3-8-1870

Cherokee Nation. Letter from Lewis Downing, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, in closing petitions of numbers of various tribes against a proposed territorial government over them.
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8, 1870.

Sir: Herewith we have the honor of presenting through you to the honorable the Congress of the United States, petitions signed by the qualified voters of Tahlequah, Cooieskooie, and Going Snake districts of our nation. Petitions from the other six districts of the Cherokees, we are advised, will be transmitted in a few days. These petitions have been circulated among the Cherokee people, and it will be seen that they are based upon the right of petition secured to the Cherokees by their treaty of 1846 with the United States, and set forth substantially the objections of the Cherokee people to any territorial form of government over them that Congress may devise, other than the international government provided by the treaty of 1866 between the United States and the Cherokees, Creeks, Seminoles, Chickasaws, and Choctaws, to consist of a general council, the genius and character of which are clearly defined in said treaties. In the name of the Cherokee people, we ask that these petitions receive respectful consideration, and we feel that it is our duty to add that the people of the Indian nations of the southwest are unanimous in their aversion to the proposed territorial government.

We have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient, humble servants,

LEWIS DOWNING,
Principal Chief Cherokee Nation,
SAM'L SMITH,
ARCHIE SCRAPER,
J. P. DAVIS,
C. N. VANN,
W. P. ADAIR.
Cherokee Delegation.

Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE,
 Speaker House of Representatives.
GENTLEMEN: It has come to our knowledge that it is seriously proposed to introduce in the Congress of the United States, measures having for their object the placing the various Indian tribes and nations of the southwest under a territorial government other than the general council provided for by the treaties of 1866.

We need not remind you that the establishment of such a government over us would work our certain and speedy extinction by subjecting us to the absolute rule of a people foreign to us in blood, language, customs, traditions, and interests, who would speedily possess themselves of our homes, degrade us in our own estimation, and leave us a prey to the politicians and land speculators, thus destroying the unity of our race and producing national disintegration.

We have received the above information with apprehension and serious alarm, regarding, as we do, the above policy, if adopted by Congress, as the prelude to our funeral march to the grave, and we enter our solemn, deliberate, unanimous protest against the consummation of so unjust, oppressive, and cruel a measure, calling on all the various Indian tribes and nations of the southwest to cooperate with us in resisting such measures by all lawful, peaceful, and honorable means at their command.

We do not believe, however, that a majority of the Congress of the United States would be found to sanction a scheme calculated to prove so destructive to us as a people, so subversive of the policy of the United States government from its earliest dealings with the Indians, and the inevitable tendency of which would be to blot us out of existence, both as a people and as individuals.

We hereby proclaim ourselves the friends of the United States government; that we are ready to defend it with our lives, if necessary; that all we ask is that its legislative body will not forget that we hold our lands in fee simple, by letters patent from the President of the United States; that those lands were bought and paid for in cash and in exchange for lands deemed more desirable by the United States; and that our national character is recognized and confirmed again and again by the highest laws known to political societies, namely, treaties; which guarantee that the jurisdiction of no State or Territory of the United States shall ever be placed over us as without our consent. All we ask that good faith and justice be shown to us, and that a policy may not be adopted toward us which would be productive only of evil, and which could never be practically enforced without our utter destruction.

We know that we are but few in numbers and weak, while the people of the United States are many and strong, and we appeal to their greatness and magnanimity to spare us from a forced extinction. We had been "moving on" for generations, and hoped when we settled here that we had at length found a place of rest, and that our council fires would burn as brightly west of the Father of Waters as they had done centuries ago on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. Like the people of the United States, we are men created by the same God, and accountable to Him for our acts, and we beseech our white brethren not to stir up strife which would result in depriving us of every remaining right and guarantee now enjoyed by us. The doctrine that irresistible destiny requires our national extinction, and with it our annihilation as individuals, is abhorrent to the feelings of a common humanity, and we implore the people and government of the United...
States not to precipitate our fate by doing violence, not only to solemn

treaty stipulations, but to the laws of nature and of nature's God!

Finally, in the exercise of the right of petition "for the redress of
grievances and the discussion of rights," guaranteed to us by article
second, treaty of 1846, we hereby request you, as our chief and as our

national delegates at the city of Washington, to place this our respect­
ful remonstrance against the policy foreshadowed by the information

which has reached us, before the President of the United States and

heads of the executive departments, and before the presiding officers of

the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Con­

gress assembled.

