

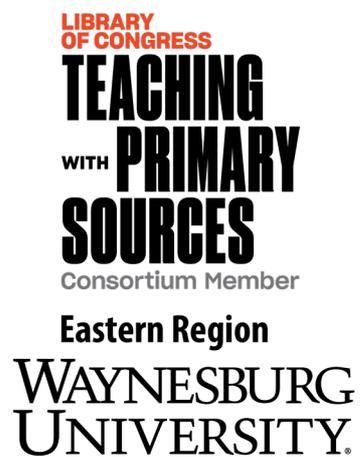
Was the Cherokee Removal fair?

C3 Inquiry

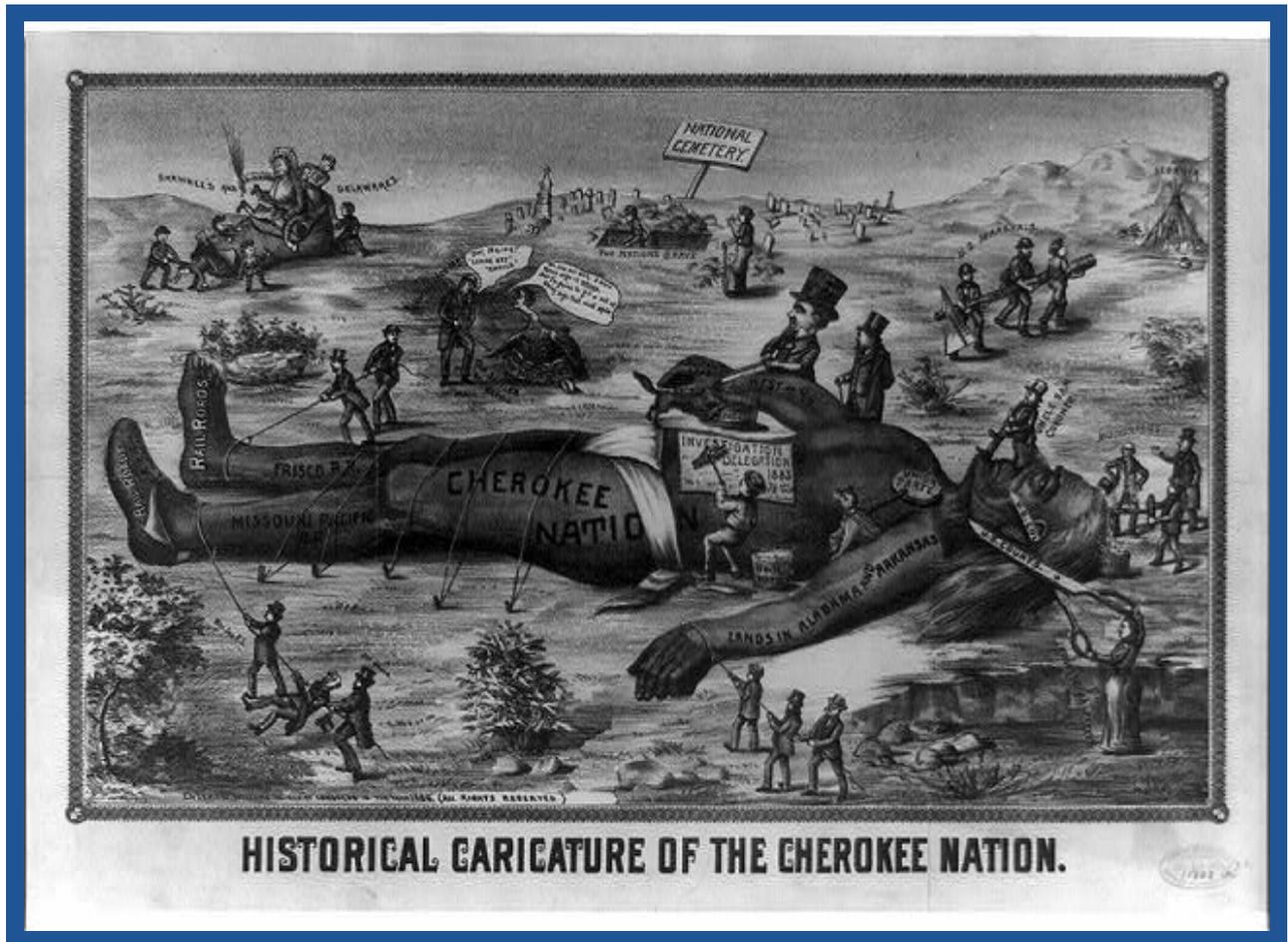
Created by

Greg Giardina

November 2016



Was the Cherokee Removal fair?



