

Middleton Mackey to John Henry Eaton

November the 27th. 1829 Choctaw Natio[n]

Sir

as I think it my inDispensible Duty to Inform you of Confusion that is here among our people here in this country they are all led astray by those yanke Coalitionists and the acting chief which is David Folsom he is chief of this Destrict he has wrote to Col. Ward in very Strong language to turn me out of the Destrict for no other Reason but that I Do my Duty as Interpreter and Do all in my power to fecilitate the Veiws of my goverment and the good of the Nation I live among I was put in possession of the contents of your letter of the 31 July to Col Ward US Agent to the Choctaws. and was ordered by him to Interpret and fully Explain the Nature of the laws of Mississippi that were about to be Extended over them and the bad concequences that would attend as they were not prepared to live under Sd. laws I have adviseed them on all occations to make the best arrangement with the goverment they possibly Can and Emigrate to the west of the Mississippi they would the great mass of them go if it was not that there are three halfbreed chiefs one to Each Dest. they are all opposed to anything like Emigration or any thing that is for the Good of their Nation they know that they can live under the laws and be come ccitizens of the State but it is not the case with all therefore I think that if Right Enducements were held out with a little good management I think a great many of them would go west they are very much in the Spirit of moveing to the west if they were Encouraged by the goverment I think a great many of them would go Very Soon. there is three chiefs that is Recognized though they have all been Displac'd yet they have some Standing among their people and can lead them to Do what is for their good Mushuletubbee is like to be Reinstaded to the office of chief if he is or is not he can lead a great many with him and he will Do So if Encouraged a he wants Some assurance that he is on his land when he gets there the Southern Destrict is likewise in the Spirit of moving all they want likewise a garrantee to hold their forever the chief of that Dest. was likiwise Displacd and John Garland put in his place This was Done when the chief Tapenahhomah was absent on the Exploring Expedition west of the Mississippi last year but there is a man in the Destrict that is more Influential than Either of them and the Smartest man in the Destrict or in fact I think he is a man of the best Natural abilities of any in the Nation and all he and the Ex Chief wants is a little Encouragement and they will go to the west the agent Col Ward has handed me Folsoms letter which for your Satisfaction I Enclose to you for my character as Intr. or politicks I Refer you to Col. ward

and Major John Pitchlynn or General Thomas Hinds or Col R M Johnston no more but I have the Honor to be Sir your most obedient Humble Servant

M. Mackey

NB Those half Breed Chiefs above Mentioned are Influenced by the yankee Missionarys to hold their country as long as they can as it is their Intrust for them So to Do

National Archives, Washington, D.C., Record Group 75, M234-185.