

Wm. A. R. W. R.
Acting Commissioner Genl of Substances

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Western Union

Sir,

In order to afford satisfactory reasons for the app
inconsistency in my several communications on the subject of stock
extracts of which are furnished in a communication from you under
date of Aug 28 1837, it will be necessary to look to the character of
Indians - their liability to be operated on by surrounding circum-
stances and their diversity of sentiments and actions under similar
circumstances,

On opening the ever swelling stream of in the last fall, a
few white people were to be found, and what is called Cherokee County
at this time; and they were generally refugees from justice, or
had come into the country to get a living by stealing & robbery.
At this time there is at least five hundred families half of
whom are honest, whose they have white people to deal with. Now
in their dealings with Indians who are not allowed to be a party
to a suit nor entitled to the benefits of an oath in courts of justice
they mostly take all advantages allowed by the law. Consequently
although the Indian finds a market at his own door for his stock
he cannot sell for cash, and to sell on a credit is equal to giving
it away. Whilst if the Govt could take stock on the terms proposed
in the late project intended to form the basis of a Society it would
only increase the labour of its officers a little - the Indians would
have a safe guarantee for the payment and in disposing
of this stock ~~again~~ could even the payment if sold on a
credit. And again I had since my return travelled over all
the Cherokee County in Georgia, & visited most of the families,
and was well assured that when the Indians became satisfied
the Govt of Georgia would have their lands granted, after being
drawn for - as well as of the relocation of the present ~~residents~~,
there would be a general thirst for emigration; and their
anxiety to get off so great they would scarcely stay to have their
improvements valued, much less to dispose of ~~the~~ stock to the
white neighbors at any price. To take only such stock as would do
for outland would afford no relief and since I have been referred
to the articles of the Treaty under its provisions no more can be
done by your department. One year ago had stock been taken
even those who had it valued in some instances would have
connived with that class of whites who lived by plunder to run
it off; or to prevent these abuses a guard of honest men would
have been required whose pay & expenses would have far ex-
ceeded the value of that description of property
Commissioners appointed by the Genl Governmen

might appear to be very difficult
these perplexing difficulties

Lieut. Daney has arrived & reported himself
study. Since the suspension of the enrolling business is
is very uncertain what number of those who have en-
roll will go westwardly because most of them expect
their relations to go along who are now cut off from
that privilege & where they have not valuable improve-
ments would sooner secrete themselves in the mountains & be
than be separated from their kin by a distance of
seven hundred miles

The number of Cherokee who were trans-
ported Winter & Spring and were entitled to their ye-
arly rations is six hundred & twenty eight

I had my doubts whether white people were
were subjects of Govt. munificence so far as to entitle
to the years allowance and ordered Capt. Voss
not to issue to them until the Department could
consulted Capt. Vashon ought to have sta-
the affair in this way being disposed to do me
justice

The cheapest way of getting the Indians
to Arkansas would be to advance here and
them transport & embark themselves on the route
they can be entrusted with the management
& party

The next cheapest is to embark them
Board of Flat Bottom Boats until they reach
foot of the Shoals and there take Steam the
1st Transportation would average \$1.50 & \$1.13 per
per head making from one Agency to the other
per head besides rations But the Arkansas is
is difficult of navigation & very much subject
sudden rises & falls and the cost would be
according to favourable or unfavourable

might appear to be very difficult

Lieut Daney has arrived & reported himself for study. Since the suspension of the enrolling business it is very uncertain what number of those who have enrolled will go westwardly because most of them expected their relations to go along who are now cut off from that privilege & where they have not valuable improvements would sooner secrete themselves in the mountains & hills than be separated from their kin by a distance of six or seven hundred miles.

The number of Cherokee who were transported last Winter & Spring and were entitled to their years rations is six hundred & twenty eight.

I had my doubts whether white people & negroes were subjects of Govt munificence so far as to entitle them to the years allowance and ordered Capt Washon not to issue to them until the Department could be consulted. Capt Washon ought to have stated the affair in this way being disposed to do me justice.

The cheapest way of getting the Indians to Arkansas would be to advance here and let them transport & subsist themselves on the route when they can be entrusted with the management of a party.

The next cheapest is to embark them on board of Flat Bottom Boats until they reach the foot of the Shoals and there take Steam The Flat Bottom transportation would average \$1.50 & \$1.75 per head making from one Agency to the other \$8.50 per head besides rations. But the Arkansas River is difficult of navigation & very much subject to sudden rises & falls and the cost would vary according to favourable or unfavourable tide.

these perplexing difficulties

Lieut. Barney has arrived & reported himself for
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that privilege & where they have not valuable improvements
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or seven hundred miles

The number of Cherokees who were transported
last Winter & Spring and were entitled to their years
rations is six hundred & twenty eight

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vel Transportation would average \$1.50 & \$1.13 \$7.00-
per head making from one Agency to the other \$850
per head besides rations. But the Arkansas River
is difficult of navigation & very much subject to
sudden rises & falls and the cost would vary
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whilst it sells at 50¢ in other parts

Average price of Flour from six to 8 dollars
per barrel Pork from \$3 to \$4 & Beef from 2 to 2.50 per lb

I have the honor to be

Most Respectfully

Your Very Obedt Servt

Ben H. Currey

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