

Annville August

5th 1830



Dear Sir

your letter of the 24th of July has just
been received. I would have been happy to
have seen you at Nashville and ~~have~~
received your views on it regards the per-
manent settlement of the Choctaw west
of the Mississippi. ~~xxx~~ I am aware of your
friendship for them & the great anxiety
you have for their future welfare, but
great as I know ^{to be} it cannot be more
so than mine. ~~At~~ At the request of
their confidential agent, Major Holey,
who communicated to me the great
desire the Choctaw chiefs had to see
me, & enter into arrangements with
them to surrender their possessions
where they now ~~are~~, & remove across
the Mississippi to the country provided
for them, that they had great confidence
in me that I would do them liberal
Justice, that I am now here to meet
& to confer with them.

Then chiefs, agreeably to the promise
made to Major Holey, ~~that~~ at the re-
quest of the chiefs, made this ~~to~~
The Secretary of War & myself ~~and~~
are ~~very~~ ^{ready to} meet them in the near neighborhood of
Franklin. ~~of which they have for some time~~
~~we have been here since~~
~~part been informed, & of it we have~~
~~the 6th of July, and have not~~ heard nothing
from them of a positive character. Whether
they chiefs are coming to meet us or
^{they are not certainly advised.}
not, our official business urges ~~to~~
a return to the city of Washington &
we cannot stay much longer here
to meet them. We therefore request
that you will ^{present} make known to them
that we are now ~~here~~ ^{awaiting} them.
agreeably to my promise to
their confidential agent Major Holey.
I beg of you to say to them, that their
interest happiness peace & prosperity
depend upon their removal beyond
the jurisdiction of the laws of the State
of Mississippi. These things have been

often times
explained to them fully and I for
them to repeat; ~~know~~ but request that
you make known to them that Congress
to enable them to remove & comfortably
to arrange themselves at their new
homes has made liberal appropriations.
It was a measure I had much at heart &
sought to effect because I was so terrified
that the Indians could not ^{possibly} live under
the laws of the States. I know they shall
refuse to accept the liberal terms offered.
They only must be held for whatever evils
& difficulties may arise. I feel conscious
of having done my duty to my red children
and if any portion of my good intention
arises, it will ^{be} attributable to their want
of duty to themselves, not to mine.

~~I enclose you a letter which I~~
have directed the Secretary of war to
write, ^{you fully & finally on the subject so important to the interests of the Indians} make it known to my red
children - and tell them to listen
well to it. it comes from a friend

and the last time I shall advise them
on the subject should the chiefs fail
to meet us now.

Yours friend
A. J.

Received
to
3-5-2003
J. J. M. L. by m
1830