subject was a correct one; that if his headmen and warriors were disposed to indulge themselves in amusement, it might be proper to gratify them, as they had no disposition to hurry them in their determinations. This chief then remarked, that they would proceed on to-day with the ball-play, and on tomorrow go into council. In the mean time, he expressed a wish, that the Commissioners would furnish them definitive propositions, which were accordingly submitted to them ^{in manuscript} late this evening. The following is a copy.

Choctaw Treaty Ground, ³

October 13th, 1820. ³

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Choctaw Nation,

Friends and Brothers;

In order to carry into effect the good and friendly object which you father the President of the United States has in view, for securing the happiness and protection of all his Choctaw children, he proposes to give you a large country west of the Mississippi River. It will be laid off adjoining your Cherokee brothers, so that each can protect and defend the other. The limits will extend from the Arkansas River, where the Cherokee line begins, south to the Red

River, and west to the head source of the Arkansas River. Now, your father the President, wishes to collect all his Choctaw children, who have already gone over the Mississippi, as well as those who are straggling about in every direction. It is also intended as a home, for all those who will not cultivate the ground here, and wish to go over and settle upon it.

For the purpose of enabling those who desire to remove to that country, to do well, and support their families, your father the President, who is the true friend of the poor Indian, will give each warrior a blanket, kettle, rifle gun, ^{bullet moulds and wipers,} and ammunition, sufficient for hunting and defence. He will also furnish them with corn to support ^{and his family,} them the first year, and whet travelling to that new country. It is his further intention to appoint an agent for them, and send this factor there with goods to supply their wants. At Blacksmith shall be settled amongst them as has been done here; and your father the President will provide for your schools, both on this and the other side of the Mississippi. The fund for this support, shall be raised out of part of the land he asks you to cede here, and which he wants to get where it will not injure your nation. Its proposed boundaries are as follow:—Beginning on the Choctaw boundary, East of Pearl River, at a point due south of the White Oak Spring, on the Old Indian Path; thence south, to said Spring; thence northwardly, to a point on the main road from Washville to Statches, so as to include Cook's stand; thence northwardly to Black Creek; thence down Black Creek

to the Lake into which it flows; thence, a direct line, to strike the Mississippi one mile below the mouth of the Arkansas River; thence down the Mississippi River to our boundary, and round and along the same to the beginning.

Out of this cession, your father, the President of the United States, will set apart one township, that is, thirty-six sections of one mile square, and if necessary, more, to be sold, for the purpose of raising a fund, to be applied to the support of your schools. We are told, that there is some discontent in the nation, about part of this annuity having been ~~applied~~ ^{applied} for the benefit of ~~the~~ ^{now established} there. Your father the President was much pleased to learn, that ~~the~~ appropriation was made; and it is such an one as all wise men must approve. The education of your children, is an important object with the Choctaw nation, and they cannot apply their funds to a more valuable purpose. To remove any discontent if it exists, we will set apart more land in this cession, for raising an equal fund with that given by your chiefs to these schools, should it be desirable to the head men and warriors of your nation. Then your chiefs will be exonerated from all claims, if any exists, and the whole of the annuity shall remain in your nation, and be divided amongst them.

Your father the President, loves you and his children. He wishes to have your children educated, and will provide the means out of the ceded

land. We are sent here by him, to make provisions for all, and endeavor to make the whole of the Choctaw nation happy. Every individual who falls within the bounds ceded, will be paid a full value for his improvements, if he does not wish to live on them. Should he prefer remaining on them, he shall be secured in a mile square, to include his improvements. There are some who have valuable improvements on the different roads through the country. If they remove, the inconvenience of doing so will be considered; and in addition to the real value of their improvements, something shall be allowed that may be equal to the inconvenience.

Your father the President has sent us here to make you happy. The land he wants for his Mississippi children, and which they cannot do without, he has selected in a place, where it does not interfere with your schools, or the great body of your nation. He must also provide a home for his wandering Choctaw children, and for those in your nation who will not work, and wish to remove. There can be no great and good chief, warrior, or leader, who can refuse to comply with the friendly and humane propositions of your father, the President of the United States. Listen to them and adopt them, and you are a happy people forever. Attend to his counsel and advice, and he will place your nation and its happiness upon a lasting foundation.

(Signed)

Andrew Jackson
Thomas Hinds.

The preceding talk was interpreted to the chiefs, head men and warriors of the Choctaw nation, this morning. The Commissioners presented to them the importance of the subject to which it related, and wished them all to hear it. It was a matter of deep concern, and they recommended them to listen, and deliberate with great attention. They observed, that it was just in writing, in order that it might be read in council, and that they might understand it well. The Commissioners explained the views of the President, to be to obtain such a part of the Choctaw country, as was absolutely necessary to the State of Mississippi, and as would permanently fix the boundary lines between the Red and White people. They would be made to run in such a direction, as not to interfere with their schools, or enquire upon the great body of their population. A poor country would be the limit on the East, which would answer all the purposes of grazing to the Indians, and which the white people could never wish to obtain. It would not interrupt their settlements on the north, and by exchanging it, they would discharge an imperative duty, by providing for all their Choctaw friends and brothers, and acquire a new country ~~much~~ ^{than} larger ^{than} the part ceded here. Then white people could not then ask them for any more land, nor could those of the nation who had gone over and settled beyond the Mississippi. The consequence would be, that the whole of the Choctaw would be happy, and live in plenty, peace and harmony. The Commissioners remarked to the chiefs,

headmen and warriors, that it was the last time they
were expected to meet them in council, and that they
now wished to fix the boundary between the Choctaw
and white people, so as to carry into effect
the grand object of the President in relation to their
welfare and happiness. If they wished any explanation
of the talk delivered to them, they were informed it could
be obtained by application to the Commissioners. They
were advised to deliberate maturely upon the subject, and
to take their own time in forming a decision. The
Commissioners stated, that they were not in a hurry,
and that whenever the Council were ready to give
them an answer to their talks, they would be ready
to receive it. They then gave each other the hand of
friendship, and separated.