(1886) Historical caricature of the Cherokee nation. [Image] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2008661841/>.

Supporting Questions

1. What was the position of the government and military officials towards the Removal of the Cherokee?
2. What was the message of groups which opposed the Removal of the Cherokee?
3. What factors not mentioned in President Jackson's Address to Congress may have been causes of the Cherokee Removal?
4. What were the consequences of the Cherokee Removal Act fifty years later?

8 Grade Teaching with Primary Sources Hub The Cherokee Removal Inquiry by Ann B. Canning

Was the Cherokee Removal fair?	
Inquiry Standard	Integrate evidence from multiple relevant historical sources and interpretations into a reasoned argument about the past. (D2.His.16.9---12)
Staging the Compelling Question	Observe-Reflect-Question: Examine the Cherokee Newspaper http://tinyurl.com/PoliticalCatoons32 and the Cherokee Constitution http://www.loc.gov/law/help/american-indian-const.. . What do you notice? What do these two documents tell us about the Cherokee Nation? What questions do you have about the Cherokee Nation in 1830?

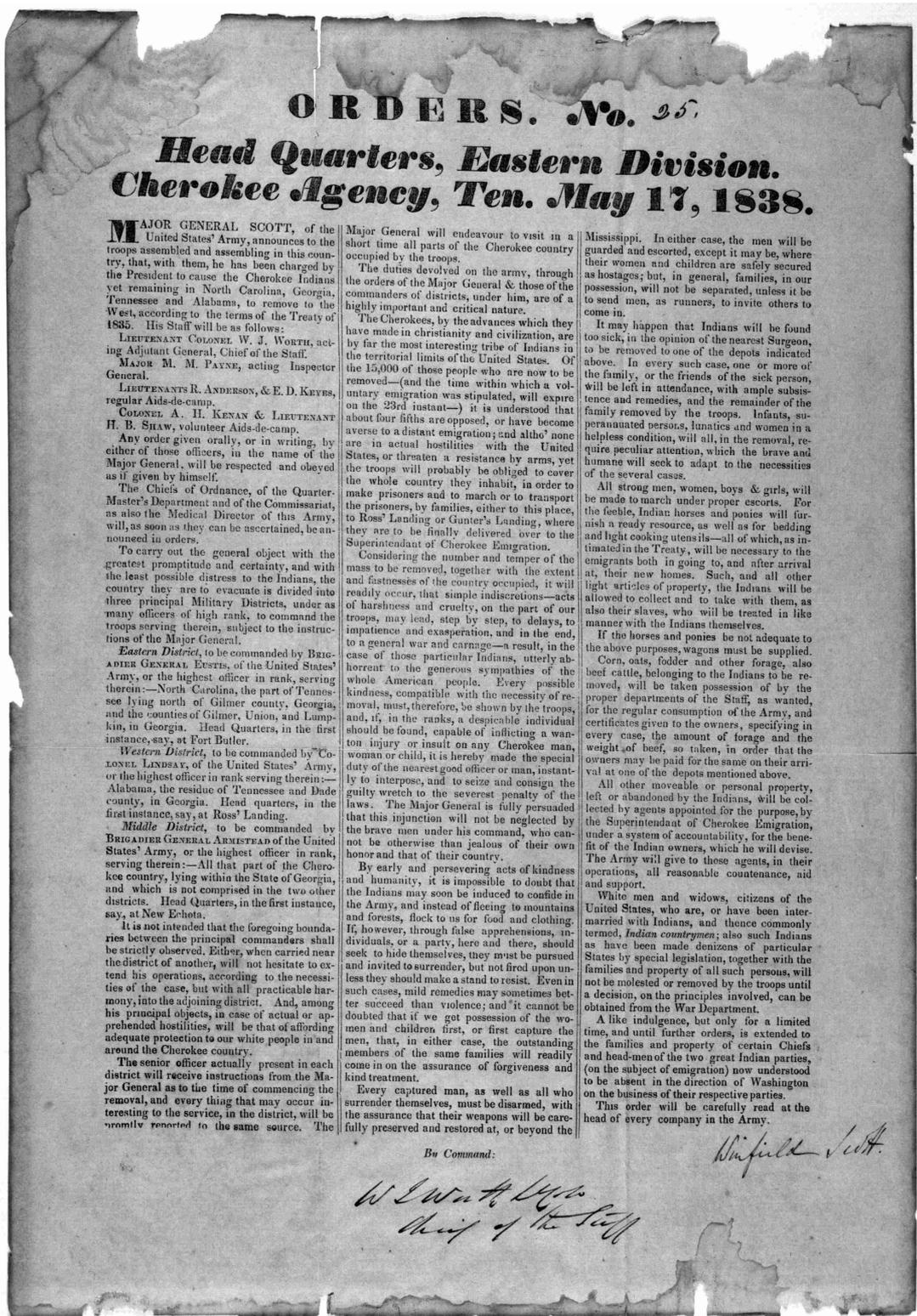
Supporting Question 1	Supporting Question 2	Supporting Question 3	Supporting Question 4
What was the position of the government and military officials towards the Removal of the Cherokee?	What was the message of groups which opposed the Removal of the Cherokee?	What factors not mentioned in President Jackson’s Address to Congress may have been causes of the Cherokee Removal?	What were the consequences of the Cherokee Removal Act fifty years later?
Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task	Formative Performance Task
Analyze the following primary sources using the SCIM-C analysis tool.	Analyze the following primary sources using the SCIM-C analysis tool.	Analyze the following primary sources using the SCIM-C analysis tool.	Analyze the following primary source using the SCIM-C analysis tool.
Featured Sources	Featured Sources	Featured Sources	Featured Sources
Source A: Orders No. [25] Head Quarters, Eastern Division Cherokee Agency, Ten. May 17, 1838. [n. p. 1838]. Source B: President Jackson’s Second Annual Address to Congress: December 7, 1830	Source A: Circular of the New-York Committee in aid of the Cherokee Nation Source B: Memorial to the Cherokee Nation	Source A: A map of the second section of that part of Georgia now known as the Cherokee Territory in which are delineated all the districts & lots which by an act of the General Assembly were designated the Gold Districts and taken from actual survey Source B: Georgia Land Lottery	Source A: Historical caricature of the Cherokee Nation

