

the beginning of a new era for the Cherokees, but they lost their freedom forever. This is what it amounted to. While the English, of course, pledged their friendship to the Cherokees as long as the mountains and rivers last, and the sun shall shine. What it really meant was until we want more land. I mentioned that during the year 1738-39, smallpox took about half of the tribe, and cut their warrior strength down from about 5,000 to about 2,500. The Cherokees took part in the French and Indian Wars. One particular group, particularly around Chattanooga, Tennessee, were French sympathizers and when ATaKuLaKula was an old man, an older chief, and very, very committed to the British, some of these French supporters would fly French flags from their flag poles or they would tease the chief about the French and challenge him and taunt him. But there is no evidence that he ever did anything about it. Eventually Dragging Canoe, some feller we mentioned sometimes ago, became in effect, an outcast amongst the Cherokees because he opposed several of the treaties and land cessions in a material and physical sort of way and settled on the Chickamauga area and became the leader of a group of Cherokees called Chickamaugans around Chattanooga, Tennessee. (Sentence here is not relevant.)

One of the important treaties that concerned land cessions developed a land purchase, actually, where Kentucky was sold to a group, the Transylvania Company. This resulted over a period of many years in many divisions within the tribe. As these began to be resolved, John Sevier, you remember, eventually became the first governor of the state of Tennessee, organized a complete different kind of country called Franklin. And the country of Franklin owed its allegiance not to the United States or Britain or anybody else, but to John Sevier. It was a completely different country. It lasted for a few years. He refused all the diplomatic niceties, and approaches from various Britishers, Colonists and everybody else. This continued right straight on through the Revolutionary Period.