

in a communication to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, regarding the occupancy of our land by our Brothers the Seminoles - though acknowledging that the Creeks could not be held responsible for the inaccurate survey of the Western boundary of their country yet - also held that the Seminoles should not be subjected to the expence of a jurisdiction - to which they are averse, and within which it was not designed (by the U. S. to place them.

Our treaties with the U. S. Government, guarantee to us jurisdiction over all Indians residing upon our domain, and the 13th and 15th Articles of the treaty of 1866 guarantee that "so long as the Seminoles occupy any portion of the Creek domain, they shall be subject to the Creek laws.

In the correspondence with the Interior Department this Government has kept in view the above provisions of the treaties, and has based all its claims of jurisdiction of the Seminoles upon these provisions. But during the last Winter the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, re - affirmed the decision of 1874, and again notified this office that the Creeks claim to exercise jurisdiction over the Seminoles is not approved by the Department and that any idea of attempting it should be abandoned. After said re-affirmation, the matter was placed in the hands of the Delegates of Washington City, with instructions to accomplish whatever should be possible for