Summative Performance Task	ARGUMENT Create a graphic organizer categorizing the various arguments for and against the Cherokee Removal from their lands in the state of Georgia.
	EXTENSION Form a group of four or more of your fellow students and prepare to defend a specific point of view in a mock Congressional debate on the Indian Removal Act. Your “team” should not only make an argument from the point of view of people of the time but should also attempt to anticipate other groups arguments and prepare to counter them.
Taking Informed Action	UNDERSTAND ASSESS ACTION Create a document that identifies, explains, and defends the rights of a minority group whose rights are being denied in order to serve the needs of the majority today. (You can write a letter to a government official, a letter to the editor, create a poster, or write a poem or song or use any medium which will convey your message.)

Supporting Question 1

Featured Source A

Orders No. [25] Head Quarters, Eastern Division Cherokee Agency, Ten. May 17, 1838. [n. p. 1838].



ORDERS. No. 25, Head Quarters, Eastern Division. Cherokee Agency, Ten. May 17, 1838.

MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT, of the United States' Army, announces to the troops assembled and assembling in this country, that, with them, he has been charged by the President to cause the Cherokee Indians yet remaining in North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama, to remove to the West, according to the terms of the Treaty of 1835. His Staff will be as follows:

LIEUTENANT COLONEL W. J. WORTH, acting Adjutant General, Chief of the Staff.
MAJOR M. M. PAYNE, acting Inspector General.

LIEUTENANTS R. ANDERSON, & E. D. KEYS, regular Aids-de-camp.
COLONEL A. H. KENAN & LIEUTENANT H. B. SHAW, volunteer Aids-de-camp.

