

November the 27<sup>th</sup> 1829 Choctaw Nation

To the Hon John A Eaton Sec<sup>y</sup> of war

Sir as I think it my in

Dispensable 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 District  
 he has wrote to Col Ward in very Strong language to  
 turn me out of the District for no other Reason but  
 that I Do my Duty as Interpreter and Do all in my  
 power to feletate the Views of my Government and  
 the good of the Nation I live among I was put in  
 possession of the contents of your letter <sup>of the 31<sup>st</sup> July</sup> 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 exten-  
 ded over them and the bad consequences <sup>that</sup> would  
<sup>attend</sup> as they were not prepared to live under S<sup>d</sup> laws  
 I have advised them on all occasions to  
 make the best arrangement with the gover-  
 nment 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 <sup>were</sup> three  
 halfbreed chiefs one to each Dist. they are all

opposed to any thing like Emigration or any  
thing that is for the good of their Nation they  
know that they can live under the laws and be  
some Citizens of the State but it is not the case  
with all therefore I think that if right Inducements  
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 moving to  
the west if <sup>they</sup> were encouraged by the government I ~~think~~  
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 Mshahetub  
bee is like to be Reinstated 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 District  
is likewise in the Spirit of moving all they want  
likewise a garrantie to hold their forever the  
chief of that Dist. was likewise Displac'd and John  
Garland put in his place This was Done when  
the Chief <sup>Tahenah komah</sup> was absent on the Exploring Expedition  
west of the Mississippi last year but there is

a man in the District that is more Influential  
than either, <sup>of them</sup> and the Smartest man in the District  
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 Int<sup>r</sup> or politicks I Refer you  
to Col. ward and Major John Pitchlyn  
or General Thomas Wicks 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 Int<sup>r</sup> for them so to Do

Novemb: 27<sup>th</sup> 1829.

Middleton Mackey

Relative to the Con-  
fusion in the Choctaw  
Nation, and the opposition  
to Emigration

enclosure