Immediately after hearing the above
talk, the Chiefs, headmen and warriors went into
council, and were for some time engaged in dis-
cussing the propositions submitted to them as the
basis of a treaty. The Commissioners received no re-
port from them as to the result. The Chiefs, head-
men and warriors, asked to be indulged with
further time to deliberate, as it was a subject
of uncommon magnitude to the nation. The Com-
missioners replied, that the course which they pro-
posed was a prudent one, and that they would
wait on them with patience. It was not their wish
that they should be precipitate, but that their de-
termination should be the result of mature
reflection. Then all the Choctaw nation would be sa-
tisfied, and their true and lasting interests success-
fully promoted.

October 15th 1820.

16.

The Commissioners had an interview with Puck-
shemuckee, one of the principal chiefs of the Choctaw na-
tion, this morning. He stated, that he would consent to an
exchange of a small part of his country, but not as
much as his father the President of the United States had
proposed in the last talk which had been delivered ~~the~~
~~the~~ day preceding. He said, that he did ^{not} know ~~how~~ how
the President could accomplish all he had promised
to his Choctaw children, and until he understood more
about it, and could visit his friends and brothers be-
yond the Mississippi, he could not agree to so large
a cession as the one proposed.

The Commissioners in reply, told this chief, that
his father the President had requested an exchange ^{with} ~~of~~ the
~~Choctaw~~ nation, of a part of their land, that was nec-
essary to them, and no more than was absolutely neces-
sary for the cultivation and defense of the state of Mis-
sissippi. They had made such a selection, as would not
interfere with their schools, or the great body of the na-
tion. They further observed, that the cession proposed,
was equally necessary for the security of the Choctaws
here, and to provide for those beyond the Mississippi.

The Commissioners represented the President
of the United States as having ^{in view} two grand objects in the
present treaty. One was, the education and civilization
of his Choctaw children, and the other to gratificate
them as a nation, by collecting all those who had emi-
grated abroad, as well as those who wished to do so,
and settle them together, upon land of their own beyond
the Mississippi River. Provision would be made for all,
and they would ^{then} be enabled to live in peace and harmony.

By separating the idle and vicious from those who are disposed to be moral and industrious, they would derive every advantage promised by the establishment of these schools; the children would make gradual progress in letters, and improvement, and contract the habits and character of the white people. If those who would not work remained here, when the children returned from school, they would be garrisoned by their vicious examples, and relapse into all their former savage habits. The advantages of education would then be forfeited, and ultimately, the schools would be altogether abandoned.

The Commissioners further remarked to this chief, that if the headmen and warriors of the nation would not cooperate with the President in this friendly and humane project for their civilization and defence, he would be compelled to treat with those who had gone and settled over the Mississippi, and whom he was resolved to protect and preserve. They remarked, that if this chief chose to treat on the other side of the Mississippi, they would set out with him for this purpose, in the course of a day or two. They proposed treating here, for the purpose of giving this part of the nation the power of making a cession that would not interrupt their views and interests. They could run the lines, so as to include the land they could best spare, and by which they would sustain the least injury. If a treaty were held with those beyond the Mississippi, they might be forced to give a majority of the nation, and would make an exchange that might not suit those living here. They would probably give acre for acre, and might agree upon a cession which would cut up ^{the} county, so as to improve upon ~~the~~ population, and destroy its schools.

¹⁷
The ^{chief} and through them, all the other chiefs, headmen and warriors, were recommended to listen with attention to the talks delivered to them, and they would be enabled to see their true and Party interests.

All the other chiefs, headmen and warriors, concurred in the opinion, that the treaty should be held and concluded at this place, and that it was not the interest of the Choctaw nation to negotiate on the other side of the Mississippi River. They then separated, and went into council, where they were some time engaged, but came to no conclusion as to the propositions which had been submitted to their consideration. They however, ^{determined to} appoint the principal chiefs, ~~commanding~~ ^{commanding} the three districts in the nation, together with six ^{white men and half-breed} ~~chiefs~~ from each district, to act as a committee, for the more speedy and effectual transaction of the business relative to the treaty.

October 16th 1820.

The chiefs, headmen and warriors again went into council to-day, and after some discussion, appointed a committee, composed of the three principal chiefs of the nation, and six ^{white men and half-breed} ~~chiefs~~ from each of the three districts, for the purpose of taking into consideration the proposed terms of a treaty, and to make a report upon the same. There appeared to be a considerable want of harmony in council, in relation to the business before them, which caused the chiefs to drink a ^{trusty} ~~trusty~~ grape vine.

About 40 or 50 Indians came in from

the six towns. They were a part of those who had been notified by our runners to attend at the treaty, and who stated that their chiefs had neglected to give them that information.

The project of a treaty was submitted to the chiefs, headmen and warriors of the Choctaw nation, to be read in council, and an answer ^{requested to be} returned, at a convenient time, to the Commissioners.

October 17th 1820.