Any order given orally, or in writing, by either of those officers, in the name of the Major General, will be respected and obeyed as if given by himself.

The Chiefs of Ordnance, of the Quartermaster's Department and of the Commissariat, as also the Medical Director of this Army, will, as soon as they can be ascertained, be announced in orders.

To carry out the general object with the greatest promptitude and certainty, and with the least possible distress to the Indians, the country they are to evacuate is divided into three principal Military Districts, under as many officers of high rank, to command the troops serving therein, subject to the instructions of the Major General.

Eastern District, to be commanded by BRIGADIER GENERAL EVERTS, of the United States' Army, or the highest officer in rank, serving therein:—North Carolina, the part of Tennessee lying north of Gilmer county, Georgia, and the counties of Gilmer, Union, and Lumpkin, in Georgia. Head Quarters, in the first instance, say, at Fort Butler.

Western District, to be commanded by COLONEL LINDSAY, of the United States' Army, or the highest officer in rank serving therein:—Alabama, the residue of Tennessee and Dade county, in Georgia. Head quarters, in the first instance, say, at Ross' Landing.

Middle District, to be commanded by BRIGADIER GENERAL ARMISTEAD of the United States' Army, or the highest officer in rank, serving therein:—All that part of the Cherokee country, lying within the State of Georgia, and which is not comprised in the two other districts. Head Quarters, in the first instance, say, at New Echota.

It is not intended that the foregoing boundaries between the principal commanders shall be strictly observed. Either, when carried near the district of another, will not hesitate to extend his operations, according to the necessities of the case, but with all practicable harmony, into the adjoining district. And, among his principal objects, in case of actual or apprehended hostilities, will be that of affording adequate protection to our white people in and around the Cherokee country.

The senior officer actually present in each district will receive instructions from the Major General as to the time of commencing the removal, and every thing that may occur interesting to the service, in the district, will be promptly reported to the same source. The

Major General will endeavour to visit in a short time all parts of the Cherokee country occupied by the troops.

The duties devolved on the army, through the orders of the Major General & those of the commanders of districts, under him, are of a highly important and critical nature.

The Cherokees, by the advances which they have made in christianity and civilization, are by far the most interesting tribe of Indians in the territorial limits of the United States. Of the 15,000 of those people who are now to be removed—(and the time within which a voluntary emigration was stipulated, will expire on the 23rd instant—) it is understood that about four fifths are opposed, or have become averse to a distant emigration; and altho' none are in actual hostilities with the United States, or threaten a resistance by arms, yet the troops will probably be obliged to cover the whole country they inhabit, in order to make prisoners and to march or to transport the prisoners, by families, either to this place, to Ross' Landing or Gunter's Landing, where they are to be finally delivered over to the Superintendent of Cherokee Emigration.

Considering the number and temper of the mass to be removed, together with the extent and fastnesses of the country occupied, it will readily occur, that simple indiscretions—acts of harshness and cruelty, on the part of our troops, may lead, step by step, to delays, to impatience and exasperation, and in the end, to a general war and carnage—a result, in the case of those particular Indians, utterly abhorrent to the generous sympathies of the whole American people. Every possible kindness, compatible with the necessity of removal, must, therefore, be shown by the troops, and, if, in the ranks, a despicable individual should be found, capable of inflicting a wanton injury or insult on any Cherokee man, woman or child, it is hereby made the special duty of the nearest good officer or man, instantly to interpose, and to seize and consign the guilty wretch to the severest penalty of the laws. The Major General is fully persuaded that this injunction will not be neglected by the brave men under his command, who cannot be otherwise than jealous of their own honor and that of their country.

By early and persevering acts of kindness and humanity, it is impossible to doubt that the Indians may soon be induced to confide in the Army, and instead of fleeing to mountains and forests, flock to us for food and clothing. If, however, through false apprehensions, individuals, or a party, here and there, should seek to hide themselves, they must be pursued and invited to surrender, but not fired upon unless they should make a stand to resist. Even in such cases, mild remedies may sometimes better succeed than violence; and it cannot be doubted that if we get possession of the women and children first, or first capture the men, that, in either case, the outstanding members of the same families will readily come in on the assurance of forgiveness and kind treatment.

