

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

COMMUNICATING

Information, in answer to a resolution of the Senate, relative to hostilities committed by the Seminole Indians in Florida during the past year, their removal, &c.

MAY 21, 1850.

Read.

May 23, ordered to be printed.

To the Senate of the United States:

I transmit herewith reports from the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of War, in reply to the Senate resolution of the 30th ultimo, calling for information in relation to the hostilities and outrages committed during the past year by the Seminole Indians in Florida, the steps taken for their removal west of the Mississippi, the area now occupied by them, &c.

Z. TAYLOR.

WASHINGTON, May 20, 1850.

Despatches and Letters from the War Department.

1849.

May	29.	The Secretary of War to the	Secretary of the Interior.
July	26.	The same,	" Hon. D. L. Yulee.
August	6.	The same,	" same.
"	9.	The same,	" Governor of Florida.
"	14.	The same,	" Alfred Gale and others. i
"	21.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
*Sept.	17.	The same,	" Gen. Twiggs & Sam'l Spencer.
*"	20.	The same,	" the same.
*"	21.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
*"	24.	The same,	" the same.
"	26.	The same,	" the same.
"	26.	The same,	" The Commissary General.
"	26.	The same,	" The Secretary of Interior.
October	5.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
"	9.	The same,	" The Governor of Florida.
*"	22.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
*"	30.	The same,	" the same.
*Nov.	28.	The same,	" the same.
"	30.	The same,	" the same.
Dec.	4.	The Adjutant-General to	General Twiggs.
"	4.	The Secretary of War to the	Secretary of the Interior.
"	14.	The same,	" The Governor of Florida.
"	24.	The same,	" The Secretary of the Interior.
"	24.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
"	30.	The same,	" Hon. D. L. Yulee.
"	31.	The same,	" Hon. D. L. Yulee and others.
1850.			
Jan.	24.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
Feb.	12.	The Adjutant-General to	Captain J. C. Casey.
"	19.	The Secretary of War to	General D. E. Twiggs.
"	22.	The same,	" the same.
"	25.	The same,	" Secretary of the Interior.
"	26.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
March	4.	The same,	" the same.
"	11.	The same,	" The Governor of Florida.
"	20.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
"	27.	The same,	" Captain J. C. Casey.
April	8.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.
"	12.	The same,	" The Governor of Florida.
"	29.	The same,	" General D. E. Twiggs.

* Those thus designated are printed with the Annual Report of the Secretary of War
Ex. Doc. No. 5, present Session, pp. 116, etc.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, May 29, 1849.

SIR: Allow me to recur to the condition of the Seminole Indians in Florida, lately the topic of conversation between us.

By the recent legislation of the State of Florida, her laws have been extended over the entire territory. As a consequence, the settlements of the whites will be advanced nearer to the limits that separate them from the red men. This contiguity has always been perilous in proportion to the civilization of the Indians, and freedom of restraint of the white man. The Seminoles, now resident in Florida, are the wildest and fiercest remnant of a tribe which have been distinguished for their ceaseless opposition to the arts of civilization. At the present moment they would consider a change of the military post at Tampa bay to the vicinity of Pease creek or Charlotte harbor, less for their protection, than the purpose of their compulsory removal. With Captain Casey of the army, they have often refused to hold intercourse, lest indeed, the persons of their chiefs should be seized, or information acquired that would lead to their forcible removal to the West.

It has occurred to me to suggest for your consideration, the propriety of sending a delegation of their tribe, which have emigrated West, to visit their brethren in Florida, and explain to them the advantages of rejoining their tribe. If nothing more should be attained, let us hope that a channel of intercourse may be opened between the Indians and the agents of the government. The events now in progress plainly indicate that should they remain in Florida, they will require, at no distant day, the protection of the United States.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Hon. THOMAS EWING,

Secretary, Department of the Interior.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, July 26th, 1849.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive yours of the 19th instant, and regret to know that the inhabitants of the peninsula of Florida have been subjected to flight, and a citizen actually killed. The imperfect proof collected under circumstances of great excitement, can scarcely lead to any satisfactory conclusion, whether the act was committed by the remnant of the tribe, (less than four hundred in number) or only a sudden outbreak by the four Indians who were distant from their tribe, and apparently unaccompanied by other Indians. These will be subjects for immediate inquiry. In the mean time, the necessary steps have been taken to place into Florida an adequate force for the protection of its frontier, and whenever it is ascertained that such force is required.

I have the honor to be,

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Hon. DAVID L. YULEE,

St. Augustine.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, August 6, 1849.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 30th ult., urging the adoption of vigorous measures to suppress the hostile outbreak of the Florida Indians. In reply, I have the honor to inform you, that measures have been taken to increase the regular force in Florida to more than five times that of the Indians as estimated by the Executive of Florida, in a message of last year to the Legislature of that State. This force, properly disposed, as it no doubt will be, with proper prudence on the part of these inhabitants in the vicinity of the Indians, will, it is believed, be amply sufficient to protect them from danger until such time as the government shall be able to perfect the arrangements now in contemplation for removing the Indians from the limits of your State.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Hon. D. L. YULEE,
St. Augustine,
Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, August 9, 1849.

SIR: Your letter of the 26th ultimo, addressed to the President, has been referred to this department for reply, and I accordingly have the honor to say, that assuming your estimate of the number of Indian warriors, residing on the soil of Florida during the past year to be correct, and which is greater than that reported by Captain Sprague, who lately had the superintendency of this tribe, I think that the force which is in process of being placed on the southern settlement of the peninsula will be adequate to their full defence; that force when assembled, will, in numerical strength, be quadruple that of the Indians. You propose to raise a force which would be greater than the entire force of the Indians. I confess, that I do not see the propriety or necessity of employing the volunteers of Florida, and without which, I would not advise the President to muster them in the service of the United States.

In addition to which, our latest dispatches from Florida, on either side of the peninsula, and dated within the 28th and 30th ultimo, both inclusive, indicate that the violence and outrage exhibited in the vicinity of Fort Pearce, and at the house on Pease creek, were done by the same party of Indians, which did not exceed five. If right in this conjecture, founded on all the concurrent proofs which have reached the Department, I think it will be a subject of regret, at a period when the United States were about to attempt the peaceable removal of the Indians from Florida, with the hope and probability of success, that the authorities of that State would seek to substitute another element, and place at hazard that which appears to be so much the object of deep concern on the part of Florida, and duty of the United States, the removal of these Indians.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

His Excellency, WM. D. MOSELY,
Governor of Florida,
Tallahassee.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, August 14, 1849.

GENTLEMEN: Your petition addressed to the President has been referred to this Department.

So soon as intelligence reached this Department concerning the murders and destruction of property on Indian river and Pea creek, five companies near the peninsula of Florida, were ordered to repair to the scene of these outrages. We have had information of the arrival of some, and the departure of all of them.

In addition, the 7th infantry have been ordered from Jefferson barracks to Tampa bay or Charlotte harbor; and it is supposed that this regiment will have arrived in Florida before this letter shall have reached you. With eighteen companies under an efficient commander, it is believed that full protection can be given to the settlements north of the line on which you suggest the establishment of posts. In view of the actual or supposed number of the Indians now residing in Florida, according to the most reliable sources of information, this force will greatly exceed that which the Indians, in case of hostilities, could bring into the field.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Messrs. GALE and others,

Tampa Bay,

Florida.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

WASHINGTON, September 17, 1849.

GENTLEMEN: In view of the concurrent action of yourselves as officers of the Departments of the Interior and of War, the heads of these departments deem it proper to address a joint communication to you in relation to Indian affairs in Florida, expecting and directing you to co-operate in carrying out the views of the administration.

In every aspect of the condition of the Indian so long as he remains in Florida, his speedy removal to the West appears desirable and necessary. The administration being thus impressed, have concluded that their removal, voluntary or forcible, is to be effected. And this purpose, apart from other considerations, should be regarded as more binding on the government because of an obligation arising under a treaty, the execution of which does not admit of further postponement.

The most obvious policy demands the employment of peaceable measures where there is a reasonable probability that they will effect the desired end. Such a course harmonizes with the general tone of humanity heretofore pursued towards that unfortunate and perishing race, and is congenial with the sense of justice which their pupillage to the government naturally awakens.

Accordingly, after reminding them, on all occasions of friendly conference which may be allowed by them, of the feebleness of their merely

nominal strength as compared with the overwhelming force which will be brought to act against them—of their insecure and unhappy condition in a dense neighborhood of the whites who every day advance upon them and restrict them to narrow limits—of the interminable strifes which that neighborhood (as all past experience has proven) will certainly and fatally entail upon them, and from which there can be no escape, unless by a removal from such destructive influences as degrade their morals and would ultimately destroy their race—strengthening these suggestions by reminding them of the peace, and comfort, and security which a reunion with their brethren of the West, from whom they have so long been separated, would ensure, you will propose, in behalf of the government, to pay to each Indian in Florida (without regard to sex or age), and to every negro or mixed blood attached to the nation, one hundred dollars, and to furnish transportation to the country of their tribe west of the Mississippi, and subsistence for twelve months after reaching their new homes.

The *essence of this proposition* is in its application to their *voluntarily* emigrating. To any number that may accept it, be they few or many, you can give the assurance that all its terms will be observed with fidelity on the part of the government. You have been heretofore informed that, as auxiliary to this scheme, the government has accepted the services of a delegation of their tribe from the West, who are to visit their brethren in Florida, and exert their influence on the latter to procure their peaceable removal. The plan appeared feasible and was consistent with the long-entertained and ultimate purposes of the administration. It is desired and expected that a fair trial may be made of their agency. Nothing will be lost by any seeming delay arising from this effort, when it is considered that the country and climate would not admit of earlier and more decisive action if compulsory measures must at last be resorted to.

The delegation from the West must be suitably provided for and treated with kindness. To them you are authorized to propose the same inducements as above stated for each Indian, mixed-blood or negro who may, through their influence, be brought in and emigrated to the West. In each case no greater equivalent will be allowed to the emigrant or the delegation or to both than if the former had consented to emigrate peaceably. That is to say, that in whatever manner the *emigrating* may be brought about, the government is only to pay the one hundred dollars, transportation, and subsistence as hereinbefore proposed.

If, notwithstanding the desire and exertions of the government to effect a peaceable removal, it should become necessary to resort to force to effect the object, you are authorized to employ the delegation or any part of them in the service of the United States, with the promise of such compensation as you may deem reasonable.

In your first interview with this delegation you will give them the assurance that compensation will be allowed them for their services, dependent, in some degree, upon the value of those services in conducing to the speedy and voluntary emigration of their Florida brethren to the West.

When convinced that the means suggested or applied will be or are unavailable, you will report the matter immediately to our respective departments.

In the mean time orders will be issued to the army, to meet such contingencies as may arise.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

T. EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.

GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

SAMUEL SPENCER, Esq.,
Indian Sub-Agent,
Tampa Bay, Florida.
and

Brigadier-General D. E. TWIGGS, U. S. A.,
Tampá Bay, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26, 1849.

SIR: The Secretary of the Interior, informing me of the discontinuance of the office of sub-agent for the Seminole Indians, in Florida, has requested me to designate an officer of the army to receive the papers and funds which will be turned over by Mr. Samuel Spencer, late sub-agent. I have, therefore, assigned that duty to Capt. John C. Casey, in view of his past experience in connection with that subject, and you will please instruct him accordingly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD.

Secretary of War.

Brevet Major-General D. E. TWIGGS.

Memorandum for the Commissary-General.

It has been found necessary to place in the hands of Capt. John C. Casey, the papers and funds appertaining to the sub-agency for the Seminole Indians, in Florida, which has been recently discontinued. It is desirable that his staff-duties, in the subsistence-department, should be so arranged by the head of that branch of the service, as not to interfere with the duty just assigned to him, in any way that can be avoided:

WAR DEPARTMENT, }
Sept. 26, 1849. }

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26, 1849.

SIR: Referring to your letter of the 24th inst., I designate Captain John C. Casey, now at Fort Brooke, Tampa Bay, to receive the papers and funds which may be turned over by Mr. Samuel Spencer, late sub-agent for the Seminole Indians in Florida.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Sec. of the Interior.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, October 5, 1849.

SIR: The agent dispatched by the government to accept the services of the Seminoles, West, has returned and reports that the delegation will arrive about the 20th instant, if not sooner. Their arrival, it is expected, will be in time to open to the Indians of Florida the question of their voluntary emigration to the West, at, or immediately after the 19th instant, the day on which it has been agreed to deliver up the offenders for their outrages on the 12th and 17th of last July.

Feeling much anxiety in the progress of affairs in Florida, and wishing to obtain the earliest intelligence connected with them, I have requested the collector, H. ROBERTS, Esq., at Savannah, to send dispatches to this department, Savannah being the nearest point communicating by telegraph with this place. I therefore commend this channel to your consideration if none other be more expeditious and convenient.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

G. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Brevet Major-General D. E. TWISS,
Tallahassee, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, October 9, 1849.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive yours of the 2d instant accompanied by a printed order to discharge the volunteer force, assembled by your predecessor, the late Governor of Florida. Having never seen the propriety of mustering these troops into the service of the United States, the President directs me to say, that neither that propriety nor necessity exists at the present time.

The latest reliable information in this department is, that the Indians are disposed to peace and to atone for previous outrages by the surrender of the offenders. The day appointed is on the 19th instant, when the sincerity of their promises will be fully tested.

You will allow me to say that the President has not been inattentive to those wants and emergencies that may arise in Florida and demand resistance by force. The troops already assembled in your state amount to about seventeen hundred men, rank and file, and as compared with the number of Indian warriors, are in the proportion of eight to one. Moreover the commanding General in Florida was, in the early stages of these difficulties, authorized to call on the executive of Florida for such troops as might be wanted for the protection of her peninsular frontier.

It is the wish and purpose of the President to remove the Indians in accordance with the treaty at Payne's landing. To effect this object, the employment of peaceable means will be first attempted, in advance of those which look to force. In every aspect, I feel assured, that the policy of the administration will have your approval and cooperation.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

His Excellency THOMAS BROWN,
Governor, &c. &c. &c.
Tallahassee, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, November 30, 1849.

SIR: Yours of the 21st instant, by telegraph, is just received, and in reply to your inquiries, I enclose you a copy of my letter of the 28th instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Brevet Major-General D. E. TWIGGS,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, December 4, 1849.

GENERAL: Your letter of the 21st November has been laid before the Secretary of War, and in reply I am instructed to say to you that the Indian prisoners, in your hands, having been tendered to the Judge of Florida for trial in the courts of that state, and by him declined, will now be disposed of you according to your best judgment. No military court can try them.

I am further desired to say, that Congress, it is believed, will early make the necessary appropriations to carry into effect any arrangement which you may make (within the instructions heretofore given you) for the removal of the Indians from Florida.

The Secretary of War considers, as you do, that you are now in possession of all the views of the department in this matter, and nothing has occurred which appears to make any further instructions necessary.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

R. JONES,
Adjutant General.

Brevet Major-General D. E. TWIGGS,
Commanding Western Division,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, December 4, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to present, for your consideration, a copy of a letter herein, from Captain John C. Casey, who is specially charged with the duty of negotiating with the Florida Indians for their removal west of the Mississippi river.

It is to be much desired that the necessary funds may be placed at the disposal of this officer to the end that he might comply with every part of his promise to the Indians. This amount cannot now be definitely stated, as no arrangement for their emigration has been agreed on. It is however proper that I should state, that I have directed the commanding general in Florida, and Captain Casey, not to exceed the sum of \$215,000. I further state, that information lately received, indicates that the Indians may be induced peaceably to emigrate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14, 1849.

SIR: Yours of the 29th ultimo, addressed to the President, has been submitted to this department for answer.

Its main purpose is to invoke the aid of the Executive in having the State of Florida indemnified for the expenses incurred by the threatened incursions of the Indians, evinced by their acts of violence and outrage committed during the past summer on Indian river and Pease creek. Without assenting entirely to the inference of your Excellency, deduced from past events that have occurred in Florida, or admitting the necessity of the action of your predecessor, in calling forth the volunteer force, still it is considered that there was probable ground of apprehension, which may have required that the Executive of Florida should have interposed a military force for the protection of the frontier. Therefore, in accordance with the views of the President, I am directed to say, that at an early day he will invite the attention of Congress to this subject and recommend that a reasonable appropriation be made which will indemnify the State of Florida for necessary expenditures made for the military defence of the frontier, since the outbreak to which I have alluded.

Preliminary to this message of the President and necessary for the information of Congress, in respect to the amount which may be appropriated, I request that you will forward the muster and pay rolls (or copies thereof) to this department, with such authentication as your Excellency may give, or direct to be given.

Within the scope of information that has reached this department, there is the hope, that the Indians will consent peaceably to emigrate from Florida—an object of great concern not only to the authorities of Florida, but also to those of the Federal Government.

I have the honor to be very respectfully, &c.

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

His Excellency, THOMAS BROWN,
Governor, &c., &c., Tallahassee,
Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1849.

SIR: The time has arrived when it becomes necessary to provide for the emigration of such of the Indians in Florida as may surrender themselves for that purpose. A letter just received from General Twiggs expresses the hope that the assurances given to the Indians in respect to the money promised them, may be fulfilled, and that this money may be paid to them in gold before they embark. I have accordingly to request that the sum of, at least, one hundred thousand dollars may be placed in the hands of Captain John C. Casey, U. S. Army, Sub-Indian Agent at Tampa Bay, Florida, for this object.

With a view to the proper distribution of these funds, I respectfully suggest that specific instructions on this subject, may be given to Captain Casey—who is an officer of great prudence and discretion; in which instructions it is not doubted that the Commanding-General in Florida will

fully co-operate, by making suggestions which will lead to the most beneficial results to the Indians.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD.

HON. THOMAS EWING,
Sec. of Interior.

Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, 1849.

SIR:—I have received your letter of the 10th inst. A requisition has this day been made on the Secretary of the Interior, for one hundred thousand dollars to be placed in the hands of Capt. Casey, at Tampa bay, for the purpose of redeeming the pledges made to the Indians in respect to their emigration. Captain Casey, as Sub-Agent, will receive from the Secretary of the Interior, special instructions on the subject of the distribution of these funds; in which it is hoped you will co-operate by making such suggestions, as may lead to the most beneficial results to the Indians.

In respect to the liquidation of the claims of the white people on the negroes captured during the war, and now in possession of the Indians, you are already apprised of the views of the Department, where according to your instructions, they are required to be emigrated with those who claim them.

It is expected that prompt and energetic steps will be taken for the removal of all settlers who have come on the territory which was reserved to the Indians under the agreement made in 1842, by the late General Worth.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,

To Major-General D. E. TWIGGS,
Commanding &c., Tampa Bay,
Florida.

Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30, 1849.

SIR: Your letter of the 28th instant inviting attention to yours of the 21st, both addressed to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, have been referred to this Department, as at this time the disturbed condition of the Indians in Florida has necessarily drawn a portion of the army to the scene of difficulty.

In reply I beg leave to refer you to the correspondence which accompanies my annual report, as exhibiting the policy pursued, so as to induce the Indians in Florida to emigrate. Their consent when obtained will lead to the inquiry, as to the means that will be adopted in respect to their transportation. So far no definite steps have been taken in this regard.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

HON. D. L. YULEE,
Washington, D. C.

Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31, 1849.

GENTLEMEN: The President has referred to this Department your letter of the 21st instant, requesting that in whatever negotiations may be made with the Florida Indians, some provision may be insisted upon to indemnify the citizens who sustained losses in the recent outbreak.

The peaceful removal of those Indians is, and until accomplished, must continue to be, the first object of the Executive. The latest accounts from the General commanding in Florida, render it evident that to compass the removal will require the undivided efforts of the Department, and it would, therefore, be unwise at this time to introduce a new question calculated further to embarrass the conduct of this affair. So soon, however, as the subject can be brought forward with safety, if the Indians be in a condition, pecuniarily, to justify the attempt, the effort will be made to procure the provision which you desire.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Hon. D. L. YULEE, Hon. E. C. CABELL,

Hon. JACKSON MORTON, *Washington city.*

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, January 24, 1850.

SIR: The enclosed copies of letters from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, embracing those of the 2d Auditor, of the 19th ultimo and 19th instant, are sent to you, in reply to yours of the 3d of December last.

Under the supposition that you have sought information, by referring to the past, which is to be a guide to your conduct touching the pending negotiation with the Florida Indians, I have only to say that I indulge the hope that you will be enabled to effect their emigration within the limits, as heretofore expressed. At the same time, I will add, that the necessity of a larger sum, if apparent to the Department, will be favorably recommended to the President, and by him submitted for the approval of Congress.

I also enclose the copy of a letter from the Department of the Interior to Mr. Duval, sub-Indian agent at Tampa Bay, having in charge the delegation of western Seminoles, from which you will perceive that this officer is instructed freely to cooperate with you in regard to the policy to be pursued in bringing about the emigration of the Florida Indians, and to be governed by your views and directions with respect to the movements and efforts of himself and delegation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Brevet Maj.-Gen. D. E. TWIGGS,

Com'dg Western Division U. S. A.,

Tampa Bay,

Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Adjutant-General's Office,
 WASHINGTON, Feb. 12, 1850.

CAPTAIN: Your letter of the 27th January, enclosing letters for the Secretaries of War and Treasury, has been received, and I have to inform you in reply, that (\$100,000) one hundred thousand dollars in gold was ordered, on the 9th inst., to be shipped from Philadelphia to your address.

I am, Captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. JONES,
Adjutant-General.

Capt. J. C. CASEY, Com'dg Subsistence, U. S. A.,
Tampa Bay,
 E. Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
 WASHINGTON, *February 19, 1850.*

SIR: Your dispatch of the 7th instant, by the telegraph, was received last night, in which you desire funds for the payment of such Indians who have consented to emigrate to the West. The sum of \$100,000 was sent to Capt. Casey, from the Indian Office, last week, and intelligence has been received of its arrival at Charleston.

Under the reasonable presumption that at least a part of the Indians will be ready to emigrate, it has been considered and concluded, that their emigration shall be under the control and supervision of the officers of the army. This plan has been adopted in respect to humanity toward the Indians, and economy to the government. These objects should be kept in full view. None but the most prudent should be selected to perform this duty.

In connection with this subject, I inform you, that Brevet Major R. S. Garnett has orders to join his regiment, now in Florida, and to be detached for this particular service, so soon as a sufficient number of Indians shall be enrolled for emigration. He has been directed to exhibit his orders to you to the end that you will take all proper steps to advance the views of the government.

Other parties, which agree to emigrate at any date subsequent to the departure of the first party, will be left to your judgment in the selection of the *conducting officer.*

In the great solicitude to effect the peaceable removal of the Indians, and relieve the plan from all influences which may be brought to bear against it, I ought to say, that the particular mode, as indicated for their transportation to the West, may not be disclosed. The several applications for a contract to remove the Indians from Florida, if openly refused, might expose you to the frowns of the applicants, who may be on the spot. It is proper to encounter only these difficulties which are inseparable from this tedious service of inducing reluctant savages to accept new homes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Brevet Maj.-Gen. D. E. TWIGGS,
Tampa Bay,
 Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, *February 22, 1850.*

SIR: I have received yours of the 3d inst., and notice, with satisfaction, that a party of forty-eight Indians had consented, and is prepared to emigrate west of the Mississippi river.

On yesterday, Brevet Major R. S. Garnett, was despatched with instructions to you. When obtained, you will find that you anticipated the Department in respect to the transportation of the Indians. It is to be performed under the direction of an officer or officers of the army.

The policy of sending parties as they may enrol for emigration, to New Orleans or Pascagoula, especially the former, is questionable. As it will be known that the Indians are in possession of a large amount of money, and having habits wholly dissimilar to the whites, they will doubtless be pursued by the latter for the single purpose of obtaining from the Indian his cash. Let the officers charged with the control of emigrating parties, have especial and stringent orders on this subject.

Four persons on Indian river and Peas creek, allege that their property has been destroyed by the Indians at these places during the past summer. The senators and representatives of Florida have urged on the Department that the Indians should indemnify these and other individuals for property destroyed by them. The enclosed correspondence between these gentlemen and this Department will inform you of the grounds taken by either. I will only add, that if you can prevail on the Indians to allow the sufferers a recompense for their property, then destroyed, it will be another evidence of the justice and fair dealing of the Indians. In your negotiations on this subject, you will consider yourself as acting intermediately between the parties whose property has been destroyed, and the Indians, and by no means to commit the government to pay any amount on this class of claims.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Brevet Maj.-Gen. D. E. TWIGGS,
Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, *February 25, 1850.*

SIR: A brief despatch, lately received from Captain Casey, furnishes the gratifying evidence that the Seminoles of Florida are evincing a determination to emigrate to the West. He has requested that the sum of \$100,000 may be sent immediately to him, in a draft or drafts on New Orleans.

Without knowing the condition of the appropriations applicable to this object, it is proper that I should say that, in my opinion, \$400,000 will be sufficient to emigrate and transport to, and subsist at, the West for one year all the Indians in Florida. It is important that the funds be sent without delay, as the officer now superintending Indian affairs there, has given the promise of payment before the emigrants go on shipboard.

In the estimate I verbally stated to you a few days ago, I placed the sum at \$300,000, but in consideration of their number, which can only be conjectured, and the probable cost of their transportation and subsistence, it

may be prudent to increase the sum to \$400,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary to effect these objects.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

HON. THOMAS EWING,
Sec. of the Interior.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
 WASHINGTON, *February 26, 1850.*

SIR: I have received yours of the 12th instant, from Lieutenant Meade, and am gratified with the probable removal of the Indians from Florida.

I addressed you on the 22d instant, and among the matters, mentioned the application of certain persons whose property had been destroyed by the Indians, and that the subject had been partially discussed by the Senators and Representatives of Florida and this department. Lest there may be some misapprehension on this subject, I would say that whatever is effected for their relief must be by the voluntary action of the Indians. If they refuse, they are not to be coerced to pay.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Brevet Major-General D. E. TWIGGS,
 Tampa Bay, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
 WASHINGTON, *March 4, 1850.*

SIR: I have received yours of the 18th ultimo, and am happy to know that the Indians are showing the sincerity of their promises by presenting themselves for emigration. The policy is to use peaceful means with them. When only a remnant is left, such as you mentioned in your last communication, you will say to them, that as a tribe they cannot have the protection of the government so long as they remain in Florida. That their tribe has gone to the west, and they should go with them. Florida claims the right of administering her laws over the country lately occupied by their brethren, and that the government sees no objection to the authority which Florida claims. They must therefore be brought under the control of Florida laws, and like all similar cases, their race will soon be extinct.

The movement of troops south of your line must depend upon your judgment. Free communication between the army and the Indians should be cherished, and no act shown on your part, which may weaken their confidence in your purposes and promises. The department has learned that sinister influences have been used to retard the emigration of the Indians, and without leaving any doubt on this matter, I will say, that I have heard that Bowlegs has expressed the apprehension that after the Indians are fully in the custody of the army, that they will be required to indemnify the whites for all losses the latter have sustained; also that about fifteen warriors have placed themselves beyond the limits of the Indian reservation under the hope that a higher reward would be paid to them for their emigration. These and all similar plans must be counteracted.

In the course of a few weeks, it is thought that the necessary funds will not only be appropriated, but also placed in the hands of Captain Casey.

The funds about which you speak (I mean \$100,000 in gold), have probably arrived, as I have heard that the special messenger charged with their transportation has reached Pilatka.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Brevet Major-General D. E. TWIGGS,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, *March 11, 1850.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ultimo, covering the copy of muster rolls of two companies (Sparkman's and Parker's) of Florida volunteers for services rendered from July to January last.

These muster rolls do not state under what authority these companies were received into service, nor is there any reason given why, if properly called into service, ~~they were~~ continued therein nearly four months after the order of your Excellency of the 1st of October, 1849, directing the discharge of the volunteers ordered into service by your predecessor. That order, in specifying the companies that had been called out, and were then to be discharged, makes no mention of Sparkman's and Parker's companies, from which it may be inferred that no authority had been given for receiving these particular companies into the service.

It is important to know these facts before the President can take any steps in recommending to Congress an appropriation for their payment. There must be evidence of previous authority, either from the general government or from the executive of a State, for receiving volunteers into service, and the musters must be made in accordance with such previous authority before payment can be authorized. The mere voluntary enrolment of individuals without such authority does not constitute a claim to pay. Nor is it thought, as in these cases, as exhibited before the department, that the government should pay for services under an organization never recognized, and continued for months after the order of disbandment of all troops then in the service of Florida.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed) GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

His Excellency THOMAS BROWN,
Governor of Florida,
Tallahassee, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, *March 20, 1850.*

SIR: I have received yours of the 9th instant, and had previously conversed with the agent who had been sent as the bearer of funds to the Indian agent in Florida.

I have never lost sight of what appeared to be a prominent wish of a portion of the inhabitants of Florida to engage in a war with the remnant of Indians in that State. Whilst another and, I believe a larger and more respectable part of the community has been inclined to an opposite purpose. I am, therefore, not much surprised at the intelligence you have communi-

cated in relation to information derived from this department, as having been known to Bowlegs and the Indians in advance of that to yourself. Such purposes and plans must be guarded against as far as possible.

Two company rolls of the Florida militia have been forwarded to this department by the Executive of Florida, which appeared never to have been recognized by the authorities of that State. I mean the companies alleged to have been commanded by Captains Sparkman and Parker. It seems that these companies retained their organization till the latter part of January, or nearly four months after the general order of Governor Brown for the disbandment of the volunteers called into service by his predecessor. It may be proper for the department to be informed fully on these matters or others. This information may be useful to the government in adjusting claims that may be presented or paid, and growing out of the late disturbances in Florida.

It is expected, when Bowlegs and his tribe shall be emigrated to the West—about the 1st proximo—that Sam Jones and his small band of adherents will see the necessity of following immediately in their footsteps. It is submitted to your judgment whether your language to him and his people may not then be more decisive. They cannot be so unreflecting as not to see and know that in less than a year, they will be entirely surrounded by the whites, and every year their reserve will be narrower.

Moreover the majority of the Indians will have gone with full payment for their occupant right. It will not be tolerated that this second and full purchase was intended for the benefit of such as choose to remain. It has been made for the United States and Florida, and will be so used. These and similar views you can impress on the minds of the reluctant Indians on opportune occasions.

When Bowlegs and his party shall have sailed, you will furnish the department with the probable number of Indians who may remain in Florida.

So far the plans you have adopted to effect the peaceable removal of the Indians have met the approval of the President.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Brevet Major-General D. E. TWIGGS,
 Tampa Bay, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
 WASHINGTON, *March 27, 1850.*

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, in relation to the claim of the chief Bowlegs, against Mr. P. A. Youge, of Darien, Georgia, I state that as the matter has already been submitted to and decided by a judicial tribunal, and the defendant is fully able to respond in pecuniary damages, I presume that Bowlegs could adopt no more certain or speedy process to secure his rights, than by prosecuting the measures already adopted. As the judgment has already been rendered, there will probably be no difficulty in the prosecution of the claim and no proof required other than that furnished by the records of the Florida court.

From the acknowledged intelligence of Bowlegs, it is not doubted that you will be enabled to impress his mind fully with the system which the whites adopt for the enforcing payment in all cases where disinclination or

neglect is evinced by the defaulting party. As the present case was a proceeding between individuals, and, it is presumed, had its origin by their mutual agreement without the intervention of a government agent, it should in its future progress be left to the discretion of Bowlegs. At the same time, I shall cheerfully approve of any course of counsel or agency, which you may assume in conformity to his wishes.

I do not deem it necessary to address the District Attorney at Savannah, on the subject, as I could only suggest what I have above written, and express the wish that the case may be prosecuted as other cases between parties litigant before the judicial tribunals of the country.

I avail myself of this occasion to express the approval of this Department, of your conduct, in promoting and executing the wish and policy of the President, touching the removal of the Indians to the West.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Captain JOHN S. CASEY, *U. S. A.*,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

[Copy.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, *April 8, 1850.*

SIR: I have just received yours of the 27th ult., covering a communication from Captain Casey on the day previous.

Much regret and surprise are felt that the movement of the detachment under the command of Captain Britton, or any other demonstration of an armed force should have been made in the Indian reserve, as its effect would tend to weaken the confidence of the Indians in the past promises of the government.

The first step will be to reopen a friendly intercourse with them.

In the event of hostilities being commenced by the Indians, you will so arrange your command so as to protect the frontier of Florida, as far as practicable, and press the Indians into a compliance with their agreement. The policy heretofore indicated, is not to be departed from, unless on the contingency just mentioned.

I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Brevet-Major-General D. E. TWIGGS,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, *April 12, 1850.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ult., on the subject of Captain Sparkman and Parker's companies of Florida militia, from which it appears that these companies were ordered into service by certain commanding officers of militia, under the militia law of the State, which provides for repelling or suppressing sudden invasion or insurrection, and that they were not called by the orders or authority of the Executive of the State. These facts do not, in the opinion of the

President, and I may add of this Department, change the character of the claim from that referred to in my letter to your Excellency of the 11th of March, except in establishing the want of the pre-requisite referred to in that letter, in order to constitute a just claim upon the government. Under these circumstances, the President is constrained to decline a compliance with your request to recommend the claim to the favorable consideration of Congress.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

His Excellency, THOMAS BROWN,
Governor of Florida,
Tallahassee, Florida.

[Copy.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1850.

SIR: From your dispatches of the 14th and 15th instant, it is not wholly improbable from the bad faith which the Indians have evinced, that an outbreak on the frontier may have already occurred.

It cannot be doubted, in such a contingency, you will have so disposed your forces as to execute previous instructions from this Department.

Trading-houses will be under the exclusive control of the commanding-officer, and no person permitted to trade with the Indians, whose conduct or motives may be even suspected as hostile to the removal of the Indians. Indeed, all persons without authority from yourself will be denied intercourse with the Indians within, or on the borders of the territory allotted for their temporary occupation.

It is not deemed proper to abridge their present boundary, as it would, doubtless, furnish a pretext to avoid or postpone a duty of the government and the Indians—their removal to the West.

You are instructed not to commence but to repel hostilities. A free and constant intercourse may effect more than forcible means. It is supposed as probable, that the Indians, when assured of your fidelity to your engagements, small parties may be induced to emigrate on the terms proposed. The government has none other to offer. It is suggested in any aspect, that you should seek and obtain reliable information of the country occupied by the Indians, and such places to which they may fly when pursued.

If hostile measures be forced on you, it is suggested that you make captives of their women and children, and keep them in safe custody.

No instructions will now be given as to the disposition of the forces, or sale of public property. The former will be as heretofore, under your judgment, and of course be so arranged as that localities, which may be conducive to health, will not be overlooked.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Brevet Major-General D. E. TWIGGS,
Tampa bay, Florida.

Reports and Communications to the War Department.

1849.

- June 18. Capt. J. C. Casey to the Adjutant-General.
 " 25. The same to the same.
 July 7. Maj. W. W. Morris to the same.
 " 17. Maj. C. F. Smith to the same. (5 enclosures.)
 " 18. The same to the same.
 " 19. Hon. D. L. Yulee to the Secretary of War.
 " 21. Maj. W. W. Morris to the Adjutant-General. (1 enclosure.)
 " 21. J. H. Bronson and others to the Secretary of War.
 " 22. Lieut. D. W. Conch to the Adjutant-General. (1 enclosure.)
 " 22. The same to the same. (1 enclosure.)
 " 22. Maj. W. W. Morris to the same. (1 enclosure.)
 " 22. G. W. Ferguson to the Secretary of War.
 " 23. Maj. C. F. Smith to the Adjutant-General.
 * " 23. Capt. J. C. Casey to the same.
 " 25. Maj. W. W. Morris to the same.
 " 26. The Governor of Florida to the President of the U. States.
 " 28. Maj. C. F. Smith to the Adjutant-General.
 " 28. The Secretary of the Treasury to the Secretary of War. (1 Enclosure.)
 " 29. Capt. J. C. Casey to the Commissary-General.
 " 30. Hon. D. L. Yulee to the Secretary of War.
 " 30. Maj. W. W. Morris to the Adjutant-General.
 " 31. Maj. C. F. Smith to the same.
 " 31. Lieut. D. W. Conch to the same.
 Aug. 3. Maj. C. F. Smith to the same. (1 enclosure.)
 " 6. G. E. McClellan to the Secretary of War.
 " 6. Maj. C. F. Smith to the Adjutant-General. (3 enclosures.)
 " 6. General J. Bankhead to the same. (2 enclosures.)
 " 9. Maj. W. W. Morris to the same. (2 enclosures.)
 " 12. The same to the same. (2 enclosures.)
 " 12. The same to the same.
 " 13. The same to the Adjutant-General.
 " 14. Alfred Gale and others to the President of the United States.
 " 14. C. F. Smith to the Adjutant-General. (1 enclosure.)
 " 15. The same to the same.
 " 16. The same to the same. (1 enclosure.)
 " 18. Maj. W. W. Morris to the same.
 " 20. The same to the same.
 * " 20. Capt. J. C. Casey to the same.
 " 23. Maj. J. F. Roland to the same.
 * " 25. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
 * " 27. The same to the same.
 " 30. Governor Thos. Brown to the Secretary of War.
 * Sept. 1. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
 * " 3. The same to the same.
 " 3. Lt. D. W. Conch to the Adjutant-General.
 * " 6. Capt. J. C. Casey to Maj. W. W. Mackall.
 * " 6. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
 " 6. The same to the Secretary of War. (tel. dis.)

- * " 9. Capt. J. C. Casey to the Adjutant-General.
- * " 10. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
- " 17. Col. J. L. Gardner to the Adjutant-General.
- * " 23. Gen. E. Twiggs to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
- " 23. The same to the Secretary of War. (*tel. dis.*)
- " 23. Capt. J. C. Casey to the Adjutant-General.
- " 24. The Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of War.
- * " 29. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the Adjutant-General.
- Oct. 2. The Governor of Florida to the Sec. of War. (1 enclosure.)
- * " 3. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
- * " 6. The same to the Secretary of War.
- " 6. The same to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
- " 14. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the Secretary of War.
- * " 19. The same to the same.
- " 19. The same to the same.
- " 26. Cap. J. C. Casey to Gen. D. E. Twiggs.
- * Nov. 7. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the Secretary of War.
- * " 10. The same to the same.
- " 12. The same to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
- " 19. The same to the same.
- " 19. Capt. J. S. Casey to the Adjutant-General.
- " 21. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the same.
- " 26. The same to the same.
- " 29. The Governor of Florida to the President the United States.
- Dec. 3. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the Secretary of War.
- " 10. The same to the same.
- " 14. The First Comptroller to the same.
- " 15. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the Secretary of War.
- " 15. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the same.
- " 21. Hon. D. L. Yulee and others to the President of the U. S.
- " 22. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to Lt. Col. W. G. Freeman.
- " 27. The Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of War.
- " 29. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the same.
- 1850.
- Jan. 3. The Governor of Florida to the Sec. of War. (1 enclosure.)
- " 7. Capt. J. C. Casey to the Adjutant-General.
- " 10. The Secretary of the Interior to the Secretary of War.
- " 14. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs to the same.
- " 19. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the same.
- " 22. The same to the same.
- " 23. Hon. D. L. Yulee to the same.
- " 27. Capt. J. C. Casey to the Adjutant-General.
- " 27. The same to the Secretary of War.
- " 27. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the same.
- Feb. 2. Capt. J. C. Casey to the Adjutant-General.
- " 3. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the Secretary of War.
- " 7. The same to the same.
- " 12. The same to the same.
- " 18. Maj. W. W. Mackall to the same.
- " 24. The Governor of Florida to the same.
- March 1. Capt. J. C. Casey to the same.
- " 1. Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the same.

" 9.	The same	to the same.
" 10.	Capt. J. C. Casey	to the same.
" 11.	Maj. W. W. Mackall to Maj. R. S. Garnett.	
" 11.	The same	to Maj. W. T. N. Brooks.
" 18.	Gen. D. E. Twiggs to the Secretary of War.	
" 26.	The Governor of Florida to the same.	(1 enclosure.)
" 27.	Gen. D. E. Twiggs	to the same. (1 enclosure.)
April 3.	The same	to the same.
" 6.	The Secretary of the Interior to the same.	
" 8.	Gen. D. E. Twiggs	to the same.
" 14.	The same	to the same. (1 enclosure.)
" 15.	The same	to the same. (1 enclosure.)
" 20.	The same	to the same.
May 1.	The same	to the same. (2 enclosures.)
" 13.	The Commissary-General	to the same. (2 enclosures.)

* Those thus designated, are printed with the annual report of the Secretary of War, Ex. Doct. No. 5, present session, pp. 116 &c

FORT BROOKE, FLORIDA,
June 18, 1849.

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your instructions of May 29, with five papers inclosed, relating to Seminole affairs in this State, and the site for a military post near the Indians, and directing me to give my views on these subjects.

As much responsibility is imposed on me, I consider it due to the department as well as to myself, to state briefly, in this report, the reasons which govern me.

If the Seminoles now here are to remain in Florida, I have no hesitation in saying that the post, agency, and trading-house should all be at Charlotte harbor, the post on the island of Guiseppe and the agency and store on the main land near by.

The moral influence of a military post will be greater at that than at any other point on the coast, because it is the nearest suitable site to the *Indian towns and retreats*; and I think they can be more readily held in check by such a post within striking distance of their homes, than by any post to the north, between them and our settlements, since the latter post must be far from their towns and retreats.

The extent and character of this country and the sparse population of our frontier, render it impossible to "head off" the warriors by any moderate force (interposed between them and the whites), but if the families and towns are within our reach, the men will not so readily spread themselves through the white settlements.

The special reasons for selecting Guiseppe island are given in the Report of the Board of January 20, 1849.

If, however, it is proposed to remove the Seminoles, now here, to the West within a few years, I would recommend that Fort Brooke be continued, and that the agency and chief trading house be established at Charlotte harbor. The trading house is the general rendezvous for the Indians, and the agency should be there. Charlotte harbor being a central point for trade and far removed from our settlements, is the best place for them, besides being the point from which we are to communicate with the Indians, and, if they are to be removed, remove them.

The prospect of removing them peaceably is not, at present, favorable. It is believed that their laws still outlaw any chief who shall propose to negotiate on the subject. They are very wild and suspicious, and I regret to state that during the last few years of the war, they lost that confidence in the faith of our army officers which they had always manifested, even during the most active hostilities, as late as 1840. The head chief, who is personally well known to me, has twice failed, after he had himself solicited an interview, and I have no doubt that he was forbidden to attend by their council, lest he might be seized and sent to Arkansas, even when coming under a white flag. One of the chief men who did attend, stated that they had reason to entertain such distrust, alluding, I thought, particularly to the seizure of Okti-ah-chiee and people at this post in 1842.

Unfortunately I was prevented, by illness, from attending a *third* rendezvous (on Charlotte harbor) where the chief awaited me nine days. The Indians are now all in the interior attending their annual festival, the corn dance, and the rainy season is so far advanced that the chiefs cannot conveniently be assembled again before the fall or winter. It is not impossible that they may be gradually induced to change their views and to

receive a friendly visit from their brethren in Arkansas; and afterwards to send a deputation of their own to the West, which deputation it is to be hoped may report favorably of the new country to the Seminoles here. As I do not think that the presence of a small military force would favor the negotiations, in the actual state of feeling among them, I would not advise the occupation of a point on Charlotte harbor until their migration is to be executed (or hostilities are threatened). This depôt (Fort Brooke) will be required in any probable event, and as it has advantages over all other points within our settlements, I recommend its continuance, and that the islands in Charlotte harbor, recommended by the Board, be reserved for military purposes, so long as the Indians remain in Florida.

When the time shall come for removing those who will go peaceably, and the peace party (if any) will be found among the Seminoles proper, now living near the Caloosa Hatchee, a strong force should be stationed on Guiseppe island ready to protect them; and it will probably be necessary at the same time to throw forward a considerable force from Fort Brooke towards Lake Istokpoga where the Mikkasookes and Tallahasseees have their towns.