The Commissioners again met the chiefs, headmen and warriors of the Choctaw nation, ^{in council,} and delivered to them the following talk:—

Choctaw Treaty Grounds
October 17th 1820

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Choctaw Nation

Friends and Brothers;

Your father the President of the United States has already delivered two talks to your nation. He has endeavored to explain to you your interests, and induce you to promote them. Your welfare and happiness are his grand objects. To advance your civilization, and to preserve and perpetuate you as a nation, are considerations dear to his heart. The first, he is desirous to accomplish, by establishing and fostering your schools. The second, by ceding you a country beyond the Chipipippi, where all who have gone over and wish to remain, may be collected together upon land upon their own. Here, also, he wishes to settle all those who will not work, but are chaffling about in every direction, so as to preserve them as a part of your nation. These are the friendly and humane views of your

father the President of the United States, and he is determined to effect them. If the nation here, are so lost to humanity, as to abandon those who have gone and settled over the Chipipippi, it is a circumstance of great regret. Your father the President will not permit them to be lost. He could not have anticipated, that any great and good chief and warrior would consent to consign his friends and brothers to misery and destitution, when they might preserve them by exchanging a small part of their land, which they can conveniently spare. The friends of such a measure, is the enemy of your happiness, and unworthy of the Indian character. ~~They~~ must be destitute of all magnanimity and virtue, and should not preside over the councils of your nation. It is the duty of every good and wise chief and warrior to make individual sacrifices for the benefit of all his people. He should not be governed by his own private convenience, or that of a small part of his nation. No other course can promote the welfare and happiness of any people. If the Choctaw children of your father the President, will adopt the measures here recommended, they will be happy; if they should not, they may be lost forever.

We have been sent here by your father the President, to explain these things to the Chiefs, headmen and warriors of this nation. These are the valuable objects which Mr. Jefferson promised you and was desirous to accomplish. You have been requested to listen well, and avoid the counsel of headmen. All we wish, is, that you should secure your own happiness. If you will not hear, and be advised by your father the President of the United States, you must suffer the consequences. He is re-

colored to preserve and protect his Choctaw children
beyond the Mississippi. If you reject this friendly propo-
-sals, he will treat with them for the accomplishment
of this humane object. They are ready to negotiate with
us, and will receive us with open arms. If you will
permit the obstinacy and folly of a few amongst you,
to work your own destruction, you cannot hereafter
complain.

Such conduct on your part, will force
your father the President to adopt the course above-
-mentioned; or Congress, at their approaching session,
will take the business into their own hands. By the
treaty of Hopewell, they have a right to manage the
affairs of this nation, and they will do so, if compelled
by the obstinacy of your chiefs, and the wickedness
of your advisers. It will be the last time a talk will
ever be delivered by your father the President, to his
Choctaw children, on this side of the Mississippi. You
are advised to be wary. This is the second time we
have met you in council, and the patience of your
father the President may be exhausted. He has
therefore treated you as friends and brothers. He
has protected you, and more than once saved
your nation. During the late war, he took you by
the hand as beloved children, and defended you
from your and his enemies. Had he failed at
New Orleans, your nation would have been de-
-stroyed. Be careful you do not forfeit this friend-
-ship and regard. He does not ask you for favors,
but only for what is just and reasonable, and for
your good. If you refuse it, you must submit
to the consequences. Your evil advisers may rely upon
it, that they will suffer for their folly. They are now offered
immunities and other advantages, that hereafter their

interests will not be consulted, only as they are connected
with that of the great body of the nation. This is the least
attempt, we repeat it, that will be made to treat on
this side of the Mississippi. When so many advan-
-tages are offered you, and they are rejected, it will
be hereafter useless. If evil counsel is permitted
to prevail amongst you, your nation must be
disengaged from the friendship and protection of
the white brothers. It is painful to your father
the President to do so; but necessity will compel
them, and that too at a time, when your people
are weakened by emigration, and more than ever
require his fatherly advice and assistance.

Your father the President offers you
every advantage, and again wishes to preserve and
perpetuate you as a nation. The chains which con-
-nect his white and Choctaw children will then
be brightened. He wishes to treat with you upon
terms that will accommodate those living here.
He obliges himself to endow your schools, and to
provide for the happiness of all. If he is compelled
to treat with those beyond the Mississippi, in an
exchange of land, he will insist upon a acre for
a acre, and the country here may be cut up, so as
to interfere with your schools, as well as the
great body of the nation. All the advantages
now proposed, may be lost forever. We may
no longer be friends and brothers, and the Cho-
-ctaw name here be irrecoverably lost.

Let us entreat you to avoid bad
counsellors. Remember that your nation was in
great danger of being governed by the advice of such
-ed men on two former occasions. When two of

your Choctaw brothers were taken prisoners by the
British, during the late war, they were sent amongst
you with a talk, which you heard. They also brought
with them, as presents, twelve bundles of goods and war
hatchets, which were distributed in this nation. Your
father the President then interposed. He destroyed the
enemy, and saved your people. When General Lack-
son was at Mobile, he sent you a talk, as ^{the} friends
and brothers. Afterwards, a Spanish agent gave you
a visit, and as he was informed, spoiled this talk.
As soon as he received this intelligence, General Lack-
son immediately dispatched the Chain back again,
and directed him to say to the Red Start, a chief of
the Six Towns, that unless he and his warriors joined
him within a given time, he should find him
and his army in his town in a few days. This
chief was told, that he must take sides either for
or against us. He heard General Jackson's talk,
& joined him within the time mentioned. He held
his father the President fast by the hand, and by
our united efforts the enemy was conquered, and
your nation saved a second time. General Lack-
son has come a third time to preserve you,
and he will do so, if you will listen to the
talk of your father the President of the United
States. Are you unmindful of all these things,
and of what your father the President has done
for you? Pause before you decide. Beware upon
evil counsellers, and consult your best interests,
and all will be well. Attenuance no foresight
can calculate your distresses. Your father the
President will not be trifled with, and put at de-
grace, as heavy clouds may burst upon you,

and you may be without friends to counsel or
protect you. The chain which has hitherto united
us may be broken. Listen well, and then determine
your existence as a nation, is in your own hands.

