

"We'll keep our government intact. And when we come over those lands over there, our government's going to be exactly-- I'm the Principal Chief, and here's the Vice-Chief, and so on down the line." The old settlers seemed to me have a reasonable appeal to John Ross's party. They said, "Just wait for the election time." John Ross was having no part of that. He wouldn't have any part of that there. So the old settlers threw the influence of the treaty party, said "All right, then, fine. --breaks off. That night--that night, the Ross full bloods got together right here in Tahlequah. Let me read you what happened that night--what the--what this meeting--what took place at this meeting: "My name is Allen Ross. I was born in 1817 in the old Ross home at Ross's land near Chattanooga, Tennessee. Chief Ross and Quattie Martin Ross were my parents. I married Jeannie Fields in 1835 and immigrated to the Cherokee in 1838 and 1839. My mother died on a steam boat at Little Rock, Arkansas, was buried in a cemetery." And at that place--the grave being marked, "Thus lives Quattie Ross wife of Chief John Ross. Now Quattie was a full blood. This was his first wife. We have some documents up here, I think, some--I don't know if we brought them or not. Very interesting documents of the correspondence between John Ross, this old man as very, very young Quaker from Willmington, Delaware and Philadelphia--who he picked up as his second wife--going on from there. "When we arrived in this country, we walked places from some of the old settlers. My father bought the place near Park Hill and one near Tahlequah. The National Campground was located about 2 miles down the creek southeast of the present city of Tahlequah and this was the Tahlequah down this way about 3 miles. It was known as the Illinois Campground. This is where the people were called together in the summer 1839 to try to form a union. There was some dissention called in by men who had signed the treaty of 1835, and opposed to Chief John Ross. After several days of endeavor get together and having failed, some of the leaders of the immigrants called a secret meeting without the knowledge or consent of my father." Now this is John Ross's son speaking. "They called a meeting without