

Friends and Brethren beloved man and Chiefs of the warlike Nation of the Cherokees. We your Brothers of North Carolina are appointed by the Governor and council of that country to meet you at this place to hear your talks and if your talks and hearts are good toward the white people, we have power to join with our Brothers of Virginia to make a firm and lasting peace with you for the benefit of your people and our people. We rejoice to see you all at the Council fire and to hear of the friendly intercourse between you and your Brothers of Virginia. We rejoice that your beloved man and some of his people have made a visit to the beloved man of Virginia & have returned in safety. It was that your hearts would last year to make war with us, but we are now glad to hear that you want to make peace. Your nation begun the war and made the path dark towards three countries (Virginia N^o Carolina and South Carolina) You made the path dark and bloody. The warriors of these three countries have now traveled in the path which you made dark and bloody, but we are glad to hear that your Nation and South Carolina have washed the blood out of the path and that your Nation and the Virginians are now washing the path bright and clear between your two countries. If your hearts are good we are willing that the paths every where between your country and North Carolina should be made light and clear also. We are glad to hear that a chain of friendship is established one end in your Nation and the other end in Charles Town, & that another chain of friendship is fixed one end in Chote and the other end in Wmsburgh. We have power and are willing to establish another chain the one end in Chote and the other end in Newbern. We have power to carry one end to our Governor in Newbern and he is there ready to take hold and hold it fast. Your elder Brothers of North Carolina were not first to make peace, nor will they be first to break it, but will be steady and faithful friends. Brothers, as we came from our beloved man below we desire to hear what our brothers the Cherokees have to say; as you struck first and made the path dark, it is necessary that you should begin to clear it up. We desire you to open your hearts and freely make known to us and our brothers of Virginia all your complaints and grievances, and we will listen and hear and will endeavour to redress them and do you Justice. To convince you that our hearts are good and that we are willing to make peace with you, we give you this string of wampum. A string

Friends and Brothers.

I am going to speak to you because it is a general talk. Yesterday you heard all the sentiments of my heart. I left you last night to consider what I said to you. You desired me to consider a proper Boundary; and you now propose another to go a little farther than I mentioned. As my friends and Brothers are talking together they are to declare every thing in truth to each other. I understand from my friend it was by the old Great Man over the water that my land was settled; but I know nothing of it. The time is fresh in both our memories when he was sitting on the Throne and if the land ever belonged to him its more than I know of. You and I were talking last night together on the subject of the Boundary line and I told you what I thought a proper place. You propose a line that goes beyond what I mentioned and binds very close upon me. My people have many minds about it and I cannot readily agree that the line you propose shall be established. One of the greatest grievances that I complained of was that of encroachments on our lands. But let not this hurt our peace talks. It was the desire of the great beloved man of Virginia that a firm boundary should be made between the elder and younger Brothers and altho there is a little odds in our opinions let it not spoil our peace. It is oftentimes the case when one Brother wants a thing which another sets store by that the first desires hard to get it ; but if they are affectionate Brothers it is no odds. I hope nothing will be carried to the Governor of Virginia but what's agreeable to him; altho I cant agree to the demand that is made. I own I was a little surprised when I heard what my friend said just now. But I confess I ought not as he told me at the same time that both me and my people should be safe, which was not the case some years ago. this matter is a little misterious and I cannot give you a clear answer. But I hope you will reconsider the matter and reflect that it is one of my greatest grievances. I hope you will take no resentment at this my objection as from the talks we have just had I have no reason to think you will. What I desire is that you would reconsider the matter and I will consult my people likewise

returned the String

Down this River is the place that causes some of my Warriors to object; but it will not spoil our good talks. We want to fix a firm and lasting Boundary. When this is once done my people will know where it is and they shall not trespass upon you.