The project of a treaty delivered to you
on yesterday, contains the basis of any thing necessary
for the permanent happiness of your nation.
It is such a treaty, as all real friends to your nation
will say, it is your interest to make, and by which
your welfare and prosperity will be secured for-
ever. Have the fess driven down, and the lines
distinctly marked, as proposed, so that they never
can be altered until you request it yourselves,
or until you are advanced to that state of civiliza-
tion, when the lands will be appropriated out to
each family or individual in the nation. Hear and
listen well. Decide for the happiness of all your
people, and let not a few obstinate and wicked
men destroy your welfare and security. We have
labored hard to convince you of your real inter-
ests. We hope you will see them as we do, and
adopt the treaty proposed, an outline of which
has been submitted to you, in order that it
may be frequently read to you, and you might
understand its objects. Should you reject it, it
will be a source of great regret, as it may be
a measure fatal to your nation.

(Signed) Andrew Jackson,

Thomas Skind.

The chiefs, head men and warriors then
went into council, but for the want of harmony,
separated without doing any thing. The Committee ap-
peared without doing any thing.

appointed for the transaction of business, was deposed, before they made a report, by Puckehambee, a principal chief of the nation. After insulting many of the headmen and warriors, he abruptly left the council, declaring, that he would not consent to an exchange of land as proposed in the project of a treaty submitted to them; and that he would have no further agency in the transaction.

In consequence of the insulting conduct of this chief, the Commissioners called ^{all} the other chiefs, headmen and warriors together, and informed them, that they were sent here to treat with the whole nation, and not with an individual chief. They said, they felt themselves bound to consult the welfare and happiness, and they were determined the obstinacy of one or more individuals should not defeat so important an object. The Commissioners desired ^{to know} the wish of a majority; and if they were in favor of the treaty, it should be signed independent of the voice of any one chief, or his corrupt advisers. They had a right, ^{to adopt this course,} and it was their imperative duty to do so. They were told, that they should not suffer one or more men to sacrifice their dearest interests. If they did so, they were lost forever. The Commissioners also informed them, that if a majority of the nation believed this chief to be unfit to preside over them, they had the power to elect another; and should they select an individual as their successor, he would be presented with a medal, and recognized as a principal chief. They further stated, to the chiefs, headmen and warriors, that on tomorrow the treaty would be presented for signature; and if it met the wishes of a major-

ity of the nation, the business should be concluded.

About 40 or 50 headmen and warriors came in to-day, who had been notified to attend by the runners sent out on the 3^d instant.

October 18th, 1820.

Accordingly to appointment, the Commissioners met the chiefs, headmen and warriors of the Choctaw nation, in full council, this day, and after having read and explained to them the different articles of the treaty, submitted it to them for signature. The following is a copy, with a list of the names subscribed:—

5
A Treaty of Friendship, limits and accommodation between the United States of America and the Choctaw nation of Indians, begun and concluded at the treaty ground in said nation, near Doak's stand, on the stretch Road.

Preamble. Whereas it is an important object with the President of the United States, to promote the civilization of the Choctaw Indians, by the establishment of schools amongst them; and to perpetuate them as a nation, by exchanging, for a small part of their land that a country they and the Mississippi River, where all who live by the country and will not work, may be collected and settled together. And whereas it is desirable to the State of Mississippi, to obtain a small part of the land belonging to said nation; for the mutual accommodation of the parties, and for securing the happiness and protection of the whole Choctaw nation, as well as preserving that harmony and friendship which so happily subsists between them and the United States; James Monroe, President of the United States of America by Andrew Jackson, of the

State of Tennessee, Major General in the army of the United States, and General Thomas Skidmore, of the State of Mississippi, Commissioners Plenipotentiary of the United States on the one part; and the Chingoes, headmen and warriors of the Choctaw nation, in full council assembled, on the other part, have freely and voluntarily entered into the following articles, viz:—

Art. 1. To enable the President of the United States to carry into effect the ~~good~~ grand and humane objects, the Chingoes, headmen and warriors of the Choctaw nation, in full council assembled, in behalf of themselves and the said nation, do, by these presents, cede to the United States, of America, all the land lying and being within the boundaries following, to wit:—Beginning on the Choctaw boundary, East of Pearl River, at a point due South of the White Oak Spring, on the old Indian path; thence north to said Spring; thence southwardly to a Black oak, standing on the crutching road, about forty poles Eastwardly from Roake's fence, marked D. J. and blazed, with two large pines and a black oak stand- ing near thereto, and marked as pointers; thence a straight line to the head of Black Creek, or Rouge Couee; thence down Black Creek or Rouge Couee, to a small lake; thence a direct course, so as to strike the Mississippi one mile below the mouth of ^{the} Arkansas River; thence down the Mississippi to our boundary; thence round and along the same to the beginning.

Art. 2. For and in consideration of the foregoing cession, on the part of the Choctaw nation, and in great satisfaction for the same, the Commissioners of the United States, in behalf of said States, do hereby cede to said nation, a tract of country West of the Mississippi River, situate between the Arkansas and Red Rivers, and bounded as follows:—Beginning on the Arkansas River, where the lower boundary line of the

Cherokees strikes the same; thence up the Arkansas to the Canadian Fork, and up the same to its source; thence due South to the Red River, thence down Red River, three miles below the mouth of Little River, which empties itself into Red River on the north side; thence a direct line to the beginning.

Art. 3. To prevent any dispute upon the duty of the boundaries mentioned in the 1st and 2^d articles, it is hereby stipulated between the Parties, that the same shall be ascertained, and distinctly marked by a Commissioner, or Commissioners, to be appointed by the United States, accompanied by such persons as the Choctaw nation may select; said nation having thirty days previous notice of the time and place at which the operation will commence. The person so chosen by the Choctaw, shall act as a pilot or guide, for which the United States will pay him two dollars per day, whilst actually engaged in the performance of that duty.

