

then boundary of their late session was not, by some hundred thousand acres, run off as high up the Chattahoochee as, by the articles of treaty, it should have been. To the evidence adduced by the agent Col. Wales, in confirmation of this opinion, we are able to add something of our own. While reversing that country as one of the engineers in the service of the state, in 1826, we were personally assured by its people that the true dividing line, running westward between the Creeks and Cherokees was considerably north of our run, which was direct from Gates ferry in Gwinnett county, to the Missionary stand on the Etowah; which latter place, according to an observation taken, en passant, is in latitude 33 deg. 28 minutes. Our informants expressed considerable disappointment and rejoicing, that they, who conceived themselves within Creek limits, had been set off to the Cherokees. They had felt much inquietude from an apprehension that their nation, the Creeks, would ere long be compelled to relinquish all their lands to Georgia, in which event they must needs abandon their dwellings and their home; but were gratified to learn that they had, in the issue, been left in the quiet possession of both, far within the Cherokee Nation.

NEW ECHOTA:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1829.

The progress of emigration is but slow. At the present rate, it will be a great while before the Cherokee Nation is removed. And if the prices now paid for improvements is continued throughout, it will cost the United States millions of dollars. It will be a dear emigration. The subject is creating an increased interest among our citizens—meetings are held in various places, and decided and unanimous opinion is given that it is not to the interest of the Cherokees to remove to the western wilderness. A meeting, it appears, was held at Turkey Town, the result of which the reader will see in our present number. Another was held, a few days ago, at the house of William Hicks, Esq. An address was drawn in Cherokee, which was published in our best. It is signed by a committee of seventeen persons, viz: three from Hightower, two from Pine Log, one from Oostabahale, one from Chutoogah, two from Din-town, three from Springtown and two from Oongillogy. We hope it will not be said, that these meetings are occasioned by improper interference of the Chiefs—the Chiefs have had nothing to do with them.

The frivolous claim advanced by Georgia to a part of our Country shows, too manifestly, the nature of her boasted rights, and the inconsistency of her proceedings. It appears from the summary of the evidence collected by Col. Wales, to prove that the real boundary line between the Cherokees and Creeks was as far north as the High Tower river, that that evidence originates from the Indians, & is all hearsay, which would be of little avail in a court of law. The additional testimony furnished by the editor of the Stats. & Pat. (which see in a preceding column) is also of the same kind—he heard Indians say so and so. Now what says the law of Georgia? "No Indian or descendant of Indians, residing within the Creek or Cherokee Nation of Indians, shall be a competent witness, or a party to any suit, to which a white man is a party." Will it be contended that the evidence in question was given previous to the passage of the law? The Indians then were once capable of telling the truth if they are not now. Or are the words of the Indian manufactured into truth after passing the mouth of the white man in the form of a deposition? It appears that Indians' testimony will be received when it is considered to the advantage of the State, even when the law declares such testimony unavailing in a court of justice. How shall we account for such inconsistencies?

We stated in our last, that previous to the establishment of the present boundary line between the Creeks and Cherokees, there was no other which was considered a line by either party. We believe this to be strictly correct. We will, however, assert further, that the Cherokees had a better right to the country south of said line than the Creeks north of it—and it is not at all unlikely, that if the Cherokees were as powerful as the State of Georgia, & were governed by similar principles, they would now be attempting to wrest the country of Carroll and Coweta from their neighbors. Why? Because many of our citizens believe, and no doubt can testify to that effect, that the Creeks is counsel a

Fort Jackson, on the 9th day of August, 1814, did agree that the boundary should commence at Vann's Store on the waters of Ockmulgee. It was the intention of the Cherokees at that Council to agree with the Creeks on their boundary, which was then unsettled, and the following, which we copy from a printed document, was committed to writing as expressing the agreement made by the parties.

