

I arrived at this place on the 10<sup>th</sup> August.  
On the 12<sup>th</sup> I saw Mr. Olney Superintendent of Emigration  
on his return to me by way of the interior of the Cherokee  
Nation, and should have made this communication sooner  
had there been any departure of the mail before ~~the day~~

I presented my instructions from you, to Mr. Olney  
and notified him that I was ready to enter upon the duties  
assigned me. I conversed with him generally upon the present  
progress and future prospects of the emigration, and will now  
give you all the information I have been able to gain from him  
and other sources likely to aid you in directing the conduct  
of my department of this service.

The number enrolled, at present, Mr. Olney informs me, is  
about 300 - of whom probably about one ~~half~~<sup>third</sup> will accept  
the remuneration fixed by him and undertake to convey themselves  
at their own expense - There will be prepared to depart in the  
course of this Month - I have commenced paying them the amount  
of their emigration money - He wishes to collect a body of 500  
Emigrants before he requires a Steam boat - The number now  
enrolled for this mode of conveyance may be estimated at 100  
100 - He is taking measures to overcome obstacles, and hopes to have  
an expedition prepared in the course of the winter - Every thing

but the obstacles, at present, appear to be great. Since, with a  
to enrollment is extensive and powerful in the nation - the perse-  
-cution of the enrolled violent against any thing of the kind to be  
found in civilized society - Their attachment to their homes greater  
than I would suppose to be natural - probably increased by the  
desire to remove them - the delay of payment for their  
improvements and some vague expectations of relief from  
Congress during the present Session - Some Indians who have  
recently visited the country assigned to the Cherokees do not give  
so flattering accounts of it as might be wished. They say that  
too much of it is poor peevish, and not sufficient to  
support the whole nation.

From these hints you may be able to judge of the probabilities  
of an expedition starting this winter, and direct me if any  
measures are to be taken in anticipation, to supply it.

Abundance of provisions are to be obtained on the borders of the  
Upper Tennessee and Holston. The Superintendent will require  
pork and flour with a small proportion of corn, and their delivery  
at this place.

All kinds of transportation will be procured without clipping.  
Wagons, \$2,50 to \$3 per day - Flat boats, \$50 to 60 a piece. There  
are sixteen of these now at this place belonging to the Government.  
Each will carry 25 emigrants with their baggage - In the matter  
of Steamboats, several others had been ordered to Mr. Combs  
from Tennessee, at the foot of the Shoals and various places, before  
my arrival, which he has submitted to me. - Of these the

feasible option is to charter a Steam boat for \$125 per day  
with the expense of two Keel boats to serve as lighters, indispensable  
to load on the Arkansas, will cost the Government \$150 to 160 per day.  
will carry 500 emigrants and their baggage & cheaper and  
better mode of engaging local transportation, in my opinion  
offered in the proposals which I enclose with this, made by a  
gentleman who came here for the purpose, and is, I am assured by  
Mr. Cunniff and Col. Williams Sub Agent, amply qualified in every  
respect to fulfill punctually any engagement he may make.

The method adopted by the Agent of procuring funds is,  
sending for them to the bank at Nashville, by a confidential  
messenger, employed by him for that purpose. I trust that this  
precedent will justify me, and shall send for mine in the same  
manner. - Meanwhile I have obtained the sum of \$1500 from a  
merchant of this town and can draw more from him if necessary  
for the current demands of emigrants accepting the commutation.  
The only kind of disbursement yet called for

The Superintendent has fixed the commutation of land, transportation  
and subsistence at \$15 for each emigrant, and for each horse \$6, 50.  
I request special instructions to guide me in making advances of  
money.

As I propose to accompany the first expedition, according to your  
desire expressed to me at Washington, I think it inexpedient to  
purchase a horse before its accomplishment, as I have not sufficient  
use for me to justify the expense.

Brig. Gen.  
George C. Johnson  
Comd'g Gen. Subsistence  
P. S. own

I am Sir, respectfully  
Yours Obedt Servant  
W. L. C. Hitchcock  
Adj. Gen. U. S. Army