Art. 4. The boundaries hereby established between the Choctaw Indians and the United States, on this side of the Mississippi River, shall remain without alteration, until the period at which said nation shall become so civilized and enlightened, as to be made citizens of the United States, and Congress shall lay off a limited parcel of land, for the benefit of each family or individual in the nation.

Art. 5. For the purpose of aiding and assisting the poor Indians, who wish to remove to the country hereby ceded, on the part of the United States, and to enable them to do well and support their families, the Commissioners of the United States, engaged in behalf of said States, to give to each warrior, a Gun, Kettle, rifle pen, bullet moulds and wipers, and

ammunition sufficient for hunting and defense, for one year. Said nation shall also be supplied with corn, to support their and their family for the same period, and whilst travelling to the country above ceded to the Choctaw nation.

Art. 6. The Commissioners of the United States further covenant and agree, on the part of said States, that an agent shall be appointed in due time, for the benefit of the Choctaw Indians, who may be permanently settled in the country ceded to them beyond the Mississippi River, and at a convenient period, a factor shall be sent there with goods, to supply their wants. A Blacksmith shall also be settled amongst them, at a point most convenient to the population, and a faithful person appointed, whose duty it shall be, to use every reasonable exertion to collect all the wandering Indians belonging to the Choctaw nation, upon the land hereby provided for their permanent settlement.

Art. 7. Out of the land ceded by the Choctaw nation to the United States, the Commissioners aforesaid, in behalf of said States, further covenant and agree, that fifty-four sections of one mile square, shall be laid out in good land, by the President of the United States, and sold, for the purpose of raising a fund, to be applied to the support of the Choctaw schools, on both sides of the Mississippi River. Three fourths of said fund shall be appropriated for the benefit of the schools there; and the remaining fourth for the establishment of one or more beyond the Mississippi; the whole to be placed in the hands of the President of the United States, and to be applied by him, expressly and exclusively, to this valuable purpose.

Art. 8. To remove any discontent which may have arisen in the Choctaw nation, in consequence of six thousand dollars of the annuity having been appropriated annually, for sixteen years, by some of

23.
the chiefs, for the support of the schools, the Commissioners of the United States, oblige themselves, on the part of said States, to set apart an additional tract of good land, for raising a fund equal to that given by the said chiefs, so that the whole of the annuity may remain in the nation, and be divided amongst them. And in order that exact justice may be done to the poor and distressed of said nation, it shall be the duty of the agent, to see that the wants of every deaf, dumb, blind and distressed Indian, shall be first supplied out of said annuity, and the balance equally distributed amongst every individual of said nation.

Art. 9. All those who have separate settlements, and fall within the limits of the land ceded by the Choctaw nation to the United States, and who desire to remain where they now reside, shall be secured in a tract or parcel of land, one mile square, to include their improvements. Every one who prefers to remove, if he does so within one year from the date of this treaty, shall be paid their full value, to be ascertained by two persons, to be appointed by the President of the United States.

Art. 10. As there are some who have valuable buildings on the roads and elsewhere upon the land hereby ceded, should they remove, it is further agreed by the aforesaid Commissioners, in behalf of the United States, that the inconvenience of doing so, shall be considered, and such allowance made, as will amount to an equivalent. For this purpose, there shall be paid to the Chief Puckahemba, five hundred dollars; to Harrison, two hundred dollars; to Capt. Cobb, two hundred dollars; to Williams & Coys, two hundred dollars; to O'Leary, two hundred

dollars; and to all others who have comfortable houses,
a compensation in the same proportion.

Art. 11. It is also provided by the Com-
missioners of the United States, and they agree in behalf
of said States, that those Choctaw chiefs and warriors,
who have not received compensation for their services,
during the campaign to Pensacola, in the late war,
shall be paid whatever is due them, over and above
the value of the blanket, shirt, flap and leggings which
have been delivered to them.

Art. 12. In order to promote industry
and sobriety amongst all classes of the Red people in
this nation, but particularly the poor, it is further
provided by the parties, that the agent appointed to
reside there, shall be, and he is hereby vested with
full power to seize and confiscate all the whiskey
which may be introduced into said nation, except
that used at public stands, or brought in by the per-
mit of the principal chiefs of the three districts.

Art. 13. To enable the citizens, chiefs
and headmen of the Choctaw nation to raise and
organize a corps of light horse, consisting of ten in
each district, so that good order may be maintained,
and that all men both white and Red, may be com-
pelled to pay their just debts, it is stipulated and
agreed, that the sum of two hundred dollars shall
be appropriated by the United States, for each district
annually, and placed in the hands of the agent, to
pay the expenses incurred in raising and establish-
ing said corps, which is to act as executive officers,
in maintaining good order, and compelling those men
to remove from the nation, who are not authorized
to live in it by a regular permit from the agent.

Art. 14. Whereas the Father of the

above chief Mueskulatubbee, of the Lower Towns,
for and during his life, did receive from the United
States, the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars an-
nually, it is hereby stipulated, that this son and suc-
cessor Mueskulatubbee, shall annually be paid the
same amount, during his natural life, to com-
menced from the ratification of this treaty.

Art. 15. The peace and harmony subsist-
ing between the Choctaw nation of Indians and
the United States, are hereby renewed, continued and
declared to be perpetual.

Art. 16. These articles shall take ef-
fect, and become obligatory on the contrary par-
ties, as soon as the same shall be ratified by the
President, by and with the advice and consent of
the Senate of the United States.

In testimony whereof, the Commis-
sioner Plenipotentiary of the United States, and the prin-
cipal, headmen and warriors of the Choctaw nation,
have hereunto subscribed their names, and affixed
their seals, at the place above written, this 18th day
of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand
eight hundred and twenty, and of the Independence
of the United States, the forty-fifth.

(Signed)

Commissioners.

Andrew Jackson

Thomas Hinds

Medal Ellingoes.