With great respect and confidence in your fidelity and patriotism,

we are, gentlemen, very sincerely yours, &c.,

Nathaniel Fish, ch'n.
Rufus Ross, secretary.
Lewis A. Ross.
Will P. Fields.
John Meigs.
Stephen F. Wade.
Warren Miller.
W. P. McCoy.
O. P. Daniel.
James Timson.
John Hendricks.
George W. Ross.
M. P. Turner.
Henry Lamrey.
J. Gladney.
James Mehlin.
W. W. Ross.
Arch. Cockran.
Looney Cockran.
David Williams.
Water Falling.
Robert McPhirson.
Aaron Bible.
Jash Robbin.
Tolar Mayes.
John Scilale.
John Hicks.
William Brown.
Benjamin Robins.
Joe Sparrowhawk.
W. H. Turner.
Coburn Cardrey.
Lewis Cardrey.
Chuir.
Tom Tee-her.
Simon Sanders.
Jack Roberson.
Looney McClain.
Hog Shooter.
Johnson Proctor.
George Fox.
George Claw-Star-Mer.

Ned Oo-ge-Scale.
Toolun Feeling.
John Towsy.
High.
Johnson Fileds.
Charles Cockrn.
William Woodall.
John Gladney.
Hunter Brown.
William Downing.
Willkerson Parish.
Nutun Hubard.
Alfred McCay.
Joseph Gladney.
Joshua Robbins.
Lewis Miller.
George Fauman.
Hirun Mooody.
W. S. G. Miller.
Thomas Carlile.
Robert R. Meigs.
Tuylet Margan.
John Wicket.
George Arsene.
Silas D. Ross.
Lawyer.
T. P. Wolfe.
J. B. Jones.
Joseph Hendricks.
William Batey.
George Runabout.
Noah Parrish.
Harison Williams.
R. A. Reese.
Eli Spears.
John Sequoyah.
John Hill.
Tah-se-ke-yar-ke.
George.
Joseph Vann.
Drum Fish.
Benjamin Fish.

