

To Major Henry Gaither, Commanding Officer

CUSSETAHS, April 13th, 1793.

DEAR FRIEND AND BROTHER:

I heard that the Half-way king was going to do mischief, but I did not believe it; but this day I am informed, and I know it to be the truth, that he is gone. I have been talking to the head commander; which the commander told me, if I should hear anything respecting the nation, to inform him. The warriors are out upon the Oakfuskee path; whether they fall above, or below, I cannot tell. You may think it was the wish of the nation to be at war, but there is no such thing; it is only one town, the Half-way house king, and obstinate mad persons, that will not hearken to advice. We all hold the talks that were delivered to us last, and mean to abide by them still, until Major Seagrove comes up, when we expect matters will be settled upon good terms, both for yourselves and us. You may think, they divide themselves, the warriors, in two parties, (there is two towns) but that is not the case. I am your friend, and always have been; if any thing was to happen, I was to inform you; and, if any thing was to happen your side, you was to let me know likewise.

I have sent you this talk, and wish you to send the talk to your brother officers, above and below you, that they m^ot^o upon their guard against any thing that may happen.

The three river have talked, and wished for peace, and to have things, settled to the satisfaction of both sides. It is only this one mad town, that is led astray by their obstinate king, which is not to be governed, nor advised. It is a pity that our nation, and your country, should suffer by a party of bad people. I send you, now, to let you know my talk, that you may expect bloodshed in a few days; which I advise you to guard yourselves as much as possible, and, if they should do any mischief, punish them as you think proper; fight them, but do not come over this side the river, unless you find them coming upon you.

FRIEND, BROTHER, and FATHER: The Cussetah people are your friends, and are always passing backwards and forwards a hunting, and do not wish to be troublesome to any person. We have not taken any bad talks. If there should be any blood shed, we have no hand in it; neither will you find us to join them, is our determination. My young people are out upon this side the Oconee; if you should see any of them, they are my friends, do not hurt them.

My town, and all the other towns, are sitting still, waiting the talks of Major Seagrove, when he comes up. This one mad town has brought us into this trouble, and you likewise.

From your friends and brothers

BIRD KING

CUSSETAH KING.