Platshenutbee

Pooshamattaha

Mueskulatubbee

Choctawietonoka

Agloona

Chiefs & Warriors.

Genl. Henry Bird

James Harrison

Talking Warrior

Little Lead

Capt. Bob. Cole

Red Tent, or Colatahooma

his mark

his mark

his mark

his mark

his mark

his mark

his mark

10-18-20

Chiefs Warriors

Cheeteta X this mark
 Lohu Lrazier X this mark
 Oakehoomia X this mark
 Stoketona X this mark
 Shapahooma X this mark
 Ananchahubbee X this mark
 Copatnathoco X this mark
 Atahobia X this mark
 Alex. Hamilton
 Capt. Red Knife X this mark
 Shapahooma X this mark
 Capt. Bobb X this mark
 Hopianchahubbee X this mark
 Capt. Brasley X this mark
 Capt. Daniel McCourtain X this mark
 Mucklesahopia X this mark
 Stuekpullachubbee X this mark
 George Turnbull
 Capt. Thomas McCourtain X this mark
 Oakehoomia X this mark
 Capt. John Cairng X this mark
 Topenastonahooma X this mark
 Halatohamia X this mark
 Colo. Boyer X this mark
 Holantachanshakubbee X this mark
 Chuekahubbee X this mark
 Mashaschahopia X this mark
 Chatamahaha X this mark
 Hopiahoomia X this mark
 William Hay X this mark
 Capt. Sam. Cobb X this mark
 Lewis Braghearg X this mark
 Muckelehoomia X this mark
 Capt. Sam. Clafce X this mark
 Tichonomia X this mark
 Doct. Red Bird X this mark
 Contoola X this mark
 Pooshonshabbe, X this mark
 Capania X this mark
 Joseph Clafce X this mark
 Unahubbee X this mark
 Red Duck X this mark

Chiefs Warriors

Ulltathubbee X this mark
 Capt. Shokahatubbee X this mark
 Apehoo X this mark
 Chilantanchahubbee, X this mark
 Capt. Sapala X this mark
 Panchahubbee X this mark
 Chuekahucha X this mark
 Tallahoomia X this mark
 Totapia X this mark
 Stoketan tubbee X this mark
 Tapawanchahubbee X this mark
 Capt. Red Bird X this mark
 Capt. Jerry Carney X this mark
 Chapanchahubbee X this mark
 Tunupmia X this mark
 Ponhopia X this mark
 Tichchahubbee X this mark
 Yuttacanchahubbee X this mark
 Capt. William Beams X this mark
 Capt. James Pitchlynn
 Capt. James Garland X this mark
 Tapanahoomia X this mark
 Thlahoomia X this mark
 Tichotata X this mark
 Inoquia X this mark
 Ulltawubbee X this mark
 Palachubbee X this mark
 Sopannu X this mark
 Capt. Joel H. Clafce
 Tapanastonahamia X this mark
 Hopihamia X this mark
 Chilutahomia X this mark
 Tushiamingo X this mark
 Young Captain X this mark
 Hachatubbee X this mark
 Tichoo X this mark
 Capt. Lonanprocha X this mark
 Ullchimiabbe, X this mark
 Tushanohomia X this mark
 Tookatubbetusa X this mark
 William Fry X this mark
 Greenwood Saylor
 Strehald Clafce X this mark
 Capt. Ben. Burns X this mark
 Tusconopia X this mark

James M. ...

Choctaw Treaty Ground
19 Sept 1820.

Genl A Jackson &
Thos. Smith
Remarks & papers
relative to the Choctaw
Treaty -

Calhoun

Choctaw 1820

Edwards

Dec 1820 - 7

Cherokee Treaty Grounds,

October 19th 1820

Sir,

It is with much pleasure to inform you, that on yesterday, we concluded and signed a treaty with the Cherokee nation of Indians, by which the United States have obtained a cession of about six millions of acres of land, in exchange for the country between the Arkansas and Red River - beginning on the Arkansas, where the lower line of the Cherokee strikes the same; thence up the Arkansas River to the Canadian fork; thence up the same to its source; thence due south to Red River; thence down Red River to a point three miles below the mouth of Little River, which empties itself into Red River on the north side; thence a direct line to the defining. From an examination of the map, you will find, that Little River is about sixty miles above the Great Raft on Red River, and that we have located the Cherokee as high up the same as practicable.

Upon our first arrival in the nation, we found the Indians generally, very much opposed, either to ceding or exchanging any land. ~~Those~~ who had been in favor of a treaty were compelled to be silent, and every chief threatened with death, if he consented to sell or exchange an acre. Upon enquiring, we discovered, that their minds had been poisoned, by ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~men~~ ^{men} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~circulation~~ ^{circulation} of falsehoods, and misrepresenting the views of the American government. From these and other causes, Pucktanubee, a principal chief of the nation, was so averse to a treaty of any kind, that he gave an order to the head men and warriors from the district under his command, to bring with them only four days provisions, and not to draw a single pound of public beef. When he arrived at the treaty grounds, he was interrogated by the Commissioners as to the reason of this order, to which he replied, that ~~he~~ ^{it was} ~~did~~ ^{did} not ~~intend~~ ^{his intention} to grant any thing proposed by the United States, and ~~did~~ ^{did} not therefore, wish to subject them to any expense. At this time, there were not more than one hundred and fifty head men and warriors convened to meet us in council; and from every thing ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~he~~ ^{he} could ~~learn~~ ^{learn}, the Commissioners entertain no doubt, but that an organized opposition had been formed, to prevent the attendance of those who were in favor of the treaty, and thereby render the effort abortive. Their arrangement seemed to be, to have a partial meeting of the nation, composed principally of those opposed to negotiation, to remain upon the ground a few days, and then return home.

