

17th Feb.

Left Mr. Wills at 9 oclk and passed down Chatooga valley, reached Kleghorn at 11 (9 miles) a hamlet of houses. . . Crossed Little River, quite a pretty stream 50 yards wide, a tributary of the Chatooga River. Little River rises in the Look Out Mountains and falls in the C 2 miles from its mouth. Arrived at Yellow Creek, a beautiful stream, which takes its rise on the Look Out Mountain and brakes over a precipas of rocks with a fall or cascade 75 feet forming a beautiful cateract. Its roaring is heard some distance. The banks seen from the road (which are nearly verticle) is 450 feet. Near this place lives a doctor Hanley, with a most interesting family. With this family lives a strangely interesting lady a beautiful figure, intelligent face and all-together interesting, but to me of doubtful _____. She is in very delicate health. At Sun set we reached Mr. Hampton's on the banks of the Coosa,^{34B} house on a high bluff. Country rolling, soil poor (16 miles) 31 miles today. Country more broken in Alabama than in Georgia. Saw the long leaf pine today.

18th Feb.

Left Mr. Hampton's at 7 oclk, passed down the Coosa, passed through Turkey Town, rich soil at Turkey Town,³⁵ reached the mouth of Will's Creek. The country today very poor. Many wet marshes, the country abounds with Slasher pine swamps, white clay soil. The mouth of Will's Creek low and marshy, in high water the whole country is overflowed. The land is very poor. The Ferry over Will's Creek cannot be very valuable, it may become so. The Ferry on the Coosa (about 1/2 mile below Will's Creek mouth) is and will be valuable, is owned by a Mr. Brown on the creek side, the land on the right bank is owned by Mr. Jones. Dined at Mr. McIntosh's^{35A} a rough unlettered man who owns the land at the mouth of Will's Creek. Distance from Hampton's to Will's Creek (25 miles). The rout I traveled from Calhoun to Will's Creek is through a miserably poor and broken Country. The valleys of Chick-a-maugu & Chatooga is bounded on the South by White Oak & Turnip Mountains, and on the North by Look Out Mountain³⁶ varies in width and from 5 to 15 miles, distance of the whole rout is 135 miles. Left waggons....mouth of Will's Creek and went up

possess some advantages and will doubtless be valuable should a road leave there and run down the valley. Assended the Lookout Mountain. The country seen from the mountain is truly sublime. The Tennessee river can be seen for miles meandering through the mountains, enter the valley of Chick-a-nooga. Pass Ross' old place,⁴² cross the Chickanooga Creek, have to swim it (3 miles). Pass Rossville⁴³ a miserable place with two houses (1 mile) cross a ridge separating Chick-a-nooga and Chick-a-mauga valleys reach Brainards Mission⁴⁴ 5 miles in charge of Mr. Ellsworth. The establishment seems to be in a flourishing condition, houses nice and commodious. Grist and saw mill and church, 25 or 30 children. I have met Mr. Butler who was confined in the Georgia Penitentiary, a gentlemanly man.⁴⁵ Crossed the Chick-a-mauga river, passed through a puny, hilly, broken country (10 miles) and was at McDaniels stop for the night 23 miles today.

25th Feb.

Resume my journey & reached the Cherokee Agency at 4 oclk P.M. (23 miles today) the whole distance from Wills Creek to the Agency by way of Wills Valley & Nickajah is 172 miles.

Remarks:

The country between Kialha and the mouth of Wills Creek via Chickamauga and Chickanooga valley is generally broken. Soil lyte. The vallies are bounded on the East by White Oak and Turnip Mountains and on the West by Lookout Mountain. It is from 5 to 15 miles wide. The plain of these is not interrupted by hills or ridges but passes from the Tennessee river to the Coosa river, is well adaptable to rail roads and canals, 130 miles.