I return herewith all the papers referred to me with your instructions.

I am, General, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,
Captain, U. S. A.

Major-Gen. R. JONES,
Adjutant-General, U. S. A.

FORT BROOKE, TAMPA BAY,
FLORIDA, June 25, 1849.

GENERAL: Immediately on the receipt of your instructions of May 29th, I reported, as therein directed. In pursuance of those instructions I shall, as early as practicable, make a visit to Charlotte harbor, and the Caloosa Hatchee, with the hope of communicating with the head chief of the Seminoles. This expedition may occupy me from four to five weeks, and on my return, I shall if successful, be able to report further on the present state of feeling among the Seminoles.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY, Capt. U. S. A.

General R. JONES,
Adj.-General, U. S. A.

FORT BROOKE, E. F.

July 7, 1849.

SIR: I have been informed that the strip of land twenty miles in width around the district set apart for the use and occupation of the Seminoles, in Florida, which was by order of the President of the United States, reserved from survey and sale. Instructions, dated 20th May, 1845, has been encroached upon by several white persons, opening farms, with a view to permanent settlements.

As I know of no law by which I could compel them to vacate these lands, I report the fact for the information of the department.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[Signed]

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. A., Commanding Post.

Major-General, R. JONES,

Adj.-Gen. U. S. A.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,

FLORIDA, July 17, 1849.

Brevet-Maj.-General, R. JONES,

Adj.-General, U. S. A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

GENERAL: I received this morning the enclosed letter, from General Joseph M. Fernandez, (Mayor of St. Augustine), covering that also enclosed from Mr. J. J. Marshall, in relation to Indian outrages alleged to have been committed at Indian river (Fort Pearce.) I also enclose a copy of my answer to Mr. Marshall. These letters are sent to you direct, passing other head quarters, that the government may receive the earliest notice.

If I had the means of transportation by water, at my instant disposal, I would at once send an officer and some men to Indian river, to procure intelligence; but the only boat we have at all fit for such a purpose, is one of the Vera Cruz surf-boats, without mast or sail. I have directed that this boat be made ready with all dispatch, and shall then send an officer and ten or a dozen men, unless I should receive meantime such information as would preclude the necessity for my so doing.

The Mr. Icobie who writes, is the keeper of the Light house at Cape Canaveral, some seventy-five miles from Indian river: Mr. Dummett, is the Inspector of Customs at Smyrna, and Mr. Marshall, is a planter at Dunlawta, some eight or 10 miles from Smyrna.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,

Capt. 2d Artillery, and Brevet-Col. Commanding.

ST. AUGUSTINE, July 17, 1849.

DEAR SIR: The enclosed letter from Col. Marshall, a gentleman of high standing and respectability, and one of the first planters in this section of the State, has been received by express my plantation, and I hasten to transmit it to you.

Should you desire to reply, the express will return in the course of the day.

With much respect, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH M. HERNANDEZ.

Col. SMITH, *Commanding.*

DEAR DOC: For God's sake come with your boat as soon as possible, and help us to get away. The Indians have broken out at Indian river, and I am obliged to take to the light house.

(Signed)

N. C. ICOBIE.

DEAR COL: I have this moment received the above from Mr. Icobie, by a black boy of Mr. Stamps.

The boy says, that this morning, four black women, one black boy and one white girl, came from Indian by way of the beach, and report that the Indians have broken out on Indian river, and are burning the houses. The boy can give no further information. What had we best do?

Yours in haste,

(Signed)

D. DUMMETT.

Please write me, and send Ben back immediately. The negroes left Indian river on Thursday.

DUNLAWTON, FLORIDA.

Sunday night, July 15, 1849.

To the Commandant at St. Augustine.

DEAR SIR: Above is a copy of a note just received from Captain Dummett.

We have no idea of the number of Indians there may be.

There are but few of us about Smyrna, but we intend to maintain our ground, unless the odds are greatly against us.

Fortunately we have a supply of powder, (intended for blasting) and some lead. My messengers are waiting, and I write in great haste.

Please write to me by return of the messenger, and state definitely what we may calculate on from you, and when.

I could send a boat or boats to Dummett's old place if desired.

By land, the settlements on Indian river are 140 miles from this place.

I am personally known to several gentlemen in St. Augustine, but I have not time to write any of them. Be kind enough to extend this information.

In haste, yours, &c.

JOHN J. MARSHALL.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,
FLORIDA, July 17, 1849.

JOHN J. MARSHALL, ESQ.,
Dunlawton, Florida.

SIR: I received this morning through General Hernandez, your letter of the 15th instant.

If the Indians have taken the field, and are in force, my command is too small from which to make a detachment against them at such a distance as Indian river, with any propriety. I cannot, therefore, send a force so far. If the settlement at Smyrna is threatened by a force the inhabitants cannot cope with, I will aid them to the extent of a dozen men and an officer.

But I do not regard the burning of a few houses at Indian river, as in-

dicative of a determination on the part of the Indians for war, but rather as an act of retaliation for some injury fancied or real—with which they will remain satisfied. I should be glad to hear from you soon on this point. Let me have information on which you rely, especially as to the origin of the difficulty.

I have a large boat in good condition, capable of carrying many men, but she is heavy and wants both mast and sail; as soon as I can have it properly rigged, I will send an officer and some men to Indian river to make inquiries, provided the information I may receive from you meantime is not conclusive.

If it becomes necessary, I can furnish muskets and cartridge. I need scarcely add that the best reliance of the inhabitants ought to be upon their own efforts.

I shall send your communication to the War Department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

C. F. SMITH,

Brevet-Col. U. S. Army, Commanding.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,
FLORIDA, July 18, 1849.

Brevet Maj.-Gen. R. JONES,
Adjutant-General, U. S. Army,
Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: As a pendant to my letter of yesterday, I have to report that this morning, a party of 27 men, women and children arrived in a small vessel from Indian river settlement (Fort Pierce) having been driven thence by Indian outrages on the 12th instant. Mr. *Russell*, the Inspector of the Customs at I. R., is among the number; he is severely wounded in the arm by rifle bullets, fired by the Indians. From Mr. *Russell* and others of the party, I have gathered the following details.

On Thursday, the 12th inst., four young Indian warriors, armed as for hunting, made their appearance at the Indian river settlement, conducting themselves in their usual friendly manner, received from the families similar treatment, and in no wise exhibited any hostile feeling. This was about 12 o'clock. Between two and three hours afterwards, the Indians left Mr. *Russell's* house, where they had dined, and proceeded towards Messieurs *Russell* and *Barker* (his brother-in-law) who were conversing in a field about a quarter of a mile distant. When within forty or fifty yards of them two of the Indians fired and wounded both R. and B., who immediately ran in different directions; the four Indians pursued Mr. *Barker* and killed him with their knives. This shooting and stabbing was witnessed by the greater part of Mr. *Russell's* household, in particular by an intelligent daughter of some 16 years old, with whom I have conversed.

The alarm was at once taken, and the remainder of the inhabitants fled to their boats, followed by the four Indians, who fired some ten or twelve volleys after them, without further damage.

On the succeeding day some of the males went on shore from the small vessel where the party had taken refuge, and found the house of Mr. *D. H. Gattis* burnt to the ground, and the houses of Messrs. *Russell* and *Barker* pillaged, furniture destroyed, &c. The remaining houses at the settlement

they did not visit. They found Mr. *Barker's* body, stabbed in several places.

The settlement consisted of four families, viz.: those of Messrs. *Russell*, *Barker*, *Gattis* and one other person whose name has escaped me, and numbered, negroes included, some forty-five souls; twenty-seven of whom arrived here this morning.* The remainder, consisting principally of Mr. *Russell's* family and negroes, endeavored to escape in boats by way of Indian river; whether they have been successful is thus far unknown. It was from some of Mr. R's negroes (who after crossing Indian river walked to the light-house at Cape Canaveral) that Mr. *Scobie* (the keeper there) gained the intelligence on which he founded his letter to Mr. *Dummett*.

I have endeavored to obtain from Mr. *Russell*, Mr. *Gattis*, and others of the party, such information as would tend to throw some light upon the causes of this outbreak. One and all disclaim any knowledge on the subject, and say they cannot form any conjecture as to its cause; that up to the moment when the shots were fired they did not for a moment anticipate the slightest difficulty.

Two of the Indians are known to the inhabitants, and could be identified: the others were strangers. One of those known is called "*Sammy*" or "*Sam*," the other "*Eli*."

I sent a trusty express rider this morning to Mr. *Marshall*, at Dumlan-ton, with the view of getting any fresh intelligence he might have; especially to know if this is an isolated case of outrage.

I shall send an express in the course of the day to the commanding-officer and Indian agent at Tampa, with the above account.

As soon as the surf-boat, mentioned in my letter of yesterday, is ready, I shall send a detachment under an officer to the light-house at Cape Canaveral, and to the Indian river settlement, to obtain information, and give such aid as may be necessary in that direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,

Capt. 2d Art. and Brevet Col. Commanding.

ST AUGUSTINE,

July 19, 1849.

SIR: You will receive by this mail intelligence of the hostile outbreak of Indians upon the Atlantic side of our coast. I trust that the hostilities may not become general, but it is impossible as yet to determine the true character of this outrage, and the extent of the hostile feeling among the Indians in Florida.

In the mean while it is of the first importance that the country evacuated in consequence of this affair, should be at once reoccupied. Col. Smith, who commands this post, informs me he will send a detachment of 10 or 12 men, which is all he can spare, to the scene of disturbance, and will let them remain there until he hears from Washington. If a post of 15 or 20 men can be maintained there, the inhabitants will return and hold the country. They require a point for rally, such as a military post, however small, will afford. Here in Florida there is occasion for the presence of military force—at the fortifications along the Atlantic there is no present need. Can you not send one or two companies to St. Augustine from

* 9 men, 4 women, 10 children, and 4 negroes.

Savannah, Charleston, Old Point, or elsewhere on the Atlantic? In that event Col. Smith could a post at Indian river, and one at New Smyrna, which would enable the population to hold their ground, and guard against a similar distress to that which now excites the community.

It is also highly advisable to add to the strength on the Gulf side. A corps of dragoons is greatly needed as an element in the force of Tampa. If the hostile feeling which produced this demonstration is extensive, a large force would of course be instantly thrown into the country. But in any event this occurrence manifests the necessity of an *increased military strength in Florida.*

It will give me pleasure to cooperate with you here in whatever measure the public interests may require, in the emergency.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. L. YULEE.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

FORT BROOKE, E. F.

July 21, 1849.

SIR: I received on yesterday, 20th instant, information that a party of Indians, four in number, had made their appearance at Mr. Wheedon's, settler near Pease creek, fired at himself and son, slightly wounding the latter.

I despatched forthwith Lieut. J. Gibbon, who in obedience to the order, copy enclosed, proceeded twenty-five miles on his way to Guy's, where he was met at Mr. Jocky Wheedon's by Mr. McCulloch, who with his wife and child, had escaped from the trading-house of Messrs. Kennedy & Darling, at Pease Creek.

McCulloch stated that a party answering in number, four, to that which had fired on Wheedon, after spending most of the day, Tuesday, 17th inst., in the neighborhood of the store, trading-house, entered a room adjoining the store, and after some parley, fired upon the family assembled at supper. McCulloch and his wife and child ran, pursued by the Indians, leaving Payne and Wheedon shot as they supposed, dead in the house.

Lieut. Gibbon left his party at Wheedon's, that his movements might not be retarded, and to allay the fears of the settlements, and returned alone to this post, to report and receive further instructions.

I shall send out immediately, a party of twenty-five men under the charge of Lieutenant Garland, as far as Pease creek, to ascertain the exact circumstances as far as practicable, and disposition of the Indians generally.

As soon as I receive his report, it will be forwarded either by express to Pilalka, or by mail, as the nature of the case may require.

One of the Indians was recognized as belonging to Sam Jones' band, and I am disposed to think the whole a marauding party of the same tribe who reside near the trading-house, and may have been invited by the prospect of plunder.

On the 7th instant, I reported to you the fact of white settlers having encroached on the strip of land bordering on the Indian territory. Wheedon, being one of them, may have given cause for some complaint—all of which will be duly investigated.

I would furthermore report, that on the 30th of June, I sent a party to

Charlotte Harbor, in the hope of meeting Billy Bowlegs, who was understood to be near the old trading establishment. Captain Casey had charge of this party, and I am daily expecting his return

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. A., Commanding Post.

Major-General, R. JONES,

Adj.-Gen. U. S. A.,

Since writing the above, Captain Casey has arrived; reports all quiet below, but no appearance of Hollatee Micco, Bowlegs.

HEAD-QUARTERS, FORT BROOKE, E. F.

July 20, 1849.

[Orders, No. 105.]

Lieut. Gibbon with an interpreter and an armed party of four men, will forthwith proceed to Guy's settlement, where Mr. Wheedon, citizen, has been reported wounded by Indians. He will make a careful and scrupulous examination of this man and his father, in regard to all facts, but no suppositions in the case.

Beyond the above-named point, Lieut. Gibbons will not in any case proceed, lest the movement be deemed a hostile one by the Indians. But he will dispatch a citizen runner with interpreter, to carry a letter to Mr. Payne, clerk of Messrs. Kennedy & Darling, traders at Pease creek.

So soon as an answer is received, Lieut. Gibbon will return to this post.

The assistant-quartermaster will furnish the necessary transportation, &c., for the above purposes.

(Signed)

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. A., Commanding Post.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA.

July 21, 1849.

SIR: You will have been advised no doubt before this reaches you by Col. Smith, the U. S. officer in command at this place, of the recent Indian outrage at Indian river, about two hundred miles down the coast below this place. As yet there is no intelligence of any further hostilities or outrages; from which, as well as from other circumstances, there is strong reason to believe that the outrage was the act simply of the four or five Indians concerned in it without concert with the others, and that no general rising of the Indians need be expected. The effect of this attack, however, it seems has been to disperse and drive away from their homes all the settlers on the coast between Smyrna and Key Biscayne; and the settlers in the vicinity of Smyrna are also much alarmed and it is to be feared that they and others on the frontier may be induced thereby to abandon their settlements. To prevent this, and also to restore tranquillity and infuse confidence in the frontier settlers generally, and to enable those from Indian river to return and re-occupy their places, it is respectfully suggested that the establishment of a small military post with a

few troops at Indian river, for a few months, would most effectually accomplish these objects, and we beg leave to urge upon you most strongly the immediate necessity and importance of such a step. The settlers who have fled from them say that they are willing and desirous to return, and will do so, if they can have some aid and protection, and we understand that it is their intention to return with the small detachment of United States troops which Colonel Smith is about sending down from this place; but as this detachment, which we believe only consists of 12 or 15 men, will remain there only a few days, they will probably leave again when these troops come away, and thus the whole country will be abandoned up to Smyrna, Lake Monroe, and Fort Gatlin—and unless some temporary protection is furnished to that frontier, the settlers there also, will it is feared abandon it. Every measure which tends to tranquilize the frontier settlements, and induce them to maintain their position a few weeks, is of the first importance—and if that can be accomplished, we entertain the strongest hopes, that in a short time, a degree of confidence may be restored, and a feeling of safety and security will take the place of the present alarm. That the establishment of a military post temporarily at Indian river, and such other military protection as can be furnished to the frontier, in the vicinity of Smyrna and Lake Monroe, would aid much in accomplishing these desirable objects we have no doubt. This portion of the country comprises the most advanced frontier on the seaboard, and already the enterprise of the inhabitants has brought it to assume a position of much importance, particularly with reference to the cultivation of tropical plants. We would, therefore, beg leave to suggest to the department, the general welfare, (not to say public duty) of encouraging and protecting these persons in their industry. If, after such an outrage, the Indians are permitted to take away the growing crop, which is said to be very large, and now on the point of maturing, the encouragement will be such as to induce every Indian, when pressed by their wants, to commit similar outrages, and thereby annually ravage and lay waste the whole country.

We are sir, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

J. H. BRONSON.

B. A. PUTNAM.

JOSEPH M. HERNANDEZ.

Hon. George W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War, &c., &c.

KEY WEST, FLORIDA.

July 22, 1849.

R. JONES, *Major-General, U. S. A.*
Adjt.-General, Washington.

SIR: I yesterday received a letter, (a copy of which is enclosed) from Mr. Wm. F. English, settler, at the mouth of the Miami river, asking for protection against the Indians, reported to be hostile, having committed depredations at Indian river.

I have since seen Mr. English, who could not give me any definite information as to the truth of the reported hostilities. He had learned "that there were collected at or near Major Russell's settlement, some thirty or forty Indians, awaiting for some 'rifles' which he 'Major Russell, U. S. inspector,' was to furnish them by contract." He failed to do

so, which my informant thinks may have been the cause of their depredations.

Mr. English gets his information from a "runner," sent by a man, who had seen another man—that saw people flying from Major Russell's house, which was burning." Shots were also heard.

This territory not being within my military authority, I do not feel empowered to act upon so slight a basis, until something more positive is received.

I have promised to go to the assistance of the settlers, on and near the Miami, if actually menaced.

I should be glad to receive some instructions from your department in reference to the matter.

I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. N. CONCH.

Lieutenant-Commanding Key West.

KEY WEST,

July 21, 1849.

SIR: I have just arrived from my plantation at the Miami river, Cape Florida, at which place information was conveyed to me, by the settlers above me, that the Indians are again hostile—having attacked and murdered Major Russell, U. S. inspector at Indian river, and burned the houses, boats, &c., of himself and others, on the 12th inst. This information may be relied on, and is at your service.

The object of this note, is to request in behalf of settlers collected together at the Miami, New river and Smyrna, such assistance as your command may be able to afford. They are widely scattered along the coast, and I deem it important to know as early as possible, whether this is the commencement of a general outbreak or not. I am determined to maintain my place if possible. I expect to leave here to-morrow morning, and will be glad to learn from you before I leave, whether you can afford to the settlement at the Miami, any aid or not.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. F. ENGLISH.

*Lieutenant CONCH, Commanding
Military Post, Key West.*

KEY WEST,

July 22, 1849.

R. JONES, *Major-General,
Adj.-General, U. S. A.*

I wrote you this morning, in relation to some Indian difficulties, and that I had decided not to go to the relief of the settlers for the present. This evening I have learned from the same source, that Indian camp fires, tracks, etc., have been seen, five miles from New river, 25 miles from Cape Florida. Considerable anxiety having been expressed for the safety of the settlers at the above-mentioned place, I have determined to go up to-morrow with *twenty men*, provided transportation is furnished me as promised.

If on reaching the Cape, I find there has been but some slight disturbance,

will endeavor to thoroughly acquaint myself with the cause, and who have been the aggressors—that I may inform the War Department of the same. If hostilities have actually commenced, then I will afford such assistance to the settlers as I may be able.

I am respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

D. N. CONCH,

Lieut.-Commanding Key West.

FORT BROOKE, E. F.

July 22, 1849.

SIR: By express yesterday I forwarded to you a report of Indian outrages on the trading-house of Messrs. Kennedy and Darling, at Peas creek and a settlement near that place, on the 17th and 19th instant respectively. Nothing further has been ascertained on the subject; the distance is about fifty miles.

Lieut. Garland will probably reach the trading house to-day.

By express from Col. C. F. Smith, I received to-day a copy of his letter, dated 18th instant, to you, reporting an attack on the settlement at Indian river. It is not impossible that the whole may have been done by one party: the distance between the two places, number of Indians, and dates allow of such an inference.

Captain Casey and Lieut. Walbridge, on their expedition to Charlotte harbor, about the same day of the attack at Indian river, met with a party of Indians, who seemed peaceable, friendly, and parted with them in perfect amity. It is not probable that they would have escaped had the movement been a general one. A short time must determine this question.

Nothing in the way of operations against them, except in defence, could be successfully carried on from this point beyond Peas Creek, before October, on account of the state of the country in the rainy season.

I would respectfully call your attention to a requisition forwarded by me to Department Head Quarters, dated 2d of March, for six saddle horses fully equipped, which has never been replied to. These horses would have been of the utmost service at the present crisis. Lieut. Gibbon and his party were mounted on ordinary draft mules, worked daily in the Quartermaster's department. The necessity for dispatch in these cases is obvious.

I enclose a copy of a note received from Messrs. Kennedy and Darling, in reply to one I addressed to them on the subject. The quantity of powder and ball sold the Indians is inconsiderable.

My report of Lieut. Garland's examination will probably leave here on the 26th or 27th inst.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. A. Commanding Post.

Major General R. JONES,

Adjutant-General U. S. A.

Washington City.

TAMPA, FLORIDA,

July 22, 1849.

SIR: In reply to your note of this date, asking for a statement of the quantity of powder and lead furnished by us to the Indians since your

arrival at this post in November last, we have to state that the Indian store at Charlotte harbor and on Peas Creek, has been supplied since the gale of September last with five kegs of rifle and one and a half kegs of canister powder, and three hundred and fifteen pounds of lead. Of this quantity there remained on hand unsold at the store on Peas Creek, on the 16th instant, two half kegs of rifle and one keg of canister powder unbroken, about six pounds in our retail canister, and three canisters—the kegs of rifle are twenty-five pounds each—the canisters are one pound, a keg containing twenty-five canisters.

We are, with respect, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

KENNEDY & DARLING. }

Major W. W. MORRIS,

Commanding U. S. troops in Lower Florida,

Seminole Agent.

Fort Brooke, Florida.

KEY WEST, FLA.,

July 22, 1849. }

Hon. Secretary of War.

SIR: It becomes my painful task to notify your department that a report reached me last evening by express from Indian river, that the Indians have made an outbreak at that place, wounding in the arm, with a rifle ball, Mr. Russell, the collector at that place; when most of the settlers took to boats and escaped, but with fear that some of their number who had not been seen had been cut off by the Indians, as fires were seen, and Russell's boat and Barker's house in particular were seen in flames.

Upon the express reaching New river and Miami the settlers at once united at their respective places, and made such preparations for defence as circumstances permitted. I shall leave this place in the morning for Miami where I have resided for the past five years and am now somewhat extensively engaged in the manufacture of arrow-root by water power; but the terror created by this report will, I fear, prevent all possibility of pursuing our business there without the presence of an armed force sufficient to secure to us the safety which we must otherwise preserve for ourselves to the sacrifice of our usual employment. You will see, my dear sir, the necessity of the case; I therefore appeal to you for such assistance and protection as our exposed situation demands and the authority and discretion of your department permits.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

G. W. FERGUSON.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,
FLORIDA, July 23, 1849.

Brevet Major-Gen. R. JONES,
Adjutant-General U. S. A.,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: In conformity with par. 962 Gen. Reg., I report that at reveille this morning I detached 2d Lieut. W. C. Adams, one sergeant and ten privates of company K. 2d Artillery, to take post at Dunlawton for a week.

I sent with the detachment twenty spare muskets and one hundred rounds of buck and ball cartridges for each musket for issue in case of necessity.

The recent outrage at Indian river seems to have excited the apprehensions of the inhabitants at and in the vicinity of Dunlawton that a similar outbreak may be expected there (see Mr. Marshall's letter to me of the 20th instant enclosed to your department head-quarters, under date of the 22d inst.)

Although I do not regard such apprehensions as well founded, I have nevertheless deemed it advisable to send this detachments for a short period to inspire confidence and keep the settlers together; before it leaves there (eleven days from this) sufficient time will have elapsed to prove to the settlers (I hope) that their fears are groundless.

I enclose herewith a return of the troops called for by par. 962 G. R.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

C. F. SMITH,

Capt. 2d Art. and Brevet Col.

Commanding.

FORT BROOKE, E. F.

July 25, 1849.

SIR: Lieut. J. S. Garland has just reported to me on his return from Peas Creek. He saw no Indians.

The trading-house, with its out-buildings, were found burned to the ground and a small bridge near by partially destroyed.

The bones of Paine and Wheeden, found on the spot where they had fallen, were collected and buried.

A barrel of whiskey was found near the house untouched; from this circumstance and from the fact of there being no sign of anything else which had been left in the store, there is yet ground for hope that it may have been a party for the purpose of plunder. Tracks were seen going to and from the store to the river, as if the Indians had engaged in bearing off the goods.

Wheeden's camp, near five miles off, was left undisturbed, with the exception of a small sum of money taken.

Foot-prints were seen both in going to the trading houses and in returning, and the Indians who were doubtless aware of the movement of the troops, had they been in force, and disposed, might have had much advantage in an attack on them.

Lieut. Garland performed this duty in a rapid and soldierlike manner.

Lieut. Gibbon, who is equally prompt and energetic, I have sent to Mannatec with arms and ammunition, at the request of the settlement for protection and assistance.

I am, very respectfully your obedient servant,

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. A. Commanding Post.

Major-General R. JONES,

Adjutant-General U. S. A.

Washington City.

I omitted to state in the body of my report that, from the testimony of the persons who escaped from the trading house and Wheeden's, the Indians are believed to have been perfectly sober on both occasions.

W. W. M.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, TALLAHASSEE,

FLORIDA, July 26, 1849.

His Excellency, Z. TAYLOR,
Pres. United States.

SIR: I hasten to advise you of the fact of the recent attack by the Indians upon the settlers near Indian river. The enclosed printed slip will furnish all the particulars. This state of things I had fully anticipated, as will be seen from my letters to President Polk, and to our senators and representatives in Congress, copies of which are herewith furnished. For the last three years it seems the Indians have not remained within their limits, but, on the contrary, have repeatedly committed acts of theft upon the property of the whites. The white settlers have heretofore been restrained from taking the means of redress in their own hands, from an unwillingness on their part to embroil the country in another Indian war, and by the hope that the Federal Government would speedily make the necessary arrangements for their protection and security against the incursions of the Indians. As yet, nothing has been done by the General Government, although the authorities of this State have been active in advising the public and the authorities at Washington of the necessity for the adoption of some measures for the defence and security of settlers in the Peninsula. In evidence of this, I refer your Excellency to an extract from my last annual message, and to resolutions of the General Assembly of this State, upon this subject, copies of which are herewith furnished.

For the temporary defence of the people residing near the Indian boundary, and upon the evidence of outbreak and violence on the part of the Indians, which I have before me, I have thought it necessary to order out two companies of mounted men to aid in defence of the settlers. It cannot be expected that our people should wait patiently much longer for the action of the Federal Government. Unless they have some assurance of protection from that quarter, they must abandon their settlements, or take the means of redress into their own hands.

The people of this State, so largely interested in the settlement of that interesting section of Florida, expect immediate action upon the subject. What that immediate action shall be, will be suggested by yourself, who are so well acquainted with the country and the character of the Indians. The public impression here seems to be, that there can be no *permanent* security to the lives and property of the settlers in that country, until the Indians are removed.

I have no time to write further upon this subject, except to express the hope that the federal authorities will adopt such speedy measures of protection to our people, that the tide of emigration which is now flowing into the Peninsula, may not be checked by a want of confidence in the ability or inclination of the Federal Government to afford ample security to the settlers that they shall be fully protected in their lives and property.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

W. D. MOSELEY.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,

FLORIDA, July 28, 1849.

Brevet Major-General R. JONES,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army,
 Washington, D. C.

SIR: In conformity to par. 962, G. R., I report that a detachment of one first lieutenant (Brevet-Major R. J. Ripley,) one corporal, and ten privates of Company K, 2d Artillery, sailed from here yesterday afternoon at five-and-a-half o'clock, to take post at Indian river settlement for *twenty days*.

I sent with the detachment, a 12 pound mounted howitzer, with three dozen rounds of ammunition, in equal parts of shells, cannister, and spherical case shot; also twenty spare muskets, with 100 rounds of buck and ball cartridge for each musket, for issue in case of necessity.

Fully impressed with the belief that the outrage at Indian river is an isolated case for revenge or plunder, perhaps both, I have nevertheless deemed it the better policy to send this detachment, with the view of inspiring confidence in the settlers, and keeping them together; and thus try to counteract the (I must think) unreasonable panic that seems to pervade the settlements on the coast, and, to some extent, in the interior.

The return of the troops called for by par. 962, G. R., is enclosed herewith.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,

Capt. 2d Artillery, and Brevet-Col. Commanding.

P. S. The delay that has occurred in sending off this detachment, arose from the fact that our only means of transportation was a heavy surf-boat, which had to be fitted with mast, sails, &c., before it could be used.

C. F. S.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

July 28, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit for your information, a copy of a letter under date of the 22d instant, from the collector of the customs at Key-West, Florida, conveying the intelligence of the occurrence of depredations by the Indians, and the destruction of the settlements on Indian river in that State.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. MEREDITH,

Secretary of the Treasury.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,

KEY-WEST, July 22, 1849.

SIR: Intelligence reached here last evening of the probable murder of W. A. Russell, inspector of the customs, and others, at Indian river, and the destruction of the settlements there. Mr. Brayton, a gentleman of character and standing, who resides at Indian river, despatched messengers along the Atlantic coast, southward, to alarm the settlers, informing them that he was at Russell's house, on the morning of the 9th instant, when four

Indians visited and talked with Mr. Russell, relative to certain matters of trade pending between them. That at about two o'clock, P.M., he heard the report of several rifles in the direction which Russell, who had just then left him, had gone; and immediately after, saw Russell bleeding, and with one arm broken, running to escape from Indians in pursuit of him. He saw the houses, boats, &c. of Russell and others in flames, and two settlers, Gedes and Navaro, escaping pursuit in the Lagume, with the water above their waists. The people along the coast have all received the news, and have abandoned their fields and banded themselves together at Jupiter, New river, and Cape Florida, for defense. If a cutter were here, I should deem it my duty to proceed at once to Indian river; for it is important to ascertain at the earliest moment the character of the outbreak. It is possible that it may have been a private quarrel between the inspector and the Indians, in which case the settlers will probably feel justified in returning with their families to their homes; but if it be the harbinger of general hostilities, all the settlements along the Atlantic coast, which are without a mail communication, and far removed from any military post from Indian river to the Miami, must be abandoned. I trust, however, that this depredation has no foundation in the general disposition of the Indians; but that it is the work of a few scattered outcasts, having no intercourse with the main body.

In view of the condition of matters here, there being no transportation for the military stationed here, to reach Indian river, all planting operations in the settlements must be suspended until the disposition of the Indians can be ascertained; and that the Hon. Secretary of War might wish to order a reconnoissance of the scene of these disturbances, I have deemed it proper to make to you this communication.

I have the honor to be, sir,

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLERY,
Collector.

HON. W. M. MEREDITH,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Extract of a letter received from Capt. J. C. Casey, Com. Sub :

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

July 29, 1849.

DEAR GENERAL: I have lately sent you a hasty note announcing my safe return, and the Indian murders on Indian and Pea* rivers. It is not probable that these outrages have been done with the sanction or knowledge of the nation; for had it been so, they would probably have killed me and crew on my late trip. Even if old Ismahtee and his party, whom I visited, on July 6th, at the mouth of Pea river, had been afraid to attack my vessel with and from his canoes, which he might have done with little or no danger to himself, still he had other chances, as I sent word by the negro Simon that if Billy would send a pony for me to the bank of the Caloosa Hatchee, that I would ride up to his town and see them. They

*Pease Creek on the Map.—G. G.

might have had fifty men at that rendezvous, and we should have landed without arms or suspicion.

As it was I sailed about the Caloosa Hatchee nine days, landing and making signal fires frequently, so that they had plenty of chances as late as July 18th. If they did resolve on war (at the late corn dances in June and July) they have certainly made a most incredible exception in my favor, for they would get six scalps, four or five good guns and rifles, and a quantity of provisions, calicoes, &c., &c., and a sail boat and skiff, &c., &c. I therefore do not believe the nation (or Seminoles proper) certainly had anything to do with it. The frontiersmen are, many of them, flying like sheep, abandoning everything; others (and better ones) are "bunching" or collecting their families in block houses in the middle of each neighborhood, and the men organize to scout and look after their corn fields and cattle.

Daily applications are made here for arms and ammunition, and I am surprised to find that so many of these "pioneers" have not a gun or serviceable arm in their cabins.

They also apply for rations, and seem to think that if the war should really and fully break out, they all will be entitled to rations. I cannot but suppose that the issue of subsistence to the people of the *Territory* of Florida by the U. S. is not a precedent for a like issue to the people of the *State* of Florida. The State Government has taken the place of the U. S., and I doubt much whether Congress would or will sanction anything of the kind within a State.

Meantime I beg to suggest immediate instructions to me, and to A. C. S. at St. Augustine.

* * * * *

Signed, J. C. C.

To General GEORGE GIBSON,

Com. General Sub.

Washington, D. C.

ST. AUGUSTINE, July 30, 1849.

DEAR SIR: Since I wrote you we have further intelligence of Indian outrage. A number of families from different quarters have reached this place, and the settlements in all the exposed counties are being broken up. The indications impress me with the apprehension that the hostile feeling is general among the Indians, or will speedily become so, especially if not summarily and effectively treated. The occasion calls for prompt and vigorous action.

Not a foot of ground should be yielded. The population should be covered and maintained in its present localities. The heavy crops now on the ground should be harvested under the protection of an adequate military force. The provision crop, which is very abundant, is of essential value to be preserved, if general hostilities ensue. To accomplish these purposes effectively, will require one regiment of Infantry, and one of mounted men. The state can promptly furnish this force upon your demand. I have advised the Governor to call out such a force at once.

After providing for the security of the people and the harvesting of the crops, the fall and winter should be employed in removing or exterminating these bloodthirsty savages.

Nothing could be more unprovoked and atrocious than these recent outrages, and now we call upon the government for full protection to our people and property in the first place, and then for the execution of the treaty of Payne's landing.

I write you freely and briefly. I beg you to receive my communication in the spirit intended, and to be assured that I will co-operate in this matter with your Department in a spirit of frankness and confidence.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

D. L. YULEE.

HON. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

FORT BROOKE, EAST FLORIDA,

July 30, 1849.

SIR : Since my last dispatch to you, I have to report that nothing further has transpired in relation to the Indians in this quarter.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. A., Commanding Post.

Major-General R. JONES,
Adjutant General U. S. A.
Washington City.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA.

July 31, 1849.

Brevet Major-General R. JONES,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army.
Washington, D. C.

SIR : The Express rider which carried from Tampa to Pilatka the report of Brevet Major *W. W. Morris*, 4th Artillery, of the 25th inst., to you, giving the result of the investigation into the Indian outrage at Peas creek, brought me as far as Pilatka a copy of the same from Major *Morris*, forwarding it thence by a settler, a Mr. Pierson, who handed it to me this morning. Mr. Pearson informed me that this express rider, *James White* by name, told him that the Indians had appeared in force at Peas creek, (say 100 warriors) and forced the detachment under Lieutenant Garland to retreat. Mr. Pearson further informed me that *White* had circulated this story along his entire route from Tampa to Pilatka.

The effect of such a report by a government express rider upon the already excited apprehensions of the inhabitants between this and Tampa, and south of that line, you can readily imagine. To counteract it as far as possible, and prevent the settlers from abandoning their homes, I have authorised an A. D. C. of the Governor of Florida, (Colonel Hutchings, who came to see me this morning from his Excellency,) to take a copy of Major *Morris*' report and print such parts of it as seemed advisable for circulation in the country, and to send a copy of the whole to the Governor.

I report this that you may know how such an official document became public.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,

Captain 2d Art., and Brevet-Col.

KEY WEST, FLORIDA,
July 31, 1849.

R. JONES,
Major-Gen. U. S. A. Adj.-Gen.
Washington.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I sailed from Key West with 20 men of my command on the 23d instant for Cape Florida, where I arrived the morning of the 25th. At the extremity of the Cape were found all the settlers, from the Miami river, and part of those from New river, with their families, negroes, &c., &c. From these people I learned nothing tangible, yet sufficient to convince me that their fears of an outbreak among the Indians were far more imaginary than real.

"Indian signs" being reported at New river, I took the "settlers" on board, and proceeded to that place. I here found three men who had been "stampeded" like others, but since had scoured the country for twenty miles up the coast and back to the everglades. No "Indian signs" were seen, and deemed it useless to go farther; leaving the settlers that were taken up, and returned the same day to the Miami.

After making some slight reconnoissances, and remaining sufficient time to see the settlers reestablished at their homes, assured as to their safety, I left, safely reaching my post last evening.

The cause of undertaking this expedition was set forth in a letter to your office, from me, dated July 22.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. N. CONCH,
Lieut. Art. Commanding at Key West.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,
FLORIDA, August 3, 1849.

Brevet Major-Gen. R. JONES,
Adjutant-General U. S. A.,
Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: Your communication of the 26th ultimo, desiring me to ascertain the present disposition and temper of the Indians, with regard to hostilities, was received yesterday, too late to be answered by the mail.

My only means of gaining this knowledge would be by the detachment at Indian river, and by an express I sent at noon to-day to Major Ripley. I expect his report on the ninth day from this; the substance of which I will immediately forward to you.

The commander of the detachment at Dunlawton writes me (July 31) that no Indians have been seen in that quarter, nor any sign to indicate their presence, many reports here to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Governor of Florida has called into service two companies of mounted volunteers (175 men) who are to occupy the line between Smyrna and Tampa in posts of 20 to 25 men, on which to rally the settlers. These detachments are to be kept constantly in motion. He sent an A. D. C. to confer with me in regard to the issue of arms and ammunition: this I agreed to make to the extent of the means here, on his representing there were no arms in the hands of the State authorities except some 300 muskets, which were at Tallahassee, of course unavailing for immediate service

in this quarter, and too, a weapon to which the settlers were not as familiarized as the rifle. I shall give him 110 rifles (all that are here) and ammunition for the same; the State agreeing to give the U. S. credit for the issue as for so much due, or to become due.

I enclose herewith some printed copies of a paper put forth by the A. D. C. abovementioned "To the inhabitants occupying the frontier of the Indian country."

I have heard unofficially, though from source entitled to credit, that the Governor has it in contemplation to call out 500 volunteers in addition to the mounted force mentioned in this paper of the A. D. C.

I give the following story which has had currency among the settlers at Indian river and south of that, for what it is worth, viz.: That a party of about twenty Indians, under a self-constituted chief named "*Charley*," had renounced the authority of both "*Bowlegs*" and "*Sam Jones*"—outlaws in fact from their tribe—and were living on the Kissimac river, about forty miles west of Indian inlet. That one of the four murderers at Indian river had been pointed out to one of the settlers some months since by an old Indian as belonging to this band.

Should this be true, it would not be unseasonable to suppose that this outlying band may have committed the outrages of the 12th and 17th ult. for plunder, which would exonerate the main body of the Indians from a desire for hostilities.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,

Capt. 2d Art. and Brevet Col. Commanding.

To the Inhabitants occupying the frontier of the Indian country.

I deem it advisable to adopt this public mode of informing you that I have visited this region of country, under orders from the executive for the purpose of mustering into the service a corps of mounted volunteers for the defence of the frontier. At the time I left Tallahassee, Governor Moseley had only learned of the first outrage committed by the Indians. His arrangements were based upon the necessities then appearing. Since that time the further intelligence from the Hillsborough district has been transmitted to him. My object in addressing you is to say that I am now engaged in mustering a corps of one hundred mounted men who will make their rendezvous at Lake Monroe; and that another corps of mounted men were to have left Tallahassee on yesterday. These two corps will adopt for their base, a line extending between New Smyrna and Tampa. I feel warranted to say that the Governor is fully impressed with the calamitous circumstances of the country, and that such additional force will be promptly added by him as may be requisite for the complete protection of the citizens of the State occupying the advanced and exposed line of frontier settlements. I therefore respectfully recommend to my fellow-citizens to maintain their ground with firmness and confidence, and with a full assurance that all necessary support will be speedily afforded by the executive of the state—until the intervention of the Federal Government shall become available.

To prevent the evil effect of the mistaken reports, I understand to have been circulated as to the result of the military expedition to Peas creek, I

am allowed to give the followings tatement as derived from an official and authentic source, to wit,

The expedition which was commanded by Lieut. Garland returned on the 25th of this month. He saw no Indians on the route.

The trading-house with its out-buildings were found burnt, and a small bridge near by, partially destroyed. The bones of Payne and Wheeden were collected and buried. From the indications there is room for hope that the outrage was committed by a party having plunder for their object.

Wheeden's camp, about five miles off, was left undisturbed, with the exception of a small sum of money which was taken.

Foot-prints of the Indians were seen both in going and returning; and the Indians were doubtless aware of the movement of the troops. Had they been in force and disposed to violence, they might have attacked the expedition to great advantage.

G. W. HUTCHINS,

Aid-de-Camp to his Excellency

W. D. MOSELEY,

Governor of Florida.

ST. AUGUSTINE, July 31, 1849.

LITTLE RIVER, COLUMBIA Co.,

FLORIDA, August 6, 1849.

Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

SIR: Having passed through the difficulties of a protracted Indian war in Florida, and finding we are about being plunged in another, and feeling a deep solicitude not only to avert it, but to sacrifice of life, property and treasure, that will necessarily follow the repetition of the course pursued in the late Seminole war, I therefore, take the liberty of making some suggestions in reference to the prosecution of a war now begun without provocation on our citizens, by the remaining band of Seminoles. That there are comparatively but few you are aware, from reports of our army officers now on file in your department, therefore, a large force cannot be brought in contact with them, because defeat to their band would be the unavoidable result—and further, a kind of guerrilla warfare, is now in accordance with their natures, habits and dispositions. With these remarks, I proceed to make my suggestions.

I would call into service, say, some ten thousand volunteers, would throw into and near the Indian districts, a sufficiency of forage and subsistence for those volunteers and their horses (for they should be mounted) for six months, would divide the troops into battalions of two hundred and fifty, and subject these battalions to no other or higher officer than their own, and then offer for every Indian captured or killed, a premium of say, five hundred dollars for each warrior, and half price for women and children, to be divided among the battalion capturing. I would throw a sufficiency of regular troops into the country to guard the stores, and give to each post the same premium for Indians. I would then place an agent at Tampa, Charlotte's harbour, or some other suitable place, with instructions to inform the Indians of the arrangements, and offer that if they would come in and emigrate one hundred dollars for the warriors, and half-price for the

women and children, but bar him from authority to suspend the operations of the troops, and provide him with vessels to ship as fast as captured, so that once taken, they should not again escape. These arrangements completed and operations commenced, I do not believe an Indian would remain in Florida in six months and in point of humanity and economy, I believe it would far exceed any other plan. As an economical plan you can at once see the cost, and compare that with a five or ten years' campaign, as was before had, with our best officers in the field (for a list of which, I refer you to the files of your office.) As regards humanity, the sooner the war is ended, the less number of our citizens will be killed, and the necessary loss of our troops in the everglades, swamps and morasses, with which the southern part of our State abound. And, as regards the Indians themselves, cut up a few of the marauding parties, and the rest will at once report to the agent for emigration, and should they prove a little stubborn, the operation of forty battalions in every direction would soon coerce them into measures. With these views, I submit the matter to your serious consideration. I can only say, that I am actuated in making them by no other consideration than a desire to see our State relieved from the disasters of such a war, as has "heretofore been waged" in the least possible time and without sacrifice of blood and treasure. In referring to expense, I have said nothing in reference to the loss to be sustained by our citizens, for which the general government is *morally bound*.

I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE E. MC'CLELLAN.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

P. S.—I will be glad to hear what measures are adopted in reference to the Indians in our State.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,
FLORIDA, August 6, 1849.

Brevet-Major-General R. JONES,

Adjutant-General, U. S. A. (Copy.)

Washington, D. C.

SIR: I enclose a letter (copy) received this morning, from the Governor of Florida, covering a copy of his instructions to the captain of one of the mounted volunteer companies, called out by him for the protection of the frontiers against Indian incendiaries.

I have sent copies also to the 4th Military Department, Head Quarters, for the information of the authorities passed over.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,

Capt. 2d Artillery, and Brevet-Col. Commanding.

[The Governor of Florida to the Commanding Officer at Fort Marion, Florida.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
TALLAHASSEE, July 31, 1849.