As soon as we distinctly ascertained the views of those malcontents, we informed the Chiefs and warriors present, that we had been sent here to treat with the whole nation, and not with a small part of it; that all were interested, and a majority must be heard, and that we should remain upon the ground forty days and nights, in order to collect them to-

getting, and deliver to them the talk of the President of the United States. We immediately dispatched two Interpreters, J. B. Mackey and Edmund Holcomb, with a talk addressed to those who had not been notified, ~~and~~ prevented by trials, from attending at the treaty. This measure had the desired effect, as a considerable number ~~arrived~~ ~~at this place~~, in a few days afterwards, and in time to give their signatures to the treaty. For further information upon these subjects, we refer you to the letter of the Red Jacket, herewith transmitted, which he actually spoke in council to the Cherokees, but not in his language. For the same purpose, we submit to your examination, the Report of the Interpreters, marked A. and that of Edmund Holcomb, marked B.

When a majority of the nation had collected, we met them in ~~the~~ council, and delivered to them the talk of the President of the United States. The views and wishes of the Government were fully explained to them, and the benefits which would result to the Cherokees, if they would hear and adopt the council and advice which had been sent them. You will find this talk recorded on the Journals, to which you are referred for further particulars.

After the return of our runners, and the great body of the nation were assembled, we gave them a second talk, which appeared to meet the wishes of all the chiefs and headmen, except Puckshambee and one of his Captains, who still continued obstinately arrayed in the opposition. On the 10th October we addressed them a third time, and on the 18th laid before them the treaty for signature, which had been previously read and explained to them in council. It met the approbation of the whole nation, and all the ~~young~~ ~~men~~ ~~and~~ ~~runners~~ ~~present~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~meeting~~, in a

full history of our proceedings, we refer you to the Journals, accompanying the treaty, both of which will be forwarded from Savannah, by ~~the~~ ~~Secretary~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~Commission~~, or some other special and trusty messenger.

When the treaty reaches you, we believe it will be found as advantageous in its provisions, as under existing circumstances, we had a right to expect. We have amply provided for the schools, on both sides of the Mississippi. This was an object truly desirable to the nation, and duly appreciated by the Commissioners. Without providing for a ~~the~~ ~~schools~~, we were satisfied that we could not obtain the signature of the treaty, securing an exchange as therein proposed. We enclose with the treaty, a plan of the Mississippi, by Wm. Cyrus Kingebury, for establishing schools in the Cherokee nation, on both sides of the Mississippi River, to which we may have to call you at ~~the~~ ~~time~~, and hope it will be adopted, as far as the funds will permit, when raised.

We must here remark, that we found ~~some~~ ~~some~~ ~~disaffection~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~nation~~, in consequence of their principal Chiefs having made a donation of part of the annuity, for the support of the schools. For the purpose of producing harmony amongst them, by which alone our success could be secured, we proposed the article raising an equal fund and one thousand dollars more, as an annuity for sixteen years. This produced all the good effects which were anticipated. For the effectuation of a similar purpose, and to give over the old chief Puckshambee, the de-

center mentioned in General Jackson's last letter was liberated, upon his producing an able classical substitute, to serve for five years. It is believed to have had some influence.

The treaty provides, that the lines to be run and marked on the boundary between the Choctaw nation and the United States, shall continue without alteration, until the period when said nation shall become so civilized as to be made citizens of the government, or removed across the Mississippi River. It also contains an article, securing to those who have separate settlements ^{within} the ceded limits, the value of their improvements, should they remove in one year from the date of the treaty. To run the boundary lines on both sides of the Mississippi, we would respectfully recommend for appointment, Henry D. Rowan and Eden Brashear, both of the State of Mississippi, as well qualified for the performance of that duty. As to the appropriation of the improvements of those who remove from the land ceded to the United States, we also suggest the propriety of selecting Mr. Gamaliel E. Orinow, a white man who resides in the nation, and Messrs. Benjamin Smith of Kentucky. They are qualified to do justice to all parties, and will give entire satisfaction to those concerned.

As regards to an article in the treaty, it is suggested, that Congress should make an appropriation, as soon as convenient, to provide for the warriors who served in the campaign to Pensacola. They have been imprudently upon the subject, and should be paid the amount owed them, as early as possible. A number of papers, with which we have been furnished, relative to this subject will be communicated to you.

You will receive accompanying the treaty, a request from the Chiefs, headmen and warriors of the Choctaw nation, in favor of Noble Osborne and Alexander Hamilton, which it is our desire should be laid before Congress, and the object of the petition granted. Should a law be passed in favor of Hamilton, it is suggested, that he ought to be restricted, so as to be prevented from locating his settlement on a town site, or on any portion of land set apart for the support of schools in the Choctaw nation. Hamilton is three fourths white man, and a native of the country. He has been a soldier, and was at one time, appointed an officer in the army of the United States. He is poor, and we have promised to use our endeavors to secure to him this grant of land, and that he be made a citizen, and subject to our laws. Mr. Osborne has, for ~~many years~~ ^{many years}, kept a United States' stand on the public road, running through the nation. His treatment to both Indians and white men, has given general satisfaction, and all have interceded in his behalf.

We are also requested by the Chiefs, headmen and warriors, to lay before you, this petition, in favor of Mr. Strawn. We consented to comply with the wish, but had to observe, that he is a white man, who has ~~been~~ ^{at various times} married, in the nation, and who we cannot say is more entitled to exclusive privileges or advantages, than many other white men who reside amongst the Choctaw Indians. The application of Greenwood

before, to become a citizen of the United States, and have his action of
to exclude his improvement
land, become ^{to him in fee}, is believed to be just and reasonable, and
ought to be granted. It will, it is presumed, have a good effect, and in a short
time, induce all those who ^{remain} on this side of the Mississippi, to petition for
the same privilege. The application of George Turnbull, and others ^{of}
the same are reasonable, and should also be granted by Congress. 99

Upon the subject of ^{the} Petition of the Chiefs, Choctaw and War-
riors, for the sale of certain reservations, the process of which are to be applied
to the benefit of the nation, after deducting the expense of surveying; the Com-
missioners have approved of the same, and pledged themselves to use
their influence to have it effected. The paper with the signatures obtained
by
Mr. Silas Demore, we disapprove as unjust, underhand, and as a bad
precedent. It proposes an appropriation of part of Turkey Town for this
benefit. It is not the wish of the nation, and in our opinion, ought not
to be granted.