Every captured man, as well as all who surrender themselves, must be disarmed, with the assurance that their weapons will be carefully preserved and restored at, or beyond the

Mississippi. In either case, the men will be guarded and escorted, except it may be, where their women and children are safely secured as hostages; but, in general, families, in our possession, will not be separated, unless it be to send men, as runners, to invite others to come in.

It may happen that Indians will be found too sick, in the opinion of the nearest Surgeon, to be removed to one of the depots indicated above. In every such case, one or more of the family, or the friends of the sick person, will be left in attendance, with ample subsistence and remedies, and the remainder of the family removed by the troops. Infants, superannuated persons, lunatics and women in a helpless condition, will all, in the removal, require peculiar attention, which the brave and humane will seek to adapt to the necessities of the several cases.

All strong men, women, boys & girls, will be made to march under proper escorts. For the feeble, Indian horses and ponies will furnish a ready resource, as well as for bedding and light cooking utensils—all of which, as intimated in the Treaty, will be necessary to the emigrants both in going to, and after arrival at, their new homes. Such, and all other light articles of property, the Indians will be allowed to collect and to take with them, as also their slaves, who will be treated in like manner with the Indians themselves.

If the horses and ponies be not adequate to the above purposes, wagons must be supplied.

Corn, oats, fodder and other forage, also beef cattle, belonging to the Indians to be removed, will be taken possession of by the proper departments of the Staff, as wanted, for the regular consumption of the Army, and certificates given to the owners, specifying in every case, the amount of forage and the weight of beef, so taken, in order that the owners may be paid for the same on their arrival at one of the depots mentioned above.

All other moveable or personal property, left or abandoned by the Indians, will be collected by agents appointed for the purpose, by the Superintendent of Cherokee Emigration, under a system of accountability, for the benefit of the Indian owners, which he will devise. The Army will give to those agents, in their operations, all reasonable countenance, aid and support.

White men and widows, citizens of the United States, who are, or have been intermarried with Indians, and thence commonly termed, *Indian countrymen*; also such Indians as have been made denizens of particular States by special legislation, together with the families and property of all such persons, will not be molested or removed by the troops until a decision, on the principles involved, can be obtained from the War Department.

A like indulgence, but only for a limited time, and until further orders, is extended to the families and property of certain Chiefs and head-men of the two great Indian parties, (on the subject of emigration) now understood to be absent in the direction of Washington on the business of their respective parties.

This order will be carefully read at the head of every company in the Army.

By Command:

W. I. W. W. Dept
Chief of the Staff

Winfield Scott

Cherokee Agency. (1838) [Orders No. 25 Head Quarters, Eastern Division Cherokee Agency, Ten. May 17, 1838. n. p. 1838].

[Image] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/rbpe.1740400a/>.

Supporting Question 1

Featured Source B

President Jackson's Second Annual Address to Congress: December 7, 1830

Excerpt

It gives me pleasure to announce to Congress that the benevolent policy of the Government, steadily pursued for nearly thirty years, in relation to the removal of the Indians beyond the white settlements is approaching to a happy consummation. Two important tribes have accepted the provision made for their removal at the last session of Congress, and it is believed that their example will induce the remaining tribes also to seek the same obvious advantages.

The consequences of a speedy removal will be important to the United States, to individual States, and to the Indians themselves. The pecuniary advantages which it promises to the Government are the least of its recommendations. It puts an end to all possible danger of collision between the authorities of the General and State Governments on account of the Indians. It will place a dense and civilized population in large tracts of country now occupied by a few savage hunters. By opening the whole territory between Tennessee on the north and Louisiana on the south to the settlement of the whites it will incalculably strengthen the southwestern frontier and render the adjacent States strong enough to repel future invasions without remote aid. It will relieve the whole State of Mississippi and the western part of Alabama of Indian occupancy, and enable those States to advance rapidly in population, wealth, and power. It will separate the Indians from immediate contact with settlements of whites; free them from the power of the States; enable them to pursue happiness in their own way and under their own rude institutions; will retard the progress of decay, which is lessening their numbers, and perhaps cause them gradually, under the protection of the Government and through the influence of good counsels, to cast off their savage habits and become an interesting, civilized, and Christian community.