To the officer commanding at the
Post of St. Augustine :

SIR : I have been called upon by the citizens of the eastern portion of this State to raise one or two companies of troops for the protection of the frontier settlements. In accordance with that call, I have issued a requisition upon the Colonel of the 12th regiment F. M., for a company of mounted men.

I herewith enclose you a copy of my order to the Captain of such company, by which it will be seen, that they are first required to report themselves to you. It is hoped that they will have your assistance and cooperation in affording protection to the citizens on the exposed frontier. A similar company have been ordered from this county, who will report to the commanding officer at Fort Brooke.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

— D. E. MOSELY.

[The Governor of Florida, to the Captain of a Company of Mounted Volunteers for service, between Fort Gatlin and Smyrna, Florida.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, TALLAHASSEE,
July 30, 1849.

Captain ———,

Florida Volunteers.

SIR : You are authorised to receive into your company not exceeding eighty men, rank and file—effective men, well mounted and equipped for service, except that they will be supplied with rifles by the State, and you will, from time to time, receive new recruits, when necessary to keep up the above number.

You will march your company without delay the best route to some point on Indian river, having previously reported yourself to the officer in command of the nearest military post of the United States, to learn from such officer whether orders are received to take your company into the United States service, and, if so, you will be mustered into that service accordingly. If not, you will dispose of your command in such manner as will best protect the frontier settlements from Indian depredations, more particularly on the frontier extending from Fort Gatlin to Indian river. For this purpose, you may find it necessary to subdivide your company, and station them at three or four different points.

Your operations in regard to the Indians are to be of a defensive character, so as to afford protection and security to our frontier citizens and settlements. If Indians are found out of the boundary assigned them by treaty, you will drive them back, kill or capture them. You will make weekly reports to this Department, of your movements, by mail ; and in the event of actual hostilities, or other emergency, requiring it, will communicate by express.

I have ordered another company to repair to the western and north-western frontier of the nation, whose operations will extend from the Fort

Gatlin settlement east, to the settlement in Manatu river west; and it is expected that the two companies will act in concert, and even combine, if it becomes important to do so, in order to repel the inroads of the Indians. Important information must for that purpose be expressed to each other, when necessary.

Let it be impressed upon you, that the march of your company to the points they may occupy, and their conduct in the settlements they are sent to protect, are expected to be of that orderly soldierlike character which becomes citizen soldiers and gentlemen; that entire respect for the rights, feelings and property of private citizens should govern every man in his intercourse with them, and that I must consider you responsible for their deportment in this respect.

I wish it also fully impressed upon you, and on every man in your command, that, while it is our duty to afford to every citizen all the protection in our power against a repetition of the savage barbarities lately committed on the settlers on Indian river, it is equally my desire and your duty to avoid any imprudent movement that will provoke or bring on general hostilities; but to leave to the General Government ample opportunity to perform their duty in the matter.

It is also suggested that white persons may have unlawfully settled within the limits of the twenty miles around the Indian boundary, provided for in the treaty as neutral ground. If you find this to be the case, anywhere within the limits specially assigned to you, you are further directed to have such persons forthwith removed.

The proper staff appointment connected with your command, will be made and reported to you, and in case of a vacancy you will report the same, and, meanwhile, detail some one of your command temporarily to supply it.

The companies are raised for twelve months, unless sooner discharged.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

W. D. MOSELEY.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,

TALLAHASSEE, August 4, 1849.

Col. C. F. SMITH, Com'g Officer,

St. Augustine.

SIR: In addition to the troops ordered out by me, of which you were informed by my communication of the 31st ultimo,* I have since ordered out an additional company from this county; one from Alachua and one from Marion county. I have also this day made a farther requisition for three companies of mounted volunteers, two from the county of Columbia, and one from Duval. The company from Duval will leave their headquarters at Fort Kingsbury on Lake Monroe, and will act for the protection of the frontier from that point westwardly. The companies from Columbia will operate from Fort Mellon westwardly to Hillsborough, in conjunction with the troops previously ordered out.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

W. D. MOSELEY.

* 2 Companies strength not stated, but supposed to be 80 each.

C. F. SMITH, Col.

Head-Quarters, 4th Department,

FORT MONROE, August 6, 1849.

SIR: I have received this morning from Brevet-Col. Smith, the several communications, of which I enclose copies.

Col. Smith sent a detachment of one lieutenant (Brevet-Major Ripley,) one corporal, and ten privates of company K, 2d artillery, on the 27th ult., to take post at Indian river settlements, for twenty days, and sent with it a 12 pounder mountain howitzer, with three dozen rounds of ammunition, in equal parts of shells, cannister, and spherical case shot, and twenty spare muskets, with one hundred rounds of buck and ball cartridge, for issue in case of necessity.

Lieut. Adams is at Dunlawton with a detachment of one sergeant and ten men; and I have directed this detachment to remain there, as company L, 2d artillery, will soon be at St. Augustine.

Col. Smith says that he is fully impressed with the belief that the outrage at Indian river is for plunder, or revenge; perhaps for both, and not general, only insulated; and he thinks the panic that seems to pervade the coast, and to some extent the interior, is unreasonable.

I am sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES BANKHEAD,

Brevet Brigadier-General.

Major-Gen. R. JONES,

Adjutant-General U. S. A.

This has been sent in the regular ascending line, but I thought, to avoid any delay, to reach your office, it might be proper to send it directly also to you.

J. B.

FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,

FLORIDA, July 30, 1849.

Brevet-Major W. A. NICHOLS,

A. A. A. Gen. 4th Military Dept.,

Old Point Comfort, Va.

SIR: To show the authorities how excited have the inhabitants become, on the subject of Indian hostilities, I enclose herewith a letter from Mr. Marshall (marked "A,") received yesterday afternoon by an express sent by Lieut. Adams from Dunbarton. Mr. Marshall is one of the principal inhabitants in that quarter—the owner of a large sugar plantation.

The news from Tampa, referred to in Mr. M's letter, has reference to certain outrages committed by four Indians, at Pease creek, on the 17th and 19th instants; accounts of which appear to have reached the inhabitants in the interior in an exaggerated form, and thus added to the panic already in existence.

Major Morris (commanding at Tampa) in an official communication to me, dated on the 23d inst., gives me the following account in substance, viz :

On the evening of the 17th inst., a party of four Indians went to the trading house of Messrs. Kennedy & Darling, on Pease creek, and after some unreasonable requests, fired upon some half dozen persons who were seated at the supper table: all but Messrs. Payne and Wheedon made their escape; they were shot, and are probably dead. On the 19th, a Mr.

Wheedon and his son were fired upon by four Indians, at Pease creek, and the latter wounded.

Major *Morris*, who is disposed to think this an affair of marauders, for the sake of plunder, had, on the 20th, sent a detachment of one officer and twenty-five soldiers to investigate the matter.

The account, as it reached the interior, was of the murder of the settler, Mr. Kennedy, three families, and two boys.

Although my views in regard to Indian hostilities have undergone no change, out of consideration of the excited apprehensions of the inhabitants, I have directed Lieut. *Adams* to remain at Dunlawton for ten days, in addition to the week originally contemplated.

Mr. *Marshall's* request, to have arms issued, I have declined. I request instructions on this point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed.)

C. F. SMITH,
Capt. 2d Artillery, and Brevet-Col. Com'dg.

P. S. It is not unlikely that the outrages committed on both sides of the peninsula were the acts of the same four Indians.

The distance between the two points is called, by Major *Morris*, sixty miles; the map would show one hundred, with the five days interval from the 12th to the 17th, would readily permit it.

(Signed.)

C. F. S.

[*Mr. John J. Marshall to Col. C. F. Smith.*]

(Copy.)

DUNLAWTON, FLORIDA,
July 27, 1849.

Col. C. F. SMITH.

SIR: I trust that Lieut. Adams, with his small force, will be allowed to remain here until the War Department, or the Governor of Florida, shall have had time to send troops to this point.

I must again repeat my request, that you will furnish the men here, who have no suitable arms, with muskets. A considerable portion of our small force consists of men in my employment, who have no guns here. The muskets are intended for defence against Indians only, and will be used for no other purpose. A sufficient bond will be given to Lieut. Adams, for the return of the muskets in good order. Should you order the detachment now here, to leave this post, all the extra muskets will not be too many for us.

Should you conclude to allow Lieut. Adams to remain here, it will be necessary to send some rations, unless the men can put up with corn meal and mess pork. I have no information to add to that in Lieut. Adams' communication of this date, except that the settlers at Enterprise (including those from Spring Garden—negroes and all,) have collected at Campbell's wharf, on lake Munroe, and have sent off the women and children. This news is brought by the mail-rider.

I saw a part of a letter to my overseer, from his family, dated 26th inst., at Mellonville. The settlers of that neighborhood had collected at Dr. Spear's house (between Forts Mellow and Ried,) and picketed it for de-

fence. I have not the letter by me, but I recollect this expression:—"they say the Indians are in the neighborhood."

The more I reflect upon the matter, the more confirmed am I in the opinion, that the most ordinary prudence requires us to be constantly on the watch, night and day, and to be always ready for an attack.

This is harassing to a small force (a part of whom is engaged in daily toil,) and I cannot expect it to endure for any length of time.

At first our little community was divided in opinion as to whether there would be a general war, but it now seems to be the opinion of nearly, if not all here, that there is *war* already. I mention this to show you what reliance is placed upon the news received from Tampa.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed)

JOHN J. MARSHALL.

FORT BROOKE, E. F.,

August 9, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose you a copy of a letter I received from citizens in Benton county, on the subject of Indian incursions in the vicinity of Fort Lindsay, requesting an issue of arms, ammunition, &c., for their protection.

I enclose also a copy of a report from Lieut. Walbridge, which shows how little the statements of these people are to be depended upon.

I am very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. Army,

Com'dg Post.

Major-Gen. R. JONES,
Adjutant-General,
Washington, D. C.

BENTON CO., FLORIDA,

FORT LINDSAY, July 30, 1849.

W. W. MORRIS,
Major U. S. Army,
Commanding.

We, whose names are appended to this letter, in behalf of ourselves and neighbors, address you for the purpose of stating our defenceless condition.

We are deficient in men, arms, and ammunition. Men cannot we suppose, be spared from your post, but *arms and ammunition* we must have, as we are sadly in want of these, and if issued to us, you can hold us whose names are signed to this letter, responsible for their return to the post. We want twenty-five muskets and a sufficiency of ammunition.

Your letter of the 27th instant, addressed to Captain Bradley, authorizes us to call on you for arms and ammunition, to be used in our defence, in case of great emergency; and we state to you, from information entirely reliable, that the Indians are in this county, and, in fact, in our own vicinity.

On the 28th instant, they burned the dwelling of Mr. Scott Whitin, of this county, and four head of cattle were found killed by them, and the tracks of Indians were seen by the scout sent to reconnoitre.

On yesterday morning, a citizen of Marion county, came to us exhausted, barefoot, and without his coat and vest, and reported that on his way he was chased by Indians, and swam the Withlacoochee, repeatedly, to avoid them, and was successful in making his escape. His feet were lacerated, &c., &c.

Some of our people question this man's statement, while others give it full credence. But in regard to the facts first stated, we all concur, with the exception of one individual; this we state, as we desire to be perfectly candid, and there is no difference of opinion among us respecting their truth.

We are here with our families embodied, exerting every nerve to build a fort for our own and the protection of our wives and children. We hope to complete it in the course of this week. Messrs. Lockhart and Foudizen will present you this letter, and bring us the arms and ammunition sent.

We earnestly hope that our emergency, and our great deficiency in arms and ammunition, will be deemed by you such a case as will justify you in furnishing us with them.

We are, respectfully, yours,
(Signed) JAMES L. TERRY,
E. SIMMONS,
J. S. JEEMS,
D. SIMMONS,
JOHN B. ALLEN,
CORNELIUS SEALS,
C. T. JENKINS,
GEORGE W. ANDREWS,
B. M. PEARSON,
J. F. MYERS,
DANIEL F. MYERS,
R. ALEXANDER,
E. J. KNIGHT,
GEO. WASH. ANDREWS,

FORT BROOKE, EAST FLORIDA,

August 9, 1849.

MAJOR: In compliance with your orders of the 4th inst., I started from this post for Fort Lindsay, where I arrived on the 6th August, and learned that a man by the name of Johnson came in there on the 29th of July, and said he had been chased by Indians, and had been obliged to swim the Withlacoochee, several times, to escape them; this man, a few days before, had been an accomplice in the murder of a man in Marion county. Scouts were out in the direction he reported he had seen the Indians; no sign of Indians was found. His story is believed by no one at Fort Lindsay now. On the 7th I rode across the country to Mr. Laws, about ten miles S. W. from Fort Lindsay; I learned there that on the 27th July, four cows had been dead two or three days; when found, the buzzards were at them, and it was impossible to say that they had been killed by Indians.

On the 28th of July Mr. Scott Withers, who lives four miles from Mr.

Law's, saw one of his outhouses on fire; he immediately left the place. The scout on the next day found nothing injured but the outhouse, and could not say that signs of Indians were found. I could find nothing to show that Indians had been in that quarter.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

T. K. WALBRIDGE.

Major W. W. MORRIS,
Commanding Fort Brook.

FORT BROOKE, EAST FLORIDA.

August 12, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to report that two companies of mounted volunteers, commanded by Captains James G. Dell and William Fisher, arrived here yesterday, by the authority of the Governor of this State, and proffered their services to the United States for the period of twelve months, requesting to be mustered into the service.

Having no instructions to receive them I declined their offer.

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to Captain Dell, the officer who first reported upon this subject,

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. A. Commanding Post.

Major-General R. JONES,
Adjutant-General U. S. A.
Washington City.

HEAD QUARTERS, FORT BROOKE, E. F.

August 11th, 1849.

Captain JAMES G. DELL,

SIR: In reply to your offer of yourself and mounted company of volunteers, to be mustered into the service of the United States, I have to state that no authority whatever has been received by me from the War Department, for the reception of any description of troops, except in the event of their being required. Three companies of the 4th regiment of Artillery have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to reinforce this garrison.

Under these circumstances, and believing that the Indians have not crossed their boundary since the outrage committed upon the trading establishment at Pease creek, I must respectfully decline your patriotic offer.

Should any instructions be received on this subject, I will notify you and Captain Fisher immediately. Meanwhile, at the present juncture, I consider any attempt to move with troops into the Seminole country, as highly dangerous to our relations not yet known to have been violated by these people as a nation.

Pacific measures must first be pursued; and in carrying out the instructions of the Governor, in regard to ejecting settlers upon the resumed territory, you will be pleased to approach no nearer the Indian boundary than is strictly necessary, as such a movement might be construed into a declara-

tion of war. If Indians are seen with a white flag, you will take every means in your power to communicate with them, ascertaining, if possible, the views of the nation in regard to the recent outbreaks.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. MORRIS,

Major Commanding.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, TALLAHASSEE,

July 30, 1849.

Captain WILLIAM FISHER,
Florida Volunteers.

SIR: You are authorised to receive into your company, not exceeding eighty men, rank and file—effective men, well mounted and equipped for service, except that they will be supplied with rifles by the state; and you will, from time to time receive new recruits when necessary to keep up the above number.

You will march your company, without delay, the best route to Tampa; that by Monticello, Columbus, Numanville and Ocala is recommended. On reaching Fort Brooke you will learn from the United States officer in command whether orders are received to take your company into the United States service, and if so, you will be mustered into that service accordingly, if not, you will dispose of your command in such a manner as will best protect the exposed frontier settlements from Indian depredations, more particularly on the frontier extending from Tehepuesassa to Manatee and Sarasota. For this purpose, you may find it necessary to subdivide your company, and station them at three or four different points.

Your operations, with regard to the Indians, are to be of a defensive character, so as to afford protection and security to our frontier citizens and settlements. If Indians are found out of the boundary assigned them by treaty, you will drive them back, kill or capture them. You will make weekly reports, to this department, of your movements, by mail; and in the event of actual hostilities, or other emergency requiring it, will communicate by express.

I have ordered another company to repair to the eastern and north-eastern frontier of the nation, whose operations will extend from the Fort Gatlin settlement west, around to the settlements on Indian river east; and it is expected that the two companies will act in concert, and even combine, if it become important to do so, in order to repel the inroads of the Indians. Important information must, for that purpose, be expressed to each, when necessary.

Let it be impressed upon you, that the march of your company to the point they may occupy, and their conduct in the settlements they are sent to protect, are expected to be of that orderly, soldier-like character which becomes citizen soldiers and gentlemen; that entire respect for the rights, feelings, and property of private citizens should govern every man in his intercourse with them; and that I must consider you responsible for their deportment in this respect.

I wish it also fully impressed upon you, and on every man in your command, that, while it is our duty to afford to every citizen all the protection in our power against a repetition of the savage barbarities lately committed on the settlers on Indian river, it is equally my desire and your duty to avoid

any imprudent movement that will provoke or bring on general hostility; but to leave to the general government ample opportunity to do their duty in the matter. It is also suggested, that white persons may have unlawfully settled within the limits of the twenty miles around the Indian boundary, provided for in the treaty as neutral ground. If you find this to be the case anywhere within the limits specifically assigned to you, you are directed to have such persons forthwith removed. The proper staff appointments, connected with your command, will be made and reported to you; and in case of a vacancy you will report the same; and, meanwhile detail some one of your command temporarily to supply it.

The companies are raised for twelve months, unless sooner discharged.

Very respectfully,

(Signed)

W. D. MOSELEY.

FORT BROOKE, EAST FLORIDA,

August 12, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that two companies of mounted volunteers arrived here on yesterday, called out by His Excellency Governor William D. Mosely, of this State.

I enclose you a copy of his instructions to Captain Fisher, and a copy of my letter to Captain Dell, the officer who first reported to me.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. A. Commanding Post.

Major-General R. JONES,

Adjutant-General U. S. A.

Washington City.

FORT BROOKE,

August 13, 1849.

SIR: I have received your communication directing me, by the order of the Secretary of War, to collect information on the subject of a recent outbreak among the Seminoles in this State. To do this I must have other resources than those at present near by me.

Not an Indian has been seen, either within or beyond their boundary since the burning of the trading house at Peas creek; and my scouts, sent in various directions, have found not the smallest reliable sign of their presence. My interpreters are useless. Sampson (Negro) is prostrated by sickness, and John (Spaniard) no entreaties, bribery, or threats can induce to go to any point where Indians might be found. They acted as interpreters, guides, &c., during the last war, and living among are entirely identified with the whites, and even under ordinary circumstances would not dare to venture, unprotected, to hold a talk with the Indians.

Sending an armed force, beside being completely powerless from the absence of an interpreter, in making a demand on the nation for the murderers, might, and doubtless would, be construed into a declaration of war, which, for manifold reasons, should be the last resort on our part.

The Indians, from the nature of their country, and smallness of their numbers, never assembling in force, can prolong a defensive war indefi-

nately, and my present opinion is, that nothing but a war of *extermination* will ever effect their *forcible* removal.

To sum up all the grievances of which these people complain, would take more time than is expedient to devote to the subject.

It may not, however, be amiss for me to state, that since the treaty made by General Macomb in 1839, there has been a great want of confidence in the government and its agents. At that time many of the Indians believed that they were to hold their lands within a very limited boundary, in fee simple. And the first contradiction of this impression resulted in the massacre of the greater portion of Colonel Harney's command at the Caloosahatchee, and from that time to the patched up peace made by General Worth in 1842, they were indiscriminately *grabbed*, and under false pretences shuffled off to Arkansas.

They have never held free intercourse with the whites since the commencement of the war in 1835.

After seven years fighting, with ammunition exhausted, and arms in a damaged condition, they were glad of a respite on any terms. They have, since that time, been industriously engaged in supplying these deficiencies, and from the period when, as president of a board of officers, directed by the Secretary of War to make an examination of Charlotte harbor, &c., with a view to establishing a post, united in a report against any change at that time. I have felt that the period had arrived when something must be done. My reports on this subject have been very full to yourself and others.

Captain Casey, since he was assigned to Indian duty here, and previously, had repeated assurances that one or more influential chiefs would give him a meeting, but his efforts, thrice repeated, have all proved abortive, and such, I am well convinced, would every attempt be, unless made by Indians; or the other alternative, throwing a large force into their country and recommencing the war.

To obviate which, the only feasible plan seems to be that before recommended, and reiterated in my letter to you of the 6th inst.: the employment of chiefs and interpreters, selected from among their own people west of the Mississippi; and in making choice much caution should be exercised in bringing only such as went there willingly, and have property in the west, which would be a guarantee for their good faith in the performance of their mission.

The absurd sums named by some of the government Agents, for their possessions in this State, produced, as I have been informed, nothing but indignation and contempt.

In sending specific propositions to this people it should be remembered that the value, intrinsically, of the land, is not their estimate, nor ours, as I view the matter, but an equivalent for their *home*, on their part, and the government's ridding the State of a portion of its population who will ever be hostile, and dangerously so to its white inhabitants.

I respectfully offer these suggestions for the consideration of the Secretary of War, trusting that the means before mentioned may be placed at my disposal, when the utmost activity will be used by me directing their efforts, and accomplishing the desirable result.

I have to report for the information of the Department that I have not been relieved from my duties connected with the Indian Agency here.

Mr. Spencer, sub-agent for the Seminoles, arrived here on the 7th inst.,

believing that he would effect an interview with some part of the nation, but unable to obtain an interpreter and hearing my views, he pursued this original intention of leaving the business of the Agency in my hands until his return from the District.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. MORRIS,
Major U. S. A., Commanding Post.

Maj.-Gen. R. JONES,
Adjutant-General, U. S. Army,

In addition to the restrictive measures of the legislature of Florida, passed during the last session, forbidding these Indians, under penalty of stripes, coming beyond their boundary even to visit the agency.

I have learned that another and very just cause of complaint is the violation of the order of the President of the United States, issued May 19, 1845, directing that a strip of the public lands twenty miles in width, around the district is set apart for the use and occupancy of the Seminoles in Florida, should be reserved from survey and sale.

This strip, a portion of which has not only been surveyed, but settled upon by the whites.

The fact of their doing so has already been reported by me to the department.

W. W. M.

(Copy of Document received August 14, 1849.)

To his Excellency President U. S.

Washington, D. C.

Preamble and Resolutions adopted at a meeting of the citizens of Manatie, Florida, recommending the adoption of measures for the most efficient protection against the murderous assaults of the Indians.

Whereas we are situated on the extreme frontier of an almost entirely wilderness country, inhabited only by savage tribes of hostile Indians, having no *military* post nearer than forty miles, and that so situated as to yield us no protection whatever. And whereas recent information derived from the most respectable sources, say Major Morris, commandant at Tampa, Florida, and others, stating that on Indian river and on Peas creek, several *murders* had been committed by the *Indians*. And whereas, to say nothing of the lives and property of the citizens that are in jeopardy every day, it is no less the interest of the general government than of the citizens of this state with its vast region of unsettled land, to adopt some early and efficient measures to protect the citizens in their settlements—this not done it will continue valueless to the general government.

Be it therefore resolved by this meeting, that D. F. Branch, H. V. Snell, and Alfred Gale be and are hereby made a committee to draft a suitable petition to his Excellency President U. S. praying for proper and efficient measures of protection against the hostilities of the neighboring tribes of Indians.

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this Preamble and Resolutions be immediately transmitted with the petition to the President.

(Signed) ALFRED GALE,
Secretary.

We the undersigned Committee, Petitioners in behalf of the citizens of Manatie, deem it entirely unnecessary to enter into an elaborate detail of

all the facts and circumstances connected with our position as a frontier settlement.

Your petitioners have received information which goes far in confirming them in the opinion that the Indian hostilities will not terminate in the *murders* that have been already *committed* on Indian river and Peas creek.

And your petitioners would respectfully suggest that this opinion is not alone entertained by the undersigned, but that it is the confirmed opinion of all the citizens of the interior, north and east of us, as far as your petitioners have received information. We would further most respectfully submit to your Excellency that this settlement is an extreme frontier and a very important one, and that Major Morris assured us, some time since, that in the event of the Indians becoming hostile, it should be protected, but in his last letter to the citizens of this place, he advises them of the fact that he has not a sufficient number of men of men at his post to justify sending a detachment for that purpose.

We would further respectfully submit, that our settlement consists of about one hundred and twenty whites, and about three hundred slaves, but from the plantations and settlements being on both sides of the river, which is a mile or more wide, it is impossible for the citizens to afford to each other that protection which would be necessary in case of an attack from the enemy. We would therefore most respectfully suggest that the plan proposed some months since by his Excellency Governor Moseley in a letter addressed to the late President U. S. is, in your petitioners' estimation, the only one that can give to us the proper protection, and which your petitioners believe, had it been carried into execution, would, by keeping the Indians within their treaty limits, have prevented the murders which have already been perpetrated upon some of our citizens, viz.: a cordon of posts from the mouth of this river extending east to some point on the Indian river. By placing posts on this river, there being no settlements south of it, and extending thence east as aforesaid, they can be most conveniently supplied at all seasons with everything necessary for their comfort and support; our river affording sufficient water at ordinary neap tides for vessels drawing nine feet, with a harbor inside of its mouth entirely safe from storms and gales from any quarter. Our river extending a distance east of twenty-five miles, will afford good facilities for supplying the posts for that distance, beyond that to Peas creek a distance of twenty-five miles, is an elevated, dry and open country offering excellent facilities for wagon transportation at all seasons of the year. The posts between Peas creek and Indian river, a distance of sixty miles, could be supplied from depots on these rivers, they being navigable for vessels of light draught as high up as the suggested line of posts.

Your petitioners would most respectfully submit the above few facts for your Excellency's consideration, believing that a simple statement of a few of the facts connected with our exposed situation is all that is necessary to induce a proper action on the subject.

Your petitioners relying greatly on your knowledge of Indian character and their mode of warfare, feel satisfied that the prayer of your petitioners will be granted, or that more effectual means of defence will suggest themselves to your Excellency's mind for our entire security and protection.

(Signed)

ALFRED GALE,
F. BRANCH,
H. V. SNELL.

HEAD-QUARTERS BATT. OF 2D ART.,
FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE,
FLORIDA, August 14, 1849.

Brevet Major-General R. JONES,
Adjutant General U. S. A.
Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: I enclose herewith a report from Brevet Major R. S. Ripley, 2d Art., commanding the detachment I sent to Indian river. Since the settlers there do not intend to remain, I shall allow the detachment to return at the expiration of the term to which I limited its stay.

A company of 50 mounted volunteers called out by the governor of this State, reached here yesterday from Jacksonville, to whom I issued rifles. They started immediately, and will be in position in two or three days to operate from Fort Kingsbury eastwardly. There being no further necessity for the detachment at Dunlawton, in consequence of this move, it will be here on Thursday, the 16th. All is now quiet in that direction.

Although the newspapers teem with accounts of Indians being seen about the settlements, &c., &c., I do not believe an Indian has been out of his boundary since the affair at Peas creek.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,

Capt. 2d Art. and Brevet-Col. Commanding.

DAVIES' PLANTATION, INDIAN RIVER,
August 9, 1849.

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 3d instant, and to report that at evening on the 2d I arrived with my command in this river. On the passage down we touched at Cape Carnaveral. The lighthouse-keeper was at his post, and had seen nothing of Indians. After crossing this bar we proceeded at once to Mr. Russell's, the scene of the outrage. Everything was apparently as it had been left. Having buried the remains of the murdered man, on the following morning we came south to this place, passing different houses which were found intact. Since I have been here I have sent to, and received information from, every place in the immediate vicinity to the south. All are as when the settlers first fled. I have seen neither sign nor trail of an Indian, of any recent date, and nothing to induce me to believe that the outrage at this place was committed by anything else than a party actuated either by a desire for revenge or for plunder. Certainly nothing which would justify hostilities against the Indians as a body.

Two parties of settlers are now here, removing their effects. They have no intention of remaining, and, from what I can learn from them, none others are coming for such purpose. I shall remain here until after they are gone, and then after a reconnoissance up and down the lagoon shall return to St. Augustine.

During my stay here the time has been employed in repairing and refitting the surf-boat, which was found more unseaworthy than was by any means desirable.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RIPLEY,
Brevet-Major Commanding.

To Brevet Col. C. F. SMITH,
Commanding Fort Marion, East Florida.

Head-Quarters, Battalion of 2d Artillery,
 FORT MARION,
 ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA,
 August 15, 1849.

Brevet Maj-Gen. R. JONES,
Adjutant-Gen. U. S. Army,
 Washington, D. C.

SIR: The detachment recently posted at Dunlawton, Florida, under command of 2d Lieut. W. C. Adams, 2d Artillery, returned this afternoon. Everything was quiet in that quarter. A return of the detachment is enclosed herewith.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,
Capt. 2d Artillery, and Brevet-Col. Com'dg.

Head-Quarters, Battalion of 2d Artillery,
 FORT MARION,
 ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA,
 August 16, 1849.

Brevet Major-Gen. R. JONES,
Adjutant-Gen. U. S. Army,
 Washington, D. C.

GENERAL: I enclose herewith a report, received last night, from Brevet-Major R. S. Ripley, 2d Artillery, commanding the detachment at Indian river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. F. SMITH,
Capt. 2d Artillery, and Brevet-Col. Com'dg.

DAVIS' PLANTATION,
 INDIAN RIVER, FLORIDA,
 August 12, 1849.

COLONEL: I send this by Mr. Davis, who will leave this place for St. Augustine, this afternoon. He will stop a short time at Mr. Lightbourne's (old Fort Pierce,) and go over the bar to-morrow afternoon. Since the departure of the express, nothing has occurred in the way of Indian hostilities. Indeed, I doubt whether an Indian has been within ten miles of this settlement since the murder of Mr. Barker, and the flight of the settlers. Nevertheless, it is impossible to assure the people sufficiently to induce them to remain in their homes, without the permanent station of a considerable force in the neighborhood. This settlement extends for twenty or thirty miles along the river, and to give it protection in the actual event of war, would require at least two companies. Whether the end would be worth that may be considered questionable. Most of the people who have conversed with me, appear to be fixed in their determination not to continue their efforts until every Indian is removed from Florida.

When Mr. Davis leaves, there will be left only Mr. Gates's party, which is at present engaged in fitting up a sloop, with the intention of leaving

likewise. When that occurs, there will not be a white man, with the exception of those of my party, from Smyrna to Key Biscayne.

I shall sail to the southward to-morrow morning; and having reconnoitered as far as Mrs. Walker's (the last settlement this side of Jupiter,) shall return, and notice whether any Indians have been in the vicinity since our departure. Then shall probably sail some distance to the north, and observe the shore during the night for fires. If it is practicable to establish a communication with the Indians, or to seize a few of them for that purpose, without engaging in actual hostilities, I shall attempt it; but I think it is very doubtful whether I have the shadow of an opportunity.

Should anything occur, of importance, while on the reconnoissance, or after the settlers leave, I shall, if possible, send *the pilot* with one or two of the soldiers by boat to Smyrna; thence to proceed as quickly as possible to Augustine. Otherwise, I think, you may expect me, at least by the 20th of this month.

I have had some idea of proceeding south (outside) as far as the Miami river; but one of the people from Augustine has informed me that a surveying vessel is already there, and any information in relation to the state of things in that quarter, could be readily transmitted through her.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. RIPLEY,
Brevet-Maj. 2d Artillery Com'dg.

To Brevet-Col. CHARLES F. SMITH,
2d Artillery,
Com'dg Fort Marion,
East Florida.

FORT BROOKE, E. F.,
August 18, 1849.

SIR: The steamship Alabama arrived and anchored off Gadsden's Point, on yesterday afternoon, having on board five companies of the 4th regiment of artillery, under the command of Brevet-Maj. W. P. Bainbridge.

As soon as the means of transportation can be procured, after they shall have been landed, they will be ordered to take post at the most important points among the settlements within the compass of fifty miles, to calm the fears, and protect, if necessary, the inhabitants in the event of Indian hostilities.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. MORRIS,
Major Com'dg Post.

Maj.-Gen. R. JONES,
Adj.-Gen. U. S. A.

FORT BROOKE, E. F.
August 20, 1849.

SIR: A white flag, made of feathers, with the symbols used by Bowlegs, head chief of the Seminoles; tobacco, encircled with a string of white beads, was found yesterday, 19th instant, fastened to the door of John Philiper Bermudez, a Spaniard, at Saca Sota.

This man has lived on most friendly terms with the Indians ; but, having also been in free intercourse with the whites, abandoned his property at Saca Sota. On returning, he found it unharmed, and the emblem of peace on his door. He made the necessary marks, signifying the time he had found the flag, and his intention to return at full moon.

Captain Casey will accompany him, and Phillipper's word is implicitly to be relied on. I have a hope that some information in regard to the feelings of the nation will be gained.

Upon the receipt of this flag, I determined to countermand the order for the troops to move into the country for the protection of the settlements, as the move might tend to alarm the Indians, and endanger the safety of Captain Casey, who will, in a very short time, be able to ascertain whether this flag was placed at the door of Bermudez, as an assurance of his own security, or a message to the agent here.

No mark, other than those before mentioned, having been made to help conjecture.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed.)

W. W. MORRIS,

Major U. S. Army,

Indian Agt.

Maj.-Gen. R. JONES,

Adjutant-General U. S. A.,

Washington, D. C.

PALATKA, E. FLORIDA,

August 23, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to report my arrival with my company at this place, on the 20th of August, 1849.

I find that the whole neighborhood abounds in rumors respecting the movements of the Indians, and that many of the inhabitants, even north of this place, have abandoned their settlements, and crops, and fled to the nearest towns; I am well satisfied however, that not an Indian track has been seen, although many have been reported; nor do I believe that there is the slightest evidence of any hostility on the part of the tribe, since the recent murders at Indian river and Pease creek, and those were the evident acts of marauders, entirely unauthorized by the chiefs.

There appears to be a determination on the part of the people, to avail themselves of this opportunity to free the State entirely from them; should such also be the policy of the Government, it is generally conceded that a long war must be the result; as no person thinks that they can be removed by peaceable negotiations.

Enclosed is a field return of my company.

I am sir, very respectfully,

J. F. ROLAND,

Brevet-Major 2d Artillery Commanding.

Major-Gen. R. JONES,

Adjutant-General, U. S. A.

TALLAHASSEE, August 20, 1849.

The Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War, &c.

DEAR SIR: Having seen it noticed by some of the newspapers, that

much difficulty had been experienced in obtaining an interpreter, or other person to go into the Indian nation, I am induced to submit the enclosed to your consideration, which I have recently received from Col. B. Hopkins, of Palatka, on the St. John's river. Col. Hopkins was formerly a citizen of Georgia, and I presume is well known to your Excellency. He says he can control the best interpreter in Florida, but he cannot be induced to go into the nation, except with Col. Hopkins; and I should suppose from his high standing as a gentleman, experience and long acquaintance with Indian character, as well as his hardy and enterprising temperament and firmness of purpose, he would be able to render useful and valuable services to the Government in any negotiations which may be desired with the Indians of Florida, and I shall be grateful if the government should find it convenient to employ his services.

I have the honor to be, with high respect, your most obedient servant,
THO. BROWN.

KEY WEST, FLORIDA,
September 3, 1749.

Major-General R. JONES,
Adj.-General, U. S. A.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I have not been required to give assistance to the settlers on the Peninsula, since my return from Cape Florida, July 30th. A few days subsequent to my leaving the Cape, the settlers at New river, and those in the vicinity of Cape Florida, left their homes and came into Key West, leaving at the Cape only the light-house keeper.

I have offered to establish a post at the mouth of Miami, if the settlers wish to return. But I believe that they all expect to be indemnified by the government for loss of time, &c.

I have also offered to send a party of men to the light-house at Cape Florida, but the United States Collector in charge, tells me that he does not consider it necessary, and will make a requisition upon me when he wishes protection.

If Capt. Casey's interview with the Indians is not favorable to peace, I shall at once go to Cape Florida with a party, and leave them in charge of a lieutenant.

I am sir, very respectfully,

D. N. CONCH,
Lieutenant Commanding Key West.

Telegraphic Dispatch.

The following communication by telegraph was despatched from Savannah, Sept. 20th, and received at Washington, Sept. 21st 1 o'clock 10 min. P.M., dated Tampa bay, Sept. 6th, 1849.

For Secretary of War.

Three messengers from Bow-legs—five Indians only connected in the murders. Same party in both places now in custody by the Indian chiefs to meet me in council on the 18th Sept. Charlotte Harbor. All quiet.

D. E. TWIGGS.

FORT BROOKE, TAMPA, E. F.

September 17, 1849.

GENERAL: On Saturday evening 15th, Major-General Twiggs, with his Assist.-Adj.-General, Major Machall and Captain Casey, with a guard of one company of the 4th Artillery, under Brevet-Captain Rains, went in the steamer "Col. Clay," to Charlotte harbor to meet the Indians in conference, as had been arranged at the meeting with Bowlegs' messenger. The place of meeting is at the old trading-house of Kennedy, at the head of the bay, within the Indian territory.

At the moment of his departure, the general directed me to write you, by this opportunity (the express of to-morrow morning), informing you whether or not the head-quarters of the 7th infantry, with five companies in the steamer "Ocean," had arrived. I understood him to say, that he had written to the seat of government expressing a slight degree of uneasiness on this subject. That steamer has not yet arrived, nor have we heard ought of her, but the uneasiness, though of course increased by this circumstance, does not yet amount to a distinct fear, as we can readily conjecture a variety of causes for her delay, such as a commendable caution in coasting her way thither, and in frequently making port to cleanse the boilers—and then being wind-bound or otherwise detained by stress of weather. The necessity of these precautions has been demonstrated by the fate of the steamer "Mary Kingsland" which exploded within the last fortnight with a great destruction of life and property in consequence of the neglect of them, and it is said that the master of the Ocean is an experienced and prudent man.

I have nothing to add in the way of information of the state of things here. Everything of course remains in a state of abeyance, till we hear from the general.

I have the honor to be, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN L. GARDNER,

Brevet-Colonel 4th Artillery.

Major-General R. JONES,
Adjut.-General.

The following communication by telegraph, was despatched from New Orleans, 8 o'clock 5 min. P.M., and received at Washington, 4 o'clock 45 min. P.M.

Dated TAMPA BAY, Sept. 23.

For Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Bow-Legs and the Indian chiefs met me on the 18th inst., at Charlotte harbor, and disclaimed for the nation any hostile feeling, and will deliver the murderers to justice on the 19th October.

(Signed)

D. E. TWIGGS.

Communicated by order,

T. F. HUNT,

Deputy Quarter-Master-General.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

WASHINGTON, September 24, 1849.

SIR: As the office of Indian sub-Agent for the Seminoles in Florida,

created in April last, and to which Mr. Samuel Spencer of Jacksonville, Florida, was appointed, has been discontinued, and the management of Indian affairs in that State restored to the War Department, I have the honor to request that I may be advised of the address of the officer who may be detailed for that service, in order that I may know to whom to instruct Mr. Spencer to turn over the papers, funds, &c., which may now be in his possession.

I am, sir, with much respect,
Your obedient servant,

T. EWING, *Secretary.*

HON. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, *October 6, 1849.*

SIR: I have the honor to request that an ordnance officer may be sent to the dépôt at Fort Brooke, Tampa.

Two parties of topographical officers, with proper instruments for surveying and measuring routes are also required, to gain information of the line running from Manatee to Indian river. I will start two parties on this duty, one from each side. Posts will be established as soon as they can be located, from information thus obtained. The officers now in the field could well perform this duty, but that their services are required with the troops.

In my letter of the 3d inst., I suggested the mounting of 300 men. Should the contingency arise, for which that estimate was made, I would suggest that Major H. H. Sibley, 2nd Dragoons, be assigned to the command of these men. The men should be selected from the dragoon dépôt if possible, otherwise, the best and most active men from the general dépôt. The horses should be procured by a competent officer from the west. The dépôt at St. Louis will supply condemned dragoon saddles, which will answer for this service.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of General Orders, No. 15; Army Head Quarters General Orders, War Depart. Nos. 45 to 49; Special Orders 47 and 50; Army Head Quarters and of War Department No. 55; A Circular from Head Quarters Army, September 11; Copy of the Adjutant General's letter to General Towson, of September 10; and of the Assistant Adjutant-General's to Colonel Crane, 1st Artillery, of September 6th.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

D. E. TWIGGS,

Brevet Major-General U. S. A.

Lieut-Col. W. G. FREEMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General,
Head Quarters of the Army, *New York.*

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, *October 14, 1849.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communica-

tion of September 26, and your dispatches forwarded by Major Jonell, who reached this on the 12th.

I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Major-General U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

The following communication, by telegraph, was despatched from Savannah, 12 o'clock, — min., — M., and received at Washington 4 o'clock, 30 min., P. M.,

Dated, Savannah, October 25th.

TAMPA BAY, *October 19th.*

For HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that I met the Indians on the 17th, inst., three murderers were given up, one was killed and his hand brought in, the fifth escaped; and the question of emigration was submitted, and a day appointed for another meeting. The delegation has not arrived yet:

D. E. TWIGGS.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
October 26, 1849.

GENERAL: The delegation has not arrived. A negro interpreter "Jim Bowlegs," arrived in the steam boat *Fashion* on the evening of the 23d. His pass from General Belknap is dated Port Gibson, September 23d, 1849. Koakoochee was absent at that time, and it was supposed that on his return the delegation would be appointed.

Jim Jumper had offered to come, in case *Koakoochee* should decline, but the people objected to it, as he is their head chief.

The interpreters generally had refused to come, and it was doubtful whether *Gopher John* would consent to accompany a delegation.

I have no news from the nation yet, but hope to hear something before November 10th.

You will hear from others of the arrival of Captain McDonald, two Lieutenants of the 7th, and 70 horses by the *Fashion*, &c., &c.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,
Captain on Indian duty.

Major-General TWIGGS,
Commanding Western District,
Head Quarters, Palatka, Florida.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, *November 12, 1849.*

SIR: I have established a military post, named Fort Hamer, on the Manatee river, near the head of the steamboat navigation; and as soon as the proper buildings are completed I expect to remove the Depot from this post there. For all military purposes I regard the post on the Manatee as

greatly superior to this, and think that point should be the permanent post.

I have, therefore, to request that the township now occupied by the new post, township No. 35, range 19, be reserved from sale or entry for military purposes. I have requested the register of the land office at Newmansville, to retain the foregoing township, until directions are received from the head of his Department.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Major-Gen. U. S. A.

Lieut-Col. W. G. FREEMAN,

Assistant Adjutant General,

Head Quarters of the Army, Washington, D. C.

(Copy.)

Head-Quarters, Western Division,

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

November 19, 1849.

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, on the 14th instant, I took the Indian delegation to Fort Chokorukla, on Pease creek, about fifty-four miles from here; at which point I left them, returning here to-day.

The delegation are within one days' travel of the nearest Indian town, for which they expect to start on the 22d inst. I shall expect to hear from them in a week or ten days.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Maj.-Gen. U. S. A.

Lieut.-Col. W. G. FREEMAN,

Assist. Adjutant-Gen. Hd.-Qrs. of the Army,

New York.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

November 19, 1849.

GENERAL: In obedience to orders from the War Department, addressed to Major-General Twigg, dated September 26th, 1849, I received from Mr. Samuel Spencer, late sub-agent, the books and papers connected with Indian affairs in this State, on October 13th.

To meet the expenses of interpreters, presents to Indians, &c., &c., &c., I have now to request, that I may be furnished with funds applicable to such purposes. Mr. Spencer, I understood, had some funds which he promised to send to me at once; but I do not know what amount; nor have I yet received any from him.

I would also beg leave to suggest, that in the event of any of the Indians coming in to remove to the West, some one here should have authority to procure the necessary amount of gold from New Orleans, to pay them before they embark. They were promised that the money should be paid here, and that I should witness the payment. Although the contingency is not very probable, it should be provided for.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,
Capt. on Special Duty.