Jeff. Balen.
Ezekiel Tucker.
Joe Keener.
James Downing.
Money Hunter.
Robbin Payne.
Price Cochran.
Cut-sa-te-he.
Joe Hozey.
Thomas Sequoyah.
Major Shade.
Moses Catcher.
George Still, jr.
Jacob Henson.
Jumper Blackburn.
Houston.
Flea Downing.
Peter Downing.
Tarapin.
Pumpkin Pile.
James P. Pile.
Charley.
Dah-te-stah.
Barney Hughes.
Ezekiel Hughes.
Car-lun.
Lewis Still.
Joe Downing.
Bar Pettil.
Jesse Johnson.
Joe Keener.
Dah-ya-la-ru.
Levi.
Ned Wofford.
Squirrel Carey.
George Downing.
Dick Carey.
Tosel Nole.
Little Bird.
Ben Catcher.
Daniel Keener.
Charly Henson.
- John.
- Alex. Bird Chopper.
- John More.
- Spirit Sequoyah.
- J. Downing.
- Chickry.
- Good Money.
- Daniel Blackfox.
- Abram Belard.
- George Still.
- Jackson R. Conrad.
- Jesse Radman.
- John Wilkinson.
- Flying.
- Jesse.
- Joseph Sourjohn.
- Wildcat.
- Johnson James.
- Wash.
- Chicken Manning.
- Stephen Foreman.
- George Fields.
- Switzler Lowrey.
- William Roach.
- Tom Keener.
- Arch James.
- Tah-cuh-yah-crow.
- William Guess.
- Looney Guess.
- Pigeon-on-the-tree.
- George Woodward.
- Keenah.
- Moses Scoutihu.
- Te-cuh-so-taw-tee.
- Cunnick Sixkiller.
- George Ta-char-ke-se.
- Taw-you-ru-se.
- Wilson.
- Ned.
- Youah Oomwah.
- Ground Hog.
- John McCarty.
- Moses Downing.
- Bush Flying.
- William Welch.
- Joe Hoostah.
- Wat.
- John George.
- Da-cah.
- Ned.
- Michael Dann.
- Robert Coodey.
- Thomas Coodey.
- Ellis Johnson.
- Black Bird.
- Looney.
- Wilson Sanders.
- Mike Carey.
- George P. Pile.
- Tah-la-lah.
- Lucy Hawk.
- Hawk.
- Path Killer.
- Adam Hawk.
- Car-la-ne-tah.
- William Woodall.
- Rattling Gourd.
- Aaron Terrill.
- John Bagsdale.
- Taylor Parris.
- Frank Woods.
- Green Parris.
- Moses Cochran.
- Samuel Bingo
- Ned Grease.
- Elisha Cochran.
- Young Wolf.
- Joseph Woodward.
- Green Terrill.
- Ave Grease.
- Wilson Hair.
- Elijah Manning.
- Daniel Woodall.
- Peter Hornet.
- William McKay.
- Andrew Griffin.
- John Bingo.
- John Spears.
- William Terrill.
- George Pritchett.
- Black Fox.
- Thomas Scott.
- Arch Keener.
- James R. Hendricks.
- David Israel.
- Samuel Bell.
- William Soap.
- Martin North.
- Eagle Brown.
- Jumper.
- William Ice.
- Jasper Atkinson.
- D. Johnson.
- William Bird.
- Johnson Love.
- Te-squah-noh-lah.
- William Chambers.
- Rider.
- John.
- Ezekiel.
- Smoke Feeling.
- George Swimmer.
- Thomas Smith.
- James Smith.
- Chu-lio.
- Ezekiel.
- C. H. Taylor.
- Allen Ross.
- Arch. McCarty.
- Crow.
- Ool-scar-stee.
- George Deninwater.
- Cunsene.
- Ned Lowry.
- Human Passing.
- Alonzo Cullin.
- Board.
- Live Fish.
- L. B. Williams.
- Joe Flourish.
- William Foreman.
- Charley Keener.
- John Mixedwater.
- Tee-Soo-Yar-Kee.
- JakeHoney.
- Censeeny.
- Cah-lur-Nur-hus-Ku.
- Johnson.
- Toalton.
- John Tucker.
- Creek Bob.
- Thomas Horn.
- George.
- Levi Keys.
- N. B. Sanders.
- Samuel Sanders.
- Samuel Jumper.
- Lewis Rigs.
- George Spears.
- Monroe Keys.
- Shelley Keys.
- Pig Eagle.
- W. D. Sanders.
- Nicholas Sanders.
- Arch McCay.
- John R. Sanders.
- Jesse Sanders.
- Dry.
- Pickup.
- William Pickup.
- Runabout.
- Nur-tah-Wee-ye.
- Stephen.
- Charles Procter.
- Jesse Still.
- Ezekiel Still.
- John Turner.
Dennis.
John Corey.
Fodder.
William Gritts.
Six.
William Triplett.
Crupper.
Ezekiel Proctor.
Johnson Chambers.
Andy R. Nave.
Jno. A. Foreman.
C. M. McClellan.
Charles Scraper.
James Shelton.
Flute Foxskin.
Jesse R. Guard.
Ta Coal Te-e-Ski.
Thomas R. Goard.
Coming.
John R. Goard.
John Parrish.
Samuel Hawkins.
John Boat.
Deadfull.
Cah-lie-Chee.
Lewis Mackley More.
Johnson Parrish.
Spencer Shilton.
William Hendrick.
Nelson Shin.
James Chambers.
Dick Humphris.
Charles H. Davis.
Allen Woodard.
Thomas Hendricks.
R. B. Beam.

T. B. Wolfe.
J. H. Conel.
James Beaver.
Isaac Patts.
R. W. King.
J. A. King.
Richard King.
J. W. Wolfe.
Jesse Wolfe.
James Blythe.
Wash. Guess.
Geo. Guess.
Dick Pan.
Cherokee Maning.
William Parrish.
C. Elisisher.
Jerry Fields.
Johnson Ross.
Catcher Ta-hee.
Jasephus Bean.
Walker Boat.
Lookout.
David.
Turner.
Sunday.
Wash.
Joe Tarepin.
Alex. Warford.
Joe. Smith.
Tom. Smith.
Jackson Dickson.
Samuel Beck.
Josh Vann.
John Turnover.
John Pigeon.

