RATIFIED TREATY NO. 48

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATION OF THE

TREATY OF OCTOBER 25, 1805, WITH THE CHEROKEE INDIANS

General D. Smith
address to the Chickasaw
1805. Treaty

Treaty Papers
1804 & 1805

Brothers.

We have heard & considered the request of our Father the President thro. his beloved men the Commissioners to let him have the land between East & West Tennessee.

Brothers it requires much thought and consideration when we are requested to part with our lands; But we have a confidence in our father the President, that he will not take from us any land that is necessary for us to live on, We confide in his wisdom & in his good disposition & faithfully care for his red children. we consent therefore to let him have the land which he asks of us. We take this occasion to express our minds on the subject of selling lands. Our Father the President knows our situation & circumstances - He knows the extent of our Country better than we do ourselves - He knows our numbers as well as we do ourselves - He knows that we are increasing in numbers. & that to raise Cattle & Corn & Cotton, that it will require a good deal of land, and we begin to see the advantage of agriculture.

Our father knows the cause why many Indian Nations in America have come to nothing & therefore knows what we ought to do to save our nation from coming to nothing as those nations have done.

We wish him therefore to act like a real father to his own Children & we hope & believe he will do so - We wish to keep as much of our land as will be best for us - We cannot think of our selling our land on the South side of Tennessee River. We wish our father would tell us how much land he wants of us, & how much he thinks we ought to sell - & that he will then tell us that he will not ask us for any more. We put ourselves into his hands in the presence of the

great Spirit, in confidence that our father will really consider us his Children, & that we are with him the Children of the Great Spirit. who made the white people & the red people, that we are all come from him. & ought to be considered as one great family. & never to hurt one another. We have not yet acquired so much Knowledge as the white people, & therefore for our protection & preservation we have put ourselves into the Hands of our Brothers of the United States. And as we Know that there is some bad people who have not the fear of God before their Eyes. who would wrong us & would if they could take away all our land. We therefore do renew our friendship with the Good people of the United States, & request that our Father will take what we have said into his wise consideration, & lay his hand on his heart & then do with us as he thinks will be best for us & for our Children that are growing up. If we did not think him to be a wise man & a good man, we would not do this: but if he is a Good man, as we believe he is, we Know that he will not take any advantage of our Situation to wrong us, we therefore repeat what we have before said, & put our selves & property under his protecting, fatherly Hand, in the presence of the Great Spirit who Knows all Our hearts & whose

For the Cherokee's
have been copied
& may get the 9 use
25 Dec. 1805

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Friends and Brothers. —

It is with uncommon pleasure we meet you now at this place — for all countenances are pleasing, and we have confidence that the busines we have undertaken will now be effected.

Brothers, after we had concluded to keep the treaty open till this time, we wrote you a letter to your green corn dance stating to you that we would meet you here, and that at this time we would make proposals concerning the land we are about to buy. — ~~The fact~~ You replied to us in general terms, brothers you have held out your hands to us we accept it. This does not clearly point out which of the proposals you accept. We think it ought to be the first namely the State line. Those people of this State who have long had claims to land there will always be clamorous and unceasingley apply to the General Goverment to procure lands from you up to that line. It is not a small matter to stop their mouths, when the land has been long promised — and then you will cease to be pestered with the ~~lay~~ claims of the people of this State. They are your nearest neighbours and Harmony will prevail. You will be brothers indeed. Your intercourse will be very great, ~~and you will become the same people~~. Their eyes are now turned on you and their ears open to hear your determination. Besides the sum of money we give you for the purchase is very great. We told you at Hiwassa how much it was — and that the mode of payment should be made agreeable to you. We hope few words are needed to cause you to accept these terms, and that all will believe 'tis best for you and us.

Talk sent by a
Number of Chiefs to
the Chiefs to meet in
30 Nights at Willstown
12th August 1805.

10-25-05

South West point Ferry august 12th 1805 —

Friend & Brother —

We have met here & had some little talks which we are now going to write to you as the commissioners are still urging of us for the Land

We wish all our people to meet at Wills Town in thirty nights from this day which is the time [illegible] on to meet & reconsider the proposals of the United States & to hold our Green corn Dance — We hope you will all attend — you that are at home Dont hear nor see what is acting & saying amongst the whites — it keeps us very uneasy we therefore wish to see you all & inform you — so that we may have these things finally settled — If these things were trifling we would not trouble you — But as it is matters of of great consequence We wish to meet you & tell you, & consult for the best — Dont let any of your people [illegible] off but all attend at the time every man make his mind about it & be not foolish But attend & hear —

We are your Brothers present

Path Killer
Katigiskee
Double Head
Tolunturskee
Slave Boy —
The Seed
Parch corn flour
Skiuka
Sequeechee
Chuee
Clenno — or Gourd —

Samuel Riley
Interpreter —

Daniel Smith
&
Return of Meigs
to the Secy War inclosing
Treaties 2nd. Nov.
—— 1805 ——

Copy

1532

Southwest Point 2d. Nov. 1805.

Sir

The conference at Tellico has ended - the result is two treaties. which are herewith inclosed - It has cost us much labour & attention to effect them: But we hope they will be approved by Government.

We are Sir

with great respect

your Ob.t Servants

Daniel Smith

Return J Meigs

Henry Dearborn Esq.r

Secretary of War.

(Copy)