Maj.-Gen. R. JONES,

Adj.-General, U. S. A.

*Head-Quarters, Western Division,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,*

November 21, 1849.

SIR: Two runners from the chief, Bowlegs, came into Chokonikla, yesterday. The chiefs and head men have held a council since my proposal to emigrate, and have determined to meet me at the time appointed in December. I would respectfully ask for definite instructions as to what I am to say to them. I think I now understand the views and wishes of the Department; but there may be some things that it might be thought advisable to say to them, not yet communicated to me. I made them some promises in relation to the prisoners: can I say to them that my promise will be complied with or otherwise? It is all important in the present crisis that they should not be deceived in anything.

If anything important is communicated in answer to this, I have respectfully to request, owing to the irregularity of the mails, that it be enclosed to Col. Plympton, at Pilatka, with directions to forward it by express.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Maj.-Gen. U. S. Army.

Maj.-Gen. R. JONES,
Adj.-Gen. of the Army,
Washington, D. C.

(Copy furnished Head-Quarters of the Army.)

*Head-Quarters, Western Division,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,*

November 26, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to report, in compliance with your instructions, the posts now established in this State, commencing on the west side of the Peninsula going east.

A post near the mouth of the Manatee.

Fort Hamer on the Manatee.

Fort Crawford, fifteen miles in advance of Fort Hamer, in direction of Pease creek.

Post on the Myakka, midway between Fort Crawford and Fort Chokonikla.

Fort Chokonikla, on Pease creek.

Fort Fraser on Pease creek.

Fort Gardner on the Kissimmee.

A Post on Lake Tohopekaligo.

Fort Gatlin.

Fort Pierce, on Indian river.

Fort Dallas, Key Biscayue.

Two or three posts between Indian river and Kissimmee.

A good bridge has been erected across Pease creek at Fort Chokonikla, and the troops are now employed on a temporary road from the head of the Manatee to Fort Gardner on the Kissimmee. Colonel Dimick will open a road from Indian river to some point on the Kissimmee; and after the

Indian council in December, I will establish a line of posts from Chokonikla to Kissimmee direct, if the country will permit by the north end of lake Istokpoga, for this purpose reviewing the troops from Fort Fraser, Fort Gardner, and Tohopekaliga. I will also establish three posts of two companies each, between Indian river and Kissimmee.

The country near Tohopekaliga, Kissimmee, and the north end of lake Istokpoga, has been a favorite resort of the Indians, and is outside their limits, of which I will inform them in December.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Major-General U. S. A.

Major-Gen. R. JONES,
Adj.-Gen. of the Army,
Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, FLORIDA,
TALLAHASSEE, *November 29, 1849.*

To His Excellency, Gen. Z. TAYLOR,
President of the United States.

SIR: It appears, from returns made to the office of the Quarter-Master General of this State, that the following companies of volunteers were called into service on the Indian frontier, in this State, by the order of my predecessor, Governor Moseley, on the occasion of recent Indian disturbances.

From the County of Leon.

Captain Fisher's company of mounted men, mustered 30th July.
Captain Johnson's company of infantry, mustered 4th August.

From the County of Alachua.

Captain Dill's company of mounted men; mustered in, 2d August.

From the County of Duval.

Captain Ledwith's company of mounted men; mustered in, 7th August.

From the County of Columbia.

Captain Knight's company of mounted men; mustered in, 7th August.
Captain Ellis's company of mounted men; mustered in, 8th August.

From the County of Hillsborough.

Captain Clark's company were not mustered in, but drew forage and provisions for twenty-six horses and men.

Having received satisfactory information from the Secretary of War, and from the commanding general in Florida, that a sufficient force of United States troops had been ordered to the frontier of Florida, and were in the field for the defence of the settlements and the protection of its inhabitants; and that the State volunteers would not be mustered into the United States service, I issued my general order of the first of October, directing them to be mustered out of the State service, copies of which I transmitted to the Secretary of War, at Washington, and to the general commanding at Tampa bay.

It will be seen that these troops were ordered into service by Governor Moseley, immediately on the intelligence reaching the capital of this

State, of the murders committed on some of our fellow-citizens at their homes, whilst in the peaceful pursuit of their accustomed occupations, by parties of Seminole Indians at Indian river, on the 13th, and at Pease creek, on the 17th of July last; and upon the urgent call and advice of some of the most intelligent, observing, and reliable men in the eastern and southern portions of this State; men well acquainted with Indian character and habits, and who considered their acts of outrage as indicating a spirit of determined hostility, which would soon manifest itself in a general destruction of the lives and property of our citizens upon the whole line of our exposed and defenceless frontier, and would soon extend to the more densely populated settlements, and that great and irreparable injury would be done, unless the most prompt and efficient measures were taken by the authorities of this State, to place upon the frontier a sufficient force to repel the incursions of these marauding savages, and keep them in check until the government of the United States could order into this State, and on the exposed and unprotected Indian frontier of Florida, a military force sufficient to ensure the safety and protection of the border settlements.

So sudden and unexpected were these outbreaks, occurring within a few days of each other, at very distant points on the Atlantic and on the Gulf, that a general panic was created. The people were flying from their homes to hastily-thrown-up defences, or escaping as best they could from the impending danger. The inhabitants of one settlement, including men, women, and children, who had the advantage of escaping by water, reached the city of St. Augustine, in the most distressing and pitiable condition, which called forth the commiseration of the citizens, in a general town-meeting, and after a full investigation had before the United States judge for the northern district of Florida, it was determined to communicate the facts, and call upon the executive of the State for a force which would insure immediate protection to the exposed and defenceless frontier. Judge Bronson says, in a letter to Governor Moseley: "All this seems to put it beyond question that the rising is general, and that *all* the Indians are engaged in the hostilities; and hence the most vigorous and prompt measures seem necessary. How large a force should be called out, is a point which I do not feel myself competent to decide; but I apprehend that from five hundred to a thousand men, would by no means be too many." And Mr. Senator Yulee says, in a letter written to Governor Moseley, on the same occasion: "My advice to you is, to throw into the field at once, a regiment of infantry and one of horsemen, to afford a complete cover to the settlements."

Such are the circumstances under which my predecessor called the State volunteers into service, on the Indian frontier, with instructions to the officers not to penetrate into the Indian reserve, but to afford protection to the settlements until a sufficient force of United States troops could be brought to their relief.

It was expected that the volunteers of this State, called out under such circumstances, would have been mustered into the United States service. But such not having been the case, it became my duty upon receiving information that the United States had a sufficient military force on the frontier for the protection of the settlements, to order them out of service. And it becomes equally now my duty to urge upon the government of the United States the obligation which it is under, not only to make provision for the *pay* and *sustenance* of the volunteers thus ordered into service, to per-

form a duty and render a protection to the frontier settlement which the general government had stipulated to perform ; but to ask also that adequate provision may be made for all losses sustained by our citizens from Indian disturbances in Florida, and compensation and support for the inhabitants on the frontier, who have been driven from their homes by the recent Indian outbreak, and forced to seek shelter and protection in forts and stockades, which they have been compelled to build and defend ; and that all those who performed such duties may be considered in service, and allowed pay in accordance with the militia law of this State, which provides, that " if a sudden invasion or insurrection shall take place, or be made or threatened on any portion of the State, the commanding officer of the militia, *or any portion thereof adjacent thereto*, shall be, and he is hereby authorized and enjoined to order out the militia under his command, to repel or suppress the same ; and troops thus ordered into service, shall be subject to, and governed by, the rules and articles of war of the government of the United States, and shall be entitled to all the pay and emoluments of the same while so in service."

These are believed to be just demands which I consider it my duty to urge upon the consideration of Congress, and I engage in the performance of this duty, the more cheerfully and confidently from the persuasion that your Excellency understands all the circumstances in relation to the continuance of this remnant of the Seminole tribe of Indians in Florida, and the obligations upon the authorities of the Federal Government to keep them under proper restraints and control ; which places them in a position in regard to the State of Florida, differing from the relations of any of the other tribes of Indians in regard to the other states of this Union, and will cordially co-operate with me in pressing upon Congress, the necessity, on principles of humanity and justice, of making some immediate provision for these objects.

By the treaty of Payne's landing, concluded the 9th of May, 1832—it was stipulated that " the Seminole Indians relinquish to the United States, all claims to the lands they at present occupy in the territory of Florida, and agree to emigrate to the country assigned to the Creeks west of the Mississippi river, and that they " will remove within three years after the ratification of this agreement." Therefore, their removal, by the provisions of that treaty should have been accomplished by the month of May, 1835. But some difficulty occurring in regard to their removal, General Clinch agreed to a postponement until the month of November of that year, and finally they refused to comply with the provisions of the treaty, and the war ensued ; and continued under various circumstances, greatly to the injury of the people of Florida, until the pacification entered into by Gen. Worth in 1842.

It should be taken into consideration, that in all of these arrangements, the people of Florida had no voice or agency, although the party most deeply interested in these consequences and results. Living as they were, under a *Territorial form of Government*, they could look only to the United States for protection and justice. The treaty for the removal of the Indians, which resulted in a bloody and destructive war, long to be remembered by the settlers and purchasers of the public lands in Florida, was a measure of the general government, dictated as well by considerations of pecuniary benefits as of general policy ; by the emigration which the removal of the Indians from Florida, was calculated to encourage, and conse-

quently the demand which it would create for, and the enhanced value which it would give to the lands of the United States in Florida, and therefore, became to these pioneers and purchasers of the public domain in the wilderness, an important consideration in the contract, which they had, and have a right to call upon the general government in good faith and justice to fulfill. And the cessation of hostilities and temporary arrangement which was made by General Worth for the Indians remaining in Florida, was likewise done for the benefit and convenience of the general government, without consulting the interests of the people of Florida. For it will not be contended that the United States had not the power to compel the whole of the Seminole Indians to comply with their part of the treaty of Payne's landing. The Hon. John C. Spencer, Secretary of War, in a letter to Major-General Scott, dated 10th May, 1842, says, "*anxious to curtail the extraordinary expenses incident to the warfare, and sincerely desirous of promoting peace, the President directs that Colonel Worth be authorized, as soon as he shall deem it expedient, to declare that hostilities against the Indians in Florida have ceased, and that they will not be renewed unless provoked by new aggressions on their part. But it is deemed advisable that a force equal to at least two regiments, be retained to form a cordon or line of protection, for the frontier settlements. The action of Congress will be invoked to aid in the defence of the territory, by the settlement of our citizens there, and offering to them inducements for such settlements by gratuities of land, by allowing them rations for subsistence and by the loan of arms. And accordingly, by a general order, dated, "Cedar Keys, 14th August, 1842—It is hereby announced that hostilities with the Indians within this territory have ceased."* "The lands thus temporarily assigned as their planting and hunting grounds, are within the following boundaries," &c. "The foregoing arrangements are in accordance with the instructions of the President of the United States." In all of these arrangements, the people of Florida, who were more immediately and vitally interested in all the consequences which resulted from them, had no voice. The petitions and remonstrances of their *Territorial Legislature* were unheeded. Nor were the stipulations of the United States Government ever complied with. The "*two regiments were not retained.*" No "*cordon or line of protection for the frontier settlements*" was ever established. The citizens to whom inducements had been held out to form such settlements, were left in the wilderness to which they had been invited by the government of the United States, under the most solemn assurances of protection, and ample provision for their security and defence, and whose guest they were, unprovided for, by the side of their savage neighbors, who but a short time before, had been burning their houses, and murdering their wives and children. Had the cordon of posts ever been established at proper points as promised, the settlers would have had places to rally upon, in case of danger or alarm, and greater confidence would have been inspired. But in this they were sadly deceived. No troops were retained for their defence and protection, a company or so were stationed at Tampa bay and St. Augustine, but too remote from the Indian border to be called a protection, and even those troops, during the Mexican war, were withdrawn from the State, and only one company of Florida volunteers remained at Tampa bay. Whilst the Indians were permitted to trade at will to that post, and to purchase ammunition without restraint, and of course, had every opportunity afforded them to see the defenceless condition of the

frontier settlements. And moreover, the neutral ground which was to have been provided, between the Indian reserve and the settlements, was not respected ; but was run out by parties of United States surveyors, down to the Indian border, and in some instances over it—and sales of land were made, all of which was well calculated to provoke the Indians to acts of aggression and violence, and to endanger the safety and serenity of the frontier settlements, which the United States Government was bound to protect and defend.

The territorial government repeatedly urged this state of things, upon the attention of the authorities of the general government, but its complaints and remonstrances were not regarded, and since the formation of the state government, not a year has passed, that these subjects have not been pressed in the strongest terms, upon the consideration of the President of the United States, and upon Congress, by the Governor of the State and by resolutions of the General Assembly. At the first session of the General Assembly, as early as the 10th of July, 1845, a preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted, urging upon the President and upon Congress, a consideration of the unprotected condition of the frontier settlements, and their claims for losses sustained by Indian depredations. They say, " We regard it as one of the earliest and most important of the duties devolved on us, as an independent member of the Union, to call the attention of Congress to the losses sustained by the inhabitants during the late cruel and desolating Seminole war, to their just claims for indemnification from the government for these losses." And Governor Moseley in his message to the General Assembly in November 1845, says, " The government of the United States is surely bound by every consideration of justice and humanity, to make early provision for the losses sustained by this unfortunate portion of our citizens. The policy of the Federal Government in heretofore permitting this tribe of Indians to remain in our territorial limits, not only in violation of the treaty of Payne's landing, ratified more than ten years ago, but in the face of subsequent engagements, solemnly renewed and treacherously violated on their part under circumstances of aggravated perfidy and cruelty, is a subject to which my attention has not unfrequently been directed since your late adjournment. It is to me a source of unfeigned regret that the policy of the government in regard to the emigration of the Indians, prompted as the measure was, not only by dictates of humanity to this people, but as an act of justice, should not have been carried out in regard to the Seminoles." In October of the same year, Governor Moseley, in a letter to President Polk, complains of the hostile disposition of the Indians, and the defenceless situation of the frontier settlements. Again, in 1846 and 1847, the subject of the removal of the Indians and remuneration to our citizens for losses sustained, is strongly urged upon the President and Congress, by the Governor, and by resolutions of the General Assembly. And in November 1848, the Governor in his message to the General Assembly, presses this subject with force upon the consideration of Congress, and says, " to obtain a speedy as well as peaceable removal of this remnant of that once powerful tribe, is doubtless the anxious desire of the people of this state." " Any measures however, which shall be adopted, with the view of inducing the Indians to migrate, may terminate in war, and hence before any steps are taken towards negotiation, a large and efficient military force should be thrown upon the line dividing the white settlements and the Indian reservation, and should the

General Government not immediately attend to an urgent request for their removal, it is believed such a force is now demanded to restrain the Indians within their prescribed boundary, and from acts of violence, and to afford quiet to the alarms of our citizens and security to their property." So that it can be clearly and conclusively shown, that the people of Florida have at all times looked to the General Government as bound to effect the removal of the Seminole Indians, agreeably to the provisions of the treaty of Payne's landing, and the treaty subsequently confirmed and perfected at Fort Gibson, for their removal to the West, and to furnish a force sufficient for the protection of the frontier settlements, and to keep the Indians in proper subjection until that should be effected.

But I cannot believe it will be necessary for me to accumulate authorities and arguments to establish these points. The government of the United States admits them. The removal of the Indians from Florida has merely been suspended to suit the convenience of the government, never abandoned. And the most energetic arrangements, I am assured, are now in progress for their immediate removal. And as it regards protection to the settlements, the authorities of the government at Washington had full official information of their weak, defenceless situation from their peculiar position; and *planned* and *promised* ample protection, which was never furnished. General Worth, in a letter dated 17th November, 1843, says, "All have visited Tampa except a few of the very aged, but in parties of ten or fifteen only. These apprehensions under the policy pursued will soon wear away when, if considered advisable, advantage may be taken of a favorable occasion to send off the whole; precipitancy will occasion much and vexatious difficulty. When done it must be thoroughly and effectually done—for if *ten* of those warriors remained maddened to a spirit of hostility, they would *suffice to break up and scatter the entire line of new settlements although tenfold their number*, which although composed of occupants under the armed occupancy bill, have neither weapons, nor the disposition to use them, not one in ten appearing with arms of any description." With these facts communicated by a distinguished and experienced officer in command who well acquainted with the Indians and the nature of the country occupied by the settlers "under the armed occupancy bill" who had been induced by the offers and promises of the general government to settle in the wilderness, yet nothing was done for their security and protection. No troops were furnished, no posts established on which the sparse settlements could rally for safety in case of danger. And when the evil day came, and they were driven from their homes, they had to build for themselves hastily constructed defences into which their wives and children were huddled together without scarcely a covering to shelter them from the inclemency of the weather; and where, I am assured, many yet remain under circumstances of suffering and privation of the most heart-rending description. Forced to abandon their crops before they were matured or could be secured, and having exhausted the scanty supplies which they were enabled to secure in their flight, many must be reduced to a state bordering on starvation, unless the federal government, as it is in duty bound, shall afford them immediate relief. And I feel the necessity to more imperiously forced upon me, to urge this subject upon the attention of Congress, as by the system of biennial sessions adopted by this state there will not be a session of the representatives of the people for a year

yet to come, who could more ably vindicate the rights of their immediate constituents than I am able to do.

I trust that your excellency, impressed with a sense of its importance and justice, will make this communication the subject of a special message to Congress at an early day of the session.

With assurances of my high respect and consideration,

I am your most obedient servant,

THO. BROWN.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
December 3, 1849.

SIR: If it can be ascertained, I would like to know what is charged, as having been paid (and by whom paid) to the following named chiefs at the last emigration, viz.: A-hal-loh Tustenuggee or Hallech Tustenuggee, a Mickasuhee chief (now the chief of the Arkansas delegation). *E-ne-ha-thlok-kee Emathla* (Tallahassee Indians), *Alligator* or *Hal-pattoh-hadjo*, or *En-faw-la Mick-ko* (Mickasuhee Indian), *Os-oo-chee*, *Emathla* (Tallahassee Indians), *Morris*, negro interpreter.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed)

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Maj.-Gen. U. S. A.

HON. G. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington City, D. C.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
December 10, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following extract from a letter received from Captain Casey, and dated Choksnikla, Dec. 8.

"On the evening of the 6th a runner came in and announced the approach of *Kapiktsootsee*, the principal sub-chief of the *Mikkasookes*. From a conversation with this runner, I learned that the Indians will probably not attend on the 15th. He added that the chief *Bowlegs* was told by the former runner (*Hoithlywahlee*) who was here on Nov. 20th, that I would meet him on *Caloosa-Hatchee* before the 15th Dec., &c., &c.

"No such talk was given or sent by *Hoithlywahlee*, and this was a mere excuse.

"*Kapiktsootsee*, after much talk, finally told me that he did not think the chiefs would attend the council here, that they dare not trust themselves here, and that *Sam Jones* and others had made a strong law. He, *Kapiktsootsee*, says he will go to the west, and bring as many of his people as he can get. I gave him a horse to go out with, and he left this evening after dusk. He will return as soon as possible, his home and people being four days distant. When he returns he wants a strong party of cavalry to accompany him and meet his people, to protect them and escort them in.

"I have solemnly promised him in your name and my own, that the money promised shall be paid to him and his people in gold before they

embark, and that we will pay the white people for their claims on the negroes captured during the war, and now in possession of the Indians.

"I beg leave at this critical time to invite your special attention to another matter of great importance. Settlers are coming down in numbers to this neutral belt, in violation of our treaty with the Indians, and the express orders of the executive, in order to select the best lands, before their more scrupulous neighbors can come. Some of them may defeat the negotiations going on."

I will be on Peas creek myself by the 15th inst.

Such funds as may be paid to the Indians, I do not wish placed in my hands, but so placed that they may be under my control, and not one dollar paid except under my directions.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Maj.-Gen.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.
Washington, D. C.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE,
December 14, 1849.

HON. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

SIR: I have to inform you that by direction of the Secretary of Treasury, with the concurrence of the First Comptroller, and to carry out the provisions of the treaty made at Paine's landing, in Florida, on the 9th May, 1832, for the removal of the Seminole Indians, west of the Mississippi, I have caused the amount of the balances which remained unexpended on the 30th of June, 1847, of all the appropriations for this purpose, amounting to \$152,249 94, which sum was carried to the surplus fund to be restored on the books of the treasury, to the credit of the aforesaid appropriation, for the purpose of carrying into effect the objects of the treaty above mentioned.

Most respectfully yours,

ELISHA WHITTLESEY.

"For fulfilling treaties with Florida Indians."

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
CHOKKONICKLA, FLORIDA,
December 15, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 28th and 30th ult. The day appointed for the assembling of the Indians at this place has passed, and none have made their appearance.

From information previously received, I had been led to expect this result, and augur from it nothing prejudicial to the hopes I had formed of the ultimate success of the plan of emigration. As a nation, the Indians could not be brought to attend a council in which they feared a final determination for removal would be announced.

I am expecting Kapithsoolsee, the principal sub-chief of Sam Jones, on the 18th, until which time I will remain here, and hope to make an agreement with him for the removal of some families.

But one member of the delegation, the brother of Astinera, has been into the nation, and report says his return will be resisted by Asunera; the young man, however, left all his clothes, &c. in camp here and said he was determined to return.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Maj.-Gen. U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.
Washington.

(Copy.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
December 15, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, from the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, of your letter to him of the 4th instant, enclosing the copy of one from Capt. J. C. Casey, and agreeable to your request, have this day issued a requisition in favor of Capt. Casey for the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be applied towards defraying the expenses of the removal of the Seminole Indians from Florida.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1849.

SIR: The recent outbreak of the Indians in Florida was attended with considerable injury to the property of citizens of the state. Messrs. Kennedy and Darling and others on the Gulf side, and Russell, Barker, and others on the Atlantic side, suffered serious pecuniary damage. For these losses undoubtedly the Indians are liable, and should be required to make indemnity.

We have the honor, therefore, to call the subject to your attention, and to request that in whatever negotiations may be had with the Indians a provision for the reimbursement to these individuals of the amount of their several losses will be insisted upon.

We are respectfully, your obedient servants,

D. L. YULEE,
E. C. CABELL,
JACKSON MORTON.

His Excellency Z. TAYLOR,
President of the U. S.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
December 22, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit a sketch of the country, along which the Indian reserve, from Peas creek to the Kissimmee, runs.

From this sketch you will see the difficulty I have had in locating the desired line of posts, the map from the topographical bureau having laid down the river far south of its true position. Examination of the country has removed the difficulty and the troops are moving rapidly to their positions.

On the 18th I was visited by the chief of the *Tallahasseees*, and he is now making his preparations to remove his people to the west.

I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Maj.-Gen. U. S. A.

Lieut.-Col. W. FREEMAN,
Assist. Adjutant-General,
Head-Quarters of the Army, New York, N. Y.

(Copy.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
WASHINGTON, December 27, 1849.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your communication of the 24th instant, in relation to the removal of such of the Indians, in Florida, as may surrender for emigration.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs will be directed to adopt the requisite measures to place the sum of one hundred thousand dollars at the disposal of Captain Casey, Tampa bay, as you request.

With reference to your suggestion, that specific instructions respecting the application and disbursement of that money, emanate from this Department, I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 24th September, and to state, that according to my understanding of the arrangement from that date, the management of the Indians, in Florida, was restored to the War Department, and that as a consequence, all instructions pertaining to the subject of their emigration would very properly be given by you or by your direction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. EWING,
Secretary.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Head-Quarters, Western Division,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, December 29, 1849.

SIR: Since my last communication, several chief men of the Seminoles have visited the post on Pea river, to see the agent and the delegation, and to trade.

No distinct reply to the propositions of the government has been made, but they have consented to receive the delegation as friends and visitors.

The chiefs having failed to attend the council to which they were invited, on December 15th, I stopped all trade, and have since received prom-

ises that they will keep open a free and confidential intercourse, so necessary for the security of the frontier; when properly assured of this, I will reopen the trade, except in munitions of war. Those most averse to emigrate, seem anxious to preserve the peace.

With my present information, I still hope that small parties will from time to time come in to emigrate, and this must be a work of time.

Here I would again invite your attention to the necessity of having the money, in gold, ready to show and pay to them, as promised, before embarkation. Their confidence has been impaired, and every possible demonstration should be made to restore it.

I have to day given orders for the establishment of a post in Charlotte's harbor, on St. Joseph's Island, without the Indian boundary, with the double object of preventing illicit intercourse and increasing my own opportunities of communicating.

I will also cause a steamer to ply in the waters of this harbor and the Cartoolahatche, to keep away intruders and traders.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,

Brevet Maj.-Gen. U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, FLORIDA,
TALLAHASSEE, *January 3, 1850.*

The Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War, &c.,

SIR: Yours of the 14th ultimo I have received, and in accordance with your request, I now forward to you, copies of the muster and pay-rolls and abstracts of accounts for subsistence, &c., for the information of Congress, in respect to the amount which may be necessary to be appropriated to indemnify the State of Florida for the expenses incurred in the recent outbreak of the Seminole Indians. But there are some accounts for subsistence for the troops, which have not yet been forwarded to the office of the Quarter-Master General; and there are several companies on the frontier, which performed duty under the militia laws of this State, but were not regularly mustered into service, and have yet made no returns. So that I should think an appropriation by Congress of \$100,000 would cover the whole of this class of claims.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,
(Signed)

THOMAS BROWN.

OFFICE ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL FLORIDA MILITIA,
TALLAHASSEE, *January 3, 1850.*

SIR: I have the honor to hand to you, herewith, copies of the muster-rolls of the following companies, serving under the orders of His Excellency, Governor Moseley, in the defence of the frontier against the Seminole Indians, viz.:—

Captain Ledwith's company.

" Knight's do.
 " Ellis's do.
 " Barbee's do.
 " Clarke's do.
 " Fisher's do.

Also duplicate originals of the following muster-rolls, viz :—

Captain Dill's company.

" Johnson's do.,

to be furnished to the Secretary of War of the United States, in pursuance of the requisition made upon your Excellency. Duplicate originals have been furnished in every instance in which they existed.

I have the honor to be, your Excellency's obedient servant,

(Signed)

L. A. THOMPSON.

His Excellency, THOMAS BROWN,

Tallahassee.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

January 7, 1850.

GENERAL: I have received notice, through General Twiggs, that the Secretary of War had made (on December 24th, 1849,) a requisition on the Secretary of the Interior for one hundred thousand dollars, to be placed in my hands.

Will you please to ask the Department to instruct the Assistant Treasurer, in New Orleans, to furnish me with *gold*.

The bulk and weight of silver render it unsafe for me to transport and keep, and the amount to be paid to families of Indians would, in silver, be too bulky for safety.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,

Captain U. S. A. &c.,

Special Agent Seminoles.

Major-Gen. R. JONES,

Adjutant-General A. A. Dept.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

WASHINGTON, January 10th, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, a copy of the report of the commissioner of Indian affairs, on the application of John C. Casey—inclosed in your communication to me of the 4th instant—for a per diem allowance to cover his expenses, while performing the duties of an Indian agent, and to inform you that it will be granted. The amount of which, however, to be fixed when he shall indicate to this department the probable extent of his daily expenses and their nature; or he will be allowed his actual expenses incurred from day to day, while engaged on the special duty committed to him, according to the practice of the department, under a decision of the late Secretary of War—referred to in the report of the commissioner.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

T. EWING, Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, Jan. 14, 1850.

SIR: The letter of General Twiggs, of the 29th ultimo, referred by you to the Secretary of the Interior, has been by him referred to this office.

For your present information I have the honor to state that *one hundred and ten thousand dollars*, (\$110,000) has already been remitted to Captain Casey, and that a balance of \$42,249 94, yet remains applicable to the removal and subsistence of Seminole Indians yet remaining in Florida.

Assuming your estimate of \$215,000, as a basis, the above sums will leave a deficit of some 63,000 dollars, for which an early appropriation will be asked.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

HEAD-QUARTERS WESTERN DIVISION,
CHOKKONICHLA, FLA., Jan. 19, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that Bowlegs the Seminole chief has been at this place for several days. He says he will remain until all questions in which his people are concerned are disposed of.

I have thus far left him to the influence of the delegation, hoping that their accounts of his wealth and position in the west, may induce him to listen more favorably to my urgent demands for the removal of himself and people.

This is the first opportunity, the delegation has had of trying its influence with these people. The state of things was such, that the delegates feared to enter the nation, and being myself impressed with the great danger to which such a course would have subjected them, I would not urge it.

I herewith enclose a map showing the position of the troops on the line from Manatee to Indian river. The red dotted line marks the Indian boundary. The line of posts thus established (one hundred and sixty-two miles in length) runs as far as the Kissimmee, through a country where good roads are practicable and have been made, all the streams are bridged, and communication secured. From the Kissimmee to Indian river the best route has been selected, but is less practicable, low and swampy. The difficulty of supplying this though greater is not insurmountable.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet-Major-General, U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.
Washington, D. C.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
CHOKKONICHLA, FLA., Jan. 22, 1850.

SIR: On the 19th I had the honor to report that Bowlegs, the chief of the nation, had reached this place, to attend a council proposed by himself.

Yesterday, the 21st, I met in council the chief, six sub-chiefs of the Seminoles and Micaseekies, and a delegate from the Tallahasseees.

I communicated the President's approval of their conduct in surrendering the murderers, and his desire for their removal west, and fully explained the inducements offered.

The chief and sub-chiefs, with the delegate, finally expressed their willingness to emigrate, and their determination to use all efforts to persuade as many as possible of their people to accompany them.

The Mickaseekie (who had decided previous to the council, on his course,) starts to-day, to bring in his people. He will be accompanied by the delegation, who have thus seized the first opportunity of visiting the nation, and of whom, it is justice to say, their efforts have been most strenuous since the arrival of the chiefs.

The letters they brought from the western Indians, was read by the agent Mr. Duval in council, and listened to with attention.

Bowlegs with his sub-chiefs, promises to meet the agent, Captain Casey, in 17 or 20 days, at Caloosa Hatchee, and inform him of the result of their efforts. He says that many are disposed to go, others are undecided, and some determined to remain.

The influence of these chiefs is believed to be great, and we may reasonably hope for good success from their efforts. I will venture no opinion as to how large a portion of the nation may be induced to go. I have confidence in their promises, and their ability to do much to meet our views, but would not raise hopes which may not be realized.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,

Brevet Major-General, U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

SENATE CHAMBER, Jan. 23, 1850.

SIR: Will you oblige me by informing me per bearer, whether you have received a reply from Gov. Brown, to your letter of the 14th December last, and if so, what amount he estimates as required, to meet the expenses of the militia force called out by Gov. Moseley.

I have the honor to be,

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. L. YULEE.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
January 27, 1850.

General R. JONES,
Adj.-General, U. S. A.

SIR: By the present express, I forward to you letters for the Hon. Secretary of War, and the Treasurer of the United States.

The drafts sent to me for funds are not available, and I have to return them. I have also requested that money, (gold) not drafts, be forwarded at

once. It is unnecessary for me to add anything on the importance of being able promptly to comply with our promises to the first Indians coming in for emigration. Indeed not a step can be taken until the money is here.

In haste, most respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,

Captain and Special Agent, &c.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

January 27, 1850.

SIR: By the last mail I received, from the Treasurer of the U. States Treasury, drafts payable by the Assistant Treasurer, U. S., New York, amounting to *one hundred thousand* dollars.

The money is required here, and in gold, as early as possible; and as these drafts cannot probably be cashed in New Orleans, at this season, *at par*, I have requested General Twiggs to send an express with this communication.

I have to request that an officer or special agent may be sent on, at once, with the money; and at Pilatka, he will find transportation and an escort to bring the funds across the peninsula, and an officer to receive it. Meantime the General will order other disbursing departments, here, to turn over funds to me as far as they can.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,

Capt. and Special Agent Seminoles.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War, &c., &c.

Head-Quarters, Western Division,

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

January 27, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the drafts for the Indian agent, Captain Casey, received here, are on New Orleans, and he has informed me that it will be impossible, at this time, to procure gold for them at that place. He therefore returns them to the treasury, by express, to-day, accompanied with a request that the funds may be immediately procured and sent without delay to Pilatka.

In view of the injury which might result to the service of removal of the Indians, should these funds not be at hand when required, I request that you will give such instructions as may secure prompt attention to the request of Captain Casey.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,

Brevet Major-General U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War, &c., &c.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
February 2, 1850.

GENERAL: I have to request that the Hon. Secretary of War will cause to be remitted to me treasury drafts on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States, at New Orleans, for \$100,000 in gold, in addition to the funds already ordered, viz.: \$10,000 from New Orleans, and \$100,000 from New York.

The presented requisition will be wanted, should all the Indians come in this spring.

Should the money not be wanted, it will of course not be drawn.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,
Captain and Special Agent Seminoles., &c.

Major-General R. JONES,
Adjutant-General U. S. A.
Washington, D. C.

Head-Quarters, Western Division,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
February 3, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you, that on the 31st ultimo, a party of forty-eight Indians came in and prepared to go to Arkansas. How large the proportion of warriors is in this party, the partial reports made, do not inform me.

So soon as I have collected a sufficient party, I will send them to New Orleans, or, more probably, to Pascagoula, under charge of an officer, there to await the proper season for transportation to Arkansas.

No contracts will be made for provisions or transportation. The former will be purchased by the officer in charge, and for the latter, I will either send a public vessel, or put them on board private ones, as ordinary passengers.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
Brevet Major-General U. S. A.

Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

[By Telegraph.]

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA.
February 7.
via SAVANNAH.

For Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

SIR: An officer is now waiting at Pilatka for the funds heretofore requested. Please inform Captain Miller, Quarter-Master at Savannah, when they may be expected to reach Pilatka.

D. E. TWIGGS,
Major-General.

Head-Quarters, Western Division,

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

February 12, 1850.

Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary at War.

SIR: I have the honor to report, that by the last official statement, dated 10th instant, sixty Indians (men, women, and children,) had assembled at Fort Arbuckle, and another party of twenty-four was daily expected.

Captain Casey returned this morning from the Caloosa Hatchee, where he met Billy Bowlegs, and some twenty-five Indians, including several sub-chiefs of influence. They all agreed to emigrate, and are making preparations to that end, by collecting their cattle, hogs, &c. It is believed by them, that the rest of their people will in due time follow their example.

Thus far, everything gives promise of good success,

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS.

*Brevet Major-General U. S. A.**HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,*TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, *February 18, 1850.*

SIR: The commanding General, having met with an accident by which his right arm was broken, and being consequently unable to write himself, has directed me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ult., and the accompanying letters from the Auditor.

I am then directed to inform you that he has, this day, ordered the emigrating party (now in) to the Manatee, preparatory to embarkation.

It consists of 12 warriors, 20 women, and 31 children, making a total of sixty-three.

A party of twenty-four, it is hoped, came in yesterday at Fort Clinch, and will follow the first party, so closely as to embark at the same time.

All the Indians who have come in, seem fully persuaded of Sam Jones' obstinate determination to remain in the country.

They represent his party as small, not probably exceeding ten or fifteen warriors.

The General is of opinion that this party, small in numbers, is badly supplied with ammunition, and will be so intimidated by the desertion of their principal chief, Bowlegs, and so large a portion of the nation as (it is hoped) will follow him, that their resolution will yield to their fears, and overcoming their veneration for or fear of Jones, they will submit.

He thinks this impression may be earlier made, if, immediately on the departure of Bowlegs, troops are sent into their country to make roads, and have the appearance of being forerunners of settlers soon to follow.

He requests that the decision of this question may be left at his discretion, to be decided as circumstances may require.

No answer has been made to the application for funds. They are now much needed, and an officer is still waiting for them at Pilatka.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed) W. W. MACKALL,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

Hon. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

TALLAHASSEE, February 24, 1850.

The Hon. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War, &c.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to forward to the War Department the enclosed returns of companies under the command of Captains Spackman and Parker * for services rendered in the late Indian disturbances.

I am, with high consideration and respect,

Your obedient servant.

(Signed)

THOMAS BROWN.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

March 1, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to report that yesterday, (February 28) I paid off and shipped for New Orleans barracks a small party of Seminoles.

Men and women	-	-	-	-	19
Women	-	-	-	-	22
Boys,	-	14	-	-	-
Girls,	-	19	-	-	33—74.

The amount paid was

Migration money,	-	-	-	-	\$15,000 00
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For stock brought in,	-	-	-	-	953 00
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\$15,953 00

Being at the rate of \$212 50-100 a head.

From the best data I think the whole amount to be paid will not much exceed \$150,000.

I venture to suggest that the Superintendent west be ordered to make arrangements for subsisting these Indians from the date of their arrival at their new homes for twelve months, if it has not already been done.

Most respectfully your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,

Special Agent of Florida Indians.

Hon. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

HEAD QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, March 1, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the steamer Fashion sailed yesterday for New Orleans with a party of seventy-four Indians.

There were nineteen men, (including the three prisoners) twenty-two women, fourteen boys and nineteen girls. In addition to these we have fourteen collected at the different posts. All but two of the delegates from the west accompanied the party.

With few exceptions the Indians on the northern part of the reserve and in the immediate neighborhood of the whites have now gone, and for some time to come my attention will be directed to the Seminoles proper, living in the vicinity of Caloosahatchee under the control of Bowlegs.

* Not considered necessary to be copied.

WAR OFFICE, May 11, 1850.

In my letter of February 18th I suggested the propriety of entering the Indian country and making roads. I beg leave again to call your attention to this suggestion. After the departure of the Bowlegs I believe the effect will be good upon the few who may remain, while at the same time the roads made and the knowledge of the country obtained, will be of advantage to the citizens of this State.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. E. TWIGGS, U. S. A.

HON. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War, &c., &c.

HEAD QUARTERS, WESTERN 'DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, *March 9, 1850.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 19th by Brevet Major-General, and one of the 22d ult., enclosing a printed copy of your correspondence with the Senators and Representatives of Florida.

In my letter of March 1st, I reported the sailing of a detachment of Indians. These Indians were accompanied by a guard, and placed under the charge of a competent officer. Every means had been taken to prevent their becoming the victims of the cupidity of the whites. A strong box had been made to carry their money and the attention of officers called to their defenceless situation.

By the next steamer, orders would have been sent to New Orleans for their shipment as deck passengers up the river. Major-General will bear these orders, and be entrusted with their execution.

No contract has or will be made. It was deemed inexpedient to suffer any considerable party to remain in Florida after they had come in for emigration. Impatience or an idle rumor might at any moment make them change their feelings and return to the woods.

I wish it were in my power to persuade the Indians to compensate the sufferers in Florida for the acts of the outlaws, but have no hopes in succeeding in such an attempt.

To propose to stop their money, would at once stop all movements westward; such is the opinion of the agent, Captain Casey; such is my own.

That the delegates of this State had made application for this stoppage was known to Bowlegs, ten days before I heard of it myself. And not a step would he take in arrangements for emigration until assured that the claim would not be admitted. Nothing has been said or done to commit the government on these claims. By the last advices from the Caloosahatchee the prospect is still fair.

The remainder of the delegation return to the west by the next boat. By the same opportunity I send a special agent to Arkansas to induce Caa-coo-chee and a few others to visit Florida and try their influence with Sam Jones, and such Seminoles as may still resist our offers.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,
D. E. TWIGGS, U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
March 10, 1850.

SIR: I beg leave to invite your attention to the following case, and to ask your instructions in relation thereto.

In 1827 (October 13) a judgment was rendered by the Circuit Court of St. John's county, St. Augustine, East Florida, in favor of the mother of *Bowlegs*, the Indian Chief, against *Ph. K. Younge*, now of *Darien, Georgia*.

From the neglect of Mr. Macon, then the U. S. District Attorney, no further steps were taken, and the Indian has not recovered her money. *Bowlegs* now insists on this claim, and the original due bill from said *Younge*, and a copy of the record of the Court, are now in my possession, received from Col. G. Humphries, late Seminole agent.

The amount is large, (\$2,200 16-100) and Mr. *Younge* is represented to be a man of wealth, and the claim is unquestionably just.

I have forwarded copies of the papers to the U. S. District Attorney, Savannah, Georgia, and have asked his assistance, but being ignorant of the law, and desiring to know the value of the claim as early as possible, in order to satisfy *Bowlegs*. I now address you, in order that proper instructions may be given to the law officer of the U. S. in this State, and in Georgia, where the debtor resides, if you deem it of any avail.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY, Capt. U. S. A.,
Special Agent Florida Seminoles.

HON. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

Head-Quarters, Western Division,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
March 11, 1850.

SIR: By instructions from the War Department, the commanding general assigns to you the duty of removing the Indians from New Orleans to the West, and gives the following instructions for your guidance: call on the Quarter-Master, at New Orleans, for transportation for the party; inform him, that it is the order of the general commanding, that no contract be made, but that passage be engaged for the Indians, as for ordinary deck passengers. The boats selected should be in good order, and sufficiently large to allow the Indians to go with comfort. Call on the commissary of the same place, for such provisions and funds as you may require, and purchase in open market, such fresh provisions as may be wanted.

Give every attention to the health and comfort of the Indians, on the passage, and as far as may be in your power, have the boat kept clean.

You are reminded that these people have a large amount of money, and the general is anxious to save them from losses by the way. If you can prevail on them to keep it in a safe, until they reach their destination, do so; if not, do all in your power to secure them from loss.

You will accompany the Indians to their place of destination in Arkansas, and if you find no provision has been made by the agency, for their rations, you will make a temporary arrangement, say for two months.

From what is known of the prices of provisions in Arkansas, it is thought the price of the Indian ration should not exceed 4 cents. Corn is 25 cents

per bushel, beef $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound. The ration consists of $1\frac{1}{2}$ pints of corn, 1 pound of beef, and 1 gallon of salt to the 100 rations.

The exhibition of this letter will be your authority for calling on any of the staff departments for such assistance as may be required to carry out these instructions.

Assistant surgeon Lamb has orders to accompany you, and will return with you to New Orleans.

On your return, report to Major Jewitt for orders.

I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

W. W. MACKALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brevet-Major R. S. GARNETT,
U. S. A.

Head-Quarters, Western Division,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
March 11, 1850.

SIR: The commanding general directs me to say, you will proceed to Arkansas, with all possible despatch, and make every effort to induce either *Wild Cat* or *Jim Jumper* to return with you, and use their influence in persuading the remaining Seminoles to a speedy emigration.

To *Jumper* or *Wild Cat*, you may offer from \$4 to \$5 per day. To three, or at most four, others, who may wish to accompay them, \$2 per day.

To two interpreters \$2.50 to \$3 per day.

You will add, as a further inducement to the delegation, an offer of \$100 for every warrior they may bring in. This sum will be deducted from that paid to the warrior who emigrates under this disadvantage.

If necessary, pay Mr. Watson, Creek, or any good Creek interpreter, educated, four or five dollars, per day, to secure his services.

I have the honor, to be, sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. W. MACKALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brevet-Major W. T. H. BROOKS,
U. S. Army, A. D. C.

Head-Quarters, Western Division,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
March 18, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of February 26th and March 4th.

By the steamer *Fashion*, which sailed hence on the 11th inst, I sent a party of eleven Indians—four men, three women, and four children.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.
Washington, D. C.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, FLORIDA,
TALLAHASSEE, *March 26, 1850.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, respecting copies of the muster-rolls of two companies of Florida militia, commanded by Captains Sparkman and Parker, forwarded to the War Department with my letter of the 24th February.

In replying to your inquiries, in regard to them, I have to say, that it does not appear that these companies were ever called into service by my predecessor; nor were they included in my order of the 1st of October, 1849, directing the discharge of the volunteers ordered into service by him. I was not at that time aware that such companies were in service. The facts of the existence of these companies, and of several other companies of militia on the Indian frontier, whose returns have not yet reached this department, came subsequently to my knowledge.

The better to make understandingly, the explanation which you require, I beg to refer you to my letter to the President, dated 29th November last, on the subject of the payment of the volunteers called into service by Governor Moseley, in which I say:—"But to ask also that adequate provision may be made for all losses sustained by our citizens from Indian disturbances in Florida, and compensation and support for the inhabitants on the frontier, who have been driven from their homes by the recent Indian outbreak, and forced to seek shelter and protection in forts and stockades, which they have been compelled to build and defend; *and that all those who performed such duties may be considered in the service, and allowed pay in accordance with the militia law of this State which provides, that*

"If a sudden invasion or insurrection shall take place, or be made or threatened, on any frontier of the State, the commanding officer of the militia, *or any portion thereof adjacent thereto*, shall be, and he is hereby authorized and enjoined to order out the militia, under his command, to repel or suppress the same; and troops thus ordered into service, shall be subject to, and governed by the rules and articles of war of the government of the United States, and shall be entitled to all the pay and emoluments of the same, while so in service."

Under the foregoing provision of our militia law, the militia on the frontier and *adjacent* to the scene of the outbreak, were ordered into service by their commanding officers; and they claim this *provision of the law, and the necessity of the case, for their authority.*

These people were at a distance, from the capital of the State, of some five hundred miles, in a remote wilderness region, and cut off from any distant communication with the State authorities, strung in sparse settlements across the Peninsula of Florida, from the Atlantic to the Gulf of Mexico; and did not know, in many instances, for a considerable length of time, that any troops had been sent to their relief, either by the State authorities or the general government.

These people were invited by the general government to settle in a wilderness, by savage neighbors, under the provisions of a special act of Congress, with the assurance of ample protection and defence against Indian outrages, by the establishment of strong military posts along the whole Indian border, to be garrisoned by at least two regiments of United States troops. But this protection was never given. They were left without any means of defence. The military posts were not established. No troops were left in the country to protect the settlements; and when danger threatened

them they were driven into forts and stockades, hastily erected, which they were compelled to defend, in the best way they could, for the protection of their wives and children.

These facts, show that these companies have strong claims on the government, founded in justice and equity, for pay and compensation; and I trust, that the President, satisfied of their merits, will recommend them to Congress, that proper provision may be made for their payment; and I respectfully request, that copies of my letter to the President, of the 29th of November, and of this letter to you, may accompany the message which the President may make to Congress in relation to this subject.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

THO. BROWN.

The Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
March 27, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose a report of Captain John C. Casey, Indian agent, from which you will learn that the chief in whom we placed the greatest trust, has broken off all intercourse and removed with his followers, their families and property from the town they occupied in the vicinity of the troops to the swamps in the interior.

That hostile acts on the part of the Indians will follow this step, I am not prepared to believe. I have not the same reliance on the faith of any of the chiefs as the agent discovers in his report. I look upon the flight of the Indians as an indefinite postponement of peaceable emigration, if not destruction of all hopes of attaining this desirable result.

My efforts are now directed to reopening communication with them, trying to discover the causes of this sudden movement, and then if possible to remove them.

On the 4th of this month, Captain Britton, 7th infantry, to whom I had assigned certain duties, connected with the emigration of Indians, left the vicinity of Fort Arbuckle, crossed the Indian boundary with a detachment of mounted men, and proceeded as far as Fish-eating creek, where he was overtaken by my orders to return.

This movement (made without my authority and opposed to the understanding between the Indians and myself) by which troops were carried unexpectedly into the vicinity of Bowlegs' people, may have created a panic, and led to this hasty movement on the part of the Indians.

Should this prove to be the case there will be no difficulty in making a satisfactory explanation to the Indians and placing things on their old footing.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.
Washington, D. C.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
March 26, 1850.

GENERAL: On reaching Fort Myers, on the 18th, I learned that no communication had been had with the Seminoles, since Feb. 26, when the delegate Halpatoochee visited the vicinity of Bowlegs' town.

The next day, (the 19th inst.) Halpatoochee and Jim Bowlegs (Sem. Negro) were sent out to seek an interview, and on the 24th, they returned with intelligence that about three weeks previously, all the people of Bowlegs town had moved off towards the "Big Cypress" and apparently in haste. Some four men had subsequently, about the 18th or 19th, returned to the town and driven a number of hogs towards the same place. The runners followed both trails for some distance, but meeting with no one returned to report.

The good faith of Bowlegs and several of his principal sub-chiefs can hardly be doubted, and it is probable that they were forced away by the hostile party, which some late and important events have strengthened. The chief will soon communicate and explain this mishap; but under the

least favorable supposition the Seminoles will remain peaceable, so long as we leave them alone.

There is now a strong party in favor of emigration, and although unexpected delays may occur as now; yet I still believe that whenever we have their confidence they will all go except a small number.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,
Special Agent.

Maj.-Gen. TWIGGS,
Commanding, U. S. A.
Head-Quarters, Tampa Bay, Florida.

HEAD QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
April 3, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that no change has taken place in our relations with the Indians since my letter of the 27th ultimo.

On the 1st instant, I sent Captain Casey south, to try to open communication with them. He had an Indian and a negro (a part of the late delegation) who promised to enter the nation from Caloosahatchee, and carry a message to king Bowlegs; during the absence of these men, Captain Casey will go still farther down the coast for the purpose of seeing the chief of a band of Spanish Indians.

The result of these efforts may not be known here for a week to come.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed)

D. E. TWIGGS,
U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

(Copy)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
April 6, 1850.

SIR: I ascertain on enquiry, that it will not be necessary to replace the \$100,000 sent to Florida for the removal of the Indians. I cannot this evening ascertain whether the \$10,000 must be replaced or not—that, however, is a matter of small importance. I think the \$200,000 in the appropriation bill, will do.

Very respectfully yours,

T. EWING

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLA., *April 8, 1850.*

SIR: I have received your letter of the 20th ult., in which you say that "two company rolls of Florida militia have been forwarded to this department, by the Executive of Florida, which appear never to have been recog-

nized by the authorities of the State. I mean the companies commanded by captains Sparkman and Parker."

You further say, "It may be proper for the department to be informed fully on these matters, and others."

In obedience to your implied request, I will now give you all the information in my possession in reference to this matter. I will state, however, that I think the act of Congress for the armed occupation of Florida, implied, on the part of those who availed themselves of its advantages, an obligation to protect themselves, if necessary, without incurring the United States in any additional expense.

The troops which were called into service by the Governor of Florida, performed their duty. They are entitled to pay. As regards the two companies of Parker and Sparkman, it appears from an official letter in my possession, from Governor Brown, dated October 7, 1849, that their services were tendered to Governor Moseley, on or about the 23rd of July last, but that they were not received into service. The following extract from the Governor's letter, will show you his understanding of the matter. It reads—"But from some cause their (meaning Parker and Sparkman,) commissions were not granted, nor were they called into service."

From this it will appear that the parties or companies, headed by John Parker and J. L. Sparkman, were never in service, and that these leaders were not commissioned as required by law. I did not hear of their companies scouting, nor do I think it could have been necessary, because I could not learn that any Indian crossed the neutral ground after the outrages occurred which led to the present troubles.

The Governor of the State it appears was of the same opinion, as he did not deem it necessary to accept the services of the two companies of Parker and Sparkman. And in connection with this, it seems to me that every *Floridian* who left his home, and met his neighbor in forts or places for self-defence, could with equal propriety call upon the Government of the United States, for remuneration for loss of time; several congregations of the kind referred to, have happened to my knowledge, but whether the people were brought together from necessity, from fear, or with a hope that they might be mustered into service I do not know. At any rate not one of these parties has reported to me any one killed, wounded or missing, by hostile contact with the Indians.

As regards the emigration of the Indians, I can state nothing which you have not already learned from my letter of the 3d instant. Captain Casey is now at the Caloosahatchie, with a view of gaining information at that place and further south. On his return, I will report to you whether he has succeeded in communicating with Bowlegs.

I am glad to learn from you, that so far the plans I have adopted to effect the peaceable removal of the Indians, have met the approbation of the President.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

D. E. TWIGGS, U. S. A.

Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

Washington city, D. C.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION, U. S. A.

TAMPA BAY, E. F., April 14, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose to you a copy of a letter from Capt. Casey, of April 9. From it you will learn what has transpired in Indian affairs since I last wrote.

The case of the two Indians referred to, who are said to have been "shipped" against their consent, was never made known to me before; and Captain Casey who paid them off on the Manatee river, just before they started, knew nothing of it. So far as I have been informed, no Indian was sent off, whose name had not been given by himself for enrolment on the transportation list. At the time these people came in and were shipped, I was confined to my room, and of course can know nothing personally of this matter. I am not now prepared to believe *Bowleg's* statement in the matter, because if true, I think the two Indians referred to would have said something to Captain Casey before they started.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,

Brevet-Major-General, U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington city, D. C.

CALOOSA HATCHEE, FLORIDA.

April 9, 1850.

GENERAL: Jim Bowlegs and the Halpatooche, left on the 3d, with instructions to invite *William Bowlegs, Fuss Hajo, Asseruvah Tukosa*, and if possible, *Sam Jones* to meet me near Fort Myers, or at any point accessible to me.

They returned on the 7th, (1 P. M.) having only seen *Bowlegs* and *Tukosa*.

Bowlegs sent a talk, the substance of which is, that he cannot leave this country, nor induce his people to go. He desires peace, and his people will not break it. They will be contented with a smaller reservation of land, and will promptly deliver up to us all murderers as heretofore.

He left his town because we shipped with *Hapoklitsoosee* two young men who were sent into trade, not to emigrate, and they were afraid to trust us any more.

The trespass of Captain Britton's command had not alarmed him, for he had not heard of it. He supposed *Okehan Tustumkker* had gone to Arkansas. He does not defend or know of the Indians beyond the limits. They must take the consequences.

He sent summons to *Fuss Hajo, Asseruvah, Sam Jones, &c.*, calling a council to meet our runners, again at his old town (*Cholalopulka*) on the 10th, and *Jim* and *Halpatoochee* left this morning to attend.

On the 11th, I expect a runner from the Council, and on the 12th or 13th, I hope they will meet me here or near here, and on the 15th or 16th, I hope to see you at Tampa Bay.

The two young men that came to trade only, were *Holahteelmathloochee* (a Tall) and *Is-haiah-taikee* (a Mikk) and both seemed anxious to escape

before the emigrating party reached Fort Hamer, but as they made no complaint to me I presume they changed their minds after coming into *Chokkenikla*.

On April 7th, I visited the mouth of "*Sicala*" *Hatchee* and made signals but saw none of Ismahtee's people.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

JOHN C. CASEY, *Capt. &c.*

Major-General TWIGGS,
Head-Quarters, Western Division,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION,
TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
April 15, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to report the arrival of Captain Casey this morning from the Caloosahatchee and to enclose herewith his report. From it you will perceive that all hopes for the peaceful emigration of the Indians are at an end, and it is folly to talk with them any longer on the subject.

I also enclose to you a portion of the map of Florida, that portion of territory embraced within the red dotted lines is what the Indians say they will be satisfied with.

If it be the intention of the department to keep any force in this country, I would recommend *two* companies to be stationed at Charlotte's harbor, *one* at Fort Hamer, *one* at Chokkonikla, *one* at Fort Meade, and probably *one or two* at Indian river. From the horses here in service, a good lot could be selected for Major Roland's battery to go by land to Augusta arsenal with such teams as he might require.

All the public property not wanted, including wagons and teams, I would recommend to be sent to Savannah and Charleston for sale. If they are disposed of in this country it must necessarily be at a great sacrifice and loss to the government.

I would recommend this depot at Fort Brooke to be broken up, being entirely useless from its great distance from the Indians, and that the public property be sent to Fort Hamer on the Manatie.

I will be glad to receive instructions from the department in reference to trading with the Indians, whether there shall be any, and if so, to what extent.

In conclusion, should the government determine to remove the Indians by force, I can inform the department that I am ready to commence.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,
U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
April 15, 1850.

GENERAL: I reached Fort Myers (on the Caloosa river) on the 2d, and the next day sent out the two runners to communicate with the Indians and invite the chiefs to meet me at Fort M. or at any point accessible to me.

The runners returned on the 7th with a talk from the head chief, saying that neither he nor his people would emigrate; that having said so, he dare not trust himself in our power; but that he would return to his town, and meet the runners again on the 10th, to make arrangements with me through them and some sub-chiefs for preserving peace, if possible. At the same time he sent to me a string of white wampum with a short piece of red wampum attached, as a warning to me, or to caution me not to go out into the nation.

On the 10th, the runners again urged him to come and see me, and to declare himself the final determination of his people, and Jim Bowlegs (negro) offered to remain as a hostage for his safety. When he consented to come in to Fort Myers, some of his men objected and the women of his family wept, saying they should never see him again.

On the evening of the 11th, Bowlegs came in to Fort Myers with the runners, and the next morning four of his men came in.

He was again assured of his safety, and asked to explain the late conduct of his people, and to say what determination they had made. After a long talk he concluded by saying that he would venture to speak out, and that he could not go west, nor could he induce his people to go. He desired peace and could not make war, but he could not leave his country. If we did not molest them they never would make any trouble, or he would promptly bring in and surrender any offenders.

When asked why he had spoken differently at Chokkonikla on Jan. 21st and at Caloosa on Feb. 8th and 10th, he said that he feared he and his warriors would have been seized. He then went into a long history of former "grabs."

I told them that the boundary must be reduced, and that I had no authority to make any final arrangements for a peace, but would listen to any reasonable proposition and refer it to the proper authority.

The head chief then suggested a line from the mouth of Pea river to the south end of Istohpoga lake in lieu of the former northern boundary with the other lines as before. Of course no arrangements were made for any permanent trade.

They promised to communicate freely with the assistant agent (Lieut. Walbridge) at Fort Myers. They also promised to send off parties to find and take back to the nation those who have crossed the boundary.

In conclusion, I regret to say that I now see no hope of inducing these people to go west in a body by any pecuniary temptation.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

JOHN C. CASEY,
Capt. and Special Agent, Seminoles.

Maj.-Gen. D. E. TWIGGS,
Commanding Head-Quarters Western Division,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

HEAD-QUARTERS, WESTERN DIVISION, U. S. A.

TAMPA BAY, E. FLORIDA,

April 20, 1850.

SIR: Since I last wrote to you I gave orders to Captain Britton to seize and bring in any Indians whom he might find north of the line of posts extending across the country, as they would then be beyond the limits assigned to them.

I will leave this place on the 5th of next month, and will, I think, have an interview with Billy Bowlegs and one or two of his sub-chiefs. I intend to take Billy and these sub-chiefs to Fort Casey and there keep them until I can ascertain whether his people will follow him. But whether his people come in or not, it is my intention to ship Billy and any other sub-chief who made me a promise to emigrate, to Arkansas.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed)

D. E. TWIGGS,

Brevet-Maj.-General U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington City, D. C.

Head-Quarters, Western Division,

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA, May 1, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th of April.

I do not think there is the remotest probability of hostilities being commenced by the Indians.

I have heard that some of the principal chiefs of the Seminoles (Jumper and others) are on their way from Arkansas to this place. In consequence of this information, I shall not carry out my former intention in regard to Bowlegs, but will make one more effort to emigrate these people peaceably. Enclosed you will find a copy of Major Garnett's report, and a copy of a contract which he entered into with Mr. Johnson, for furnishing rations to the Indians for two months.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,

U. S. A.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

OFFICE OF COM. GEN. SUB.

WASHINGTON, May 13, 1850.

SIR: In reference to the subsistence of the Seminoles, now emigrating to the West, I have the honor to report that Lieut. F. T. Dent, 5th Infantry, was, at my request, on the 26th March, detailed for duty, and on the 27th March, instructions were forwarded him from this office (copy enclosed herewith.)

The emigrating party, under Major Garnett, arrived at Fort Smith, on the 31st March, thus anticipating the instructions to Lieut. Dent.

Funds have been placed in the hands of Lieut. Dent, and he will be instructed to make the payments for deliveries under the contract of Major Garnett.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. GIBSON,

C. G. S.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.
DOC. 49—7

OFFICE OF COM. GEN. OF SUBSISTENCE,

WASHINGTON, *March 27, 1850.*

CAPTAIN: The Treasurer of the United States has been this day requested to remit to you, three thousand dollars on account of army subsistence.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

GEO. GIBSON,
C. G. S.

Brevet-Captain F. T. DENT,
5th Infantry, A. A. C. G.,
Fort Gibson, Ark.

OFFICE OF COM. GEN. OF SUBSISTENCE,

WASHINGTON, *March 27, 1850.*

SIR: By directions of the Secretary of War, you have been selected to attend to the issue of subsistence to the Indians, now in process of removal from Florida to the West, after their arrival at the location assigned them by the Indian Agent.

Issues will be made to those Indians, by this Department, for one year from their arrival at their location, and their number may vary from ninety to over six hundred.

After ascertaining from the Indian Agent the place of their location, you will select some central position, suitable for your dépôt, and make contracts for the delivery, to you, of all the subsistence you may require to enable you to make your issues. As the number of rations cannot be definitely fixed, your contracts will not fix the quantities.

On the arrival of the Indians, you will at once make "rolls," embracing all, and stating the number, age, and sex. These rolls will serve as vouchers, and on them you will make your issues.

The ration will consist of one pound of fresh beef, or fresh pork, and three-fourths of a pound of corn, or corn meal, with four quarts of salt to the hundred rations.

In all your accounts, you will be governed by the forms of the subsistence regulations, a copy of which will be furnished you. As far as possible, the issues will be made by yourself and your assistants, and every precaution will be taken to insure to the Indian his full allowance.

You will employ such assistance as you may require, and all expenses requisite for the successful carrying out of these instructions, will be paid by you from the funds furnished you by this Department.

It is confidently expected that you will act in harmony with the Indian Agent.

Consult freely with General Belknap, and correspond frequently and fully with this Office.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

GEO. GIBSON,
C. G. S.

Brevet-Captain F. T. DENT,
5th Infantry,
Fort Gibson, Ark.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

May 13th, 1850.

SIR: In obedience to the resolution of the Senate of the 30th ultimo, a copy of which was transmitted to this office, on the 7th instant, with a view to its furnishing that body with copies of all correspondence or other documents, together with such other information as is therein set forth, relating to the late Indian hostilities in Florida, I have the honor, herewith, to submit copies of all such papers as have been filed in this office during the past year, having any connection whatever with the subject matter of inquiry, numbering from 1 to 56, both inclusive. The information they embody is deemed a sufficient response to so much of the first clause of the resolution as can be answered from this office.

With regard to the inquiry of "what steps have been taken for the removal of said Indians to their appropriate location, west of the Mississippi river; whether any, and what, negotiations have been had with them, and with what result," I would respectfully refer, so far as this office is concerned, its correspondence with, and instructions to, M. Duval, sub-agent for the Seminoles west, and S. Spencer, who was, for a short time, sub-agent for the Indians remaining in Florida, but whose commission was revoked upon the commencement of hostilities by the Indians, and the charge of said Indians, thereupon, again reverted to the military. The letters and reports of Mr. Duval will mark the progressive steps of all negotiations having any connection with the Indian Office, and those of Captain Casey, the final termination or result, which result was, that after sending off one party of their people, the remainder positively refused to emigrate.

In answer to the inquiry of "under what treaty the Indians now remain in Florida?" I would state that it is under no treaty stipulation whatever, but upon sufferance, under an amicable arrangement with (then) Colonel Worth, U. S. A., which arrangement was subsequently sanctioned by the government; a copy of the same is herewith submitted, beng No. 1 of the accompanying documents.

The foregoing paragraph is, substantially, also a reply to the last interrogatory contained in the resolution, "whether the treaty of Payne's landing has ever been executed?" That treaty was concluded in May, 1832, and ratified in April, 1834. By it, the Indians were required to remove within three years after its ratification. The commissioner who framed the treaty seems to have anticipated its consummation in 1835; but nearly two years delay in its ratification would extend the time for their removal to 1837. Inasmuch, as a portion of them remained in Florida, after that time, and still remain there, the treaty aforementioned, has certainly never been fully executed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

HON THOS. EWING,
Sec. of the Interior.

(Order No. 27)
Head-Quarters, Military Department,
 No. 9. CEDAR KEYS, August 11, 1842.

By arrangement with the few Indians remaining in the southern portion of Florida, between whom and the whites hostilities no longer exist, they are permitted, for a while, to plant and hunt on the lands included within the following boundaries, to wit: from the mouth of Talakchop Ro, or Pease creek, up the left bank of that stream to the fork of the southern branch, and following that branch to the head, or northern edge of "Lake Istakp-ga"; thence down the eastern margin of that lake to the stream which empties from it, into the "Kissimmee" river, following the left bank of said stream and river to where the latter empties into "Lake Okechobee"; thence due south through said lake, and the Everglades to Shark river, following the right bank of that river to the Gulf; thence along the Gulf-shore to the place of beginning, excluding all islands lying between "Punta Rassa" and the head of Charlotte harbor. Within the boundaries thus described, no settlement can with safety or propriety be formed; and any persons making settlement within those limits will be subjected to removal, in conformity with the laws in reference to the Indians, and their places of residence. The foregoing temporary arrangement being in conformity with the instructions of the President of the United States, is communicated for the information of all whom it may concern,

By order of Col. WORTH.

A true copy.

(Signed)

S. COOPER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

J. T. SPRAGUE,
Capt. A. D. C. & A. A. A. G.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
 OFFICE, INDIAN AFFAIRS, April 6, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with your request, I have the honor to make the following report in relation to the Seminole Indians in Florida.

By the treaty of Payne's landing, May 9, 1832, the Seminoles relinquished all their claims to land in Florida, and agreed to remove west of the Mississippi river; but when measures for that purpose came to be adopted by the Government, they resisted and broke out into open hostilities. From that time to this, all matters pertaining to them, have been in charge of, and managed by the military branch of the service, by which the removal of a considerable number of them has been effected, though there has been no emigration since 1842, when the removal of the remainder at that time, being deemed impracticable, or very uncertain, and only to be accomplished at a heavy expense, it was deemed advisable, in order to lessen the heavy expenditures connected with the military operations in Florida, and to relieve the frontier inhabitants from the constant liability of murderous and plundering attacks from the Indians, to enter into an arrangement with them by which they were permitted to remain for the time being, within a defined district of country—to which they were to confine themselves, and to refrain from molesting our citizens. The country assigned to them you will find designated on the accompanying section of a map, by the red line. The strip between that line and that in blue, is neutral ground,

on which neither whites nor Indians were to settle ; and in order that it might so remain, the public surveys, I understand, were not to extend within the blue line.

The arrangement above referred to, was made by General Worth in August, 1842, and approved by the War Department ; and the charge of the Indians, and the necessary supervision of affairs to ensure the due observance of the arrangement, has, as stated, ever since been in the hands of the military ; the Indian agency for Florida having been abolished by the organization act of June 30th, 1834. The actual duties growing out of this state of affairs, have been confided to, and executed by, a particular officer designated for the purpose ; who has made all the disbursements incident thereto, and who has been allowed by special decision of the Secretary of War, for expenses incurred therein.

These payments have been made partly out of an appropriation of 1837, for the removal of the Seminole Indians, the balance of which has been carried to the surplus fund, and partly out of a balance on hand of a special appropriation of \$100,000 made February 18th, 1841,—“to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War for the removal, subsistence and benefit of such of the Seminole Indian chiefs and warriors as may surrender for emigration.” The greater part of this appropriation was expended for purposes connected with the removal of Indians that emigrated ; and the subsequent disbursements out of it, and the other fund mentioned, have I presume been authorized on the ground that one of the main objects of the supervision executed by the military was, if possible, to bring about a state of things which would ultimately lead to the removal of the remaining Indians. It is not supposed to be applicable to such expenses as are usual in this department in maintaining agents, &c., in the management of our Indian relations. The question arises too, whether it could be disbursed by this department, as the act specially provides that it is “to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War.” The balance unexpended is, \$8,875.78, of which \$5000 has been designated to go to the surplus fund on the 30th June next, but which may be reclaimed if considered necessary.

If it be thought advisable to connect the charge of the Indians in question to this department, it is presumed it can be done by the appointment of a sub-agent for them, under the general authority of the 5th section of the organization act of June 30th 1834, whose compensation and expenses could be paid as those of other sub-agents are paid.

As the part of a map herewith, belongs with other important papers to the files of this office, its return is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. MEDILL.

Hon. T. EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, *April 20th 1849.*

SIR : I have the honor to transmit herewith an appointment for you, as sub-agent for the Seminole Indians remaining in Florida. It has been retained for a few days with the view of sending with it your instructions, which in consequence of the peculiar position of those In-

dians, must be of a special character. But those Indians not having for many years been in charge of this office, I have not yet been able to obtain all the correspondence and documents necessary to a full understanding of their present situation and condition, and to determine the course of policy which should be pursued towards them, so as to prepare your instructions in a proper manner. I have, therefore, concluded to send your appointment without them. They will be transmitted at the earliest period at which they can be made out, and copies of the necessary documents prepared for your information.

I transmit also the form of a bond to be executed by you, in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, with two or more sureties, whose sufficiency must be certified by an United States' Judge or District Attorney.

Your compensation will commence on your entering upon your duties after the execution and transmission of your bond.

Enclosed is a copy of the order of the Adjutant-General of the Army, relieving the military at Tampa Bay of the charge of the Indians; and instructing that the property and funds connected therewith, be turned over to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

SAMUEL C. SPENCER, Esq.,
Jacksonville, Florida.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, *May 8th, 1849.*

SIR: Having procured the necessary documents, referred to in my letter of the 20th ult., I proceed to embody such general instructions as seem at this time, to be proper for your information and guidance in the performance of your duties as sub-agent for the Indians in Florida.

The enclosed section of the map of Florida, will show you the district of country assigned to the Indians in question, by the arrangement made by General Worth in August, 1842, in conformity with orders from the War Department; and the accompanying documents—manuscript and printed, will apprise you of the nature of that arrangement, of the circumstances under which it was made, and of the number of the Indians, and their general character, disposition and relations towards our citizens and the government. The reports of Captain Sprague of the army, who for some time had charge of the relations with the Indians in question, contain much information which you will, doubtless, find valuable, in relation to the particular Indians who are most prominent in position and influence among their people, and to the course probably the most proper to be pursued towards them, so as to acquire and exercise an influence over, and to keep them quiet, and to prevent difficulties between them and the whites.

The section of the country assigned to the Indians, which is indicated on the map by the red line, is very large and affords ample resources of every description for their necessities and wants, so that there can be little if any pretext for their going beyond the boundary, and you should endeavor to impress upon them the necessity of keeping within it, for their own safety and welfare, and to prevent difficulties between them and our citizens which might lead to hostilities. In like manner you should counsel our own citizens to abstain from intruding upon, or in any way interfer-

ing with the Indians, and do all in your power to prevent their doing so. The greater care and precaution is required, because the laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes are not in force in Florida, so that your success in preventing collisions and preserving peace between the Indians and the citizens, will depend in no slight degree on your vigilance, activity, and prudence, on which the department places great reliance. In cases of doubt or difficulty of any kind, you will please to report the circumstances promptly to the department for its information, and such special instructions will be given you thereto, as seem to be proper and necessary. And in order that the department may be kept fully advised of the state of affairs connected with your sub-agency, and all that transpires of any importance, you will please make monthly reports.

The Indians in Florida are there contrary to their obligations under the treaty of Payne's landing, of May 9, 1832. Those of their brethren who have removed west are now comfortably settled and are beginning to thrive and prosper, and it would be far better for those who have not emigrated to be with them, where they could participate in the annuities and other benefits received from the government. Their removal would also relieve the department of a charge onerous and perplexing, and one that is attended with no little anxiety lest something should occur which might occasion an outbreak on the part of the Indians, who are very suspicious and easily excited, and who, though few in number, could renew to a considerable extent the scenes of bloodshed and the mischief and expense of the late quasi war with them. It is therefore desirable that you turn your attention to the subject of their emigration, and the means and influences by which it can be effected within some reasonable period. The accomplishment of this object as soon as it can be done safely and properly, is due not only to the people of Florida, but would be a great service rendered both to them and to the government; and as soon as you can have an opportunity of investigating the matter, and acquiring information upon the subject, the department will be pleased to have your views in relation to it. The Indians are said to be very suspicious of every thing which looks like making arrangements for their removal, and you cannot therefore be too cautious in all you do in relation to the matter. The reports of Captain Spriague will furnish you some hints on this point, which you will doubtless find useful, and it is supposed that you will be able to obtain other valuable information from the military officers at Tampa Bay, who have had the charge of the Indians. To them as well as to the department you should communicate promptly every thing that may presage difficulty or danger, in order to secure their cooperation according to the instructions of the adjutant-general, a copy of which was enclosed to you in my letter of the 20th ultimo.

From want of proper information upon the subject, the department is unable to designate any particular point at which it would be best to establish yourself, in order to maintain a constant supervision over them and their movements, and to exercise a controlling influence with them. This must be left to the exercise of a sound discretion on your part, after having made yourself acquainted with the section of the territory where they reside, or keep themselves, and the point or points where they are most likely to be interrupted or interfered with by white persons. The strip of territory, twenty miles wide, designated on the map between the red and blue lines, you will perceive from the documents, has been specially re-

served from survey, as a sort of neutral ground in order to keep the Indians and whites separated, and thus to avoid all cause or occasion for collisions. From the nature of the country, and its not having been surveyed, it is not supposed that there can be any good pretext for white persons going upon it; and none but those of an improper character and for improper purposes, would attempt to do so, and this you will endeavor by every correct means to prevent.

You will be allowed an interpreter for such occasions as your intercourse with the Indians may render necessary, or permanently if you find it best to employ one; but the allowance under this head cannot exceed \$300 per annum, it being limited to that amount by law. Beyond your actual and necessary travelling expenses in the performance of your public duties, no allowance can be made to you personally other than your salary; and your accounts for those expences must be supported by regular receipts, when they can be obtained, showing the amounts paid, to whom, and for what, or, when they cannot be procured, by a memorandum showing the same, and to be certified by you on honor as correct. Should you anticipate any occasions when unusual expenditures will in your judgment be necessary, or would be judicious, and attended with good effects in keeping the Indians quiet, or inspiring a disposition to emigrate, you will please communicate promptly with the department on the subject, in order to obtain its views and directions. I need not say to you that it is the duty of the department cooperated with by you to limit the expenses connected with your sub-agency to as small an amount as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

SAMUEL SPENCER, Esq.,
Sub-Indian Agent,
Jacksonville, Florida.

HEAD-QUARTERS, 7TH MILITARY DEPARTMENT,
FORT SMITH, June 12, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose herewith a communication from the Seminole chiefs addressed to the commanding general of the division, and a copy of one from the Seminole sub-agent upon the subject of the removal of the Indians from Florida, which embraces all the information I have to communicate in relation to this matter.

I would avail myself of this occasion to remark that I have noticed the commanding general's order requiring reports from commanding officers of posts, in case of any Indian disturbances, &c., and would state that, during my long service on this frontier I have known many reports to be made by Indian agents and others of depredations having been committed by bands of hostile Indians, of expected outbreaks and attacks, &c., &c., which have turned out to be utterly groundless, and which, in some cases, have been the result of interested motives. Possibly some such may reach the general. But so long as I remain in command of this department, I trust I shall be duly informed of all of any importance that may transpire within its limits, of which I shall not fail promptly to report to division headquarters.

I have thought it proper to say this much in order that the numerous unfounded rumors which are too frequently set afloat by designing persons

from interested motives, may not command more attention than they justly merit.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed) M. ARBUCKLE,
Brigadier-General U. S. A.

Major W. W. MACKALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General,
Western Division, New Orleans, La.

(Copy.)

SEMINOLE SUB-AGENCY,
May 23, 1849.

SIR: I herewith enclose you a letter from the chief of Seminoles to General E. P. Gaines, U. S. A., in answer to yours of the 13th ultimo.

The subject was laid before them in council about 12th instant, and their views desired.

I had on a former occasion, in their behalf, offered to send a delegation, but the department did not appear disposed to act, and the Indians "did not know what had caused" the present proposition, and therefore have delayed until now their answer.

They in the meantime had said to me they would send, as many desired to go—they would appoint any number from 5 to 20 or more—but preferred not sending less than ten, with two or three interpreters.

Whether they would give a very favorable account of this country is very problematical: if they speak of it to them as they do to me, the country would be no inducement for the others to remove; yet their desire to have the others with them would go far in inducing a favorable report.

If the delegates are accompanied by a person who has influence with them, much might be done that could not be by the advice of strangers, and if an officer of the U. S. A. is to be detailed for such service, and I might be allowed by the government to make a suggestion, I would, if not disagreeable to him, desire *Capt. John C. Casey* should be that officer, as one acquainted with the Indians and of all the officers, as far as my information goes, the most popular with the Indians. That gentleman now being there, possibly might be the more willing to be thus engaged.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed) M. DUVAL,
Sem. Sub-Agent.

P. S. As this subject has before been laid before the government by myself, and there appears now a prospect of having my proposition acted upon, you will please inform the general that I will communicate also with the department on the subject.

Very respectfully, &c.

M. DUVAL.

Lieut F. F. FLINT,
A. A. Adj.-General,
7th Mil. Dept., Fort Smith, Ark.

(A true Copy. F. F. FLINT, A. A. Adj.-Gen.)

(Copy.)

SEMINOLE SUB-AGENCY, *May 23d, 1849.*

Major-General GAINES:

OUR FRIEND: This day we assembled together near the Canadian and Little river, and we are now going to answer the word you have sent us.

You sent word to us and we have received it, and we are mighty glad and therefore we want to answer you.

"We are of the Seminole tribe of Indians, and are very poor, and are living, just so as to get along; as much as to say, almost dead, yet we want to see our brothers very much, as we love one another. We are all of one family. Some of us have brothers yet in Florida, and other relations who are scattered, some here and some in Florida, and we want to see them very much; and therefore, when we received your word we were very much pleased. We were not angry with our brothers or vexed with them when we parted, nor they with us, as we did not separate of our own accord. The whites separated us and we wish now to unite again very much.

We are here on this territory and it is all we can say; we cannot tell you much, but answer just according to the word we have received from you.

We have now a new governor Miceomut-char-sar (Jim Jumper) who is present, and there are also present Passucku Yohola, Alligator, and myself the speaker, Cowoc-coo-chee, or Wild Cat, and the word we send to you, is just the same as if all were here and sent word.

We have known you a long time, as you must now be getting to be a very old man; and when last I (the speaker) saw you we had a talk, and that was at Pittsburgh, the time I went to Washington, since which time we have heard of you often, first one way then another, and we expect the word we have now got from you is a good one.

We are willing to send on a delegation to Florida, we will not say how many should go, think there ought to be a little more than ten, with the interpreters, but we wish to know how many you want. We will not now say who should go, or that we could spare the agent and his interpreter, (old Abraham) and several other of the business men, as we have affairs to attend to here, but we would send you good active men, we would pick out such as would be of service.

Among others who do as an interpreter is Jim Factor, and may be he will want to go.

We will not say that we would send before September for fear of sickness, but that would be the right time, as our people will then be going out hunting and they ought to know about it, before that.

There ought also to be more than one interpreter, as one might be sick or an accident happen and then there would be some one left to talk.

We now say good-by, and take you by the hand. We are your friends and brothers.

MICCOMUT-CHAR-SAR,

Governor. ✕

COWOCCOO-CHEE,

Speaker for Seminoles. ✕

PASSUCKU YOHOLA,

Alligator. ✕

Witness, M. DUVAL, *Seminole Sub-Agent.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,

July 25th, 1849.

SIR: There has been received at this Office, through that of the Adjutant-General, copies of letters of yourself, and certain Seminole chiefs, the latter to the late Major-General Gaines, on the subject of sending a deputation from the Seminoles west, to those in Florida, in order to exercise an influence with the latter to induce them to join their brethren west of the Mississippi.

The charge of the Indians in Florida, has recently been turned over from the military to this Department, and the subject of this removal, and of the best way to effect it, is now under consideration. Copies of the above letters have been sent to the Sub-Agent, not long since appointed for them, and he has been required to acquaint himself well with the question, and all the facts and circumstances having a bearing upon it, and to make a full report to the Department in relation to it, to enable it to come to some definite determination, and to adopt the best possible measures to effect the object.

The sending of a proper delegation from the Indians west, would no doubt be attended with good results; and the Department is disposed to consider the measure favorably, when definitive arrangements come to be adopted. In the mean time I will thank you to inform this office, how many of the western Seminoles it would be advisable to select, who they should be, whether they can go by themselves, or some person as a conductor should accompany them, when it would be best for them to go, and what would be the probable expense; and any other information in your power, to enable this office to understand the whole matter in all its bearings, and to draw up suitable instructions for carrying out the enterprise.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

M. DUVAL, Esq.,
Sub-Agent for Seminoles,
Fort Gibson, Western Territory.

(Copy.)

To the Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary, &c.

DEAR SIR: The commission which I had the pleasure to receive from your Department reached this place during my attendance of the courts for this circuit.

Since my return I have been much engaged in my profession and domestic matters. I shall leave for the Peninsula next Monday. The Indians have recently committed some small depredations in the vicinity of their boundaries, as reported to me by Mr. Weeks, recently returned from S. Florida. The people generally are anxious to have the Indians removed, and on that subject I shall make diligent and I hope proper enquiry while on my expected tour, and I shall then communicate very fully with the Department.

I wish to trouble the Department with some enquiries for my information. Does the commission give me control of the trading establishments,

so far as to appoint the merchant or merchants, for that purpose? Am I to expect no further compensation than \$750 which is "exclusive of all emoluments?" If necessity requires my absence can I act by proxy, on my responsibility?

From the papers before me I learn that there is now an incumbent in the office, and therefore the interest of the cause can not require very prompt attention so far as entering on the duties of the office is in question.

I hope to hear from head quarters shortly, and shall as ever,
Remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. SPENCER.

Postmarked Jacksonville, Florida. Received at the Department in June.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.
7 June, 1849.

SIR: Your letter to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, without date, acknowledging the receipt of your appointment as Sub-Agent for the Indians in Florida, and making certain enquiries, has been referred to this office.

To your first enquiry I answer, that your office vests in you the entire control of any trading establishments permitted within the limits of the district assigned to the Indians, and that it is optional with you, governed by a just sense of duty, and the probable effect or influence upon the Indians, to permit or to exclude such establishments, as, on impartial consideration, you may deem best.

To your second query I reply that your compensation cannot exceed \$750 per annum; that being all the law allows.

In answer to your third question, I have to remark that the law provides that every Indian Agent, including Sub-Agents "shall reside and keep his agency within or near the territory of the tribe for which he may be agent, and at such place as the President may designate, and shall not depart from the limits of his agency without permission." Any absence, unless under extraordinary circumstances, except such as may be granted upon application therefor, showing that it would not be attended with any bad effects to the public service, and that the state of affairs among the Indians would admit of it with safety and propriety, would be contrary to the intent and spirit of the above law.

The subject of the removal of the Indians to the country of their brethren west of the Mississippi is now strongly urged, and the Department hopes soon to be in possession of your views and opinions as to the proper time, and the best measures to be adopted to accomplish that highly desirable object.

The Department is in daily expectation of the receipt of your bond.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

W. MEDILL.

SAMUEL SPENCER, ESQ.,
Sub-Indian Agent.
via Jacksonville, Florida.

JACKSONVILLE,
June 29, 1849.

Hon. T. EWING.

I deem it proper to inform the department that I have not yet removed to Fort Brooks for a few very good reasons.

The health of my family will not permit a removal at this time.

There is no residence at Tampa which I can obtain for myself and family. Major Morris has proposed building in the garrison for the accommodation of the officers located there, and offers to prepare a building for myself.

While absent from Tampa I can have a person engaged at the trading-house, who will give me every information required, or send me an express at my expense if necessary. I shall have a person at Tampa, and probably one at Enterprise for the same purpose, as persons who trade or trespass in the Indian territory enter or return in the neighborhood of these places, and it is the same in reference to the Indians. From Jacksonville the communication almost daily and very rapid to every important point in this state and four times per week to Washington; with this arrangement and visiting them regularly every three months I am certain I can discharge the duties of *sub-agent* as well or better than if located where they are.

I understand the law to direct that the sub-agent shall give a bond of one thousand dollars, and shall reside in the Indian territory or at such place as the President shall direct.

In undertaking the duties of the office, I intend to perform them perfectly and promptly, and whenever I find I cannot do so I shall resign most cheerfully upon the slightest intimation from the Department to that effect.

I am, very respectfully, yours, &c.

S. SPENCER.

WASHINGTON CITY,
July 3, 1849.

Hon. T. EWING,
Secretary, &c.

SIR: There are a number of Seminole Indians still remaining in the state of Florida, which the citizens of that state are desirous of having removed. I feel satisfied that they can be removed peaceably within the next twelve months, if the department feels authorized to make a contract therefor.

The object of this communication is respectfully to ask whether you will entertain a proposition for the removal of the Seminoles from Florida to their country west.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH BRYAN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
July 16, 1849.

SIR: The Secretary of the Interior has referred to this office, your letter of the 3d inst., asking whether the Department feels authorized to make, and will entertain a proposition for a contract for the removal of the Seminole Indians remaining in Florida.

In reply I have the honor to inform you that the Department does not feel so authorised, inasmuch as there are not funds on hand, considered applicable, sufficient for that object. Moreover the subject is one of great importance, and requires the most careful and deliberate consideration, after obtaining information not now possessed by the Department, but which the sub-agent, recently appointed for the Indians in question, has been required to procure.

Very, &c.

ORLANDO BROWN.

JOSEPH BRYAN, Esq.,
Washington, D. C.

JACKSONVILLE, EAST FLORIDA,
July 22, 1849.

Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary of the Home Department,
Washington.

SIR: I beg leave to address you upon the subject of the late Indian outrage at Fort Pierce below Indian river, accounts of which I enclose.

I am ignorant of the causes which led to the difficulty, and it may be of a character entirely local, and therefore not to be considered as an act of aggression by the Indians generally, yet the fact is evident that the settlements upon the frontier will all be broken up unless they are promptly and fully protected.

Action immediate and energetic should be had to prevent further outrages, and at once put down any turbulent disposition among the Indians. Delay may be fatal as in 1835, and this district be again cursed with another disastrous war.

Your department has been, I understand, advised that both whites and Indians have disregarded the boundary lines, and that about forty families are now settled upon the belt of twenty miles which was to have remained as amnesty ground, and the fact of these Indians being at Fort Pierce is evidence of their transgressing.

The Indian agent should have a force at his control sufficient to carry out the agreement made by the lamented Worth with these Indians. Removal I look upon at present as impracticable, and therefore can only expect protection to be rendered to keep the Indians within their limits.

I do not believe this outrage was a premeditated act known to the chiefs, yet it is fraught with sufficient danger to deter settlers from remaining upon their plantations without protection. Four posts of one hundred men each, around the Indian district would, I think, secure the residents upon the frontier, and keep the Indians under proper restraint.

I have written Governor Moseley recommending that he order out one company at least of eighty or a hundred men to accompany the agent to the frontier to enforce the compact as to boundary lines.

It is fortunate that we have at the head of our government one who understands our position with these Indians; and a statement of *facts* will be all that is necessary, I trust, to secure us what we require.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES W. BRYANT.

(Copy.)

JACKSONVILLE, *June 25, 1849.*

DEAR SIR: I acknowledge the reception of the communication from the "Office of Indian Affairs," dated 7th June, which was received at this office during my absence at Tampa or Fort Brooks. The purpose of this visit was to confer with the officers of the government connected with Indian affairs, and any other persons who could afford me any information with regard to the Indians generally; and also with regard to various reports which had reached me at this place, some of which reports were stated in my previous communication; others of a graver and absolutely illegal and inadmissible character, were omitted, as I wished to be satisfied of the facts before I made any announcement to the Department. I am happy to state that not one of these reports was confirmed upon diligent inquiry at Fort Brooks and the vicinity. I further learn that with respect to the Indians, their deportment is such as to secure our confidence in the continuance of the present pacific relations between the Indians and the whites.

I did not visit the Indian station, from the fact that the "green-corn dance" was approaching, and would commence in a very few days.

The young men being engaged in hunting, to procure provisions for their approaching dance, and the women busily employed at home, in preparing the provisions as procured for the same. My information being chiefly derived from Mr. Thomas P. Kennedy, who has been trading, by commission of the government, with the Indians, for several years past.

Reports, both dangerous and exciting, are often circulated in the interior, concerning the Indians; such reports are repeated through the country, as at St. Augustine, Jacksonville, Ccala, Newmanville, Tallahassee, and other places, with the intention and for the purpose of producing an excitement. They owe their origin to designing persons, and upon investigation are found to be false, and to have no foundation or existence at the source from whence they came.

Some go so far as to express the wish, that (in their own language) "they may have lively times with the Indians again soon." These reside in the vicinity of Tampa, and by some, judging from their openly-avowed wishes, a difficulty with the Indians is desired, and would be altogether agreeable on account of pecuniary advantages which might accrue to them, being immediately at the scene of action. One or two openly avowed their intentions to trade clandestinely with the Indians on the coast, remarking to me: "You may catch us if you can." In each and every instance, I have given the assurance, that every aggressor should be arrested, if money, efforts, and energy could accomplish it.

I take pleasure in stating, that the general feeling prevailing among the whites is of a universally amicable character toward the Indians, and that all are very desirous for their peaceful removal, with the exception of such designing men as heretofore alluded to.

And here I will propose a question which I intended to propound in my last communication, and which, if so asked, has not been answered. To what means may I resort, and what resources control, in the event of such trespasses as I am instructed to prevent? I will mention that Major Morris, at Fort Brooks, assures me of his cordial and immediate cooperation whenever required.

In regard to the neutral ground, or reserve, of twenty miles, between the Indians and whites, I will state as a fact, which it is important for the De-

partment to know, that this reserve has been nearly, if not all of it that could be, surveyed; many parcels of this land have been entered, and there are forty families, or more, located upon the reserve.

I will state that the amount in the hands of Major Morris, after paying his outstanding demands, on Indian account, is about (\$200) two hundred dollars; I would respectfully submit, whether this amount will be sufficient for the immediate exigencies of the Indian affairs, as I propose at the earliest practicable period, to have an interview with them; whether it would not be advisable to place a larger amount at the disposal of the agent for the purpose of efficient negotiation with them.

My intention is to make no proposition or suggestion to the Indians, without proper authority, and without religiously perfecting the same, if agreed to by them; since the agent who will fail or quibble in any business transactions with them, thereafter has no influence with them, and loses their entire confidence, both officially and personally.

I have unquestioned authority for the facts herein stated, and in my future communications shall state the sources from whence I derive my information.

In my next communication, after further investigation, I will be better enabled to give an expression of my views as to the expediency or practicability, either at this time or at some future period, of attempting or effecting the removal of the Indians.

With sentiments of esteem, yours respectfully,

S. SPENCER.

Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

TALLAHASSEE, July 31, 1849.

SIR: Information has been received at this office of the Indian outrages and murders at the settlements upon Indian river, and the trading establishment at Pease creek, of which you have doubtless been advised by the public papers.

Suggestions have been made, that the outrages have been committed by a lawless, marauding party of Indians, who have been incited to the act by the prospect of plunder.

Wishing that this opinion may prove true, yet I have felt it my duty to take steps to give protection to the frontier settlements. In the mean time, I desire that you will call upon the chiefs and head men of the tribe, under your charge, to arrest and surrender to the civil authorities of the State the perpetrators of the crimes.

A prompt compliance with these requisitions, on the part of the chiefs and head men of the nation, will evince to the government of the United States, and to this State, a continuance of their friendly dispositions, and that the act was indeed that of a lawless and marauding party.

Very respectfully,
(Signed)

W. D. MOSELEY

Col. SAMUEL SPENCER,
Indian Agent,
Jacksonville.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,

July 25th, 1849.

SIR: In acknowledging the receipt of your letters of the 2d and 25th ult., to the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, which he has referred, I would apprise you that all your official correspondence should be direct with this office.

In relation to your point of location, I refer you to what is said on that subject in the communication to you from this office, of the 8th of May last; and add for your information the following quotation from the 4th section of the act of June 30, 1834, organizing the Indian Department: "And every Indian Agent shall reside and keep his agency within or near the territory of the tribe for which he may be agent, and at such place as the President may designate, and shall not depart from the limits of his agency without permission." You will thus perceive that the law requires that you shall take a position within or near the territory occupied by the Seminoles; though, as you were told in the communication above referred to, the Department was unable to designate any particular point which it would be best for you to occupy, in order to exercise a careful supervision over the Indians, and any intercourse between them and the whites. Hence it was left to you to select your position, after having acquainted yourself with all the facts and circumstances which should be taken into consideration in making the selection. If Fort Brooke be the nearest point you can well occupy, no doubt the military officers there will, as would appear from your letter, afford you comfortable accommodations at that place. Your residence at Jacksonville is entirely out of the question.

In reply to the question asked in your letter of the 25th ult., to what means of control are you to resort in the event of such trespasses as you are instructed to prevent, I have to remark that in case of such acts, on the part of the Indians, the final resort must be the military, the commanding officer of which has been instructed to aid and cooperate with you. It is hoped, however, that through your activity and vigilance, and the influence you will be enabled to acquire over the Indians, any collision between them and the military will be avoided, as it might lead to serious consequences to the frontier inhabitants. It is also hoped that you will, in the same way, be enabled to prevent any improper trespasses by the whites upon the Indians, or within the territory assigned to them. Should any such occur, however, you should promptly report all the facts for the consideration of the Department, when proper instructions, according to the circumstances of the case, will be given you.

A remittance of funds will at once be made to you, on account of your salary and that of an interpreter, and for contingent expenses connected with your office, and with the execution of your duties generally.

I am surprised at what you state respecting the "neutral ground," having been surveyed and settled upon; and enquiry will be made at the general land office respecting it.

I enclose for your information and consideration a copy of a letter from the Seminole Sub-Agent west, and of the one therein referred to, from some of the Seminole chiefs to the late Major-General Gaines, on the subject of sending a deputation from the Indians west to those in Florida, in order to exercise their influence to induce them to consent to remove. I should be

pleased to have your views in relation to the probable advantages of such a measure, and, if it be thought advisable, such suggestions as to the proper time for sending the delegation, and the manner in which it should operate, &c., as will aid the Department in giving forth instructions upon the subject.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

SAMUEL SPENCER, Esq.,
Sub-Indian Agent,
Jacksonville, Florida.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
July 25th, 1849.

SIR: A letter recently received from Samuel Spencer, Sub-Agent for the Indians remaining in Florida, contains the following paragraph: "In regard to the neutral ground or reserve of twenty miles between the Indians and whites, I will state as a fact which it is important for the Department to know, that this reserve has been nearly, if not all of it that could be, surveyed. Many parcels of this land have been entered, and there are forty families or more located upon the reserve."

As the tract in question was ordered by the President in May, 1845, to be reserved from survey and sale, and this office has not been apprised of any change of determination upon the subject, it is inferred that the Sub-Agent must in some way have been led into error in regard to the matter. The reasons which led to the President's order still exist in full force, and will continue to do so, until the Department can succeed in effecting the removal of the Indians, which it hopes to do at an early day, &c.

ORLANDO BROWN.

J. BUTTERFIELD, Esq.,
Com.-General Land Office.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
August 4th, 1849.

SIR: In answer to your letter of the 25th ult., I have the honor to state, that on examination it appears, that the late Surveyor-General of Florida, a short time prior to his removal, entered into contract with John Jackson, and John M. Irwin, two of his Deputy-Surveyors, for the survey of a number of townships near Charlotte harbor, in Florida, none of the plats of which, however, have yet been returned to this office. Some of these townships are within the twenty mile reservation, around the lands set apart for the Seminoles in Florida, ordered by the President on the 19th May, 1845.

The Surveyor-General entered into these contracts without the knowledge of, and contrary to express orders from this office, and hence the present Surveyor-General has been instructed not to forward to the district land offices, the plats of the surveys within this reservation.

Mr. Spencer, the Indian Sub-Agent, must have been mistaken in supposing that any portion of these lands have been entered, as no entries are

permitted till the plats are filed in the District Land office. Any locations which may have been made on these lands since they were reserved, are void; and the settlers on the reservation can be removed by the United States Marshal, under the act of 3d March 1837, except those who may have settled under the armed occupation act of 4th August, 1842, and if you deem it expedient to do so, in the present aspect of affairs in that region, an order to that effect will be immediately requested from the Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

J. BUTTERFIELD,
Commissioner.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(Copy.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, *August 5th, 1849.*

SIR: I herewith enclose you a copy of a letter this day received from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in reply to one addressed by me to him some days since on the subject of surveys, settlers, &c., on the Seminole reservation. An extract from your letter on the same subject was enclosed to him and his reply explains itself.

Whilst anxiously awaiting your report as to the present complexion of affairs generally, in your agency, this Department would be pleased to learn whether you deem the order for the removal of the settlers on said reservation, therein alluded to, as necessary at the present time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

S. SPENCER, Esq. *Sub-Agent.*
Fort Brooke, Florida.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *August 1st, 1849.*

SIR: I have the honor to enclose herewith a communication from sub-agent Duval, in relation to the emigration of a remnant of Seminoles still remaining in Florida.

The plan which he proposes for the accomplishment of the object is worthy of consideration, if it be the intention of government to remove them.

I however think, that the expense per head, as contemplated by the proposal of Messrs. Johnson and Grimes, is very extravagant; inasmuch as the most difficult part of the whole affair, and the expense accruing therefrom, are left to be borne by the government. I allude to the collection of the Indians for emigration.

This matter has been thoroughly tested in the removal of the Choctaws which is now in progress. The whole matter is respectfully referred to the Department for its action.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN DRENNON,
Acting Superintendent W. I.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington city.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, July 3d, 1849.

SIR: Having lately been communicated with by the late Major-General E. P. Gaines, U. S. A., in reference to the removal of the Seminoles now in Florida, and being anxious to effect so desirable an object in the most practicable manner, I now address you.

The Indians are willing to appoint a delegation to assist the Government in inducing those now east to remove to this country, provided they do not call on them before September.

I have every reason to believe that the Indians now in Florida, can be removed with the assistance of the Western Seminoles, by allowing them to name who shall be delegates, and appointing some one to conduct said removal, who is known to the Indians, and has their confidence.

On this subject I have counselled with the Seminoles, for two or three years past; and at one time proposed to the Department to remove them by engaging the Western Indians in the removal.

If the government will send a delegation under pay—on certain conditions (success, &c.,) it may rely on their cooperation; and I believe will succeed in accomplishing the object—and it can be done in this way with more satisfaction to the Indians, and at less cost to the government, than by any other plan I am aware of.

There are persons of responsibility, known to the Indians in this country, who would be willing to remove them from Tampa bay to the Seminole country west, and subsist them one year after removal, for the sum of \$100 per head.

The delegation should be employed under the orders of the government, and the Indians collected and fed at Tampa, until a sufficient number are collected, to authorize the contractors in the emigration to start, and indeed it would be best to remove all if possible in one party.

Should the government enter into contract with an individual or firm—giving the preference in the removal and binding them to remove all who may be collected by the delegation—and allow a fair price for their trouble and expense, I know that persons can be employed who are perfectly reliable and able to fulfill any contract which would be required in said removal.

That the Indians can be removed with the assistance of the Western Indians, at less expense than by the military, there cannot be a doubt, and to which I can see no objection, as at best it is but a very unpleasant duty.

I have been addressed on this subject, by the firm of Johnston & Grimes, who are in every way able to remove the Indians, with the assistance of the government, as indicated in the foregoing.

I have the honor to be, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. DUVALL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs, &c.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, August 2, 1849.

SIR: A remittance of \$2,575 has this day been made to you, \$2,000 of which, as you will perceive by reference to the statement herewith enclosed,

is for "expenses of removing Indians," and is to be used in such manner as your judgment may point out, as an initiatory step towards the peaceable removal of the Indians yet remaining in Florida. This sum is sent in the absence of sufficient data upon which to found an estimate of the probable amount required. This data I would thank you to furnish this office, and should the amount be materially increased, the law requires that your bond should be also increased in proportion. I would therefore suggest, that you execute a new bond for \$5,000, to accompany your requisition for such additional sum as you may require. I also enclose for your general guidance hereafter, an extract from the regulations for paying annuities, and executing treaty stipulations, with which you will please conform.

The peaceable removal of all the Indians yet remaining in Florida, now engages the earnest attention of the Government, and I am directed to ask from you a full and explicit report as to your views, embracing an estimate of the probable expense, best mode of proceeding, policy to be pursued, &c. This report will be looked for with much interest, and it is very essential that it be made with great care as to details, as well as suggestions, and reach this office as soon as possible.

By your letter to the Secretary of the Interior, referred to this office, I learn that the instructions forwarded on the 8th May last by my predecessor, were not received by you. A copy of the same, together with additional instructions, will be sent you in a few days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

SAMUEL SPENCER, Esq.

Sub-Agent, Fort Brooke, Florida.

WASHINGTON CITY,
August 10, 1849.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,

Com. of Indian Affairs.

SIR: I propose to emigrate the Seminole Indians now remaining in the state of Florida on the following conditions. All the Indians now remaining in Florida shall be removed to the Seminole agency west, and the government to pay therefor the sum of \$65,000.

If there be a government agent appointed to superintend the emigration, any delay in the removal caused by the officer in charge shall be at the expense of the United States, inasmuch as there is a rumor of war with the Seminoles; now if this rumor be true, and the war shall continue and be of such a character as to render it impracticable upon the arrival of such persons as shall be employed in the attempted emigration, for them to go among the Seminoles, then the United States shall be bound to pay the expenses of the party, to an amount not exceeding \$2,500.

In case the war continues and the government find it necessary to capture the Indians, and shall deliver them at Tampa Bay, then the undersigned will remove and subsist them to the agency west for the sum of \$20,000, the government being bound to pay for unnecessary delay caused by the officer in charge.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH BRYAN.

NOTE.—Proposition verbally declined in a personal interview.

TAMPA, FLORIDA,
August 11, 1849.

SIR: Herewith enclosed we hand you the affidavits of William M'Culloch, Nancy his wife, and Louis Lanier, citizens of this county. Be pleased to consider and file the same with our letter to you of the 25th of July last.

With due respect, we are,

Your most obedient servants,

KENNEDY & DARLING.

Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary Dep. of the Interior,
Washington City, D. C.

NOTE.—Letter of the 25th above referred to, subsequently withdrawn.

(Copy.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
August 31, 1850.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your letter of 16th inst., referred to this office by the Secretary of the Interior, enclosing the claim of Messrs. Kennedy and Darling, for depredations committed on their property by the Florida Indians in July last.

In reply, I beg leave to inform you that there is no law under which the claim can be considered—the law regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes not extending to Florida. The only recourse of those gentlemen will be to Congress.

It may also be proper to remark that even if there was law to cover the case, these Indians receive no annuity, nor is there any fund out of which remuneration could be made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

Hon. J. D. WESTCOTT,
Washington, D. C.

NOTE.—This letter was not sent to Mr. Westcott, and is only introduced here for the purpose of explaining upon what grounds he withdrew the papers of Messrs. K. & D., as per his note of 10th Sept., 1849. Mr. W's letter of the 16th, above alluded to, was also withdrawn with the papers of K. & D.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10, 1849.

SIR: Upon consultation with M. C. Brown, Esq., I have concluded, after the conversation had with you this morning, to withdraw the paper relating to the claim of J. P. Kennedy, Esq., for Indian depredations, in order that by application to Congress he may obtain that authority for your office to settle it, in relation to which there seems to be difficulty as the laws and appropriations now are.

Respectfully yours,

J. D. WESTCOTT.

Hon. O. BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
September 10, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with the request contained in your letter of this date, I have the honor to return herewith all the papers, on file in this office, relating to the claim of Messrs. Kennedy & Darling for depredations committed on their property by the Florida Indians.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

Hon. J. D. WESTCOTT,
Washington, D. C.

FORT BROOKE, E. F.,
August 13, 1849.

SIR: I have received your communication, dated July 26th, directing me by the order of the Secretary of War, to collect information on the subject of a recent outbreak among the Seminole Indians in this quarter.

To do this, I must have other resources than those at present near by me.

Not an Indian has been seen either within or beyond their boundary since the burning of the trading-house at Pease creek; and my scouts, sent in various directions, have found not the smallest reliable sign of their presence.

My interpreters are useless. Sampson (negro,) is prostrated by sickness, and John (Spaniard,) no entreaties, bribery, or threats, can induce to go to any point where Indians might be found. They acted as interpreters, guides, &c., during the last war, and living among, and entirely identified with the whites, and even under ordinary circumstances, would not dare to venture, unprotected, to hold a talk with the Indians.

Sending an armed force, beside being completely powerless, from the absence of an interpreter, in making a demand upon the nation for the murderers, might, and doubtless would, be construed into a declaration of war, which, for manifold reasons, should be the last resort on our part. The Indians from the nature of their country and smallness of their numbers, can prolong a defensive war indefinitely; and my present opinion is that nothing but a war of *extermination* will ever effect their forcible removal.

To sum up all the grievances of which these people complain, would take more time than is expedient to devote to the subject.

It may not, however, be amiss for me to state, that since the treaty made by Gen. Macomb, in 1839, there has been a great want of confidence in the government and its agents.

At that time, many of the Indians believed that they were to hold their lands, within a very limited boundary, in fee simple; and the first contradiction of this impression resulted in the massacre of the greater portion of Colonel Harney's command, at the Caloosahatchee river, in July of that year; and from that time to the *patched-up* peace, made by General Worth, in 1842, they were indiscriminately *grabbed*, and, under false pretences, shuffled off to Arkansas.

They have never held free intercourse with the whites since the commencement of the war in 1835. After seven years' fighting, with ammunition exhausted, and arms in a damaged condition, they were glad of a respite on any terms. They have since that time been industriously engaged in supplying these deficiencies; and from a period, when, as President of a Board of Officers, directed by the Secretary of War, to make an examination of Charlotte harbor, &c, with a view to establishing a post, I united in a report against any change at that time, I felt that the period had arrived when *something* must be done. My reports on this subject have been very full to yourself and others.

Captain Casey, since he was assigned to Indian duty here, and previously, had repeated assurances, that *one* or more influential chiefs would give him a meeting; but his efforts, thrice repeated, have all proved abortive; and such, I am well convinced, would every attempt be, unless made by Indians, or the other alternative, throwing a large force into their territory, and recommencing the war.

To obviate which, the only feasible plan seems to be that before recommended, and reiterated in my letter, to you, of the 6th instant. The employment of chiefs and interpreters, selected from among their own people west of the Mississippi; and in making choice, much caution should be exercised in bringing only such as went there willingly and have property in the West, which would be a guarantee for their good faith in the performance of their mission.

The absurd sums named, by some of the government agents, for their possessions in this State, produced, as I have been informed, nothing but indignation and contempt.

In sending specific propositions to this people, it should be remembered that the value *intrinsically* of the land, is not their estimate, nor ours, as I view the matter, but an equivalent for their home, on their part, and the government in ridding the State of a portion of its population, who will ever be hostile, and dangerously so, to its white inhabitants.

I respectfully offer these suggestions for the consideration of the Secretary of War, trusting that the means above mentioned may be placed at my disposal, when the utmost activity will be used by me in directing their efforts and accomplishing the desirable result.

In addition to the restrictive measures of the Legislature of Florida, passed during its last session, forbidding these Indians, under penalty of stripes, of coming beyond the boundary, even to visit the agency, I have learned that another and very just cause of complaint is the violation of the order of the President of the United States, issued May 19th, 1845, directing that a strip of the public lands, twenty miles in width, around the district set apart for the use and occupation of the Seminoles, in Florida, should be reserved from survey and sale.

This strip, a portion of which, has not only been surveyed, but settled upon by the whites. The fact of their doing so has already been reported by me to the Department.

I have to report, for the information of the Secretary of War, that I have not been relieved from my duties, connected with the Indian agency here.

Mr. Spencer, sub-agent for the Seminoles, arrived here on the 7th inst., believing that he could effect an interview with some part of the nation; but unable to obtain an interpreter, and on hearing my views, he pursued

his original intention of leaving the business of the agency in my hands until his return from the district.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

W. W. MORRIS,
Major U. S. A., Commanding Post,
Indian Agent.

Major-General R. JONES,
Adj.-General U. S. A.,
Washington City, D. C.

RUSSELL Co., ALABAMA,
August 14, 1849.

MY DEAR SIR: It seems that the Indians, in Florida, are in an insurgent state; and I suppose the government will take some prompt measures for their removal. In that event, I wish to recommend to your consideration, my friend *James Abercrombie, Esq.*, of Russell county, Alabama, as a gentleman in every way qualified for conducting such an undertaking to the entire satisfaction of the government.

Mr. Abercrombie is probably well known to you by reputation, as one of our best citizens—a gentleman of wealth, character, and great energy, and a leading member of the Senate of our State.

Mr. Abercrombie was one of those engaged in the removal of the Creeks, and from his experience would be able to render the government essential service.

Mr. Abercrombie will write to you on the subject, and will more fully explain his views in relation to the subject.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

H. W. HILLIARD.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

GERARD, RUSSELL Co., ALABAMA,
August 16, 1849.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD.

DEAR SIR: From the recent outrages of a portion of the Seminoles, I have thought it might be the policy of our government to remove them west of the Mississippi. Should this be the case, I should be pleased to get the contract for emigrating them, having some knowledge of the Indian character, as well as experience in emigrating the Creek Indians. Should I get the contract, I think I can satisfy the government and the Indians.

Any information on this subject will be thankfully received, and if necessary, I will come on to Washington.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES ABERCROMBIE, SENR.

P. S. Should it become necessary to encamp them, I should be glad to get the contract to subsist them.

J. A.

Respectfully referred to the Department of the Interior, with the remark, that Mr. Abercrombie is in every respect trustworthy.

GEO. W. CRAWFORD.

August 20, 1849.

GARREY'S FERRY, EAST FLORIDA,
August 5, 1849.

To the Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

DEAR SIR: It is with sincere regret that I have to acquaint you with what I believe to be the situation of our citizens in this quarter, in relation to the recent outbreak of the Seminole Indians. I am formerly of McIntosh county, Georgia, and had the honor of holding two commissions under you, while you were governor of my native state, as justice of the inferior court. I have not seen any official report of the Indian agent concerning the recent outbreak, but have seen private correspondence from the editor of the Jacksonville Republican to the Savannah Republican, and another from St. Augustine to the same paper, and both are bad enough. I had a conversation with a gentleman the other day; he said that the reason that the agent had not made a report of the recent outrage was that he had seen the agent travelling on the steamboat on the St. John's river, and that he was not at his post. How true this is I do not know, but your honor will be the better able to judge whether he has made an official report or not. I have understood from good authority that the Government of Florida has ordered 500 volunteers, but is at a time of the year when volunteers are hard to raise, and the consequence will be, that we will be left exposed for a long time to come. One of these companies is to be stationed at Lake Monroe, but that would be no security for the people of Black creek, and the frontier settlers are coming to Black creek in good faith. I think, if we had a company of regulars stationed at Black creek and made to reconnoitre the creek from its mouth to its termination, which is not more than sixteen miles in length, that it would save great trouble for once if they get in here they would be hard to get out. And another near the Okafanoka swamp on the Georgia line. I hope and trust that our government will take some early steps to relieve our citizens from distress.

Your most obedient servant,

S. N. WILLIAMS.

STATE OF FLORIDA,
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH.

Personally appeared before me, judge of probates in the county and state aforesaid, duly commissioned and sworn into office, Henry Shannon, otherwise called William Henry Shannon, master of the sloop boat called the "Eban Preble," who having been duly sworn according to law, says that he sailed from Key West, bound to Tampa bay, on the 28th day of July, 1849. When off Cape Roman, on the 31st July, 1849, was chased by two Indian canoes containing eight Indians, six in one canoe and two in the other; these Indians used the regular Indian yell and did their best to board me, and had it not been for a squall that sprung up they would have caught me. I have no doubt the intention of these Indians was hostile from their fierce yells and earnest attempts to board me. I have seen Indians frequently, and know something of their manners. I had heard of the Indian attack on Indian river, but not of the burning of the Indian store on Pease creek at the time.

Sworn to and subscribed before me }
this 9th day of August, A. D. 1849. }

W. H. SHANNON.

SIMON TRUMAN,
Judge of Probates.

PALATKA, August 14, 1849.

Hon. Secretary Home Department.

SIR: From a conversation a few days since with the Indian agent for the state of Florida, I am induced respectfully to offer for your consideration the following proposal. If the Department determine to remove the remaining *Seminoles* (and others residing among them, by negotiation, I am willing, in conjunction with the agent to undertake the commission because I am well acquainted (from association) with the Indian character and have under my control the only *perfect interpreter* in the state, whose influence under General Worth in the last war, removed all that did go, as can be seen by the official letters he now holds directed to him. He is well acquainted with all the chiefs and influential men of the nation.

The mission will be one connected with considerable risk and great diplomatic tact, *in their way*. Should the Department consider my suggestions worthy of notice, a personal interview would possibly be necessary; in such an event, (if required) I can give the most satisfactory testimonials of my character as a gentleman.

The experiment may require some six or twelve months, but I am fully under the impression that it can be effected.

With high respect,

B. HOPKINS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,

August 27, 1849.

SIR: Your letter of the 14th inst., to the Secretary of the Interior, upon the subject of removing the Indians yet remaining in Florida, has been received and referred to this office.

In reply I have the honor to inform you that if you will put your proposition in a definite and distinct form it shall receive due consideration, should this Department hereafter determine to remove said Indians by contract.

Very, &c.

ORLANDO BROWN.

B. HOPKINS, Esq.,
Palatka, Florida.

WASHINGTON, August 17, 1849.

SIR: In view of the obvious policy and supposed anxiety of the government to remove the remnant of Seminole Indians now in Florida to the country allotted to that tribe west of the Mississippi, I take the liberty of presenting for your consideration a proposition for their removal and subsistence.

It is deemed to be important that these Indians should be removed as speedily as possible, but in a peaceable manner. A forced emigration under military operation would be attended with great pecuniary expense, would very probably involve the shedding of blood, and be obnoxious to public censure. It is believed that they may, by the use of certain means and influences within the control of private individuals and which it might be improper for the government to employ, except through contractors, be induced in the course of a few months to consent to remove in a body to the west.

The undersigned feels confident that he has it in his power to bring into active exercise the only agencies by which a peaceable and speedy emigration can be effected and which at the same time will involve much less expense than any mode that can probably be adopted or pursued if it be made a military operation by the government.

The undersigned, therefore, submits in behalf of himself and his associates the following skeleton of a contract for the removal and subsistence of said Indians for twelve months after their arrival west, viz :

I propose to proceed forthwith in the employment of such agencies as may be deemed useful, to induce the Seminoles to emigrate peaceably and immediately, the government to co-operate with the contractors and lend its aid as far as it can with propriety to bring about the desired result.

If they shall be induced to emigrate, I propose to assemble them without expense to the government, at Tampa Bay or some other convenient point for embarkation, and transport them with their clothing, furniture, and other portable property in steamboats, via New Orleans, to the Seminole agency west, consulting on the route the comfort and health of the emigrants. If the Arkansas river at that period of emigration shall be found too low for steamers, the emigrants to be landed at some convenient point and carried by land in the same manner and subject to the same regulations as were stipulated in the contract for the removal of the Creek Indians.

If the Seminoles shall be found to be destitute of such clothing as may be necessary and proper for their comfort in their new home, I propose to supply them with a reasonable quantity, not to exceed five dollars per head. I propose to furnish them on their route, and for twelve months after their arrival at the agency west, with the ordinary rations as heretofore supplied to similar emigrants.

In consideration for which, the government shall pay me the sum of fifty thousand dollars, provided the number of emigrants, including negroes, shall not exceed five hundred, and in case they exceed that number the government shall pay one hundred dollars per head for the whole number ; one-third of the amount to be paid when the Indians shall assemble at the general rendezvous in Florida ready for emigration, one-third on their arrival at the agency west, and the balance on the final completion of the contract.

If, after a faithful and reasonable effort upon the part of the contractors to prevail upon the Indians to consent to emigrate, they shall fail, in consequence of war and the military operations of the government, and the Indians be forced, at the expense of the government, to emigrate, and the exertion of the undersigned and his associates be lost, the government shall refund to the company the amount of their actual expenses incurred in the operation ; the same not to exceed the sum of one thousand dollars. And in such event, the Indians being brought into rendezvous at Tampa bay or other convenient point, ready for emigration by the government troops or agents, then I propose to furnish the necessary transportation and subsistence as above stated, for the sum of thirty thousand dollars, if the number be not over five hundred, and if over, then for the sum of seventy-five dollars per capita, to be paid in installments as before stated. The above are submitted as the general outlines of a proposed arrangement, to be modified or extended in particulars, when the contract comes to be reduced to writing and put in form. I shall feel obliged if the Department can fur-

nish me with a response to this communication in the course of a few days.
All which is respectfully submitted,

Your obedient servant,

ALFRED IVERSON.

ORLANDO BROWN,

Com. Indian Affairs.

NOTE.—This proposition was verbally declined by the Commissioner, who had already adopted other measures.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,

August 18, 1849.

SIR: Matthew Markland, Esq., of this office, has been specially detailed as the bearer of certain documents, which he has been instructed to deliver to you, in relation to a proposed measure, having for its object the removal of the Seminole Indians who yet remain in Florida. After you have perused the papers, it is left to your discretion whether a special messenger shall be sent for sub-Agent Duval to report in person to you at your agency, or whether Mr. Markland shall proceed direct and deliver to Mr. Duval the documents intended for him. From the nature of the business you will readily perceive the importance that no unnecessary delays be permitted to interfere in its consummation.

Be pleased to afford Mr. Markland any facilities or information he may need, provided it be determined that he shall go to Mr. Duval's agency.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

JOHN DRENNEN, Esq.,

Acting Supt. W. Territory,

Choctaw Agency, West of Arkansas.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,

August 18, 1849.

SIR: Matthew Markland, Esq., of this office has been instructed to deliver to you certain papers connected with the proposed measure of sending a delegation of Seminoles to Florida, with a view of inducing their brethren there to join them in the west.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

MARCELLUS DUVAL, Esq.,

Sub-Agent for Seminole Indians,

Fort Gibson, West of Arkansas.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, August 18, 1849.

SIR: You have been detailed as a special messenger to deliver the accompanying documents to John Drennon, Esq., acting superintendent of the western territory, Choctaw agency, west of the State of Arkansas. The importance to the public welfare that those papers should be received by

the superintendent in the shortest time practicable, has induced this office to select the proposed mode of conveyance in preference to the mail. It is very desirable, therefore, that you proceed to the point above designated by the nearest and most expeditious route. Should it happen on your arrival at the Choctaw agency, that the acting superintendent is absent, you will forthwith proceed to Fort Gibson—and deliver the papers to Marcellas Duval, Esq., sub-agent for the Seminole Indians west; but if Mr. Duval should not be at the Fort, you will then show this letter to the officer there in command—which will ensure you his aid and cooperation in your journey to the agency of Mr. Duval in the Seminole country. If on reaching that point you find that he is absent, you will ascertain his whereabouts and immediately proceed and find him wherever he may be.

Should the acting superintendent be at his agency, you will take his directions as to your proceeding to the agency of Mr. Duval. When you shall have delivered the papers, you will return to this city as early as conveniently practicable.

For the service with which you are charged, no compensation, in addition to your salary as a clerk in this office, which will be continued, can be allowed. You will, therefore, only be entitled to your actual necessary travelling expenses, to meet which, four hundred dollars have been advanced to you, and with which you are charged on the books of the treasury. In many cases it will be inconvenient, and it may be impossible, to obtain vouchers for your expenditures—it is suggested therefore, that you keep a memoranda of your expenses, which you can submit, with your certificate on honor, as a voucher for your disbursements for your expenses.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

MATTHEW MARKLAND, Esq.
Washington city, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, *August 18, 1849.*

SIR: The department has had under consideration the subject of removing the Seminoles and other kindred bands of Indians now in Florida, to the country occupied by their brethren in the west. It has been proposed to remove them by contract, but after much reflection and deliberation the proposition has been rejected, and a preference given to the mode suggested by sub-agent Duval, to my predecessor in April, 1846—and again to the Secretary of War in January, 1847; wherein he proposes the appointment by the Seminole council west, of a delegation to proceed to Florida, with the view of inducing their brethren there, to remove to the country provided for them among the Creeks; for the further details of all of which you are referred to the accompanying instructions to Mr. Duval.

The Secretary of the Interior, has approved of the plan, and directed me to advise you of the same, and that you immediately lend such cooperation as to the proposed measure, as to ensure, as far as possible, a successful termination.

It is impossible for this office at present, to give more detailed instructions, than are furnished to sub-agent Duval, and herewith submitted for your consideration, but it is confidently hoped and believed, that your in-

creased means of information on this subject, render such details entirely unnecessary. It is sufficient to say that the government feels a deep solicitude in regard to this matter, and indulges a most fervent hope that by a wise and judicious, but energetic policy, on the part of those now entrusted with the conduct of this delicate measure, the repetition of the disasters of a former expensive war, at the present moment so confidently anticipated by many, may not only be happily avoided, but even the cause itself forever removed, with mutual benefit to the Indians and the government.

You will, therefore, please afford to sub-agent Duval, such official co-operation as the public service may require, in view of carrying out the specific object now proposed and submitted to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN, *Commissioner.*

JOHN DRENNEN, Esq.

Choctaw Agency.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, August 18, 1849.

SIR: You have doubtless been apprised of recent outrages committed on some of our citizens in Florida, by a party or parties of the Indians, who, in 1842, were permitted by the President to remain on suffrage within the bounds of a tract of land specially designated for the purpose. From more recent information received by the Secretary of War, it is believed that there is no conclusive ground for the supposition that the Indians generally are hostile to our people, or that the murders which have been perpetrated were the result of any preconcerted plan. Still the outbreak is regarded as a foreshadowing of what may take place, and being so regarded is of sufficient importance to induce this Department to adopt the most energetic and judicious measures for the peaceable removal of those Indians to the country occupied by their brethren among the Creeks.

A proposition has been submitted by a citizen, to remove them by contract, but upon mature deliberation this office has declined to accept it and has determined to adopt your suggestion, communicated to my predecessor, in your letter of the 15th April, 1846, and again, by letter of — January, 1847, viz.: That the Seminole council west be requested, to name such persons as they think would have most weight with the Indians in Florida, "who should be accompanied by some white man in whom they would have confidence, and of sufficient knowledge of their character to know what estimate to place on them as individuals."

This suggestion appears to have been originated or at least concurred in, by the most prominent of the Seminoles west, viz.: Miccanopy, Wild Cat, Halleck Tustunnuggee, and Octiarche, who informed him that the great obstacle to the Indians in Florida consenting to treat with a view to removal "is their want of confidence in the whites," and their fear of being deceived. To remove their prejudice upon those points, it is deemed advisable that you should accompany the delegation, and that it should consist of individuals of whom the Florida Indians would not suspect treachery or bad faith; for instance, some of the intelligent leaders who were the last to surrender, and a few of the common Indians, (the wildest who can be readily brought under the control of these leaders) who have near relations among the Indians in Florida, and at the same time, a decided interest in their new home west, sufficient at least to guard against desertion or treachery in returning to their old haunts.

It is desirable that the delegation should not consist of any more in number than is absolutely necessary to accomplish the contemplated object ; this matter is necessarily left to your discretion and better judgment. It is, however, thought here, that the delegation should not exceed ten in number, and that even a smaller number may suffice.

It is also desirable that the expenses of the party be as small as the nature of the case will admit, having due regard to their health, safety and comfort. It is impossible here, so remote from the scene of operations, to go into detail as to the extent and character of the outfit, or what will be necessary to expend, if anything, after they shall arrive in Florida. Much, therefore, is confided to your experience and better knowledge, when on the ground. Of one thing, however, the Indians composing the delegation may be informed, that should they be successful in their mission, the Department will not hesitate to recommend to Congress for an appropriation to compensate them most liberally for their services.

The views and policy of the government towards the Indians are so well-known to you, that I deem it unnecessary to go into detail as to the character of the talks which the delegation may be authorized to make to their brethren in Florida, of the location of their country its adaptation to their wants, their comparatively prosperous and flourishing condition, and of the measures adopted by the government to advance their interests—there will be no difficulty, I apprehend, of their speaking from their own observation and experience, and in language far better adapted to the purpose proposed, than any that could be furnished from this office.

Respecting the means to be used to effect so desirable an object as the removal of the Indians, so far as this Department is concerned, you are at liberty to say to the delegation that every measure calculated to ensure the safety and comfort of their brethren, while removing from Florida to the west, will be adopted, and that they shall receive subsistence for one year after their arrival there.

They should proceed direct to Tampa Bay, where the agent for the Indians in Florida is or will be stationed, who will be directed to act in concert with you, and with whom you will consult fully and freely, and to which point, further instructions will be forwarded to you so soon as this office is informed of such movement on your part, accompanied by the proposed delegation, as to meet the foregoing views of the government. I would especially urge that you take the most prompt and effective means to impress upon the minds of the Indians, those in the west as well as the fragment yet remaining in Florida, the kind feeling, good intentions, and good faith of the United States Government towards them ; and as there may be, and probably are, adventurers and speculators, interested in involving the government in another protracted war with them, for the same reason I would earnestly impress upon you the necessity of the utmost promptness, energy and caution, in all your movements.

It is impossible so remote from the scene of action, to prescribe in detail your particular mode of procedure, but the Department entertaining the utmost confidence in your discretion, judgment and ability, deems it sufficient to say, after again expressing the deep anxiety felt for the success of this matter, that your duties are specific in their nature, and that whilst you will be expected to avail yourself of the cooperation and friendly advice of other public functionaries, you are responsible alone to this office for your acts under these instructions, whilst on this special mission, yet

upon your arrival in Florida, the Department desires you to communicate with General Twiggs, and also with Capt. J. C. Casey, U. S. A., who it is represented is acquainted with the Indians in that State, and familiar with their language. The acting superintendent of your district, and sub-agent in Florida, have been advised to this effect.

The copies of various papers, herewith sent you, are merely intended to show you such information as is now in the possession of this Department, with the hope that you may glean from the views of others, something to aid and assist your own. These copies are all endorsed, and readily explain themselves.

In connexion with the proposition of Joseph Bryan, Esq., to remove these Indians upon contract, for the sum of \$65,000, I would also remark, that the performance of the same service has subsequently been offered for \$50,000, which may tend to show you that the feasibility of a peaceable removal is entertained by others than yourself, and at a very reasonable cost to the government.

No remittance has been made to you on account of the proposed expedition; nor is it supposed to be necessary, as you can readily realize funds on your drafts upon this office. In this connexion, you are authorized to draw for such an amount as may be necessary for the outfit and transportation of the party to Florida, having due regard to economy in the premises. Upon this point, the Department must, from the nature of the case, rely entirely upon your judgment and discretion.

Upon your arrival at New Orleans, or at Mobile, should you touch there, I desire you to telegraph this office; and should you desire any further special instructions, to indicate their nature.

For the service entrusted to you, you can only be allowed your necessary travelling expenses.

Any, and all former instructions upon this subject, are regarded as rescinded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner.

M. DUVAL, Esq.,
Fort Gibson,
Western Territory.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA,
August 30, 1849.

SIR: In obedience to our instructions, we have the honor to transmit, herewith, copies of the proceedings of two several meetings, held in the court-house, in this place, on the 22d and 25th instants, by the inhabitants St. John's county.

We have the honor to be, your obedient servants,

GEO. WASHINGTON,
P. C. ZYLSTRA,
JOHN DRYSDALE.

His Excellency Z. TAYLOR,
President of the U. S.

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA,
August 22, 1849.

Pursuant to a call, a large and respectable meeting of the inhabitants of St. John's county, assembled in the court-house, in St. Augustine, this afternoon.

On motion of the Hon. B. A. Putnam, the meeting was called to order, and the Hon. J. H. Bronson was appointed Chairman, and Messrs. George Washington, P. C. Zyltstra, and John Drysdale, Secretaries. At the request of the chair, the Hon. G. R. Fairbanks explained the object of the meeting to be, to take into consideration the character and cause of the recent outrages of the Indians occupying the southern portion of the peninsula, and their present hostile attitude toward the people of East Florida; and in an eloquent and forcible manner, urged the duty of our citizens to act and speak with promptness and decision in the present emergency. The Hon. B. A. Putnam succeeded, and still further enforced the same views in a few earnest remarks, commenting with just and indignant severity upon the attempt to asperse the character of the people of Florida, as desirous of a war, and being the aggressors upon the Indians.

On motion, a committee of ten was appointed by the chair, to prepare and report at an adjourned meeting, a statement of facts, and appropriate resolutions expressive of the views of this county, in reference to our present relations with the Indians. The following gentlemen were appointed such committee, viz.:

Gen. J. M. Hernandez,
Hon. G. R. Fairbanks,
Hon. B. A. Putnam,
Dr. W. H. Simmons,
Mr. P. Benet,

Mr. M. Solana,
Hon. W. A. Forward,
Mr. J. W. Fontané,
Mr. D. R. Dunham,
Mr. R. Floyd.

On motion of George Washington, the name of the Chairman was added to the committee.

On motion of the Hon. G. R. Fairbanks, the citizens of other counties, present, were invited to participate in the proceedings of the meeting, and Mr. C. L. Brayton, of St. Lucie county, was appointed one of the committee.

On motion, the meeting adjourned till Saturday, to hear the report of the committee.

ST. AUGUSTINE, August 25, 1849.

Pursuant to adjournment, a large concourse of the inhabitants of St. John's, and many from the adjoining counties, assembled at the court-house at the appointed hour.

After the meeting had been called to order, and the proceedings of the last meeting read and approved, General J. M. Hernandez, as Chairman of the committee, submitted the following report and resolutions, to wit:—

The committee who were appointed at a previous meeting to make a Report and prepare Resolutions for the action of this meeting respectfully report that—

In order to a right understanding of the present position of the people of East Florida, with regard to the Indians within our borders, the temporary occupation of a portion of the country by a remnant of savages, and the events of the last six or seven years should be correctly known and appreciated.

On the cessation of hostilities with the Indians in August 1842, the few then remaining, and who were unwilling to emigrate, were allowed to remain temporarily within certain limits assigned to them, by direction of the President, and by arrangements between them and the then commanding officer of the U. S. army in Florida. That this arrangement was merely temporary is so well understood as hardly to need comment. The "General Order" then issued so announced it, and it has been so declared and understood by every department of the government from that time forward. Neither the President nor any department of the government had the power, without some law or resolution of Congress, to make any permanent arrangement of the kind; such an assumption of power would have been wholly unwarranted. But even temporary as it was, the people of Florida did not acquiesce in it. They feared that a temporary occupation or possession might in time ripen into a pretended permanent right, and from the beginning they protested against it, and urged upon the U. S. government the earliest practicable removal of the Indians. They were well aware of the danger of collision and difficulty between the border settlers and the Indians, and that so long as the Indians remained, their presence would retard the settlement and prosperity of the country, and hence they were anxious for their total removal and for complete immunity from any further hostilities from them. The legislative council of the then territory, and the delegate in Congress earnestly and repeatedly expressed the views and wishes of the people to the authorities of the general government. The general assembly of the state (since our admission as a state) and our senators and representatives in Congress, have repeatedly expressed the same views, and reiterated to the U. S. government the desire of the people of Florida for the removal of the Indians. In short, from the cessation of hostilities in 1842, to the present time, the constituted authorities who represented the people of Florida, have uniformly protested against the Indians remaining in the state, and have repeatedly and earnestly requested the U. S. government to execute the treaty of Payne's landing fully, and to remove the Indians to Arkansas as agreed by that treaty.