Edwin Archer.
Nelson Guess.
Jno. L. Adair.
Turner Pigeon.
Isaac Glass.
Ose Jew.
Hee-Lur-tas-Kee.
Sun-e-goo-zer.
Yar-too-Vann.
Josh Glass.
William Madden.
Choo-Wa-loo-Key.
Te-Hoo-yer.
Johnson Goodmoney.
John Large.
Car-tu-gu-ski.
John.
Ravin.
Wah-Koo-ley.
Ta-Koo-Tu-ski.
Zu-We-Yark.
Ool-Scun-Nie.
Archiler.
Willie.
War Sorte.
John King.
John Lynan.
John W. Stapler.
S. S. Staples.
Jesse Sanders, jr.
William Hendricks.
E. Poe Harriss.
David Hildebrand.
Robert Williams.
M. McCode.

Messrs. LEWIS DOWNING,
Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation,
WILLIAM P. ADAIR, Chairman,
C. N. VANN,
SAMUEL SMITH,
ARCHIE SCRAPER,
J. P. DAVIS,
Delegates to the City of Washington.

TAHLEQUAH, CHEROKEE NATION,
February 12, 1870.

GENTLEMEN: It has come to our knowledge that it is seriously proposed to introduce into the Congress of the United States, measures having for their object the placing the various Indian tribes and nations of the southwest under a territorial government other than the general council provided for by the treaties of 1866.

We need not remind you that the establishment of such a government over us would work our certain and speedy extinction by subjecting us
to the absolute rule of a people foreign to us in blood, language, customs, traditions, and interest, who would speedily possess themselves of our homes, degrade us in our own estimation, and leave us a prey to the politicians and land speculators, thus destroying the unity of our race and producing national disintegration.

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Finally, in the exercise of the right of petition “for the redress of grievances and the discussion of rights,” guaranteed to us by article second, treaty of 1846, we hereby request you, as our chief and as our national delegates at the city of Washington, to place this our respectful remonstrance against the policy foreshadowed by the information which has reached us, before the President of the United States and the heads of the executive departments, and before the presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.
With great respect and confidence in your fidelity and patriotism, we are, gentlemen, very sincerely yours, &c.,