What good man would prefer a country covered with forests and ranged by a few thousand savages to our extensive Republic, studded with cities, towns, and prosperous farms embellished with all the improvements which art can devise or industry execute, occupied by more than 12,000,000 happy people, and filled with all the blessings of liberty, civilization and religion?

The present policy of the Government is but a continuation of the same progressive change by a milder process. The tribes which occupied the countries now constituting the Eastern States were annihilated or have melted away to make room for the whites. The waves of population and civilization are rolling to the westward, and we now propose to acquire the countries occupied by the red men of the South and West by a fair exchange, and, at the expense of the United States, to send them to land where their existence may be prolonged and perhaps made perpetual. Doubtless it will be painful to leave the graves of their fathers; but what do they more than our ancestors did or than our children are now doing? To better their condition in an unknown land our forefathers left all that was dear in earthly objects. Our children by thousands yearly leave the land of their birth to seek new homes in distant regions. Does Humanity weep at these painful separations from everything, animate and inanimate, with which the young heart has become entwined? Far from it. It is rather a source of joy that our country affords scope where our young population may range unconstrained in body or in mind, developing the power and facilities of man in their highest perfection. These remove hundreds and almost thousands of miles at their own expense, purchase the lands they occupy, and support themselves at their new homes from the moment of their arrival. Can it be cruel in this Government when, by events which it can not control, the Indian is made discontented in his ancient home to purchase his lands, to give him a new and extensive territory, to pay the expense of his removal, and support him a year in his new abode? How many thousands of our own people would gladly embrace the opportunity of removing to the West on such conditions! If the offers made to the Indians were extended to them, they would be hailed with gratitude and joy.

And is it supposed that the wandering savage has a stronger attachment to his home than the settled, civilized Christian? Is it more afflicting to him to leave the graves of his fathers than it is to our brothers and children? Rightly considered, the policy of the General Government toward the red man is not only liberal, but generous. He is unwilling to submit to the laws of the States and mingle with their population. To save him from this alternative, or perhaps utter annihilation, the General Government kindly offers him a new home, and proposes to pay the whole expense of his removal and settlement.

Source:

A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774 - 1875

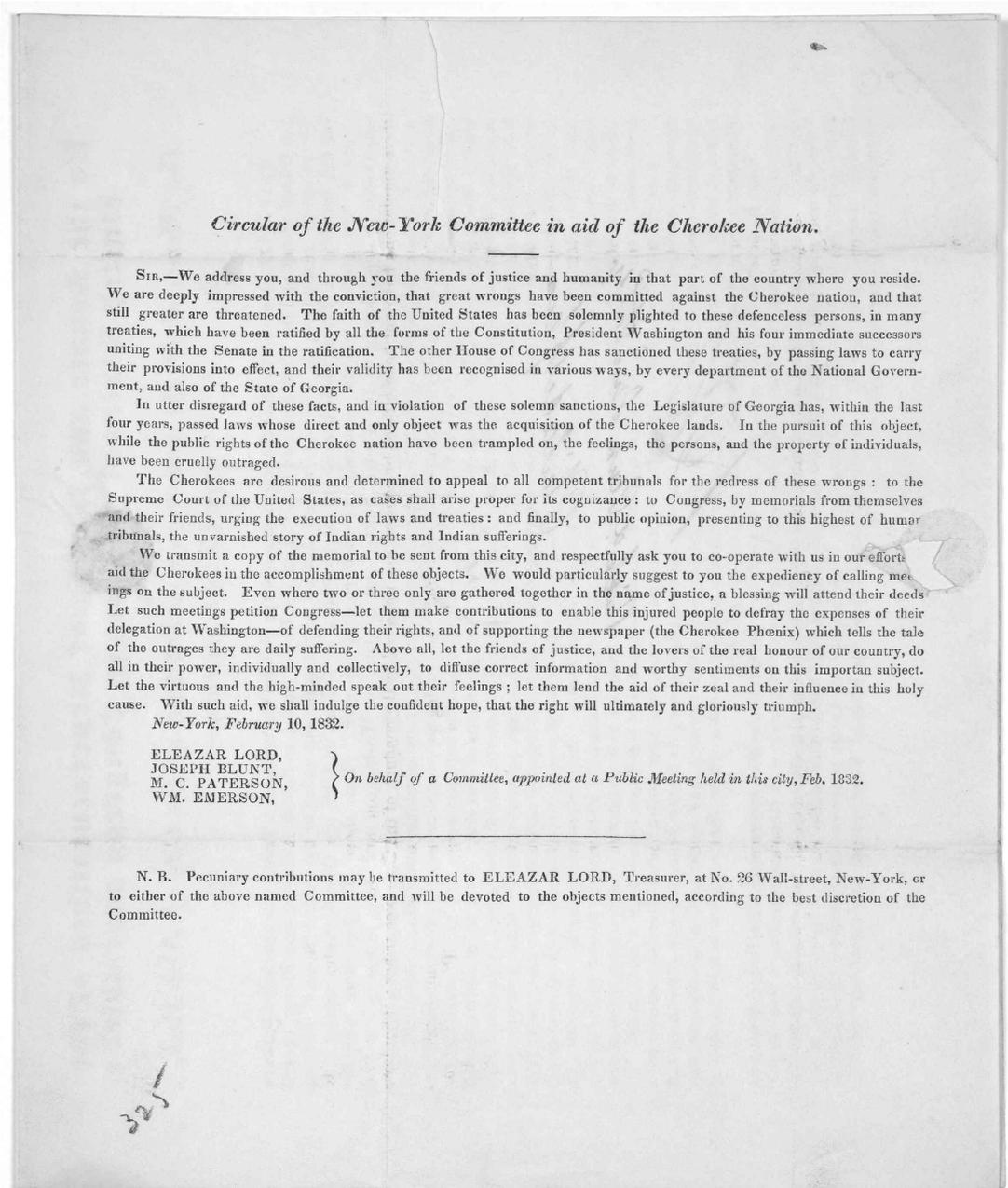
[Register of Debates](#), 21st Congress, 2nd Session. Retrieved from the Library of Congress

<https://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llrd&>

Supporting Question 2

Featured Source A

Circular of the New-York Committee in aid of the Cherokee Nation



New York Committee In Aid Of The Cherokee Nation. (1832) *Circular of the New-York Committee in aid of the Cherokee nation ... New York, February 10, 1832.* New York. [Image] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/rbpe.11800400/>.

Supporting Question 2

Featured Source B

Memorial to the Cherokee Nation

Excerpt

Memorial letters are statements of fact directed to a legislature as the basis of a petition or accompanying a petition. This memorial letter, written in December of 1829 to the United States Congress, was printed in January, 1830 in the Cherokee Phoenix, the first American Indian newspaper. It was then reprinted in the March 13, 1830 issue of Niles Weekly Register, a periodical published in Baltimore, Maryland.

Memorial of the Cherokee Nation, 1830: "We are aware that some persons suppose it will be for our advantage to remove beyond the Mississippi. We think otherwise. Our people universally think otherwise. Thinking that it would be fatal to their interests, they have almost to a man sent their memorial to Congress, deprecating the necessity of a removal. . . . It is incredible that Georgia should ever have enacted the oppressive laws to which reference is here made, unless she had supposed that something extremely terrific in its character was necessary in order to make the Cherokees willing to remove. We are not willing to remove; and if we could be brought to this extremity, it would be not by argument, nor because our judgment was satisfied, not because our condition will be improved; but only because we cannot endure to be deprived of our national and individual rights and subjected to a process of intolerable oppression. We wish to remain on the land of our fathers. We have a perfect and original right to remain without interruption or molestation. The treaties with us, and laws of the United States made in pursuance of treaties, guaranty our residence and our privileges, and secure us against intruders. Our only request is, that these treaties may be fulfilled, and these laws executed. But if we are compelled to leave our country, we see nothing but ruin before us. The country west of the Arkansas territory is unknown to us. From what we can learn of it, we have no prepossessions in its favor. All the inviting parts of it, as we believe, are preoccupied by various Indian nations, to which it has been assigned. They would regard us as intruders. . . . The far greater part of that region is, beyond all controversy, badly supplied with wood and water; and no Indian tribe can live as agriculturists without these articles. All our neighbors . . . would speak a language totally different from ours, and practice different customs. The original possessors of that region are now wandering savages lurking for prey in the neighborhood. . . . Were the country to which we are urged much better than it is represented to be, . . . still it is not the land of our birth, nor of our affections. It contains neither the scenes of our childhood, nor the graves of our fathers. . . . We have been called a poor, ignorant, and degraded people. We certainly are not rich; nor have we ever boasted of our knowledge, or our moral or intellectual elevation. But there is not a man within our limits so ignorant as not to know that he has a right to live on the land of his fathers, in the possession of his immemorial privileges, and that this right has been acknowledged by the United States; nor is there a man so degraded as not to feel a keen sense of injury, on being deprived of his right and driven into exile. . . .". Reprinted from "Memorial of the Cherokee Nation," in Niles' Weekly Register, 1830.