THE UNDERSIGNED, head men, chiefs and warriors of the Cherokee & Creek nations, availing themselves of the present happy occasion, of the United States giving peace and boundaries to the Creek nation; and having had an amicable interview, at which the subject of their boundaries has been in the most friendly manner discussed, have unanimously agreed, that the following described line shall forever hereafter be acknowledged, by the parties respectively, to be their permanent boundary line, viz:

Beginning at a point where Vann's store formerly stood, on the waters of the Ockmulgee river, this point being well known to the parties respectively; and from thence continued to the Coosa river, crossing the same at the place where the present military road crosses the said river, and drawn from thence in a straight line, & crossing a fork of the Black-warrior river a little below the old town burnt by General Coffee; and in the same direction continued until it shall intersect the Chickasaw lands: thence leading to the Flat rock, or old corner boundary, this being known to the Cherokees by the appellation of the long leafed pine: for this point, viz: Flat rock, or old corner boundary, reference is had to the convention made and concluded at Washington City, between the United States and the Cherokees, on the 7th day of January 1806.

The parties respectively request Major General Andrew Jackson to present a certified copy of the above arrangement to their Father, the President of the United States.

Done in the council house at Fort Jackson, the 9th day of August, 1814.

The above was, however, merely a verbal agreement, for it appears that the formality of a treaty was not concluded, this having been deferred at the request of the principal chiefs, and by the advice of Maj. Gen. Andrew Jackson. But an instrument was drawn, expressing the sentiments of the Cherokees and Creeks on the subject, which we request the reader to peruse attentively. No intimation is given that either the Cherokees or Creeks knew of any boundary line then existing.

Be it known and remembered, That the Cherokee and Creek chiefs assembled at Fort Jackson; the first with a view to agree with the latter on a boundary line dividing the lands of the two nations: That, on proposition being made by the first to make a definitive settlement of the boundaries of said lands, the second replied, that they had no objection at some time to settle their boundary with the first: that in the present distressed state of their nation they could not enter into the business with that consideration and deliberation which the subject required; but that until this could be done they had no objections to the Cherokees settling themselves down on lands which they might deem to be clearly within their proper boundaries, and that it is their desire to live in amity with the Cherokees, and would ever consider them as their good friends and neighbors, and would render them all the friendly offices within their power.

Done at Fort Jackson, the 9th day of August, 1814.

The above contains the voluntary and friendly arrangement entered into between the Chiefs of the Cherokee nation of Indians, and the Chiefs of the Creek nation, requested to be committed to writing and attested by us. Agreeably thereto, the same is committed to writing, and attested by us.

ANDREW JACKSON,
Maj. Gen. Com'g.
BENJAMIN HAWKINS,
Agent of I. S.
RETURN J. MEIGS,
Agent for the Cherokees.
August 9th 1814.

The following is an extract of a letter addressed to the Editor, dated,

JAFFREYVILLE C. N. Jan. 29, 1829.

I write to inform you, that those of this place, who have emigrated to the Arkansas Country have sold their stocks and improvements to citizens of the United States. Those who have bought their places are at this time moving in, and some

of them have already moved and are in possession of those places. Some of the emigrating party are now lying at Gunter's Landing waiting for a tide. It appears that the preceding of this people will be the cause of considerable confusion between the Cherokees and the whites. Our citizens, I believe, would wish to take possession of these improvements, if it were not for their white neighbors, who think they have a greater right to them.

We are obliged to you for his communication. Our limits will not allow us to insert but a short extract of it.

"The Indian is obliged to look up to the white man for protection. This protection the white man has solemnly promised to the Indian, in their great Councils. The white man is bound to keep the Indian in his arms, to shelter him from all dangers; and the time has come when this promise must be put to the test. It is not for me to say in what way it will be disposed. All that we can do is to place our confidence in our elder brother—if his promise is violated we must then be subject to his future proceedings, for power is in his hands. If he says to us, you must move west of the Mississippi, we will then, perhaps, be obliged to move, but it will not be congenial to our feelings—for the country is not desirable—it is inhabited by a few savage nations of Indians.

If the white man wishes to civilize the Indians, why does he send them to the west? Would a removal thither be civilization? No, I would rather be inclined to think that it would be placing them in a more savage, destitute and deplorable condition. The Indians from time immemorial were savages, and knew nothing about civilization, until they mingled with the whites—all that the Indians know, they have derived from their white brethren. Why is it that an attempt is made to drive them into darkness again? The cause is, avaricious disposition. The possessions of the Indians are quite small, and their numbers are but insignificant, but they do not wish to be driven like a great herd of Antelopes."

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON CITY,

8th Feb. 1829.