J. B. Mayes.
J. M. Lynch.
Jesse Henry.
David Rowe.
Henry Chambers.
Joseph Miller.
H. L. Foreman.
David Tadpole.
Jumper Mills.
John Myers.
Robert Smith.
John Hicks.
J. M. Thompson.
Tick Eater.
John Riley.
Jack Fox.
Luis Wolf.
Thos. Henry.
Mock Chamber.
Moses Silk.
Jack Conner.
Low-en.
Josiah Henry.
Benjamin Henry.
Peter Henry.
Samuel Whirlwind.
Tah-ah-too-kah.
William Sunday.
Jack Rope.
Lewis Yah-tah.
George Jones.
Oo-Tow-son.
Mink.
Outah.
William Pidgeon.
Paul.
John Schrimsher.
Joseph Chambers.
Allen Gilbert.
John Spencer.
Alexander Colston.
E. H. Armstrong.
Big Nicholas.
Thos. Hill.
J. Glass.
R. M. Allen.
Alexander Jonnycake.
John Grass.
Edward Byrd.
Dann'l McCoy.
Charley.
Felix Nelums.
Moses Smith.
Samuel Couch.
David Taylor.
Eli Dorety.
J. M. Bryan.
Jacob A. Alberty.
Clayborn Taylor.
Martin Root.
Thomas Cox.
Dumplin Old Fields.
William Harlin.
Samuel Mayes.
Wiley N. Mayes.
James A. Mayes.
W. H. Mayes.
William Raymond.
R. W. Lindsy.
J. H. Baugh.
John Price.
James Price.
Oah Taska.
John Hilderbrand.
Joseph Bollard.
John McNan.
Tolbert McNan.
Joseph L. Martin.
John M. Adam.
Joel McDaniel.
Simpson Coats.
B. W. Alberty.
B. B. Lynch.
Joe Martin, jr.
William McDaniel.
Henry Milton.
Isaac Brown.
Frank Ross.
Joseph Wolf.
Ormsted Nave.
Cooley Nave.
William Fletcher.
David Alberty.
Dr. P. A. Evans.
Alex. Rider.
Charles Rider.
Tack Rider.
Josih Rogers.
Antwine Rogers.
Robert Jupiter.
Jupiter Choteau.
J. W. Choteau.
Peter Smith.
Joseph Tassley.
Charles Carpenter.
Sutteska.
Adam Buttyfly.
Bear Jones.
Felix Witt.
G. W. Mayes.
Robert Warford.
Thompson Lynch.
Jupiter Choteau.
Henry Rider.
James Rider.
C. V. M'Nair.
James Teacher.
John Hensly, sr.
Horok.
William Colston.
Rotten.
John Fowlin.
Johnson Wah-sut.
Davis Surroky.
Nica Jack.
Dutch R. Gourd.
Edmun Dyer.
Clay.
Claudes Shooboot.
John Duck.
Bear Timpson.
John Hensly, jr.
William Corn-tassel.
Cummins.
Johnson Faulin.
James H. Fly.
Wilson Colson.
Thos. B. Hoof.
John Dougherty.
Joseph Clay.
George Dick.
Alexander Colston, jr.
N. B. Chamberlain.
Wm. C. Chamberlain.
A. N. Chamberlain.
Noysee Scraper.
John Martin.
L. C. Martin.
H. T. Landraur, jr.
Stephan Gobanno.
George Wingfield.
E. L. Scrimpsher.
Newton Scrimpsher.
Thos. Beacon.
Wm. Beacon.
George Walker.
Lewis Rogers.
Oliver Moris.
Larkin McGee.
James Martin.
Henry Fields.
Larid Mills.
Levi Adair.
Charles Tassel.
R. N. Denton.
William Cockram.
Geo. Cockram, jr.
John Ah-Tally.
Ice Ash-lully.
John Cockram, jr.
Tany R. Downing.
Corn Tassel.
Homin Bird.
D. J. Davis.
A. L. Rogers.
Bean Rurgess.
John Rogers.
Herman Vanu.
Little Torpin.
Tom Hatchet.
Bull Frog.
Sune Co-yu.
Josiah Swimmer.
Ned Timpson.
Money.
Can Seene.
Jerry Vann.
John Sophky.
Harry Still.
George Blanket.
See Kelly.
Bird Chopper.
Wind.
Ska-quah.
Crckett.
Johnson.
George Blackbird.
Ned Hammon.
Mouse.
Red.
Ska-quah.
Joe Steeler.
Gabrial Rogers.
Nickey.
Blue.
Andrew.
Badger.
John Acorn.
Henry Jen.
Joe Jen.
Falda.
A. J. Wiatt.
J. E. Martin.
Henry Heteman.
Charles Tico-nooly.
Fred. Marcum.
Jesse Mayes.
George Mayes, jr.
Edward B. Mayes.
Shory Foreman.
John Warford.
William Martin.
Charley Tobacco.
Stuler.
Sam'l Cower.
David.
Dick Ekeesky.
Kah-yah-na.
Cee-noo-way.
Cha-loo-kee.
Lisk Hawk.
Road Killer.
Adam.
Tick-a-nooly.
Ed. Seek.
Joshua Alberty.
Elijah Rider.
David Vann.
Jim Sundy.
John Sundy.
Thos. Sunday.
Bill Rider.
George Lowery.
Moses Alberty.
Jessee Johnson.
Dick Daniel.
Johnson Fisher.
Dean Kutt.
Jas. Martin.
Rubin Still.
Jas. McAheasder.
Sam. M. Alexander.
Peter McAheasder.
J. Alexander, jr.
John Timpson.
Willis Phillips.
John Halcheb.
B. B. Nicholals.
Vaught.
James Marcum.
Edward Adoir.
Ah Lecbee.
Jine Mills.
Thos. Gal Kilcher.
George Mills.
Sah-wah-nee.
Ned Shop.
Cleann Stop.
J. L. Martin, jr.
Charles Stop.
Moses Hammer.
Arch Ecoonie.
L. Smith.
James Batteash.
Henry Whiteday.
Jesse Cockram.
Geo. Cockram, sr.
Jack Blanket.
Whittler.
Levi Silk.
Wah-lah-uter.
Jim Simmons.
Jesse Fawlin.
Charly.
Spou.
Big Pipe.
J. R. McNa.
Bill Miller.
Simon McKing.
John Hawk.
James Vann.
Lovely Rogers.
Robt. Hendreks.
John Cudson.
Ku Ku.
G. W. Tates.
A. G. Murry.
R. A. Cumming.
J. McCoy.
Geo. Sullivan.
Jas. Sullivan.
Jno. Price.
D. F. Canby.
True Wolkly.
William Freyl.
Vann Chambers.
John Chambers.
Johnson Dick.
Too-quok-ta.
Turra Too Coohusky.
Waina.
Tee-na-lah.
Johnsiner Ticker.
Jakee-av-sulty.
Archulty.
Skaquah.
Tu Here.
Kah Yah-ca-na.
Ah-wa-quah.
Wah-jah-tu-tlich.
Jarcher Glass.
Jefferson.
John L. McCay.
Arch Williams.
Kah-Cha-huly.
Char-gu.
Wah-yah.
Tick-o-nah-lesky.
John Secondine.  
Adam Wilson.  
Andrew Miller.  
C. C. Armstrong.  
Samuel Lucas.  
Wm. Armstrong.  
John Sarcoxie.  
James Longears.  
Euegen White.  
Tulhim him-noo-wah.  
Jim Shanghie.  
William Sarcoxie.  
Thos. L. Rogers.  
John Brown.  
Alvin Daniel.  
Sam Longears.  
John Brown, jr.  
Nin-gome Ritter.  
Thos. Anderson.  
Thos. Wilson.  
Big Field.  
Ah-hum-nee.  
Curly Hard.  
Root Curly Hard.  
Harry-onae.  

