

Andrew Jackson to Gerard Chittocque Brandon

Hermitage near Nashville
August 31st. 1830

Sir

I have the pleasure to inform you that on this day the Chickasaws concluded and signed a Treaty with our Commissioners stipulating for the exchange of their whole country East of the Mississippi for lands West of that river.

In the 18th. clause of the Treaty it is stipulated that “the President will use his good offices and kind mediation and make a request of the Governor and Legislature of the State of Mississippi to prevent the laws being extended over the chickasaw people, or to suspend their operation until the fall of 1832, that time may be afforded them to remove.”¹ Agreeably to this request, which is both reasonable and just, I take pleasure in addressing you, and thro’ you the Legislature of your state, confident that the suspension of the laws until the fall of the year 1832, to give these people time to remove, will be promptly and cheerfully granted to them. This step under all the circumstances, will be regarded by the Indians as an act of kindness worthy of the justice and magnanimity of your State. It will enable them to leave us with feelings of friendship which it certainly is the duty of the General Government, and the common interest of both the Indians and our own citizens, to foster and cherish

I will be greatly indebted to you excellency to address a letter to Major John H. Eaton, Secretary of War, at the Choctaw agency, giving him your opinion, whether the Legislature of your State, will gratify this request of the Indians. The information that they will, or the expression of such an opinion from you, would no doubt have a good effect upon the Treaty pending with the Choctaws, who in all probability will imitate the example of the Chickasaws. You may judge therefore of my anxiety, that your Excellency and the Legislature of Mississippi, seeing the good effects which are likely to result from the suspension of the laws which the Indians look upon as unfavorable to their interests, will take the most timely means to secure it. I am Sir with great respect your most obt. Servant

Andrew Jackson

Letter Sent, text in Andrew Jackson Donelson’s hand, Mississippi
Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss.