

Fort Wilkinson Oct 6 1799

582

Your Excellency

Sir

Yesterday evening I arrived at this place, and am sorry to inform you that my trip to the nation has been without success. In four days after I arrived in the Nation there was a meeting of three Towns and a written demand given me by Colo. Hawkins, the same I Enclose you in my letter.

Colo. Hawkins was obliged away to the line which is now running between his Catholic Majesty and the United States--

When the Chief heard the claims explained in the Square by the Interpreter Mr. Desseaux made not the least objection to have the property given up, and a few fellows was sent from the Cusetan to the Chihaw town where Mr. Smiths negroes were. In order to bring them forward, and the third day after reported that the Chiefs of the Chihaws was assembling together to lay hold of the property,, but,,

Unfortunately, before this could be accomplished there was an accident of a very serious nature happened in the Nation on Flint river---

A party of Indians from the Tallasee together with those of the Seminoles came down to the line stole twenty odd Horses twenty two rifle guns and robbed a little Sloop which the commissioners had chartered around from pensacola, of a Number of things--- and entirely stopt the line from going on--

In consequence of this outrage Colo. Hawkins sent up for fifty warriors, and the Chief of the three Towns before mentioned sent down one hundred and fifty---

After this accident I found the Indians more absurd than usual particularly this fellow who has Mrs. McIntosh's negroes, for he agreed at first to bring down the negroes without given me the Trouble, but afterwards would neither bring down the negroes himself or suffer me to take'm

I found that times was getting very precarious and critical in the Nation, which made me conclude It was best to retire to the Fort untill matters becomes settled in the Nation and then I shall endeavor to make another Trial---

Perhaps there may be some thing done in the course of twenty days. I shall be able to let you know in a few days as I expect to hear from the Nation shortly.

Will consider it a favor if your Excellency will send me back by the bearer the written demand of Colo. Hawkins, and be so good as to mention your opinion whether or not there could be application made to Congress with success. I think, that demand with such other Indisputable proofs as can be collected in the county where the property was stolen from will be suppletory to the recovery of their value if not returned---

Will take the liberty of asking your Excellency a favor which is the lone of fifty dollars till my return home. for when I set out I did not expect to meet those many difficultys and did not come as well prepared as might had I been apprized. more over, I was detained a considerable time here before Colo. Hawkins was ready to go on to the Nation. the same shall with Gratitude--be returned the moment I return from my Journey---

I fear I have become too troublesome from my applications to your Excellency in regard to this property but I hope your Excellency will excuse it as you are the only source to Your

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injured constituents. You protect the fatherless with your  
ever guarding hands and give Justice to those who are wronged.

Am with much respects  
your E Most Obt and very H. Servt.

Murdock McLeod

His Excellency James Jackson Esqr.

On Reverse

Murdock McLeod for Wilkinson C Octor 99  
Ordered to be filed October 9 ,99

His Excellency  
James Jackson Esqr.  
Louisville

pr. Mr. Wilson

Indian Affairs