In the mean while the apparently quiet and peaceable conduct of the Indians had inspired confidence and a feeling of security. Time had in some measure obliterated from the minds of men the horrid atrocities and massacres committed by these savages in the late Indian war, and as years rolled on the country began to be settled and improved. Old plantations that had been devastated during the former war, were reoccupied and new ones opened and settled. Many new settlers had come in from other states, and after the usual privations and hardships of new settlements and frontier life, were beginning to repose in the prospect of comfort and competency. The settlements in East Florida were becoming very numerous and the country in a high state of prosperity at the beginning of the present summer, and with the prospect of most abundant crops the present year, an impetus had been given highly favorable to the further settlement of the country. The private land grants, owned by numerous individuals of all conditions in life, and which are dotted over the country, were beginning to come into market and to be valuable to their owners; and, in short, all classes of community were experiencing the benefits of peace, and a supposed exemption from any further Indian outrages.

In the midst of this state of things we were awakened from this fancied security by the most wanton and unprovoked aggressions of these savage

marauders. At two points on either side of the peninsula, and both without the Indian reservation, we learn that they had again commenced their old work of murder, robbery, pillage, and arson; and this too without the slightest provocation, and, so far as we can learn, under no pretence of retaliation for fancied or real injuries. On this point we have been induced to make the most particular inquiries, and we have not been able to learn any fact or circumstance leading to the belief that any wrong or injury had been perpetrated by the whites upon the Indians. We feel justified in saying that the whites are in no manner the aggressors—that the outrages at Indian river (some thirty miles distant from the Indian reservation) and at Pease creek (which is their northern boundary) were unprovoked, and they are of such a character, when taken in connection with other facts since occurring, as to lead to the conviction that this remnant of Indians, now in our state, have again deliberately commenced hostilities and are bent on war.

The result of all this, as is well known, has already been most disastrous, and threatens to be more so unless the most prompt and speedy relief is afforded to restrain or remove the Indians and protect the settlers. All the settlements from New Smyrna southward on the eastern or Atlantic coast have been entirely abandoned. In the exposed part of the country in the interior we are informed that great numbers of the settlers, and particularly those who have recently come into the state, have abandoned their farms or plantations, and fled from the state. Many others have sought safety by congregating together at points most favorable for mutual defense and protection, and others, more hardy or less exposed, have fortified their own houses by pickets, &c., determined at least to secure the present year's crop; and all who remain are living in constant alarm and anxiety. And when it is borne in mind that these settlements, though comprehending great numbers in the aggregate, are sparse in reference to each other, and expanded over a large extent of country, and therefore not well situated to afford mutual protection, it will be seen at once that this state of things cannot last, and that unless ample protection is extended to them, and the Indians removed entirely from our limits, the country must again be abandoned and given up to the savages and wild beasts, and all hope of the future settlement of this part of our state relinquished.

All this is no light matter, no trivial cause of complaint. And when the people of East Florida, recollecting the desolation and ruin into which the last Indian war plunged the country, and from which it has not yet recovered, raise the note of alarm, and call earnestly upon the general and state government for relief and protection, we consider that they have good reason for doing so, and that it should by no means subject them to the imputation of making much ado from small causes. Any one acquainted with the insidious character of the enemy and the nature of the country cannot but admit that the smallness of their numbers affords no security against a repetition of the same calamities which followed the outbreak of 1835,—indeed it is to be apprehended that the very fact of their being so few will lead to more prolonged if not more injurious aggressions than if their numbers were many, as they have it more in their power to elude pursuit. The lives and property of a large part of our citizens are at stake, and the future welfare and prosperity of our state are seriously jeopardized, and under these circumstances, as already detailed, the people of East Florida are called upon, by every consideration of duty and expediency, to act promptly

and to speak strongly, urgently, and earnestly to those whose duty it is to hear and redress our grievances; and hence they have called upon the general government for, and will no doubt continue to insist upon, the entire and total removal of the Indians from the borders of our state, and the full and complete execution of the treaty of Payne's landing, which is the supreme law of the land, and which the general government is bound to execute and carry out. In the meanwhile they ask that protection and defense for the frontier and exposed settlements which is rendered by the existing state of things, and which may continue to be necessary until the Indians are finally removed.

In conclusion the committee beg leave to submit the following Resolutions—

(Signed)

JOSEPH M. HERNANDEZ,
GEORGE R. FAIRBANKS,
B. A. PUTNAM,
MATTHEW SOLANA,
PEDRO BENET,
W. H. SIMMONS,

D. R. DUNHAM,
J. M. FONTANE,
WM. A. FORWARD,
J. H. BRONSON,
RICHARD FLOYD,
C. L. BRAYTON,

Committee.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved,—That we deem the present a crisis of deep interest and importance to the future welfare and prosperity of East Florida, and that a speedy removal of the Indians now remaining among us, and a final termination of hostilities are of the first consideration, and earnestly desired by all, and that so far as we are able, our best efforts shall be used to produce these desirable results.

Resolved,—That from the investigations we have made, and from the facts and circumstances which have come to our knowledge, we are fully of the opinion that there has been no aggression by the whites upon the Indians to furnish even a pretext for hostilities—and that the recent Indian outrages were wholly unprovoked, and had their origin only in the innate hatred of these savages to the whites, in their unwillingness to emigrate, and in their fixed determination to prevent all settlements in their neighborhood, and thereby again reduce the country to a wilderness, as more congenial to their habits of life.

Resolved,—That we have witnessed with pleasure and satisfaction, the disposition of the Executive of our own State to meet the emergency occasioned by the late Indian outrages, in a prompt and becoming spirit, and to furnish adequate protection to the frontier, and exposed settlers—and that we approve of the course which he has taken, and trust it will meet with a like approbation from every citizen of the State. And that we are also gratified to learn that the authorities of the United States Government have expressed their fixed determination to remove the remaining Indians from Florida, and in the meanwhile, till that can be effected, to furnish adequate protection to the exposed settlers, and that in pursuance of these intentions, troops are daily arriving in Florida, and other measures taken to ensure the accomplishment of these designs—all of which, is highly satisfactory, and meets our cordial and hearty approval; and we shall take

great pleasure in cooperating with the constituted authorities in any way that may be needful and proper, to aid in carrying out the objects above expressed.

Resolved,—That in our opinion, the Governor should not withdraw the volunteer force now in the field, nor cease in his efforts for the protection of the country, without first being satisfied that the United States Government has provided sufficiently for the defence of the settlements.

Resolved,—That from investigations made, we are fully satisfied that the idea that the outrages at Indian river and Pease creek, on opposite sides of the Peninsula, were committed by one and the same band of Indians, and not exceeding five in number, is altogether erroneous. And among other reasons rendering such a supposition improbable, may be mentioned the remains of the camp fires of a much larger number of Indians near the scene of the outrage at Indian river—the short space of time, not exceeding four days, between the two attacks—the distance of over 100 miles, in an air line, to be traversed by the Indians, laden with plunder, by circuitous paths, and intervening water-courses, swamps and lakes, and the amount of plunder removed at each point.

And that we are satisfied, and fully believe, that these outrages have been countenanced by the Florida Indians generally, and have not proceeded merely from the individual acts or feelings of any limited or particular number.

Resolved,—That much credit is due to Col. C. F. Smith, of the 2d Regt. of Artillery, and to Major Ripley and Lieut. Adams, under his command, for their prompt and energetic exertions for the protection of the citizens.

Resolved,—That we respectfully recommend to our fellow-citizens of other counties throughout the State, to meet and express their opinions on this important subject.

Resolved,—That the proceedings of these meetings, with the foregoing Report and Resolutions, be furnished for publication, and that the newspapers of this State, as well as those of Washington city, are requested to publish the same—and that copies be transmitted by the secretaries of this meeting to the Secretary of War, and the Governor of Florida.

Which having been read, and listened to with attention by this meeting, were on motion of Thomas T. Russell, Esq., adopted, unanimously and without a dissenting voice. Afterwards, on motion, the last resolution was reconsidered and amended, so as to require a copy of the same, to be transmitted to the President, instead of the Secretary of War.

In answer to a numerous call, Col. C. A. Mitchell, of Marion county, addressed the meeting, portraying in an impressive speech, the disastrous consequences to the country generally, that might be anticipated from the recent Indian hostilities, expressing the views and wishes of the citizens of Marion county with regard to the course that should be pursued towards the Indians, and urging their speedy and entire removal.

The Hon. E. C. Cabell succeeded, and was listened to with deep attention, while in a few pertinent remarks, deprecating the introduction of any partizan or political allusion that might tend to mar the harmony of the meeting assembled to consider the interest and duty of a common country, under a common grievance, he detailed what he understood to be the policy of the administration, as to the immediate and total removal of the Indians, and its disposition to afford every aid and protection to the citizens of Florida that they had a right to demand, or could justly expect.

The meeting was then addressed by the Hon. D. L. Yulee, who excited profound interest, as he pictured the distress and suffering of our hardy frontier settlers, driven from their homes, and rendered destitute by the dread of the savage. Mr. Yulee further said, that confiding in the good purposes and satisfactory assurances of the Secretary of War, he was not disposed to be hasty or censorious in his judgments. He thought the Department at fault, however, in some particulars, which he proceeded to specify, but which he hoped would be remedied.

On motion of the Hon. B. A. Putnam, a vote of thanks was tendered by the meeting to their chairman and secretaries.

Then on motion of Thomas T. Russell, Esq., the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

J. H. BRONSON, *Chairman*.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, }
P. C. ZYLVESTRA, } *Committee.*
JOHN DRYSDALE, }

DUNLAWTON, September 3, 1849.

To His Excellency, the President of the United States.

DEAR SIR: Permit me to address you, relative to the Indian depredations committed at Indian river in July last, and ask as a great favor that you will as soon as practicable inform me what your intention is in regard to the Indians, or the removal of them, as I feel very anxious about the matter for reasons which I will give you. I settled on Indian river in 1843, and commenced farming there, and have made various trips to the Bahamas and Cuba, to procure all of the tropical fruits at a great expense, and have succeeded in raising them, and have been to great expense in clearing and fencing and building, until every dollar of my funds is expended, and was in a fine way of reaping a rich reward next year; on the 12th of July, the Indians in the absence of myself and family, went to my house and rifled it of every thing it contained, then proceeded to Mr. Barker and Russell's, and extended their depredations, killing the former, and wounding the latter. They lived one mile from me. They then proceeded to Capt. Gottas' house, and rifled it and burned it to the ground. We were forced to abandon the settlement, thus depriving me of a home, without one dollar or even bedding, or a change of clothes, with a family to support and in this condition, I do not know what to do; whether I ever can return, or what the intention of Government is, I do not know. I am now at New Smyrna, waiting the result. The Indians always had been treated well by me, as well as by others.

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM D. WARD.

P. S.—Reference to E. C. CABELL.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, Sept. 18, 1849.

SIR: Your letter of the 3d inst., addressed to the President, has been referred to this office.

In reply to your enquiry, as to the intention of the government in regard to the Indians yet remaining in Florida, I have to inform you that

military protection has already been furnished, ample for the defence of the inhabitants, as you will no doubt have learned on the reception of this communication; and that the subject of the early removal of said Indians west, is now under advisement, and the preliminary steps already taken in the matter.

Your losses and annoyances, the Department deeply regrets, but as the act usually known as the "Intercourse law," does not embrace Florida, Congress is the only power that can redress your grievances, and afford you just and proper remuneration.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

WILLIAM D. WARD, Esq.
New Smyrna, Florida.

PALATKA, E. F.,

September 5, 1850.

SIR: In reply to your letter of the 27th August, I offer the following propositions. Doubtless, it would be greatly to the interest of the United States, in every sense, to have the Indians removed from this State, without war. The tribe, or rather remnants of tribes, are scattered over a wide extent of country, and difficult of access; consequently requiring some time to procure a separate conference, which would be necessary, to ensure a general meeting. I feel convinced it can be done by proper negotiation. I shall be placing myself in a very critical situation, as well as my interpreters, and expect to be liberally rewarded, should I finally succeed. If my efforts prove abortive, not by my neglect, satisfactorily proved to the Department, or be slain in the embassy, then my family to receive what I would have been entitled to. I think within six months, I could procure their removal, provided I am sustained and clothed with proper authority from the Department. There is only one way by which to ensure their removal voluntarily: a stipulated price upon each and every Indian, also allowing me the general superintendence at their final departure, and preparatory thereto, government furnishing means, &c., for transportation.

It is impossible for me now to say what I would consider a fair compensation; my country, I feel well assured, would be willing to remunerate me liberally, where so much blood and treasure will be saved.

I am sorry to say it, I believe many citizens of this State are anxious we should have a war with the Indians, simply for speculation. The wise policy of the War Department, in excluding them from employment, will have a great tendency to aid my efforts in resisting the nation, should I be sent there. If my services should be required, the Department will judge whether I require a strong escort or not. Ten or twenty men (such as I may select,) would be all-sufficient. If the Department requires my services, I shall be pleased to hear from it, and can be ready at the earliest notice to penetrate the nation.

With high respect,

B. HOPKINS.

Note.—No answer returned; other measures having been adopted and obtained publicity through the newspapers.

WASHINGTON, *September 6, 1849.*

HON. THOMAS EWING.

DEAR SIR: I see from the report of Colonel Whitner and General Thompson, that they learn from "Mr. Ewing, Secretary of the Interior, that he had ordered Colonel Spencer to repair, without delay, to his post within the Indian territory, and demand the authors of the late murders and robberies."

I respectfully state, that I have received no such communication, and that I had repaired to Fort Brooke for the purpose of demanding the aggressors, without receiving the order, and in advance of the Governor's request to the same effect. No guide or interpreter could be procured.

I shall be in the Indian territory in a few days, and will do all that opportunity may permit, and the means at my disposal will warrant.

I am yours truly and respectfully,

S. SPENCER.

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *September 15, 1849.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward, herewith, a communication from M. Duval, Esq., Seminole sub-agent, acknowledging the receipt of the documents relative to the contemplated removal of the Seminoles still remaining in the State of Florida, received at this office on the 7th instant, from Mr. Markland, and forwarded to Mr. Duval on the following day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN DRENNEN,
Acting Supt. W. S.

ORLANDO BROWN, Esq.,
Commr. Indian Affairs,
Washington City.

FORT GIBSON, C. N., *September 9, 1849.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, this moment, of your orders of the 18th ultimo, instructing me in reference to the Florida Indians. The orders shall be attended to with all practicable expedition. I shall leave immediately for my agency, and call the Indians together, to name the delegates. I have sent to Fort Smith, for Wild Cat, to return to my place, to assist and use his influence and judgment in council. He had gone down on a trading expedition. I had come down this far for the Seminole goods, &c. They will be delivered at the council, and I shall leave for Florida as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commr. Indian Affairs, &c., &c.

PALATKA, *September 20, 1849.*

SIR: Upon mature reflection, I am induced to propose to the Department, the removal of the Indians, after having consented to emigrate at one

hundred and fifty dollars per head, or seventy-five thousand, for five hundred of them, and provision them for a season, allowing full time for them to make a crop at their new abode. The recent amicable position they have assumed, is clearly an indication of their desire for peace; and if proper agents are sent among them, and their situation fully explained, I feel confident that the entire nation could be purchased out at a moderate valuation per head. I am still inclined to accept a commission, conjointly with the present sub-agent, who is very desirous I should accompany him in such an event. He left this place this morning for Tampa.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. HOPKINS.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 15, 1849.

COLONEL BROWN.

DEAR SIR: I have appointed Colonel Elijah Mattox, Indian trader for the Indians yet remaining in Florida, and respectfully ask that he may be commissioned by the Department as such.

I am, yours very respectfully,

S. SPENCER.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,

September 13, 1849.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 5th inst., giving information that you have appointed Col. Elijah Mattox Indian trader for the Seminole Indians, and asking the Department to commission him as such.

The laws of Florida having been extended over all the Indian country in that State, the law regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes is inoperative, and consequently the general government has no power to license trade in the Seminole country.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

S. SPENCER, Esq.,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

FORT BROOKE, Oct. 1, 1849.

COL. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Department.

DEAR SIR: Your favor came to hand last mail. The law to which you refer has never been approved by Congress, and therefore void.

If the commission was not valid it could do no evil, and I can get one also from the Governor of the State.

Indeed, to do the Indians justice I must establish two stores, one for each faction, Jones and Billy's, one on Pease creek, and the other on Caloosahatchee; this will accommodate both tribes.

I cannot and will not, however, go to the Indian territory without a small armed force say fifty or sixty efficient men, and as General Twiggs tells me he cannot spare regular troops I would be glad to have volunteers. I prefer them, however much the government may contemn them. Alas for the country!!

You can see position of the troops as at present located, along the road towards Ocala (Fort King) for about sixty miles, and then in the region of Pilatka!!

We have *probable* reports of further Indian depredations on Indian river.

Col. Ossian Hart, State Attorney for the Southern Circuit, has just arrived at this place, and has given the particulars as detailed to him by the gentleman who returned to Key West, and to which they made affidavit, and which document is in the hands of General Twiggs.

The newspaper accounts are nearly correct. I have marked out the word approach, and if the word *evidence* is substituted you will see the purport of the affidavit as rehearsed to me by Colonel Hart.

General Twiggs expects to receive the Indian criminals on the 18th inst. I doubt very much the surrender; it will be another talk, and ask leave to sit again. "*Come next morn'.*"

I would be glad to know if any order has emanated from Washington instructing the officers here to employ no citizens on any terms, or for any service. Such is the practice, and Mr. Crawford bears the blame.

I know the Floridians are blamed for the war, while they have had no more agency in producing it than Mohamet in making the moon, and not more than one out of fifty can be benefited, while hundreds are now ruined and hundreds more must suffer.

Removal is our watchword, and I am glad the government responds to it.

I give you my deliberate opinion, that I can buy the Indians out in *twelve months* or whip them out in six.

I hope to be relieved by November. I do not wish it known general, as the Department would suffer a siege for the appointment. I have given you several names from which a good selection can be made, Baker, Bryant, Cooper, Hopkins or Smith would be very competent.

I am, yours sincerely,

S. SPENCER.

I cannot persuade Major Morris or Captain Casey to have anything to do with the agency at this time.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
September 19, 1849.

SIR: I have inadvertently omitted, heretofore, to inform you, officially, that S. Spencer, Esq., sub-agent for the Florida Indians, has recently visited the seat of government, and that this writ was made without advisement with, or instructions from this office, and of course without its sanction.

Such writ was a direct violation of the seventh paragraph of the regulations defining the duties of agents, sub-agents, &c., wherein they are expressly forbid to leave the limits of their agencies without permission.

Whilst here, his communications were principally of a verbal and general character; he departed without leaving anything of an official nature to indicate the object of said visit: he signified, however, his intention of addressing me on the subject at an early day.

As yet, no such communication has been received.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

HON. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary for the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
WASHINGTON, *September 27, 1849.*

SIR : I have to inform you that the Indian sub-agency for the Seminoles in Florida, to which Samuel Spencer of Jacksonville, was appointed in April last, has been discontinued, and the management of Indian affairs in that state, restored to the War Department.

The Secretary of War has advised me that Capt. John C. Casey of the U. S. A. now at Tampa Bay, has been designated for that duty.

You will, therefore, instruct Mr. Spencer to turn over to that officer all funds, papers, &c., belonging to the U. S. which may remain in his hands, he taking Captain Casey's receipt therefor.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. EWING, Secretary.

A. S. LONGHERY, Esq.,
Acting Com. of Indian Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
September 28, 1850.

SIR : You will perceive from the accompanying copy of a letter of the Hon. Secretary of the Interior, that the sub-agency in Florida has been discontinued, and the charge of the Indians transferred to Captain John C. Casey, under the directions of the War Department.

In conformity with the last paragraph of that letter, you will please turn over to Captain Casey all the public funds and property in your hands; taking his receipt therefor as a voucher in your final accounts, which you will please forward as soon as practicable, for settlement.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. LOUGHERY,
Acting Commissioner.

SAMUEL SPENCER, Esq.,
Sub-Agent, &c.,
Tampa Bay, Florida,
via Jacksonville, Fa.

If not in Jacksonville, to be forwarded as per address.

SEMINOLE SUB-AGENCY,
September 24, 1849.

SIR : I have the honor to inform you that the Indians met this evening to act on the proposition of government in relation to sending a delegation to Florida.

They have delayed in assembling, in consequence of many of the chiefs being at a distance from home when your instructions were received, and it required considerable time to have them informed of the wishes of government.

All the principal men are not yet in, yet I have seen enough to satisfy me that Wild Cat is exerting his influence to prevent or delay the appointment of delegates. His object is, no doubt, to show his importance, and force government to offer him a considerable sum.

In this I say, most confidently, to the Department, he shall be frustrated, without creating any great delay.

I shall set such elements to work, that in a few days the delegates shall be appointed and ready; my object will of course be to have men appointed who can exert an influence in Florida.

I was somewhat surprised at Wild Cat's opposition, at the same time think it is in keeping with his character. He desires to rule or make himself felt; and, although a month ago, he would have begged to go, now, that he hears there is trouble (he heard it below at Fort Smith,) he imagines that it is absolutely necessary to have him, and by holding off, he will be the better paid.

I can only repeat, that the instructions shall be carried out, if exertion or influence on my part can effect it, which I believe they can, even should I be forced to crush Wild Cat by the influence of others among his own people.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

Hon. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commr. Indian Affairs,
Washington City, D. C.

FORT GIBSON, C. N.,
October 7, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you, that in consequence of the opposition indirectly made to the appointment of a delegation to go to Florida, I have been delayed considerably in carrying out the wishes of the Department; however, the delegation are now preparing to go, and are to meet me on the 16th of this month, to leave North Fork, of Canadian, for Fort Smith, and there take steamboat.

I had, as I expected, to speak very plainly to those who were opposing it, and finally forced their cooperation. This opposition on the part of Wild Cat, is to be attributed, I have reason to believe, in a great part, to the advice or remarks of General Arbuckle, in reference to myself, throwing discredit on me, and thereby on my acts; weakening, for a time, my influence, and encouraging opposition to my official acts. Of this interference, on the part of General A., I have written in another letter, and only write now, that the Department may be informed of the time the delegation will start.

I endeavored to persuade them to start from the council, at my agency, but could not succeed; yet, I believe, on the whole, the delay will be beneficial, inasmuch, as some of those who were then willing to go, will be replaced by better and more influential men.

I have sent to Fort Smith, the request to the captain of one of the light draught boats, to be at Fort Smith about the 18th, so there may be as little delay there as possible.

To-morrow, I return to my agency, to be ready to start with the delegation.

The delay of the delegation only gave me a day or two to attend the Creek council, in reference to questions between the Creeks and Seminoles, and I availed myself of it also, to come as far as the Creek agency, with Colonel Raiford, under whose care, the interests of the Seminoles will be

during my absence, and to whom I have instructed them to apply, should they wish to advise or consult on any subject.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commr. Indian Affairs,
Washington City, D. C.

FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS,
October 25, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to report my arrival, at this place, with a delegation of eleven Indians, and two interpreters, on their route to Florida.

I am aware there has been much delay, but considering the obstacles to be overcome, I think myself fortunate in so far succeeding.

It is unnecessary to state here, what difficulties were encountered, nor do I suppose I have done more than others, with the same knowledge of the people, could have done; but I am convinced, no one acquainted with the Seminoles, could have induced the persons composing this delegation, to go to Florida, in the service of the government.

I was delayed several days at North Fork of Canadian, to induce Halleck Tustenuggee to join me, and finally I succeeded in so doing. I further discovered Wild Cat's whole purpose in regard to this subject. He (Wild Cat,) opposed it in council, indirectly, so long as he thought he could effect anything, but afterwards wished it to appear that he was in favor of it, that he might the more secretly defeat the object of government, as he has endeavored to send a Talk to the Florida Seminoles, which would retard their acquiescing to a removal. Halleck Tustenuggee, whom I have placed at the head of the delegation, appears anxious to again unite his people, and I rely more on his influence than on any other man in the Seminole nation.

I shall get off, in the morning, on a boat for the mouth of the Arkansas.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commr. Indian Affairs,
Washington City, D. C.

(Copy.)

[Telegraphic Despatch.]

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 3d.

ORLANDO BROWN:

SIR: I arrived this morning with the Seminole delegation and will leave the first opportunity. The steamer Washiten looked for hourly and will return in two days,

I shall write fully by mail,

Respectfully,
M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., Nov., 5th 1849.

SIR : I had the honor to telegraph you on the 3d inst., advising of my arrival that morning. I then expected to go to Tampa in the steamer Fashion, then hourly looked for, but after remaining this long have concluded to start in the propeller Ashland, which will leave in the morning. I should much have preferred the Fashion on account of the greater comfort, as I wish the whole trip as favorably reported on as possible, yet the delay might be productive of greater evil than a less favorable report of the gulf passage. The Indians, however, will be as well provided for as possible, or as myself, and shall have no cause to complain on that score. They have conducted themselves well, so far, and I believe will be of material service in the proposed negotiations.

I wrote from Fort Smith, Arkansas, but a hurried letter, believing my communication from this place would probably be in advance of it.

In another letter (A herewith) I give you a proposition from Wild Cat, which, taken in connection with the talk which he endeavored to send secretly to Florida, will show his object as regards the movements of this Delegation, and the future action of the Seminoles. He desires the Indians in Florida to "hold on," that is, not remove until removal becomes so great an object to government, as to induce it to give him a large amount, or make a treaty by which he can either make money, or so great personal popularity as to have the ascendancy over his people in despite of his superiors. He intends that Indians in Florida should be peaceable, but not remove; that they should, in the spring, call for him and others, who jointly with the Florida chiefs will make a treaty for a country on the Rio Grande, thereby getting away from the neighborhood of the Creeks, or the control of the U. S. government, to assume a more important position among strangers, and possibly wield an influence over some of the Prairie tribes. I hardly believe his object is hostile to our government, certainly not by overt acts of violence, but he is ambitious and would wish to cut a figure in the world, would wish the government to believe *he* was controlling and holding in check the wild Indians of the Prairie, and would, at the same time, convince the Indians that he was only playing the part of a skillful diplomatist in deceiving government for their benefit.

The above, in a small compass, is his object, of which the Delegation itself was not fully aware until told by myself. He had, however, told some that government was about to stop trading in the nation, that they were to be placed under strict regulations, &c., which a removal would obviate, and such other stuff as to make them think he foresaw that which they were too ignorant to comprehend. He did not openly in council avow his object, indeed, I am well satisfied such an understanding would have produced great dissatisfaction.

In allusion to all of Wild Cat's secret talk, I informed the Delegation that they were the last Delegates who would be sent to Florida; that if their brothers would not listen to them, they might be assured government would not send for Wild Cat, or anybody else; that I considered them a fair representation of the nation west, and as much faith and credit would be given them if they acted faithfully, as the same number of any who were behind; that they were sent to speak the truth plainly to the Florida Indians, and if after hearing it, they decided to contend with the government, well and

good; the penalty would be on their own heads, and they would most assuredly feel it, as the State of Florida had a right to govern *all* within her limits; and the government was bound to sustain her right; and if they wished to rescue their brothers from serious trouble, they should now have an opportunity of doing so.

They expressed themselves satisfied; it was what they understood from me before starting, and they would do their duty. Halleck Tustenuggee is decidedly anxious to remove his people; him I placed at the head of the Delegation.

They have several times desired I would say how much per day I thought would be allowed; to which, of course I could only reply that if successful they should be very liberally paid, and if not successful, it would depend on the fidelity with which they acted, which would be reported by me, and as I knew them I would be a fair judge.

The names of the Delegates are as follows:

HALLECK TUSTENUGGEE,
HOLATA MICCO,
TUSTENUC CHOPCO,
NOKE SUCKER,
CHO-CO-TUSTENUECOOCHU,
A-HALLEC-HARJO,

MICKA SUKEES.

TAR-CO-SE-FIXICO,
COT-CHU-CHEE,
COT-CHAR-FIXICO,

TALLAHASSEES.

HOTULKE HARJO,
ALBUTTACHEE,

HITCH-ITY.
A-LAC-HUA.

JIM FACTOR,
JOE RILEY,

INTERPRETERS.

In letter of instructions I am requested to call for such further instructions as I think necessary, &c. I therefore request that in answer to Wild Cat's letter, (proposition) I may be instructed in accordance with what I have already assured the Indians, that that question may be put to rest for the present—although not positively refused—make it necessary to be considered at all that the Florida Indians shall first remove comply with treaties already made, before making others.

I should, also, at the earliest moment, be informed to what extent (if not left discretionary) the Department will allow the agent to go in submitting propositions for removal to the Florida Indians. Will the agent be authorized to assure them that the annuity of the whole nation will be increased so as to give those removing an amount per capita, equal to that received by those now west? This proposition would also be favorably considered by the Delegation, as not reducing the amount per capita, due those west by the increase of the nation. I make these inquiries now, that I may know what position I am to take at first, knowing that with Indians it is all important not to be considered wavering.

I have this day drawn on your office in favor of Samuel C. Bell, Cashier Canal Bank, New Orleans, for one thousand dollars at sight, to cover ex-

penses already incurred, and for which I had borrowed money on my way down. Sight drafts were the only ones on which I could realize funds without a discount.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,
Your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs.
Washington City, D. C.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 5, 1845.

SIR: I have the honor to make known the following proposition made to me at North Fork of Canadian W. T., by Wild Cat, which he desired that I would transmit to the President of the United States.

"He proposes to remove from his present location in the Creek nation, to a country somewhere near the Rio Grande. He states also it is the wish of his people* (the Seminoles generally) to go with him, as they are tired of living among the Creeks. That they think that country will suit them better, and he wants the President to favorably consider his views—that he believes he could induce Billy Bowlegs and all now in Florida, to go to Rio Grande willingly, whereas they will always object to going near the Creeks."

This is the substance of his talk in a few words. I of course replied, without assenting or dissenting to his views, but promised to inform the President.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Sem. Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Ind. Affairs,
Washington city, D. C.

FORT BROOKE, FLORIDA,
November 12, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to report my arrival with the delegation of Seminoles at this place, on the 10th inst. The delegates have been allowed to go out for two days to kill deer and collect root medicines, before starting for Peas creek, where the prisoners are. It is deemed best that they should see them (prisoners) first, to ascertain the whereabouts of the different parties, and to adopt some means of sending word to them, informing them of the arrival of the delegates, and their wish to see them, &c. This is thought by General Twiggs, and Captain Casey is required by prudence, as they are of opinion, that the delegates would be in great danger to go out before communicating by some messenger.

The impression appears to prevail here with the army, that it is impossible to effect a peaceable removal; such, however, is not my opinion, can the delegates bring about a council. It may, and probably will, take some time for the delegates to produce the proper feeling; it

* This be it distinctly understood, is only his word.

must be done by degrees, and emigration must not in the first place be urged by the delegates; but they should be rather looked upon by the Florida Indians as their disinterested friends and councillors on such propositions as have been or may be made—place them in the position of government agents, through whom to make propositions for removal, and their influence is immediately impaired, if not entirely destroyed. They must in their own way be allowed to operate either in council or with families, as seems most expedient, and as representing those in the west, or their efficiency is very problematical. I have confidence in the men whom I have brought, because they have been good men west, that is, not tricky—the leader is a daring chief, and one whom I have never known to violate his word, and until he does, I shall place as much reliance on him, as any Indian I know.

We will start to Peas creek, on Wednesday 14th instant, and I may be there some time, depending altogether on contingencies; all of interest, however, will be promptly reported.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,

Seminole Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Ind. Affairs,
Washington city, D. C.

FORT BROOKE, TAMPA BAY,

FLORIDA, Nov. 19, 1849.

SIR: I have the honor to report my return to this place from Pease creek, where I left the delegation.

They are to start out for the Indian settlements on the 22d of this month, and probably will not be in at Pease creek again until the 15th December, when General Twiggs promised to meet Bowlegs and others.

From the information gathered by the delegates from the prisoners, I have no doubt there were many more Indians concerned in the murders (directly and indirectly) than as reported to General Twiggs. The prisoners informed them that there were more, and that the principal, who is yet at large, was protected by Sam Jones, and not as reported—escaped to parts unknown; that they have been delivered as a sacrifice to save others, to give the appearance of fair dealing—and to relieve the people at large from the responsibility of the outrages committed, &c. Indeed I am satisfied that the question of hostility to the whites has been discussed by their principal men, if not in council, in their general conversation; and if not encouraged, at least winked at, as being justified by, and as a retaliation for the laws of Florida, prohibiting Indians from crossing the line for any purpose whatever; but seeing the effect of these premature acts—on the interests of all, the chiefs have thought fit and best to deliver up some of the actors, as the only means of satisfying the government, and to avert the trouble which their unwise consultations have brought about.

The delegates themselves are now in doubt what will be the result, yet promise to do their best to induce them to come to the appointed meeting, and talk the matter over in a friendly way.

I regret that any proposition for removal was made, before the delegates saw the Indians; it has made the approach more difficult and dangerous to them—with fewer chances to a favorable termination.

The policy of so large an offer as has been made, and the time and manner of the offer (in open council) may prove to be best, yet I must believe (until I see the contrary) that so large an offer in council, will produce the impression that the land is of so much importance, that they will hold out for larger amounts to be tendered, besides giving the principal men a few thousands extra. The amount promised is of little importance, and to little effect—when done in council—where each man knowing the prohibitory law of the nation—suspicious of the others, and fearing to avow his real wishes, would commit himself (on the safe side as regards his personal welfare with his people) in opposition—to prevent the charge of being brought, and where the credit demanded by him for his patriotism would be in proportion to the temptation, and consequently oppose what would under other circumstances—or offered in a different way he would be glad to accept.

In consequence of the large offer made to the Indians, the expectations of the delegates have been raised as regards their own pay, and as a matter of policy, which the department will readily perceive, I have told them I would recommend to the government to pay each delegate (in case they are successful) double the amount offered to each warrior in the nation; that I was satisfied my recommendation would be adopted if the Indians removed, and that their pay in that case should be as much if accomplished in three or four months, as if it took six or eight—the sooner it was effected, the more willing government would be to make the allowance.

I yet have hopes of success, if the delegates are once received by their people.

I am very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington city, D. C.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
December 10, 1849.

SIR: I have been at this place for some time past, anxiously waiting orders from your bureau, on Indian affairs in Florida, and to this time been disappointed. I cannot suppose that the absence of orders is intended to convey the discretion to act independently in all matters, or I should feel flattered, at the same time that I would prefer having such discretion given in a more unequivocal way, something that I could confidently rely on, and feel that I was not assuming authority where none was given, and owing to previous instructions I was led to anticipate orders soon after my arrival, me and it properly became to wait a reasonable time for such instructions.

There is another difficulty to my acting without orders from your bureau—the instructions given jointly by the Hon. Secretaries of the Interior and War Departments to Gen. Twiggs and former sub-agent for Florida Indians. Those instructions, I am aware, did not supersede those sent to me in reference to the delegation; but under those instructions General Twiggs considered himself authorised to control the delegation, and to ascertain the fact the Indians asked me if I had only brought them on here to leave them. I of course told them that such was not the case, and also

then told Gen. Twiggs (to whom I had previously shown my instructions) that in relation to what it was desired by him to effect through the delegation I expected to be informed, that I might have the delegates to conform as nearly as possible to what was desired,—and so things have progressed since.

I was aware of the feelings of several of the delegates in reference to being employed under the military; I had occasion to learn their opinions in persuading them to come, and they positively refused to leave home if they were to become identified with the military in their operations towards their Florida brothers, and their candor in speaking plainly their minds, was one of the best evidences of their sincerity of intention to do what was proper if placed only under the restricting influence of the counsels of their agent.

As Gen. Twiggs had already appointed a day for meeting the Indians, I thought best (without raising any question with him at all as to the control of the delegates) to instruct them to use their exertions, as best they might with safety to themselves, either by messages or visiting certain Indian friendly disposed, to effect the meeting desired by Gen. Twiggs and assist in carrying out the course already commenced by him, and at the council we could judge what was best next to be done, in case the Indians refused the general's offers or showed a disposition to procrastinate. Up to this time I have made no move (for the reasons given) but was intended to carry out Gen. Twiggs' views, who had already made known to "Bowlegs" and others what he wished, and the delegates were so requested to act as to assist at the same time not to destroy their efficiency in case another mode of proceeding should necessarily be adopted. They were instructed what kind of talks to give such straggling Indians as they saw, using their own judgment as to the manner of conveying said talks to their people.

It is understood that the Indians will assemble, in what number we have no data by which to judge, yet my impression is that there will be but few, I have not lately seen the delegates, and therefore have not the benefit of their information; but from what I have from the military, that the Indians who came in said, "they would meet, but before they came in they were to hold a council and appoint persons to speak." I look for but little, if any result from the coming council. The fact of their appointing speakers for the council, shows an organization for some purpose, and to my mind it is procrastination. Savage Indians rarely (and never in my knowledge) appoint men with full powers to act, they are too suspicious for that—they fear treachery; but by appointing representatives they combine the whole nation, and bind them by the talk which emanate from the head men alone. I therefore look with little expectation to a final answer at the council.

Being thus convinced beforehand of the result, I make my calculations for another course of proceeding, which, in the absence of instructions, I think proper to inform you of, as being intended, should nothing intervene to change my views. If, as I anticipate, the council adjourns without coming to any definite conclusions, I purpose operating entirely by private talks with individuals, to do which, should it be deemed safe by the delegates, I will take them to some point convenient to the Indian settlement (say Charlotte harbor or interior away from any fort), and there locate, invite the Indians to a friendly intercourse with their western brothers, until such time as we desire to go west, let the delegates mix with them, and give all to understand how their respective connections are doing in

the west: and while this is going on, see such leaders as have influence and privately make them the offers which Gen. Twiggs publicly made, endeavor to pave the way gradually for a council to take into consideration the best means to be adopted by the nation to get clear of the difficulties which surround them. In short take up the stumps, roots, and grubs before either ploughing or sowing seed broadcast.

Should the delegates think it not altogether safe in the Indian country, I may call on Gen. Twiggs to furnish me a guard at Charlotte harbor (enough for protection though not enough to intimidate the Indians from coming in) and also invite a merchant to take some goods down to trade with them for skins, &c., which would induce many to come in, when the delegates could see them.

The amounts which have already been offered I shall necessarily be bound to guaranty, and probably some larger amounts to certain individuals.

I have acted so far so as not to conflict with any one here in Indian affairs, and I shall so continue to do, but having proposed the use of delegates (although it was at a time when all was quiet), I feel more than ordinary interest in their mission being successful, at the same time that I cannot feel responsible for a failure should the conducting of that delegation be in opposition to my views, or violation of the promises made to them.

I feel it my duty to express myself plainly in all matters connected with my duties, giving my opinions freely for what they are worth, although they may differ widely from the convictions of others, those perhaps who occupy exalted stations; but in so doing in my plain language, I wish not to be understood as saying, intentionally, anything to their prejudice, or to do injury to their feelings for a difference of opinion.

I have the honor, to be,

Very respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Sem. Sub-Agent.

HON. OLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs.
Washington, D. C.

P. S.—I shall necessarily be obliged to draw on your bureau in a day or two for (\$500) five hundred dollars. I have occasionally to get something for the Indians, and also to pay the interpreters as they require small amounts—besides my own expenses, and my own funds have sometime since been expended for public purposes.

Very respectfully, &c.

M. DUVAL.

(Copy.)

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
Dec. 10, 1849.

SIR: I have taken the liberty to request Mr. Bright, of Arkansas, and General Blake, of Alabama, to call and see you. These gentlemen have been here ever since my arrival, having accompanied me from New Orleans,

and possibly can give you more information verbally than could be conveyed by letter.

They are gentlemen of intelligence, and both been connected with Indians for several years—with such a knowledge of their character as to be of great service should the emigration take place; and although I cannot recommend them on political grounds, you probably can be more liberal, as they are whigs.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs,
Washington City, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,
December 31, 1849.

SIR: Your letters of 10th inst. have been received, and I have to express the approbation of the Department with respect to the course you have pursued in cooperating with the military, and seconding the views and measures of Gen. Twiggs, in regard to the policy to be pursued towards the Florida Indians, in order to bring about their emigration.

It is the understanding of both Departments—War and Interior—that the whole business of the removal of the Indians in question, is now committed to the former; and it is therefore for it to prescribe the course and measures to be adopted to effect that object. Any cooperation by this Department, or by persons acting under authority from it, should and must consequently be in due conformity to the plans of operation prescribed by the War Department or by its authority. You will therefore please consult Gen. Twiggs and be governed by his views and directions with respect to the movements and efforts of yourself and the delegation of Western Seminoles. There must be harmony of action or mischief will be the result.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

M. DUVAL, Esq.,
Sub Indian Agent,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

P. S.—Your draft for \$500 will be duly honored.

O. B.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 10, 1849.

SIR: You are requested to report to the Department, at your earliest convenience, the amount of funds already appropriated, which can be applied to the removal of the Seminole Indians from Florida.

It is desirable, also, that a few medals be transmitted to the officers in Florida, at an early day, for distribution among the chiefs of that tribe. If you have any medals in your possession, you are requested to communicate

with the Secretary of War, who will take measures to have them forwarded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. EWING, *Secretary.*

To the Commissioner of
Indian Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, Dec. 11, 1849.

SIR: In compliance with your request of yesterday's date, to report the "amount of funds already appropriated, which can be applied to the removal of the Seminole Indians from Florida," I have the honor to submit the following statement.

There now stands on the books of this office, to the credit of the undermentioned appropriations, the sum of \$65,346 99, viz:—

For removal of such Seminoles as may surrender for emigration per act of 18th February, 1841.	}	\$ 58,14 37
Removal and subsistence of Indians per acts of 28th May, 1830, and 9th March, 1839.		59,582 62
		<hr/> \$65,346 99

Against these balances, you are aware claims have been allowed by the accounting officers, sufficient in amount to absorb the entire sum. These claims are now before you for decision, on the question of their payment, and if decided adversely upon, then the funds alluded to, are, I presume, free to be used for defraying the expenses of the removal of the Indians in question.

In addition to the above, there are balances to the credit of the following appropriations, viz:—

Expenses of removal of Winnebagoes, act 20th July, 1840.	}	\$43,526 98
Expenses of removal and subsistence of Pottawa- tomies, act March 3, 1839.		38,538 60
Expenses of removing and subsisting Creek In- dians, act March 3, 1839.		7,831 51
		<hr/> making \$89,897 09

which not being now needed for the purposes for which they were originally appropriated, may be transferred and rendered available for the object stated, if it is in the power of the President or the Department to make said transfer.

On the 30th June 1847, there was carried to the Surplus Fund of the appropriation for "fulfilling treaties with Florida Indians," the sum of \$152,249 94.

As the object for which this appropriation was originally made, has not been fulfilled, viz:—the removal and subsistence of the Seminoles, and if it is in the power of the Executive to reclaim this fund, without the action of Congress, it should, I think be done.

The adoption of the latter suggestion, if it can be legally done, would be preferable to the proposed transfer measure, and the amount would be suffi-

cient for the present wants of the government, besides being more legitimate and less liable to occasion confusion in making the requisite entries on the books.

As it regards the medals directed by you to be forwarded to the officers in Florida, for distribution among the chiefs, I have to remark that this office is not now in possession of any of the new ones, but that the director of the mint will forthwith be requested to complete and forward some without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, Dec. 17, 1849.

SIR :—In conformity with the request of the Hon. Secretary of War, I have the honor to inform you, that there will be remitted to you from the treasury, the sum of \$10,000, applicable to expenditure for purposes connected with the removal of the Seminole Indians from Florida.

You will be charged, and held accountable for, the said sum, under the head of appropriation for,

“ Fulfilling treaties with Florida Indians, - - \$10,000.