I transmit you by this mail a Document printed for the use of Congress, containing a correspondence between Col. Thos. L. McKenney and Col. Montgomery on the subject of the late plan of emigration. It unveils some important points, to which we have hitherto been kept in darkness, and perhaps may not be uninteresting to your readers in the Nation.

You will perceive that Captain Rogers was a confidential agent of the Secretary of War, sent out to open our eyes, and to explain to us the kind of soil, climate, and the prospects that awaited us in the West." Col. McKenney in his letter to the agent, informing him of this confidential plenipotentiary appointment, &c. says, "much, if not all his success, will depend upon the keeping of the subject of his visit a SECRET, you will by no means make it known." A secret agent then with an empty Captain's commission by way of recommendation, whose success depended upon secret management and intrigue! He that hath business with us of either a private or public nature, let him be open, candid and upright in his actions; if he assumes a mysterious character, he becomes at once contemptible, even to the poorer class. Captain Rogers is a man well known in this country, and would I could say advantageously known as a man of integrity and reputation, since a confidential minister to our nation. Explanations; when manufactured by men to subserve private interest, are not likely to effect much with people who are better able to make their own calculations as to their probable happiness in a change of life; and who need not, at this time, great inducements, or zealous efforts of secret agents to win them over to the enjoyment of true comfort, when offered. Many of the Indian tribes in the North West, yet in a state of heathenish state of ignorance and degradation, are led implicitly by their agents; if this has been the case with the Cherokees, I am happy to say it is far from being so now. The means adopted in the affair of Rogers and Spears add nothing to the character of the Govern-

ment, or I would rather say of those of its officers, who, after selecting an agent of their choice, and sending him to the nation, enjoining secrecy, that he might not be known as an agent, should, after he had introduced himself, by improper conduct, into a difficulty, say he was an officer of the Government, and as such should be protected.

Col. McKenney says that it would be a great object for the emigrants to ascend as high up the Arkansas as possible, and recommended that flat boats should be built in place of keeled boats on that account. Now did you ever hear of a man before that would prefer a flat to a keeled boat to navigate upstream, or that would prefer a tin to a brass kettle in which to boil a buffalo's head? He also says, that it is with the chiefs of the Southern Indians, a fixed purpose, by threats and otherwise, to keep their people from emigrating. The remedy is "the presence of an armed force!" Can the Cherokees be included in this paragraph? I presume they are, as they are often blended with other Tribes to their injury in the public reports. The writer is certainly very ignorant of our condition, or, like the great nabob (M.) cares too little for rhetoric. At stated periods the Chiefs are created by the people, and if they are displeased at them, and but will it, they can turn them out, and reduce them to the ranks of common citizens. For what reasons, then, should the Chiefs be tyrannical, or the people be afraid of their Chiefs. How much better would it have been, if the presence of this military force had been recommended as a remedy for removing intruders from our lands.

You will also perceive that the Honorable Secretary entertains an opinion that a greater portion of the "poorer Indians are disposed to emigrate." This opinion I presume is founded upon Col. McKenney's report of the Cherokees (without ever seeing them) after his visit to the Creeks. It is not to be proven by the fruits of his confidential agent's labors. I am informed that most of those who have enrolled are white men and half breeds, under the promise of getting large sums for their improvements. The poorer class of people are not so soon led into a speculation of this kind. Although the agent has been guarded against an unnecessary waste of a cent of the public money, I cannot but believe that every cent that has been, or may be expended under the treaty of the Arkansas Cherokees, to induce our removal, is an unnecessary waste of the public money, that might have been applied to much better uses. Suppose one half of the Indians residing within the limits of Georgia were to emigrate, and paid for their improvements; would this give to the United States a title to the land? No: If there were but 500 citizens left in the country, the title would yet be with them, and the United States must enter into a treaty before their title can be legally extinguished.

9th February.
I had the honor of seeing the celebrated Indian Chief Red Jacket, who arrived in the City yesterday.

The object of his visit I have not learned. I am sorry to say that he was already intoxicated when I saw him. I believe he has been accompanied by two or three other Indians.

RIDGE'S FERRY,
Feb. 22, 1829.

