

tribes who, before the coming of the White Man, pictured their history on sticks, woven into wampum or embedded it deeply in the memories of their descendents. Thus, lacking records of their origin, Cherokees of the historic age are compelled to reconstruct their historic past from foundations of capstone of traditional archaeological and linguistic data. Tribal traditions assert that the powerful and warlike Cherokees have always held the vast mountain regions of the Southern Alleghenies in what is today's Southwest Virginia, Western, North and South Carolina, Eastern Tennessee, Northern Georgia, and the Northeastern tip of Alabama. Allowing for fluctuation of boundaries resulting from tribal wars, the Cherokee historically maintained that their domain had been given to them by the Great Spirit to whom the whole earth belonged. And oddly enough, this tradition withstood the wear and tear of time. In January, 1830, the legend reappeared in the Cherokee's petition in the Supreme Court of the United States. Quoting: "That the Cherokees were the occupants and the owners of the territory in which they now reside before the first approach of the White Man of Europe, the Western Continent, deriving their title from the Great Spirit, who is the Father of the human family and to whom the whole earth belongs, posing the Cherokee Nation, they and their ancestors have been and are the sole and exclusive masters of this territory governed by their own laws, usages, and customs." Very interesting languages. This is the Cherokee Nation v.s. Georgia, when Georgia was attempting to drive the Cherokees out of Georgia. As you recall, this is the case where the Supreme Court decided in favor of the Cherokees, but the President said, "Okay, Justice Marshall has made his decision, now let him enforce it." or words to that effect. But even though the Cherokees of the historic