Cicero H. Morton.  
Bowers Morton.  
Rob't Rogers.  
W. W. McDaniel.  
L. B. Bill.  
Len-ah-pay.  
Zachary Taylor.  
W. M. Altwine.  
Jim White.  
Big Mockason.  
Thompson Smith.  
John Kinny.  
Docktor Black.  
Jesse Miller.  
Edward Wilson.  
James Day.  
John Noah.  
John George.  
Johnson Thomas.  
John Willey.  
James Harrison.  
Thos. Lee.  
Alexand. Conner.  
John Love.  
George Moonshine.  
John Love, jr.  

Joe Half-moon.  
Billy Paskell.  
Gustavus Davis.  
Tap-shc-cah.  
Edger Half-moon.  
John Moses.  
Little Buffalo.  
S. B. Love.  
Solomon Love.  
Talle Kase.  
Jacob Secondine.  
Jose Ketchum.  
John Ballett.  
George Ballett.  
Simon Ballett.  
Little Bullitt.  
John Stout.  
George Conner.  
A. W. M. Half-moon.  
William Connor.  
A. E. Campston.  
Charles Coody.  
James Connor.  
Thos. Eroit.  
William White.

Messrs. Lewis Downing,  
Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation,  
William P. Adair, Chairman,  
C. N. Vann,  
Samuel Smith,  
Archie Scraper,  
J. P. Davis,  
Delegates to the City of Washington.

Dear Sirs: The names herewith inclosed are the names of our district, all of which are unanimous against a territorial government, and earnestly ask the United States government to spare us from such speedy destruction.

We officially witness the signatures.  

J. B. Mayes,  
Clerk Circuit Court.  
David Rowe,  
Judge Circuit Court, N. J. Ct., Cherokee Nation.

Messrs. Lewis Downing,  
Principal Chief Cherokee Nation,  
William P. Adair, Chairman,  
C. N. Vann,  
Samuel Smith,  
Archie Scraper,  
J. P. Davis,  
Delegates to the City of Washington.
Tahlequah, Cherokee Nation,  
February 5, 1870.

Gentlemen: It has come to our knowledge that it is seriously proposed to introduce in the Congress of the United States, measures having for their object the placing the various Indian tribes and nations of the southwest under a territorial government, other than the general council provided for by the treaties of 1866.

We need not remind you that the establishment of such a government over us would work our certain and speedy extinction by subjecting us to the absolute rule of a people foreign to us in blood, language, customs, traditions, and interest, who would speedily possess themselves of our homes, degrade us in our own estimation, and leave us a prey to the politician and land speculator, thus destroying the unity of our race, and producing national disintegration.

We have received the above information with apprehension and serious alarm, regarding, as we do, the above policy, if adopted by Congress, as the prelude to our funeral march to the grave, and we enter our solemn, deliberate, and unanimous protest against the consummation of so unjust, oppressive, and cruel a measure, calling on all the various Indian tribes and nations of the southwest to co-operate with us in resisting such measures by all lawful, peaceful, and honorable means at their command.

