

Headquarters, Eastern Division,
Bureau Agency, Aug. 25. 1838

Dear Sir,

Your communication of this date has been received.

That the troops and their commanders who have been employed in the collection of the Cherokee emigrations, have under circumstances necessarily painful to both parties, gained the esteem of those people and that of their authorities, is to us a rich and grateful reward of all our exertions to win that esteem.

The contents of my letter to you of the 22nd admitted of no exercise of generosity on the part of the United States, because the subject was the expenditures, under your authority of money in which none but Cherokees have any interest. I am still of opinion that the savings which he effected out of the general estimate agreed upon between us for the subsistence of persons and horses, ought to have been secured (over and above a reasonable compensation to be furnished for his labor and risk from agents) for the benefit of all Cherokees interested, instead of allowing those savings, if any, to go into his pockets.

The amount of such savings or
proper

profits, either under the general estimate or contract that you have entered into, depend however on so many items or contingencies as to render any doubtful any calculations which can be made at this place and time. I profess myself wholly incapable of coming to any to any satisfactory conclusion on the different results which (varying from \$30,000 to \$100,000) have been laid before me. In this state of uncertainty and not questioning the good faith of the parties to the contract, whatever error of judgment may have been committed by one of them; - and being moreover extremely unwilling to delay the emigration now nearly ready to commence under your immediate directions, I withdraw on the part of the United States, the objection intimated in my letter of the 22nd inst to the contract in question.

Hoping that your first detachment of emigrants will be able to set out at an early day.

I remain, Gentlemen,
Yours respectfully
Winfield Scott

To Messrs J. Ross, W. Brown, (Genl)
C. Hunter, C. Hicks,
Settimaker, White Path
& R. Taylor. (Chas. Delegation)