For the purpose of carrying into effect the 1st article of the
treaty, it is important, that a confidential person should be appointed,
who speaks the Choctaw language, whose duty it shall be, to collect
all those who wish to remove beyond the Mississippi, and conduct
them thither. The blankets, ⁴⁰ kettles, guns, bullet moulds, ⁴⁰ ammunition and
provisions given in said article, in order to facilitate their removal, should
be forwarded to the agent, at as ^{a period} early as possible, after the ratification of
the treaty. The confidential person appointed to collect and conduct ^{them beyond}

the Mississippi, should, from time to time, report the number to the agent,
by whom they are to be supplied with the articles abovementioned.

It is also important, that the agency ^{should} be removed
to a point, which may now be considered the centre of the nation. We
have no doubt, from the information which has reached us since the
treaty was signed, that at least two thirds of the nation here, will re-
move to the country ceded them, if the intended facilities are afforded
them. This remainder of this nation will then be prepared to have the
laws of the United States extended over them, and it is hoped we shall
no longer witness the disgrace and absurdity of holding treaties with
the Indians residing within our territorial limits.

We have the gratification to state to you, that the funds
placed in our hands, to meet the expenses incurred by the treaty, have not
been exceeded. The manner in which they have been expended, is spread upon
your Journal, with the receipts accompanying it, as far as they could be
procured. In justice to the public spirit of the late Governor Holmes,
and other gentlemen of the State of Mississippi, we must inform you,
that ten thousand dollars were placed in our hands, as an auxiliary
fund in obtaining this treaty, so desirable to that State. It has not been
found necessary to use it, and has consequently been returned.

By this treaty, the State of Mississippi has obtained
a tract of country, sufficient for ten additional counties. It will open

a country within the limits, capable of embracing a population double
her present numbers. With regard to the Indians, ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~country~~ ^{country} ~~is~~ ^{is}
to them beyond the Mississippi, will have the happy effect of gradually
draining this nation of all those whose habits and dispositions are
opposed to industry and improvement, and whose absence will
greatly facilitate the views of the Government in the civilization of
those who remain.

Enclosed ^{herewith,} you will receive a letter signed Mr. J.
Everett, relative to some goods said to be stolen from Joel H. Crail, a half breed
of the nation. Upon this statement of Everett, that Crail procured the petition
accompanying the letter. We cannot certainly determine upon the justice of the
claim, but were informed by John Pritchlynn, United States Interpreter, that
the provision for his benefit which Crail has solicited ought not to be
made. From these expressions of Mr. Pritchlynn, he refused to sign the petition.
We however, felt it our duty, in compliance with the wish of those by
whom it is subscribed, to communicate it, ^{so} that justice may be done.

The petition of the Half breed, herewith enclosed, praying
that a law may pass, conferring upon them the privileges of citizens of the United
States, is reasonable, and properly demands the attention of Congress. There are a
number of other ignorant and intelligent men of the same description in the
nation, who, we have understood, are desirous of obtaining the same privilege,
and we have no objection to that which may be

granted by the Government. It may have the happy effect of producing a
similar disposition amongst that class throughout the nation. They will be
enabled to make more rapid progress in education, by which alone they can be
prepared to become citizens of the United States. Those, whose habits are op-
posed to civilization, will also be induced to remove; and if this idea
is properly encouraged, in the course of ten years, all on this side of the Mis-
sissippi will be made citizens of the Government. Even the old chief
Puckshemabee, has expressed to us his intention of remaining on his plan-
tation, within the limits, and be protected by the laws of the United
States.

As soon as the objects of the Government in relation to the
Choctaw nation, on the other side of the Mississippi, ^{are} in a state of ^{progression} ~~progression~~
we would suggest the necessity of appointing an Interpreter to reside
amongst them. We would respectfully recommend, for this purpose, Mr.
Edmund Holcome, now Interpreter of the Six Towns in this nation. He has
consented to go over. He speaks both languages well; is an honest man, and
may be relied on as a faithful friend of the United States.

You will also receive herewith, a petition, with a num-
ber of names subscribed, the object of which is, to displace the old chief
Puckshemabee, and elect a successor. Owing to his obstinate opposition to

the treaty until the last moment, ^{he} excited the displeasure of almost all
~~the~~ ^{his} ~~the~~ ~~heads~~ ~~men~~ and warriors present. They proposed electing a successor
before the treaty was signed; but afterwards, ^{determined} to ~~perme~~ ~~the~~ ~~course~~ ~~adopted~~.
When the question was presented to us, and whilst it was in circulation,
we informed its friends, that the Commissioners would have no agency
in the transaction, that it was a concern which belonged to the nation,
and that they must dispose of it as they thought proper. From their
impartialities, however, we consented to communicate the papers en-
closed, as an expiation of their wishes upon the subject.

In the satisfaction of the President of the United States,
we transmit an aggregate of the expenses incurred during the treaty, save those
necessary for the return of General Jackson and suite, which cannot at this
time, be estimated with certainty. All the vouchers will be forwarded with the treaty.

Believe, with the highest consideration and respect,

Yrs. mo. &c. &c.

Andrew Jackson

Thomas Mims

Comms

Edw. J. C. Calhoun

Secretary at War