Beloved man and chief of the Cherokee Nation. Brothers you have complained to us that the people of North Carolina have encroached on your lands. Now listen and hear what your Brothers of North Carolina have to say to you. Many years ago the Governor of North Carolina, who you called the Big Wolf, Governor Tryon, agreed with your Nation, and fixed a line between your and our people. And so long as both Nations lived in peace our Governor and Council did not order any settlement, to be made over that line. If any such had been made without your consent, you ought to have complained to our Governor and Council. When our Governor and Council heard of the settlements on Watauga being made without their consent, and that you had made bargins with those people about lands without consulting them, they were not well pleased with those people nor with you: that you should make bargins to place inhabitants, between your Country and our Country without their con sent. However in time of peace these inhabitants were not driven away or removed off. Neither were they taken under protection. But they were let alone; no officers were appointed by Government; no beloved man sent to sit on the seats of Justice there. You did not complain to the Govr. and Council to have them removed. When you began the late War, you broke over the line between your Nation and our people agreed upon and fixed by the Big Wolf, and you killed our people on the head waters of the Catawba & broad river. And after you had broke over the line and made the path dark and bloody between our two Countries we traveled in the path of War to your Country. Our Governor and Council sent out an Army against your Nation. And at the same time, by the desire of the settlers on the waters of Watauga & Nolachucky, took them under the protection of the State, and supplied them with money, amunition & salt &c. And they were taken in, & admitted in time of the war, as our people. We promised to support them in that place; & by the assistance & a little of the power of North Carolina, they have lived there in time of War. Before the War this power was restrained & kept back beyond the line fixed by the Big Wolf. But now by making War you have been the occasion of bringing this power to Watauga & Nolachucky. And now some of our beloved men may come & sit on the seats of Justice there. You have requested that those people should be removed quite away; and the power of North Carolina is great enough to remove them. But you made war & we then took these people for our own people. You have made it verry troublesome for us to remove them ; and it would be more agreeable to our Governor and great Council, for them to stay...

I look upon it the line you ask is much too nigh to my Nation it takes in all your settlers on Nolachuckey River, which are themselves too nigh ; but this shall not spoil our good talks. I want liberty to raise my children and have an open Country. I speak freely because I have a right to speak in my own behalf. This line I cannot agree to, as it is too near my Nation; nearer I believe than you think for. for I look upon it you would not make an unreasonable demand. I am verry thankful for the many good talks between us for the safety and security of my people ; but did not expect you would talk of boundaries so near my Towns. It seems as if my elder Brothers speak with a stranger mouth than I can, but this argument seems weak when set against what I say, for that line is too near me. I believe my elder Brothers want to know my principles. I thought they had known them before. I never was guilty of telling lies, all my people depend upon my word; and I tell you none of them have a bad heart against my Elder Brothers at this time. This is all I have to say this evening upon the subject, tomorrow I will speak again. I want to talk about Col^o. Gist going to General Washington & I want the Commissioners to write a letter for Col^o. Gist to carry to that great Warrior in behalf of my Nation. Now the beloved men of North Carolina shall hear my reply to what they said to me last night. The talks you gave me came from the Governor to make a path from your Country to mine and was verry good till you came to talk of the boundary line. My beloved man and the beloved man of Virginia have taken hold of each other fast high up the arm. It may be the same by my brothers of North Carolina. But by their asking so much land it seems as if they want to see what we would say, that we might refuse something, and they might catch us in a trap for an excuse. I left people both at home and in the woods far beyond there, who are waiting and listening to hear what I do. As you are talk ing of much land I dont know how they would like that part of your proposal...My beloved Man has been to see the Great beloved man of Virginia who I suppose wrote to your Great beloved man to send you here, and talk about making Peace. I want to know whether he wrote anything to him to require so much land as you seem to do...I would leave it to the beloved man of Virginia to settle all things (about Lands) between us...I am sensible that if we give up these lands they will bring you more a great deal than hundreds of pounds. It spoils our hunting ground; but always remains good to you to raise families and stocks on, when the goods jve receive of you are rotten and gone to nothing. Your stocks are tame and marked; but we dont know ours they are wild. Hunting is our principle way of living. I hope you will consider this and pity me.