We do not believe, however, that a majority of the Congress of the United States would be found to sanction a scheme calculated to prove so destructive to us as a people, so subversive of the policy of the United States government from its earliest dealings with the Indians, and the inevitable tendency of which would be to blot us out of existence, both as a people and as individuals.

We hereby proclaim ourselves the friends of the United States government; that we are ready to defend it with our lives, if necessary; that all we ask is that its legislative body will not forget that we hold our lands in fee simple, by letters patent from the President of the United States; that those lands were bought and paid for in cash, and in exchange for lands deemed more desirable by the United States; and that our national character is recognized and confirmed again and again by the highest laws known to political societies, namely, treaties; which guarantee that the jurisdiction of no State or Territory of the United States shall ever be placed over us without our consent. All we ask is that good faith and justice be shown to us, and that a policy may not be adopted toward us which would be productive only of evil, and which could never be practically enforced without our utter destruction.

We know that we are but few in numbers and weak, while the people of the United States are many and strong, and we appeal to their greatness and magnanimity to spare us from a forced extinction. We had been "moving on" for generations, and hoped when we had settled here that we had at length found a place of rest, and that our council fires would burn as brightly west of the Father of Waters as they had done centuries ago on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. Like the people of the United States, we are men created by the same God, and accountable to Him for our acts, and we beseech our white brethren not to stir up strife which would result in depriving us of every remaining right and guarantee now enjoyed by us. The doctrine that irresistible destiny requires our national extinction, and with it our annihilation as individuals, is abhorrent to the feelings of a common humanity, and we implore the people and government of the United States not to precipitate our
fate by doing violence not only to solemn treaty stipulations, but to the laws of nature and of nature’s God.

Finally, in the exercise of the right of petition “for the redress of grievances, and the discussion of rights,” guaranteed to us by article second, treaty of 1846, we hereby request you, as our chief and our national delegates at the city of Washington, to place this our respectful remonstrance against the policy foreshadowed by the information which has reached us, before the President of the United States and heads of the executive departments, and before the presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled.

With great respect and confidence in your fidelity and patriotism, we are, gentlemen, very sincerely, yours, &c.

