George Washington Harkins et al. to John Henry Eaton

Council ground. C.N. Augst 10. 1830

Friend and Brother

We have received your talk by Maj Donly, and after much thinking and consultation we are sorry that we cannot comply with your request. Although we know it is the talk of a friend, we cannot go on the grounds that you wish us. The warriors are violently opposed to any of the officers going to meet you at Franklin for the purpose of making a treaty. The lives of the chiefs and head men of the nation would be in great danger if they would comply with your request and go for the purpose of selling the country. Although we should be very happy to see you and converse with you face to face, but still we cannot go, as the nation is opposed to our going. There has been a great deal of confusion in our nation since we made our proposition to the general Government to sell our country; in consequence of the United States interpretters, reporting false hoods, and poisening the minds of our people. They have been circulating and reporting false hoods, until they came very near getting our people to shedding each others blood. We cannot expect to live in peace and harmony, without those Interpretters are removed, or something is done with them. We hope you will do something with them, for we cannot meet commissioners with the same satisfaction of mind, that we could otherwise, if they were removed and others put in their places. We cannot pourtray to you in language sufficiently on this paper, to tell you how meane and improper those Interpretters have acted in our nation. By making Inquries of Maj Donly, he will tell you of all the perticulars that appertains to the confusion in our nation.

- 1 George W. Harkins
- 2 Anthony Turnbull
- 3 James Choat
- 4 Nicholas Cochnanen
- 5 Robert Folsom

[Ninety-seven additional names follow.]

Approved August 10. 1830 Greenwood Leflore Chief I do certify that a Council were ordered by me at this place (Wilsons stand) at the request of Majr. Donly, I have Recd. a written note from the southern chief that he would not attend, and that he had ordered a Council in his district on the same Subject to meet in about five days from this date. Given under my hand at the request of the Northwest District chief request.

W. Ward Agt. C.N.

National Archives, Washington, D.C., Record Group 75, M234-169.