

Extract of a letter from Greenwood Leflore, a Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Indians, to the Secretary of War, dated Choctaw Nation, Oct. 5th 1830.

"I find it impossible to prevent my people from emigrating immediately in considerable bodies. Many of them, in consequence of the disturbances in the spring, and the excessive dry summer, are without provisions; and must seek them in the forest, go into the white settlements, or emigrate at the risque of suffering in their new homes. I have advised the latter as the most prudent course. An exploring party will leave this place on Thursday next; and more than two hundred warriors and their families will be on their way in twenty days; and from the spirit that prevails, we shall number more than a thousand on Kiamctia or Red river, by the first of February. I have ordered the speaker of this District, to go immediately on, and take charge of the people. Dr. Talley will also go immediately on to re-organize his churches, and afford such assistance as may be in his power. I have authorized him to purchase a thousand dollars worth of corn, for the temporary supply of the people, if it can be had by promising payment from our annuity. I feel it a duty to communicate these movements, with the full assurance that our situation will command your earliest attention.

"Many of the people now emigrating, will leave the aged and infirm together with their tools in my neighborhood, in expectation that they will obtain a passage on steamboats from my landing. It is important that a large part of the shipments from my district should be made from this landing.

"The number who will be prepared to remove immediately on the receipt of the title to our country, West, presents it as an object of very great importance, that the treaty should be ratified, and the grant forwarded as early as possible. Mr. J. Doke will visit the country and ascertain the probability of obtaining supplies, and will probably return by the first of December, when his report shall be forwarded. Should he find that supplies can be had, it is likely that half of the people in my district will wish to make corn at their new homes next year. But a delay in the titles to our country may greatly discourage the people.

"To know that the treaty is ratified, and to see the grant of my country, is all that will detain me. The most necessitous and helpless part of my people will be in the West, and so soon as I am assured of our future home, I shall immediately join them, that I may aid them with all the means in my power, in fixing for an advance in all the comforts of life. My presence will be very important, in preventing the restless part of the people from wandering from their lands.

"It is known that you will be disappointed in hearing that my people are so rapidly pressing forward to the West, and that there will be fears that the Government cannot meet their necessities as amply as was wished; but they cannot be detained, and I feel much more pleasure in apprising you of their haste, than I should experience in having to complain of their unwillingness to remove.

"It is expected that you will drop me a line, giving some intimations of the assistance that may be expected by those who will reach the west, previous to the ratification of the treaty."