Moses Alberty.
John D. Buffington.
George Alberty.
Elis Alberty.
John Alberty, sr.
John Alberty, jr.
Blewfor Alberty.
W. C. Ghormley.
D. V. Ghormley.
W. A. Ghormely.
E. C. Ghormely.
Abram. Ghormley.
T. B. Adair.
John Adair, sr.
John Adair, jr.
Timothy Collins.
Robert Colines.
George Colines.
Harrison Fletcher.
Big Fletcher.
Andrew Fealds.
James Fealds.
Dick Fealds.
Andy Fealds.
John Dougherty.
John Roberts.
A. B. Aknes.
Andrew Aknes.
Frank Aknes.
A. C. Aknes.
Andrew Dickeskey.
Buck Dickesker.
James Dickesker.
J. Adair.
Ole Adair.
E. E. Adair.
J. T. Adair.
Samuel Adair.
Elis Dickesker.
Calip Dickesker.
Cooper Dickesker.
David Bigbey.
Big Witzett.
Fiss Tankesly.
M. Gormley.
Al. Deningburg.
Louis Deningburg.
N. B. Deningburg.
Ben Forman.
J. L. Bigby.
Theo. Davis.
M. Davis.
Glan Davis.
John Gott.
Jack Gott.
Joe Gott.
Mark Gott.
Wat Gott.
George Dickeskey.
John Alberty, sr.
Charles Viery.
Frank Viery.
Joe Collins.
John Collins.
Jack Wright.
Dock Wright.
Calip Wright.
Jesey Wright.
Cornelius Wright.
Eli Wright.
George Whitmore.
C. H. Whitmore.
J. R. Whitmore.
Stephen Whitmore.
George Rees.
John Klymes.
Murry Rees.
Orriu Beck.
Ben King.
J. W. Morgen.
James Morgen.
Mark Morgen.
Joseph Stair.
Edward Stair.
Joseph Weaver.
Wage Parris.
James McLuor.
William McLuor.
Balus Langly.
James Garner.
J. Bell.
W. A. Musgroves.
Henry Crittenton.
George Crittenton.
Theo. Buffington.
Lefort Buffington.
Harlen Eaton.
Charles Duncan.
J. Scot.
Rease Mitchel.
Henry Alen.
George Parris.
Dan Forman.
William Crouder.
Buck Morten.
Nute Morten.
William Bright.
Samuel Bright.
Jacob Woodall.
James Phillips.
William Philips.
Jack Perch.
Wellington Sherly.
Josh Williams.
Milerd Duncan.
Moses Pheps.
Moses Crittenton, sr.
Isicks Howell.
William Winton.
James Crittenton.
John Christie.
Jack Clevenland.
Lius Forman.
Adum Perlone.
D. W. Anderson.
Black Still.
Augustus Rider.
Tho. Rider.
John Been.
Jack Rider.
B. F. Goss.
Walter Goss.
Arch Alberty.
Tale Sixkiller.
Frog Sixkiller.
Samuel Still.
Ab. Downing.
John Walker.
Solger Sixkiller.
Wash Lee.
Abraham Sixkiller.
Path-killer.
Taylor Sixkiller.
Aron Wilkerson.
Mint Warter.
Will Sixbits.
Braver Tiger.
Tho. Still.
Edward Forman.
Six Downing.
Robert Forman.
John Thornton.
Ben Haney.
Green Paris.
James Coss.
Elis Forman.
Smith Burnghar.
Edward Still.
Peach-Eater Sixkiller.
Tylor Forman.
Samuel Crittenton.
John Crittenton.
Isack Woodall.
Jones Sixkiller.
William Leach.
Sun-Shine.
Samuel Jones.
Samuel Beck.
Joseph Kelly.
Louis Holt.
Tho. Kelley.
Wilson Bushyhead.
John Robines.
Ezekel Proctor.
Adum Proctor.
John Still.
James Still.
Richard Timberlak.
Jack Still.
Iseek Vam.
David Baldrege.
Youn Spike.
Wat Stair.
Henry Philips.
Eligh Philips.
Franklin Philips.
Wiley Kelly.
Levi Robins.
Robert Williams.
Franklin Musgrove.
Tho. Alberty.
Henry Mitchel.
Mike Mitchel.
John Mitchel.
William Mitchel.
Frank Mitchel.
William Still.
Aron Crittenton.
James Walds.
George Still.
Yelow Hamer.
Jesey Alberty.
James Beamler.
John Martin.
Aldmond Martin.
Noah Whisenhart.
William Musgrove.
Levi Fuslon.
Arch.
Ground Squirl.
William Homgy.
Lew Williams.
George Eaton.
William Beck, sr.
Adam Hamer.
Joseph Cherey.
Scull Downing.
Black Fox.
Fisher.
Eli Sanders.
Jack Crittenton.
Bak.
Wash-you-Fase.
Read Bird.
Bender Bout.
Hooper.
Young Duck.
Stand.
William Crittenton.
Tho. Butlar.
Tho. Sanders.
Hunter.
Rider Steapus.
John Sanders, sr.
Taquter.
Squirel.
George Sanders.
Cloud.
Kianer Plesent.
William Beck.
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James Paris.
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Buner Sanders.
Tah-Katy.
Henry.
Wat.
Miller Bug.
Jacob.
Elick.
Killer More.
Wrighter.
Hunter.
David Sanders.
Tah-Nisen.
Johnson.
Left-Out.
White.
Jackson.
Hominy.
Cornelus.
James Crittenton.
Lone Punkin.
William Manus.
Samuel Manus.
Seake Manus.
Chucanne Manus.
William Berns.
Jumper Steelor.
Speeker.
Caller.
Paunch.
Jack.
Henry Paunch.
Lasey.
John.
Thomas.
Charley Blossom.
War Dick.
Noe-Name-Walker.
OO-la-heth-Miller Bug.
Peach-eator.
Bushyhead.
Sultea Skey.
John.
Return.
William Pritchit.
Squirel Tunah.
Grub Worm.
Joseph Proctor.
Leaf-on-a-Tree.
Ground Hog.
James Walker.
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</table>
CHEROKEE NATION.

Lewis Corn Tasel.
Tieskey.
Sicatah-we.
Samel Walker.
Thomas Walker.
Nosey Robin.

Jack Bell.
Edward Walkinstick.
Black Bird.
Dave Houk.
Swinn.
Moses Crittenton, jr.

Messrs. LEWIS DOWNING,
Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation,
WILLIAM P. ADAIR, Chairman,
C. N. VANN,
SAMUEL SMITH,
ARCHIE SCRAPER,
J. P. DAVIS,
Delegates to Washington.