The mouth of Wills Creek is low and marshy, but does appear to be the point at which the intersection of roads and canals must take place. Wills Valley which is bounded on the East by Lookout and on the West by Racocon Mountain, is narrow, varying from one-half to three miles. The plain of the valley continues from the Coosa River to the Tennessee, without interruption, is favorable to rail-roads and canals. The most probable rout of convention of these two rivers will be from Gunter's Landing on the Tennessee river, and the mouth of Wills Creek on the Coosa.⁴⁶

The people so far as my observation went are poor and lazy, dirty

and slothful, particularly in Georgia. Their only aim is to dispossess the Indians of their lands. Tricks and dishonesty in all its distorted forms is resorted to effect their purpose.

The government is bound to protect these poor people, yet, alas with shame I have to confess it, it is aiding and abetting these vultures in human form, to draw the last drop of blood in the veins of these unfortunate people.

March 1835

2nd Mar.

Snow fell on this day. 4th snow 3 or 4 inches deep. Lt. Phillips⁴⁷ with Company F 4th Infantry leaves for Columbus.

5th Mar.

Go to Mr. McNairs⁴⁸ on the Couesauga. Overtake Lt. Phillips 18 miles from the Agency waiting for Company C 4th Inf. from Camp Armistead. Lt. Alston arrives with Co. C Major McIntosh.⁴⁹ Left behind....(Not Legible).

7th Mar.

The F Company under the command of Lt. Phillips leave for Georgia. I return to the Agency. Soil lye, country broken, fine springs.

April 1835

13th Apr.

Major Curry arrives from Washington City.

18th Apr.

Severe frost last night, and the night before. Major Davis⁵⁰ leaves for the mountain region of the Cherokee Nation.

June 1835

21st June:

Left the Agency for Knoxville and returned on the 27th.

26th June:

Major McIntosh arrived with his command.

6th Oct.

Leave Carmal, pass by Talking Rock, Cossawattee River^{69A} & reach Spring Place.

7th Oct.

Reach home after an absence of three weeks. The trip taken all together was quite interesting. Completely cured of gold fever. Am of the opinion that every pennyweight of Gold cost about \$2.00. Absent from Agency 21 days.

14th Oct.

Left Agency in the morning for Red Clay Council. Returned on the 18th, 19th went up to Athens returned on the 22nd & continued to Red Clay, returned to Agency on 29th. Absent 18 days.⁷⁰

December 1835**18th Dec.**

Left the Agency for New Echota, reached there on Sunday morning, 20th. Proceeded down to Fort Armstrong, Alabama, returned to New Echota nothing yet done toward a treaty, about 300 Cherokees present (so reported) a Committee of 20 appointed to meet the commission.

25th Dec.

No treaty yet made.

26th Dec.

Nothing done, endeavored today to ascertain the number of Indians on the ground, did not succeed with any certainty but suppose there were 200.

Attended a Genl meeting in Council house, no. of persons present from actual count 74.

Attended a subsequent meeting in Council House, counted the number present and ascertained there were 78.

30th Dec.

Attended a General meeting in the open air, counted the number attending, including women and children and white people, and found there were present about 203 souls. A treaty was made and concluded signed on the 28th by the Committee of 20, who have

been appointed at a subsequent meeting for that purpose.⁷¹

January 1836

1st Jany:

Left New Echota for Agency where I am on 2nd Jany having been absent 16 days.

5th Jany:

Left Agency for North Carolina, reached Col. Hunters on the 6th. A meeting of council of Indians called for the 8th. The multitude consisted of 44 white men, 3 white women, 3 white girls and two Cherokees. The whole was an entire failure. No body attended.

9th Jany.

Left Col. Hunters for Cherokee Agency. I arrived on the 11th in the evening, being absent 7 days.

February 1836

9th Feb.

Left Agency for Washington City. Pass through Knoxville on the 16th, reach Blountsville, Tenn on the 18th in the morning, remain here until the 21st. Roads very bad. Mail carried in carts. Country poor from Knoxville to Bluntsville and badly improved.

March 1836

21st Mar.

Leave Bluntsville, pass through Abington, Wyth, Salem, Lynchburg, Richmond, Fredericksburg, reach Washington on the 30th March.

Virginia is undergoing a rapid decline. The people will have to become Yankees, make more and spend less.

I was disappointed in Washington. The people are a set of (illegible) Apes.

Remain in Washington six or eight days, become disgusted with the place.