

#406

TREATIES WITH INDIANS AND REMOVAL INVOLVING THE ALABAMA AREA.

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TREATIES

Choctaw
Cherokee
Chickasaw
Creek

REMOVAL

Choctaw
Creek
Chicasaw
Cherokee
Seminole

Volume 1, Book 2

486

of the Mississippi. Under direct pressure by General Eaton, whose conduct was not concurred in by General Coffee, a minority of chiefs agreed to removal, though through the influence of Colonel George S. Gaines the final consent was obtained to the terms of the agreement, and Sumter County and a part of Choctaw County, Alabama, and considerable territory in Mississippi was preempted.

Cherokee Treaties

The Cherokee treaty of October 27, 1805, done at Tellico (Knoxville, Tennessee), authorized a Mail Road (the inception of the Knoxville to New Orleans phase of the Natchez Trace Mail Route). At Washington City January 7, 1806, the Cherokees ceded certain Muscle Shoals, at Cypress Creek, lands and reserved to Moses Melton his Spring Creek property. The Washington City treaty of March 22, 1816 refixed the Fort Jackson treaty line between the Cherokees and the Creeks, identifying the claims of the Cherokees to territory West of the Ten Island Shoals at Fort Strother to the Flat Rock on Bear Creek (a branch of the Tennessee River). The Chickasaw Council House treaty, signed September 14, 1816, and which was ratified "by the whole Cherokee Nation in Council assembled" at Turkey Town on October 4 of that year, strove to perpetuate the friendship and peace between the United States and the Cherokee Nation, and to remove all future cause of dissention which might arise from indefinite territorial boundaries.

The February 27, 1819 treaty done at Washington City was a land cession to further fix boundaries in view of the fact that the greater part of the Nation has expressed a desire to remain East of the Mississippi. By the treaty made at New Echota December 29, 1835, the United States acquired the territory from whence came our DeKalb and Cherokee Counties erected less than two weeks after the cession. This treaty, forced on the Cherokees, quieted title to the Indian lands in Northwest Georgia and in the small region of Alabama largely in and adjacent to Wills Valley.

Chickasaw Treaties

By the treaty concluded at Chickasaw Bluffs (Memphis, Tennessee) October 24, 1801, the Chickasaw Nation granted to the United States permission to "lay out, open, and make a convenient wagon road through their lands between the settlements of Mero District in Tennessee and those of Natchez in the Mississippi Territory". This act provided for road prominent in Alabama history as the "Natchez Trace". Over it went the first mail route in the State. The road traversed the present Lauderdale and Colbert Counties and crossed the Tennessee River at Colbert's Ferry, a few miles downstream from Florence. The Chickasaw Council House treaty of September 20, 1816, ceded the Chickasaw claimed lands in the Northwest corner of Alabama from which Franklin (now Colbert) and Marion Counties were created.

The Pontotoc Council House treaty concluded October 20, 1832, was a land cession not particularly affecting the Alabama territory, but under the terms of treaty, the Chickasaw Nation requested a Mail Route from Tuscombua by the Chickasaw Agency to Rankin, in Mississippi. The Convention at Washington City held in May, 1834 prepared for the removal West, further provided reservations for certain individuals, and declared the Pontotoc treaty to be in full force and effect.

Creek Treaties

The Creek treaties and land cession, practically all involved our early settlement and development of the easterly and southern sections of Alabama, but the two treaties made at Indian Springs and the once concluded at the Creek Agency at Fort Mitchell, concerned territory East of the Chattahoochee River, so involved lands West of the Chattahoochee only in the eventual results from these meetings,