MR. BOUDINOTT,

Sir—William B. Wofford of Georgia, I am informed, has started a claim in the legislature of Georgia to a part of our territory, from Sawney old town, on the Chattahoochee river, to the Six's on the Hightower, and down the river to its intersection with the western charter line of Georgia, embracing all, or nearly all the District of Hightower; and on his motion, Gov. Forsyth is instructed to obtain proofs of the validity of this claim, under the treaty of the Indian Springs, concluded with Gen. McIntosh of the Creek Nation, who ceded the whole of the Creek lands in the chartered limits of Georgia. I am also informed that affidavits or depositions are taken from citizens of Georgia and the frontier, to corroborate the claim, as having in their recollection, a treaty concluded by the Cherokees with the Creeks, by which the former surrendered the lands embraced by the aforementioned claim.

Be it known, therefore, to said Wofford, who is grossly ignorant of treaty stipulations, and to deponents

on this subject; and to all whom it may concern, that a treaty of boundary was several years ago concluded by said parties, Gen. McIntosh being commissioner on the part of the Creeks, and that a copy of it is deposited in the War Department at Washington—that the Indian Spring treaty of McIntosh, which cost him his life, is annulled and made void by the subsequent treaty of Washington between the United States and Creeks, and in that treaty the boundary line between the Creeks and the Cherokees is distinctly acknowledged in writing; and that the United States' surveyors followed the line from Buzzard Roost on the Chattahoochee river towards the Mouth of Wills Creek on the Coosa River, to the Forty five mile point on said line as provided for by the Treaty of Washington. For further particulars I request these claimants to be undeceived by the Hon. M. Plessou Berrien Senator of Georgia, and Mr. Cobb, who were representing the State of Georgia at the ratification of said treaty.

JOHN RIDGE.

COOSA RIVER, IN TURKEY TOWN,
C. N. 29th February, 1829.

TO THE CHEROKEE PUBLIC,

The undersigned, in behalf of a town meeting, composed of the Citizens of Turkey town, take the liberty of addressing you through the public Journal of our Nation, on the subject of emigration to the west, to which the United States have called their attention. The view we take of this measure, and the sentiments we will take occasion to express, will be simple and plain, founded on truth as handed down to us by our ancestors. Limited in knowledge and possessing but a small share of experience, our apology in this attempt is in the interest we feel in every thing that concerns the well being of our Nation. Our ancestors settled in this place at a period not now in our recollection. Here was sacred ground, and on this spot the Council fire blazed with lustre, and here were the dwellings and seats of Kings and our beloved Chiefs!—We speak of days when we lived in the hunter's state, and when our feet were swift in the track of game.

Conceded Washington, after having smoked the pipe of peace with our Chiefs, sent us word to discontinue the pursuit of vagrant habits, and adopt those more substantial, and become cultivators of the soil. His successors pursued, in regard to us, the same policy, and sent to us the same Talk from time to time—that as game was precarious and liable to destruction, the bosom of the earth afforded means of subsistence, both infinite and inexhaustible. But time was not allowed us to experience the blessings of putting this recommendation to practice by interested wicked white men, who lived near to us, and who esteemed us a nuisance, because the Great Spirit had placed our habitations in a desirable Country, and because they themselves had crossed the Big Water (the Ocean) and had become our neighbors. The bitter cup of adversity was filled to us on every side, by our enemies. Our safety was often endangered by intrigue and misrepresentation of our character to the General Government; and it was not mental or natural disability that opposed itself to our advancement in civilization, but the obstacles placed in our way to reach it.

The Indians were represented as incapable of learning the arts of civilized life, and at the same time, treated in the most uncivil manner. They were savagely revengeful, because they had the spirit to resent the murder of their friends & relations. They were rogues and thieves, because, not knowing the method of legal processes to obtain justice, and if they did, their oath decreed to be non-availing, they retaliated in the same way. They were drunkards, because intoxicating liquors were introduced among them. They were disinclined to the study of books, because some few superficially educated under bad instruction had betrayed their countrymen and had set bad examples. They were stubborn, because they loved the land that had been endeared to them as an inheritance of their fathers. This flood of inconsistency raged with violence over the heads of our Chiefs & swept with its waves, from under their feet, the earth, for which they had struggled for ages past. In this way our territory diminished, and our inheritance was circumscribed to its present bounds.