In the course of a week or ten days from the date hereof, there will likewise be sent to you some medals for distribution among the chiefs.

Very respectfully, &c.

ORLANDO BROWN.

Capt. JOHN C. CASEY, U. S. A.
Tampa Bay, Florida.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, Dec. 28, 1849.

SIR : Agreeably to a request from the Hon. Secretary of War, there will be remitted to you from the treasury, the sum of \$100,000, to be expended in connection with the removal of the Seminoles now in Florida, and in accordance with such instructions as you may receive from the War Department.

You will be charged with said sum under the head of fulfilling treaties with Florida Indians.

Very respectfully, &c.,

ORLANDO BROWN.

Capt. JOHN C. CASEY, U. S. A.
Tampa Bay, Florida.

SENATE CHAMBER, Dec. 21, 1849.

SIR : You will oblige me by informing me in what manner it is proposed to provide for the transportation of the Florida Indians to the west, in case they agree to remove. Will it be by contract to the lowest bidder, or how

otherwise. My object in the enquiry is, for information to several constituents who desire to know, and who wish to propose for the service.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

D. L. YULEE.

Hon. Mr. BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28, 1849.

SIR: I addressed you a letter some days past, enquiring relative to the course you would adopt in providing for the transportation of the Indians, should they consent to remove. No answer having reached me, I beg leave to call your attention to that letter, and request a reply.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

D. L. YULEE.

Hon. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs.

NOTE.—The two foregoing letters were referred to the Secretary of War, and answered from that Department on the 30th December, 1849.

(Copy.)

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,

January 7th, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to inform you of my return to this place, Cho-ko-nik-lah on day before yesterday. I left the Delegates in the neighborhood of that port; where they will remain till the 20th of this month, at which time they expect to see some of the Indians belonging to the Bowlegs party.

The Delegates think there is a better feeling towards them now, than on their arrival, and count confidently on inducing at least a portion of the Indians to emigrate.

They have assurances from the Chief (Cot-chan-fixico-chopco, a Tallahassee, and Cuppit-chu-chee, sub-chief of Sam Jones, a Micka-sukee) that they will go, and they believe many of their band will accompany them, although they have, as yet, no assurances from the bands to such effect.

They have been informed also, that Sam Jones had expressed a willingness to meet Halleck Tustenuggee, and was on the eve of sending such message to him, but was prevented by the remarks of some of his men, when he so expressed himself; consequently, for the time, it was put off; yet Halleck, (although not saying so) I believe, anticipates a meeting with him at some subsequent time, and will endeavor to bring it about when he sees the Indians expected on the 20th.

One of the Delegates, Cho-tus-tenn-ccoockee, is now among the Micka-sukees, having gone directly to their town; he had awaited the action of the Indians towards the Delegate Albuttachee, who was out among them for a considerable time, and once reported to be detained as a prisoner; who, however, being allowed to return, he determined to go down and endeavor to see his relations also. From him Halleck expects to learn further of the feeling of the principal men towards the Delegation; and himself in particular, being looked upon as the leading man of the party.

Albuttachee has also gone among the Indians again, but to a different part of the nation (the Tallahassee town.)

The meeting of the 20th ult., having been agreed upon before I saw the Delegates on my late visit, it was deemed best that they should remain where they are till after that time; when, if practicable, (as I now think) they or a portion of them will go to Charlottes harbor, where General Twiggs has lately sent a command.

I have directed one of the interpreters to go down in the next boat that he may communicate between Major Holmes and the Indians, should any come about his location.

The council of the 15th of December last was, as I had anticipated, a failure; no Indians coming in, or even messages sent. The only Indian there, near the time, was Col-char-fixico-chopco, who came on the 19th to comply with an appointment made with Tar-cose-fixico (the Tallahassee chief west). Some three or four days after the Delegate Albuttachee (brother of As-sin-war) returned with the information "that Cup-pit-chee-chee (brother of Holata-micco, the delegate) and As-sin-war were coming." An express was sent to Captain Casey, who was on his way to Manatee, and he returned and saw them. I was then at this place, having left Choko-niklah the morning of the day on which the Delegate returned, and consequently did not see them; however, I have given you the conclusion of Cup-pit-chee-chee and Col-char-fixico-chopco, as derived from the delegates.

To this time I have not received a line from your Bureau since my departure for the Seminole Sub-Agency west.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Seminole Sub-Agent.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

January 26th, 1850.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst., and am gratified to learn that there is a favorable prospect of the emigration of at least a portion of the Florida Seminoles.

My letter of the 31st December last, will have apprised you of the views of this office in relation to the position and duties of yourself and the Delegation in your charge, in connection with the military.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ORLANDO BROWN.

M. DUVAL, Esq.,
Sub-Indian Agent,
Tampa Bay, Florida,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS,

February 7th, 1850.

SIR: There has been forwarded to you this day, to the care of the United States Quartermaster at Savannah, a box, containing:

Three large, twelve medallion, and five small medals.

In arriving at this assortment I have been somewhat guided by the advice of the Hon. Secretary of War. The medals are of considerable intrinsic value, containing only sufficient alloy to harden the silver.

The policy of this office has been to endeavor to enhance the value of such testimonials in the estimate of the Indians by avoiding a too indiscriminate distribution, making them the rewards of high merit or valuable services rendered the government; the distribution is, however, of course, left to your better knowledge and discretion. I would merely add that the intention was to confer the largest size on head chiefs, the second size on secondary chiefs, and the smallest size on warriors and braves.

ORLANDO BROWN.

Captain J. C. CASEY,
U. S. Army,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, *February 8, 1850.*

SIR: This letter will be handed to you by M. Markland, Esq., of this office, who will place in your hands \$100,000 in gold, sent specially by him, in lieu of the drafts on New Orleans, for which gold could not be realized in that city. Mr. Markland will take your receipt in duplicate for the amount.

&c.,

ORLANDO BROWN.

Capt. J. C. CASEY,
Pilatka, Florida.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

February 9, 1850.

SIR: A special agent from this office will, in all probability, leave the city of New York to-day, on the Southern steamer, with \$100,000 in gold, with instructions to make his way, with the utmost despatch, to Pilatka, and turn the same over to you or your order.

Major Markland (the special agent,) left this city for New York last evening; and as the Assistant Treasurer, at that point, had been telegraphed to have the gold ready for shipment, and as the packet leaves that city, to-day, for Charleston and Savannah, it is hoped and believed that very little delay will ensue.

&c.,

ORLANDO BROWN.

Capt. JOHN C. CASEY, U. S. Army,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
February 18, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to report my return to this place from Fort Arbuckle, near the Kissimmee.

I returned in company with the Indians as far as Fort Meade, at which post they were left to await the arrival of some thirty (30) others, who were to meet Captain Britton, 7th Infantry, with the delegates, on last evening.

On the return of the delegates to Fort Meade, the whole party will move on to Chokonikla, and thence by easy marches to Fort Hamer, near the mouth of the Maritae, from which place, I presume, they will embark.

There were, when I left Fort Meade, sixty-three (63) Indians in all, exclusive of delegates.

The delegates have applied to me to have them also paid when the party embark at Maritae. The emigrating Indians will receive their pay, and the delegates do not wish to be without money where all those around them have plenty. I told them, if possible, I would get it.

If the emigrants are to be paid before embarking, the delegates know there is no good reason they should not; if money can be had for one, it can for the other. The money forwarded is to effect emigration, and to pay off demands growing out of promises made to induce it; and the promises to the delegates were of the same nature as others, and should be as promptly complied with, as it will be through them emigration will have been accomplished. And I therefore earnestly request that money may be forwarded to me, or drafts on New Orleans, which can be used here, or that General Twiggs may be directed by his Department to place in my hands, for the delegates, such an amount as may be necessary for them, out of funds furnished him to pay emigrating Indians.

I spoke to General Twiggs about it, last evening, on my arrival, and he requested I should write for funds, or communicate with the Department on the subject.

The amount offered to each warrior, to emigrate, is \$500, and at least double that amount is expected by each delegate, which I before informed the Department. I should recommend, and I shall further recommend to Halleck Tustenuggee and Tareosefixico, each \$500 above that amount; they being chiefs of prominent bands, and for active services.

The number of delegates is eleven (11,) and two interpreters (natives,) who should be allowed also a considerably larger amount than special interpreters under ordinary circumstances, being looked upon by the Indians also in the light of delegates; and I recommend for them \$5 per day each, exclusive of their expenses and outfit.

An early answer is particularly requested, as the delegates are anxious for the emigration to commence, and they wish to return with the first large party.

It is all-important that the delegates should have perfect confidence in the promises of the government, as the least falling off on their part would defeat the emigration, even if all were ready to go on board the boat; and I have been obliged to give my personal assurances to them, and insure the fulfilment of all promises I make in behalf of the government, else they would doubt what I said; and, as many were deceived in former emigration, they are distrustful of the government, unless assured by those whom they know well. The Department at once will see my position, both now and in future, should my word be disavowed by government; and rather than they should charge me with deception, I would explain the whole business to them, and risk the displeasure of the government, even to removal. I make this remark, because they are not altogether satisfied at times at receiving orders from those who give them, and would refuse to comply, did

they not suppose I had something to with them in advising what is proposed. In fact, my own position has been such, since my arrival here, towards the government, the Indians, and those into whose hands the conducting of the emigration has been confided, that I am heartily sick of it, and would be much pleased to receive orders to take the delegates back with the first party. So long as the delegates remain, I know they expect I will; and therefore I do not ask to go before they can be dispensed with.

In speaking of my position, I do not wish to be understood as speaking of my personal position, as that is pleasant enough with those whom I have met, but my official position; and but for the reason that I believe I could be of material service to government in managing the delegates, and on account of my promises to them, I should have reported myself at Washington City within one month after my arrival here.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

M. DUVAL,
Seminole Sub-Agent.

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs, &c., &c.

(Copy.)

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
February 24, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to report that Major Markland, the special agent, arrived here yesterday, having made great dispatch. He has delivered to me one hundred thousand dollars, being funds for fulfilling treaties with Indians, and I have given him duplicate receipts therefor, dated yesterday.

These funds have arrived just in time to meet the payment of the first party of Indians consisting of 75 to 80 of all ages and both sexes.

Major Markland will return to Washington by first opportunity, probably leaving here on 27th inst.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,

*Capt., and Special Agent for
removing Seminoles.*

HON. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs.

(Copy.)

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA.
March 8, 1850.

SIR: Herewith please to receive a *summary statement* of funds for January and February 1850.

The Treasury Drafts No. 793 to 795 int. warrant for \$20,000 each; and No. 796 to 799 for \$10,000 each, received by me on January 26th, having been returned to the Treasurer of the U. S., mailed same day, I have not charged myself with the amount, viz.: \$100,000.

The amount received from the pay Department through Paymaster Geo. H. Ringgold on February 20th, (\$35,997 50) will be returned to the Department from the fund now in my possession.

I trust the Department will approve of my delivering \$1200 to M. Duval, sub-agent in charge of the Delegation on his receipts (February, 28, 1850.)

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JOHN C. CASEY, Captain &c.

Colonel ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs Dept. Int.

(Copy.)

Summary Statement of Moneys received and disbursed on account of fulfilling treaties with Indians from January 1st to February 28th, 1850, by Captain John C. Casey, Special Agent for removing Florida Indians.

Date.	ON WHAT ACCOUNT.	\$ cts.
Feb. 28th	To amount migration money paid to emigrating Indians, as per receipt roll No. 1.....	10,000 00
"	Do. Do. Do. Do. No. 2.....	3,300 00
"	Do. Do. Do. Do. No. 3.....	1,700 00
"	To amount paid emigrating Indians for stock, &c., as per receipt roll No. 1.....	953 00
"	To amount paid for contingent expenses.....	430 50
"	To amount delivered to M. Duval, sub-agent Seminoles west, in charge of delegation.....	1,200 00
"	To balance due the United States.....	128,414 00
		145,997 50
Jany. 7th	By amt. Treasury Draft No. 748 Warrant No. 704 on assistant Treasurer, N. Orleans.....	10,000 00
Feb. 20th	By cash from Paymaster Geo. H. Ringgold U. S. A., being funds of Pay Department U. S. A., to be refunded from funds for fulfilling treaties with Indians.....	35,997 50
" 23d	By cash from M. Markland, Special Agent Indian Depot.....	100,000 00
		\$145,997 50

I certify that the above account is correct and just, and that the balance of one hundred and twenty-eight thousand four hundred and fourteen dollars, is in my hands in gold and silver.

JOHN C. CASEY,
Captain, U. S. A.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
March 6, 1850.

(Copy.)

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
March, 1850.

SIR: Herewith please receive my accounts for the first quarter, 1850. The amount of money on hand is amply sufficient for present wants, and I therefore shall not require the money, or drafts called for in my letter to the Adjutant General of February 2, 1850.

The money received by me on Treasury Draft No. 748, was brought from New Orleans by Major W. J. H. Brooks, A. D. C. to General Twiggs. He receipted to the Assistant Treasurer, New Orleans, for it, but as I had receipted to the Treasurer of the U. S. he (Maj. B.) is not accountable for it (\$10,000.)

I now have on hand, just received, a considerable amount of Indian goods ordered for presents to the women and children coming in. The bill not yet received will be about \$3,000, and will be paid in second quarter.

I beg that my accounts may be examined and audited as early as practicable, as my health is very delicate,

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY, Capt. U. S. A.

Special Agent Fla. Indians.

Colónel ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs.
Washington, D. C.

(Copy.)

*Memorandum of Indian Goods, and their cost, on hand at Tampa Bay
Florida, April, 1850.*

VIZ:		\$	cts.
1,000 Mackinaw Blankets a \$3 30.....		3,300	00
{ 46 pieces Blue Prints.....	Calico.		
{ 14 do do and Orange Prints.....			
{ 30 do do do do.....		2,992	yds., a 12 cts.....
500 Gross Binding, 2000 pieces, a 10 cts.....		359	00
85 Doz. spools of Thread, a 5 cts.....		200	00
10 M. Needles, 400 papers, a 8 cts.....		53	12
1 case blue drillings, 644 yds. a 13 cts.....		32	00
		83	72
		\$4027 94	

JOHN C. CASEY,

Special Agent Seminoles Florida.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
April 21, 1850.

TAMPA BAY, FLORIDA,
April 21, 1850.

SIR: You will have heard, before receiving this letter, that the Indians remaining in Florida have positively refused to emigrate.

I have in my possession a large amount of money on account of fulfilling treaties with Indians, which I fear will not be needed.

I have also a quantity of Indian goods, which were ordered in expectation of the removal of these Indians for issue to parties as they came in. I enclose a memorandum of the articles and their cost as delivered here; they are in the original packages, bales, &c.

I request your instructions as to the disposal of them. I hope they will answer the wants of the Department at some of the western agencies, as they are suitable for Indians and could not be sold here to advantage nor in New Orleans.

Please send me early instructions in relation to the funds and the goods.
Very respectfully your obedient servant,

JOHN C. CASEY,
Captain and Special Agent, Seminoles.

Col. ORLANDO BROWN,
Com. Indian Affairs,
Depart. Int.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
WASHINGTON, *May 18, 1849.*

SIR: I have the honor herewith to transmit the report of the Commissioner of Indian affairs, of the 13th inst., with the papers which accompanied it, prepared in obedience to the resolution of the Senate of the 30th ultimo, calling for information in relation to the steps which have been taken during the last year for the removal of the Indians in Florida, &c. I also enclose a report to me from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, of the 16th instant, embracing an estimate of "the extent in square miles of the area now occupied by the Indians in Florida," and of the area reserved from sale as neutral ground."

The accompanying papers, marked from A. to I. inclusive have been copied from the records and files of this Department, and are not included in those transmitted with the report from the Indian office.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. EWING,
Secretary.

The President of the United States.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
May 16, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to return herewith the copy of the Resolution of the Senate, bearing date the 30th ultimo, referred by you to this office on the 12th instant, for an estimate of the extent in square miles of the area now occupied by the Indians in Florida, and of the neutral ground reserved from sale, and to submit the following estimate made from the best sources of information in this office, to wit:

	Square Miles.	Acres.
Estimated surface of the reserve occupied by the Indians,	}	6,700=4,288,000
Ditto neutral ground, or strip of 20 miles broad,		5,400=3,456,000

Total 12,100=7,744,000

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

J. BUTTERFIELD,
Commissioner.

To the Hon. THOMAS EWING,
Secretary of the Secretary.

Seminole or Florida Indians. A. to I. inclusive from Department of the Interior.

(A.)

TAMPA, FLORIDA,

August 11, 1849.

SIR: Herewith enclosed we hand you the affidavits of William M'Cullough, Nancy his wife, and Louis Lanier, citizens of this county. Be pleased to consider and file the same with our letter to you of the 25th July last.

With due respect, we are

Your most obedient servants,

KENNEDY & DARLING.

Hon. T. EWING.

Secretary Department of the Interior.

Washington City, D. C.

(Duplicate.)

STATE OF FLORIDA,
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH. }

(L. S.)

Personally appeared before me, Judge of Probate, in and for the county and state aforesaid, William M'Cullough, who having been duly sworn according to law, says that he was hired by Messrs. Kennedy and Darling on the 3d day of July, 1849, and arrived at their Indian store on Peas creek on that day and remained there until it was burned by the Indians on the 17th or 18th July, 1849. On the 17th July about noon Echo Emathlo Chapko and three squaws came to the store, bringing a large quantity of water melons of which Captain Payne purchased some 9 or 12, at the same time telling the Indians that he could have purchased them all but he did not think the melons would sell in New York to advantage. The Indians also brought venison, sweet potatoes, skins and beeswax, all of which was purchased by Captain Payne. Echo Emathla/Chopka stated that he would return a pony he had recently purchased as not being such as he had ordered. These Indians went away about 3 or 4 o'clock, P. M. of the same day. During the time they remained at the store they behaved well, in fact appeared more friendly than usual.

About half an hour before sunset same day, four other Indians came to the store, all men, without any thing but their arms. These men came to the store with a quick step, carrying their rifles on shoulder, muzzle foremost, locks covered, and appeared more bold and animated than usual. Otherwise I did not observe anything uncommon in their appearance or conduct, except that they brought no trade with them, which was unusual. They told Captain Payne they had a large pack of skins on the east side of Peas creek, and wanted his boat to get it across. Payne told them that after supper he would assist them in getting the pack over. The Indians then desired permission of Captain Payne to stop in the store and were refused, Captain Payne stating to them that Indians were never allowed to sleep in the store; the Indians then went out of the store, and Captain Payne closed the store doors and windows; and he and Demsey Whichidon went out at the end of the store and sat talking with them until supper-time—it was now early twilight. We all sat down to supper—the Indians were sitting

at the end of the store next the eating-room quietly smoking their pipes. We had scarcely got seated at the supper-table when they fired in at the door from the outside, one Indian standing on either side of the door and two in front, one behind the other. By this shot Captain Payne and Dempsey Whiddon were killed dead, and I received a bullet in my left shoulder. I was shocked for an instant, but saw Payne spring up and fall back on the floor. Whiddon fell forward, his face and hands resting on his plate. I sprang to the door and shouted, when the Indians gave back reloading their rifles. My wife was closing the shutters of the windows, but I told her our only chance was to leave the building. My wife then took her child and started for the bridge, which was about a quarter of a mile from the store. Previously, however, to my wife's starting, I had taken down a loaded rifle that hung on the wall, and had examined Captain Payne and Dempsey Whiddon and found that they were both dead; I then determined to leave the building. I followed my wife with the rifle. I had not gone more than 30 yards from the store when the Indians fired on me again one shot and missed; at about 20 yards further on they fired another shot at me and missed; at about half from the store to the bridge my wife and child fell down, and I had just got them up and started again when the Indians fired on us again, a ball passing through the flesh of my right thigh, the same ball passing through the leg of my wife near the knee; but no bones were broken. We then passed on across the bridge, when we left the road and hid. About two minutes after we had concealed ourselves, three Indians passed up the road running, and in earnest conversation apparently searching for us. In a few minutes two of them returned and passed us in the direction of the store, and the other I have never since seen, but I suppose he intended to have cut us off on the road. As soon as it was dark we took the woods, and on the following Friday, about noon, without food and almost naked, we reached the settlements on the Big Alafia, a distance of twenty or thirty miles, having lost my way and wandered a good deal in the woods. In the gray of Wednesday morning I saw a bright light in the direction I supposed the store to be. I think the store was burned at that time. About 3 o'clock, A. M., on Wednesday morning I heard the report of several guns. Also while I lay concealed near the bridge, and after the two Indians had gone back, I heard the report of one gun. We lost everything we had, and among other things some papers worth a hundred dollars, and my other property, such as wearing apparel, bedding, furniture, and farming utensils, buildings and crop, both at the Indian store, and at my place on the Alafia, which I was also compelled to abandon in consequence of my wounds, is worth three hundred dollars. Only the assets at the Indian store has been destroyed which are valued at two hundred dollars. As far as I know, the Indians have not yet disturbed my place on the Alafia, but I am unable to look after it.

I think the buildings of Messrs. Kennedy and Darling at the Indian station were worth fifteen hundred dollars. I cannot say how much the goods were worth that were in the store when it was burned.

There were shelves on two sides of the store-room which was about 22 feet square, and on the shelves, which were pretty well filled, (there were five tiers of shelves) were rifles, brass kettles, beads, blankets, tin-ware, domestic goods of every description, powder, lead, flints, tobacco, knives, red broadcloth, spurs, bridles, and bits, a saddle, looking-glasses, files, a full tool-chest of tools, Indian shawls and handkerchiefs, hoes and hatchets,

grindstones, combs, binding, a large quantity of salt and whisky, corn and provisions, and a quantity of deer-skins in hair, also bear-skins and moccasins, kitchen and mess furniture, a large canoe, &c.

The store was complete; upper and lower floors of pit-saw lumber, chimney and floor to the kitchen. I have also nineteen hogs, valued at two dollars and a half per head, that are at large on the south side of the Alafia.

Personally appeared also Nancy, wife of deponent William M'Cullough, and she having been duly sworn according to law, says the foregoing statement is correct and true; also that one of the four Indians was called Yoholochee, a Miccasuky Indian, whom she had often seen on the Alafia river, at her father's house. She says she thought this Indian looked mad. She was well known to most of the Indians that traded to Tampa formerly; knew a good many Indians by sight, but cannot call them by their names. These Indians appeared to look about a good deal.

WILLIAM M'COLLOUGH,

NANCY ^{her} M'COLLOUGH.
mark.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, at Tampa, Florida, this 11th day of August, A. D. 1849.

(Seal.) Witness my hand and official seal.

SIMON PURMAN,

Judge of Probates of Hillsborough County,
State of Florida.

[Duplicate.]

STATE OF FLORIDA,

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, ss:

Personally appeared before me, Judge of Probate, in and for the county aforesaid, duly commissioned and sworn into office, Louis Lanier, planter, of the county of Hillsborough, and State Florida, who having been duly sworn according to law, says that he visited the Indian store of Messrs. Kennedy & Darling, on Pease creek, on the 29th day of June, 1849. He further says that he is acquainted with the business of building in Florida, and that in his opinion the buildings at the station recently erected were worth at least seven hundred dollars. In regard to the value of the Indian goods, on hand at the Indian store at that time, I cannot form an opinion satisfactory to myself, as I am unacquainted with the business.

LEWIS LANIER.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, at Tampa, Florida, this 11th day of August, A. D. 1849.

(Seal.) Witness my hand and official seal.

SIMON PURMAN,

Judge of Probates of Hillsborough County,
State of Florida.

(B.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
August 16, 1849.

Hon. J. D. WESCOTT,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: I acknowledge the receipt of a communication, addressed to you from Tampa, Florida, having reference to the murders and depredations committed by the Seminole Indians at Pease creek, on the 17th ultimo.

Agreeably to your request, I have to inform you of the reference of said communication to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Very, &c.,

T. EWING,
Secretary.

(C.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
September 20, 1849.

GENTLEMEN: In addition to our instructions of the 17th instant, and after due consideration of the importance of the peaceable removal of the Indians from the State of Florida, especially as they have recently evinced a friendly temper in respect to the perpetrators of the outrages which were committed in July last, you are directed, if in your judgment deemed necessary, to increase the pecuniary inducements to a reasonable amount, which will effect the purpose contemplated by the government—the voluntary removal of the Indians to the West. Confiding this negotiation to your judgments, after a full view of all the embarrassments with which it may be surrounded, we will cherish the hope that your efforts will not be unsuccessful.

We are, gentlemen, &c.,

T. EWING,
Secretary of the Interior.
GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

SAMUEL SPENCER,
Indian Sub-Agent,
Tampa Bay, Florida.
Brevet Maj.-Gen. D. E. TWIGGS.

(D.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
September 24, 1849.

SIR: As the office of Indian sub-agent for the Seminoles in Florida, created in April last, and to which Mr. Samuel Spencer of Jacksonville, Florida, was appointed, has been discontinued, and the management of Indian Affairs, in that State, restored to the War Department, I have the honor to request that I may be advised of the address of the officer who may be detailed for that service, in order that I may know to whom to instruct Mr.

Spencer to turn over the papers, funds, &c., which may now be in his possession.

With much respect, &c.,

T. EWING,
Secretary.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

(E.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
December 11, 1849.

SIR: In view of the removal of the Seminoles, or Florida Indians, under the treaty of Paye's landing, concluded in the year 1832, there was appropriated, by act approved July 7, 1838, the sum of \$280,610.

Before the object for which Congress made the appropriation had been effected, \$152,249 94 were carried to the surplus fund account, viz.: in the year 1847. Measures, having for their object the peaceable removal of those Indians, have recently been adopted by the concurrent and joint action of this Department and the Secretary of War. The public service requires that funds should be *immediately* placed at the disposal of the proper officers, who have been directed to carry into effect the instructions of the government. I have to request, therefore, that the necessary steps may be taken to replace the said sum of \$152,249 94 to the credit of the appropriation from which it was withdrawn, so that it may be applied for the object for which it was appropriated.

Very, &c.

T. EWING.

HON. W. M. MEREDITH,
Secretary of the Treasury.

(F.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
December 14, 1849.

SIR: I enclose herewith a copy of a letter of this date from the Comptroller of the Treasury, informing the Department that the sum of \$152,249 94, which had been carried to the surplus fund, has been restored, on the books of the Treasury, to the credit of the appropriations made to carry out the provisions of the treaty of Payne's landing, in Florida, made on the 9th of May, 1832, for the removal of the Seminole Indians.

Very, &c.

T. EWING,
Secretary.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(G.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
December 27, 1849.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your communication of the 24th instant, in relation to the removal of such of the Indians in Florida as may surrender for emigration.

The Commissioner of Indian affairs will be directed to adopt the requisite measures to place the sum of one hundred thousand dollars at the disposal of Capt. Casey, Tamba bay, as you request.

With reference to your suggestion that specific instructions respecting the application and disbursement of that money emanate from this Department, I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 24th September, and to state that, according to my understanding of the arrangement, from that date the management of the Indians in Florida was restored to the War Department, and that as a consequence, all instructions pertaining to the subject of their emigration would very properly be given by you, or by your direction.

Very, &c.

T. EWING,
Secretary.

Hon. GEO. W. CRAWFORD,
Secretary of War.

(H.)

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
February 27, 1850.

SIR: By the 1st article of the treaty concluded on the 9th day of May, 1832, the Seminole Indians relinquished to the United State, all claim to the lands they then occupied in the territory of Florida, and agreed to emigrate to the country assigned to the Creeks, west of the Mississippi river; it being understood that an additional extent of territory, proportionate to their numbers would be added to the Creek country.

By the 7th article the Indians agreed to remove within three years after the ratification of the treaty—the United States to defray the expense of their removal, and to furnish them with subsistence for a term not exceeding twelve months.

In the latter part of the year 1835, these Indians manifested an intention of violating their pledges, which soon broke out into open hostilities to the United States. During their continuance the larger portion of the tribe were captured or surrendered and transported to the location allotted to them.

In the year 1842 Gen. Worth, then commanding the troops employed to subdue and remove this tribe, entered into an arrangement with the portion then remaining, by which they were permitted to occupy, temporarily, a district of country designated for the purpose, in the southern portion of Florida, on the Gulf side, and abstaining from hostilities or acts of annoyance against our citizens. The further to provide against collisions between them and the whites, a strip of land, twenty miles wide, was laid off and reserved, upon which it was the intention that neither should settle. These

arrangements were made through the military officers in command in that region who continued in charge of the Indians until the early part of last year, when application was made to relieve them from that duty, which was done, and an agent of this Department appointed to take charge of them, for the purpose of effecting their peaceable removal. But before he entered upon the effective discharge of his duties, a marauding party of the band attacked and murdered some of our citizens, and burnt and destroyed their property. It was therefore deemed necessary at once to protect the adjacent settlements by a military force, and the sub-agent thereby becoming unnecessary, his services were dispensed with, and these Indians again placed under the sole supervision of the Secretary of War.

During the short period of the transfer of these Indians, to the charge of this Department, orders were given to the proper officers to send to them a delegation of the western Seminoles, who had manifested much and commendable interest on the subject of their removal, and offered the services of a suitable number of their most intelligent men for the purpose, to satisfy them of the superiority of their position west, and the advantages of emigration.

The object was accomplished, a delegation appointed, the members of which are now operating under the direction and control of the military under favorable prospects of inducing their brethren to join them in the west.

To carry out the measures in progress, an appropriation is essential, as is indicated in the accompanying copy of a communication to me from the Secretary of War.

The means now at the disposal of this Department for the purpose are entirely inadequate, not amounting to \$50,000. It is difficult to ascertain the number of the Indians in Florida, but their numbers have been variously estimated from 350 to 1100.

It is the policy of the government to embrace the present favorable disposition of those people to accept the offers of the Department to remove them, and I regard it as very important to ensure peace to our frontiers that an immediate appropriation of the sum named by the Secretary of War be made. It is feared difficulties may arise that will defeat the consummation of the present arrangements, unless ample means are placed at the disposal of the officers in charge. I also regard it as a matter of economy to effect their removal, even should it require a much larger amount, by peaceable means. The occurrences of the past are fresh in our recollection, and remind us of the vast amount of treasure and blood lost in the attempt to coerce the removal of that tribe.

Though the sum asked for may seem to be large, yet we cannot confidently hope to effect the object with less, and its immediate application may probably save many millions in suppressing Indian disturbances besides opening a considerable extent of fertile country to our citizens.

Very, &c.,

T. EWING, *Secretary.*

HON. THOMAS H. BAYLY,

*Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means,
House of Representatives.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
February 27th, 1850.

SIR: For the information of the Committee of Ways and Means as showing the necessity for early action on the subject by Congress, I herewith send you a copy of a dispatch received on yesterday at the War Department from Brevet Major-General Twiggs, of the U. S. A., dated at Tampa Bay, the 12th inst., respecting the removal of the Florida Indians.

Very, &c.,

T. EWING, *Secretary.*

HON. THOMAS H. BAYLY,
Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means,
House of Representatives.

PALATKA, August 21st, 1849.

DEAR GENERAL: It is to be presumed that the late Indian outbreak will terminate by negotiation instead of war. The Indian Agent is desirous I should accompany him to the nation, in case a deputation should be ordered among the Indians, *treating for removal*. Will you address the proper Department and solicit my appointment, in such an event? I control *the best interpreter* in Florida, and he will only go with me. I will penetrate the nation with him (the Interpreter) provided my services are required.

I am looking with pleasurable anxiety for the time to arrive when you will be allowed to take the place which the majority of the people determined you should have since last fall. Mr. Moseley and his advisers have advanced and sustained an anomaly in political jurisprudence and legislation which I think Florida will put down hereafter. If Mr. Cabell is in the place, request him to write also. I would have written him, but know not his whereabouts.

A company of troops from Augusta, U. S. arrived here to-day, and I think contemplate remaining here, until further orders, so report says. Our little village is filled up with refugees from the interior, and up the river.

The true *policy* of Florida is to remove the Indians, peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must. I can take my interpreter, and in six months get the nation to agree to emigrate, I think. I have lived among them all my life. Your friends are waiting anxiously for your accession. I do not recognize Mr. Moseley as our Governor.

I remain, dear sir, yours very truly,

B. HOPKINS.

His Excellency THOMAS BROWN,
Governor Florida,
Tallahassee.

N. B. Please let me hear from you.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, May 11th, 1850.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the reference to this Department of the resolution of the Senate of the 30th ultimo.

By the resolution the President is requested "to furnish to the Senate copies of all correspondence or other documents on file in any of the Executive Departments, and not heretofore communicated, respecting the hostilities and outrages committed during the past year, by the Seminole Indians in Florida, and respecting the suppression of the same, and the employment of volunteers for the protection of the inhabitants of the exposed frontier."

And also "to inform the Senate what steps have been taken for the removal of the said Indians to their appropriate location west of the Mississippi river, whether any, and what negotiations have been had with them, and with what result; and to furnish to the Senate all correspondence which may be on file in any of the Departments relative to such negotiations."

And further "to inform the Senate what is the extent in square miles of the area now occupied by the Indians in Florida; how much more is reserved from sale as neutral ground; under what treaty the Indians now remain in Florida, and whether the treaty of Payne's landing has been executed."

The copies herewith transmitted comprise all the correspondence in this Department called for by the resolution and not heretofore communicated. In connection with the last annual report from this Department they will also furnish the information required by the second clause of the resolution.

In reply to the remaining enquiries I have to state that the Indians now in Florida, remain there not in pursuance of any treaty, but by virtue of a temporary arrangement made under the direction of the President of the United States in the year 1842, by the officer commanding the military forces in Florida. All the particulars of that arrangement have heretofore been communicated to Congress by reports printed in Executive Documents No. 262, 2nd Session 27th Congress, and No. 82, 1st Session 28th Congress. By the treaty of Payne's landing the Seminole Indians stipulated to remove west of the Mississippi river within three years of that date, May 9, 1832. A portion of the tribe still remain in Florida, and consequently the treaty has been but partially executed.

The extent, in square miles, of the area occupied by them, and that of the neutral ground, can be best estimated by the Department having charge of the public lands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CRAWFORD,

Secretary of War.

To the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.,

April 22, 1850.

SIR: I arrived at this place to-day. I have the honor to report that agreeably to the instructions which I received from your office, under date of March 11th 1850, I took charge of a party of ninety-six Seminole Indians at the New Orleans barracks, on the 19th of the same month, for the purpose of conducting them to the Seminole grounds, in the Indian Territory, west of Arkansas. I left this place with them on the same day, on board of the steamboat "Cotton Plant," and reached Fort Smith on the 31st following. I regret to state that notwithstanding the pre-

caution I had taken of having a sentinel stationed on the outside of the gate of the Barracks, during the shipment of the Indians, two of them succeeded in escaping the vigilance of the sentinel, to seek liquor, and were accidentally left behind; this, too, after I had been informed by the chief that all were on board. At my request, they were sent on after us on the steamboat "Pennywit." One of them, a member of the delegation under Halleck Tustenuggee, had reached Fort Smith, and left that place for the Seminole nation, before I left it on my return hither; but having been again accidentally left by the "Pennywit," on her trip up the river, he was separated from his companion, and was accordingly unable, on his arrival at Fort Smith, to give any account of him. I am therefore unable to say at present whether he has reached his nation or not.

Upon reaching Fort Smith, the Indians, prompted, I think, by Halleck Tustenuggee, though I could not ascertain his motives, expressed their determination to travel from that point to their grounds, by land, instead of going by water by way of Fort Gibson, and accordingly went on shore, while the boat was discharging her freight. No representations of General Arbuckle nor myself, respecting the additional distance, the bad condition of the roads, the scarcity of transportation, and the increased inconvenience and expense to themselves, could divert them from this determination. I did not deem it consistent with the wishes and objects of the government toward these Indians at the present juncture, to employ force to bring them into my views; and as nothing short of this expedient would change, I thought it best to yield to their caprice.

As I found a scarcity of land transportation at Fort Smith, and deeming it proper that I should obey the terms of my orders "to accompany the Indians to their place of destination," I sent Lieutenant Wright of the 5th Infantry, by water, up to Fort Gibson, in charge of their heavy baggage, with instructions to exhibit a copy of your communication to me of the 4th ultimo, to the commanding officer at that post, to call on him for such transportation as he should deem necessary to conduct this baggage to the grounds of the Seminole Indians. Although I had been informed at Fort Smith, by Captain Montgomery, the senior Quarter-Master of the 5th Military Department, that there were ten or twelve wagons at Fort Gibson, which were more than sufficient for my purpose, I have to report upon the verbal statement of Lieutenant Wright, to me, that he found much difficulty in obtaining, of the commanding officer, a sufficient number of wagons for the transportation of this baggage; and that although his requisition was for eight, he was only supplied with six wagons, two of which were ox-teams, and were hired for the occasion. I enclose a copy of a communication, bearing on this matter, from the quarter-master at Fort Gibson, to the quarter-master at Fort Smith.

I left Fort Smith on the 2d of April, and after the departure from that place of the last party of the Indians. I found it impossible to make them travel in a body, or to expedite in any way their very slow movements along the road, and did not reach the point at which they desired their baggage to be deposited—a distance of one hundred and twenty miles—until the 10th instant. This point was the trading-house of Mr. Cummings, about twenty miles distant from the Seminole agency. When I commenced my return on the 13th, many of them had already reached that point, and the mass of them were within the limits of the grounds occupied by their people.

" I took flour with me from Fort Smith, bought meat along the road, and as far as practicable, in their scattered condition, supplied them with rations to their place of destination.

I found that neither the agent of the Seminoles, nor the acting superintendent of the adjoining agencies, had received any instructions from Washington, or even official information, as I understood, concerning the emigration or subsistence of these Indians; and under these circumstances, the latter did not feel himself authorized to make, or cause to be made, any provision for feeding them. Under the authority therefore given me in your communication of the 11th ultimo, I entered into an agreement with Mr. Charles Johnson, of Fort Smith, for supplying them with rations for two months. I enclose a copy of the contract. It will be seen that the price for the ration is just double the estimate made in your communication. I found the contract of the commissary for fresh beef at Forts Gibson and Smith to be, at the former place five, and at the latter four cents, per pound. Corn is also stated to be scarce in the Indian territory, at the present season; and along the road I was myself obliged to give 75 cents to \$1 per bushel. Under these circumstances, and when the cost of transportation is considered, I trust that the price fixed upon in the contract may not be thought too high.

As I had no funds in my own hands for the payment of this contract when it shall become due, it is respectfully suggested that measures be taken as early as practicable, to place in the hands of a suitable person, at Fort Smith, a sufficient sum of money to meet it. It is also submitted whether it may not be proper to notify the proper department in Washington, that the agent of the Seminoles is still without any instructions concerning the feeding of the emigrating Indians, as promised by the government.

In view of the length of their confinement on the steamboat, and of this unusual mode of life to them, the health of the Indians on their route up the river, was much better than was anticipated; nor was it until within a few days' journey of their destination that any sickness worthy of notice occurred amongst them.

Agreeably to your instructions, I shall report to Major Jouett to-day.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. S. GARNETT,
Brevet-Major U. S. A.

Major W. W. MACKALL,
Assist. Adj-General,
Tampa Bay, Florida.

Articles of agreement made and entered into this 10th day of April, anno domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty, between Major R. S. Garnett, an Officer of the United States Army, on the one part, and Charles Johnson, of Fort Smith, of the State of Arkansas, of the other part.

This agreement witnesseth, that the said Major R. S. Garnett, for and on behalf of the United States of America, and the said Charles Johnson, for himself, his heirs, executors, and administrators, have covenanted and agreed, and by these presents, do mutually covenant and agree, to and with each other as follows, viz.:

First. That the said Charles Johnson, his heirs, executors, and administrators, shall supply or cause to be supplied and issued at such times and place, in the Seminole nation, as the Chief Kapiktsootsee may designate, all the rations, to consist of the articles hereinafter specified, that shall be required for the use of eighty-six Seminole Indians, under the said chief, stationed at the place aforesaid, for two months, commencing on the 12th of April, and ending on the 12th June, one thousand eight hundred and fifty, at the price of eight cents for each complete ration.

Second. That the ration to be furnished by virtue of the contract, shall consist of the following articles, viz.: one and a half pints of corn, one pound of fresh beef or pork, and at the rate of one gallon of salt to every hundred rations.

Third. It is clearly understood that the provisions stipulated to be furnished and delivered under this contract shall be of the first quality.

Fourth. The certificate of the sub-agent of the Seminole tribe to the faithful fulfillment of this contract, to be endorsed on the same.

Fifth. Should any difficulty arise respecting the quality of the provisions stipulated to be delivered under this contract, then the said sub-agent is to appoint a disinterested person, to meet one of same description to be appointed by the contractor. These two thus appointed, will have power to decide on the quality of the provisions; but should they disagree, then a third person is to be chosen by the two already appointed. The whole to act under oath, and the opinion of the majority to be final in the case.

In witness whereof the undersigned have hereunto placed their hands and seals the day and date above written.

R. S. GARNETT,
Brevet Major U. S. A. } (Seal.)
CHARLES B. JOHNSON. (Seal.)

Witnesses,

W. P. BOOTH.

WM. W. BURNS.

(Copy.)

TALLAHASSEE, Oct. 2, 1849.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of a General Order issued by me, for mustering out of the service of the State of Florida, the volunteer troops called into service by Governor Moseley for the protection of the frontier settlers, on the Indian border; subject nevertheless to the order of the general commanding in the service of the United States, should their services be deemed necessary.

I am, sir, with consideration of high respect,

Your most obedient, &c.,

THOS. BROWN.

HON. GEO. W. CRAWFORD.

Secretary of War, &c.

HEAD-QUARTERS, FLORIDA MILITIA,

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

TALLAHASSEE, October 1, 1849.

General Orders, No. 2.

Information having been received by the commander-in-chief that the

government of the United States has ordered upon duty, on the frontier of this State, menaced by the Seminole Indians, a military force, deemed, in the opinion of the officers of the government, fully adequate to the exigency of the service, and may, therefore, be considered as having assumed the responsibility of repressing the hostilities of the Indians, and the protection of the frontier settlements, thereby rendering unnecessary the further continuance in service of the several companies of volunteers heretofore ordered out for the protection of the frontier.

It is therefore ordered, That on the reception of this order, the troops heretofore ordered into service by Governor Moseley, be marched to the several points where they were enrolled and mustered into service, and be there discharged and mustered out of the service of the State, provided, that if any order shall have been received by the officer commanding the U. S. troops in Florida from the government at Washington, to receive and muster the State troops, or some portion thereof, into the service of the United States, then the officers commanding the several corps will report themselves for such service.

II. The companies commanded by Captains Knight and Ellis will be mustered out of service and discharged at Alligator by Lieut.-Col. Sander-son, Deputy Qr.-Mr.-General.

The company commanded by Captain Ledwith will be mustered out of service and discharged at Jacksonville by Col. Bryant, Deputy Qr.-Mr.-General.

The company commanded by Captain Dell will be mustered out and discharged at Newmansville by Lt.-Col. Province, Deputy Qr.-Mr.-General.

The company commanded by Captain Clark will be mustered out of service and discharged at Manatee by Lt.-Col. Magbee, Assistant Qr.-Master.

The companies commanded by Captains Fisher and Johnson will be mustered out at Tallahassee by the Adjutant and Inspector-General, or such other officer as may be specially detailed for that duty.

III. The company commanded by Captain Johnston will be transported by water to St. Marks, and from thence to Tallahassee by the railroad.]

Colonel R. A. Shine, Qr.-Mr.-General, will, through his deputies and assistants, provide the means of transportation for the company of Captain Johnston to St. Marks, and sufficient provision and transportation for the other corps to the points respectively designated for their discharge,

IV. The officers mustering the troops out of service will transmit their respective muster-rolls to the office of the Adjutant and Inspector-General at Tallahassee, without delay.

(Signed)

THOMAS BROWN.

By the Governor,

L. A. THOMPSON,

Adjutant and Inspector-General.