

Department of War.  
Office Indian Affairs  
April 11<sup>th</sup> 1834.

Sir

Return S. Meigs Esq. of Athens. Tennessee has been appointed by the President, to visit the Creek Country in the State of Alabama, to institute an enquiry into the operation of the present mode of locating the reservations, & certifying the contracts for the sale of them. The objects of this enquiry are, to ascertain to what extent frauds have been practised upon the Indians, & to determine whether they can be prevented by any new regulations.

This measure has been adopted, not from any doubt of your fidelity in the performance of your duties, but from a hope that an investigation will enable the Department to adopt some course, which will put a stop to the numerous appeals from your decisions, and at the same time avoid injustice to the Indians or the purchasers.

I am directed to inform you, that it is the pleasure of the President, that you exhibit to the Agent, charged with this duty, your instructions, and the records of your proceedings, & give him every facility in accomplishing the objects of his appointment.

Yours,

Pam &c

C. W. A. Sanford. (Signed) *Elbert Herring*,  
James Bright, <sup>Colubus Georgia</sup> Marcellina Ala.

R. W. McHenry. West Point, Gooch County, Ga.

Leonard Tarrant, Marcellina, Ala.