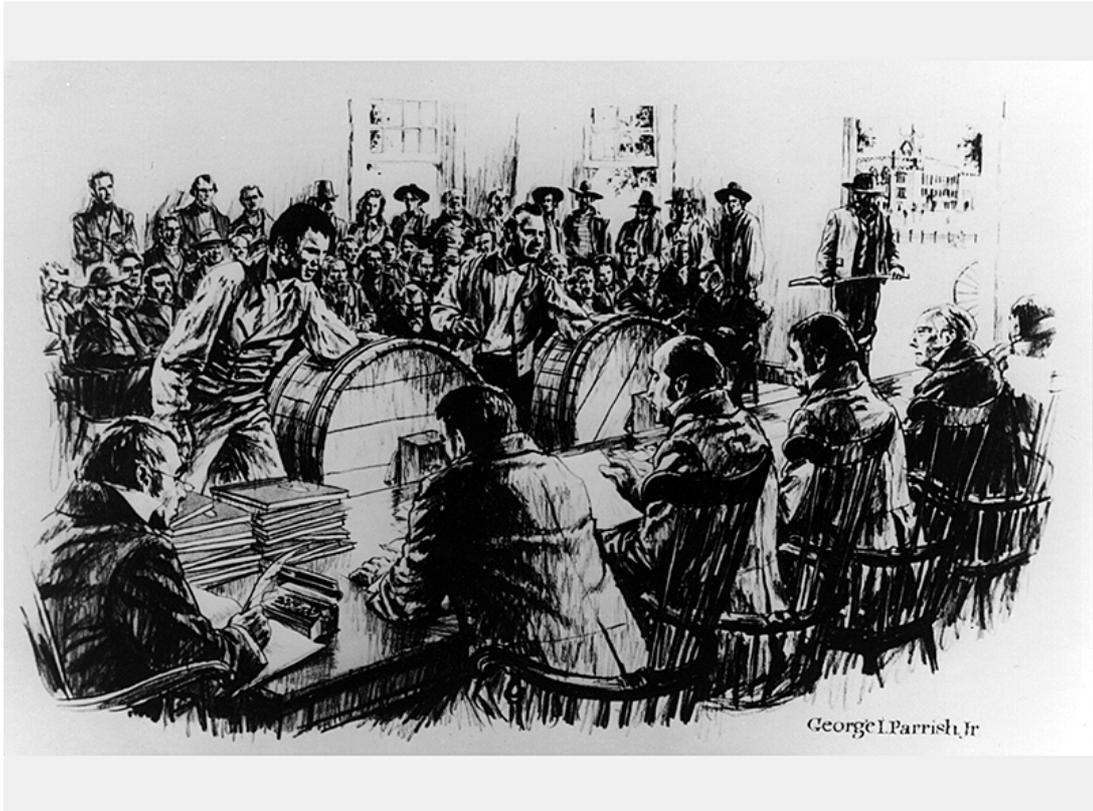
Source:

Niles, H. Niles' Weekly Register Vol 38. pg 53-54. Retrieved from <https://books.google.com/books?id=Wdo-AQAAMAAJ&pg=..>

Supporting Question 3

Featured Source B

Georgia Land Lottery

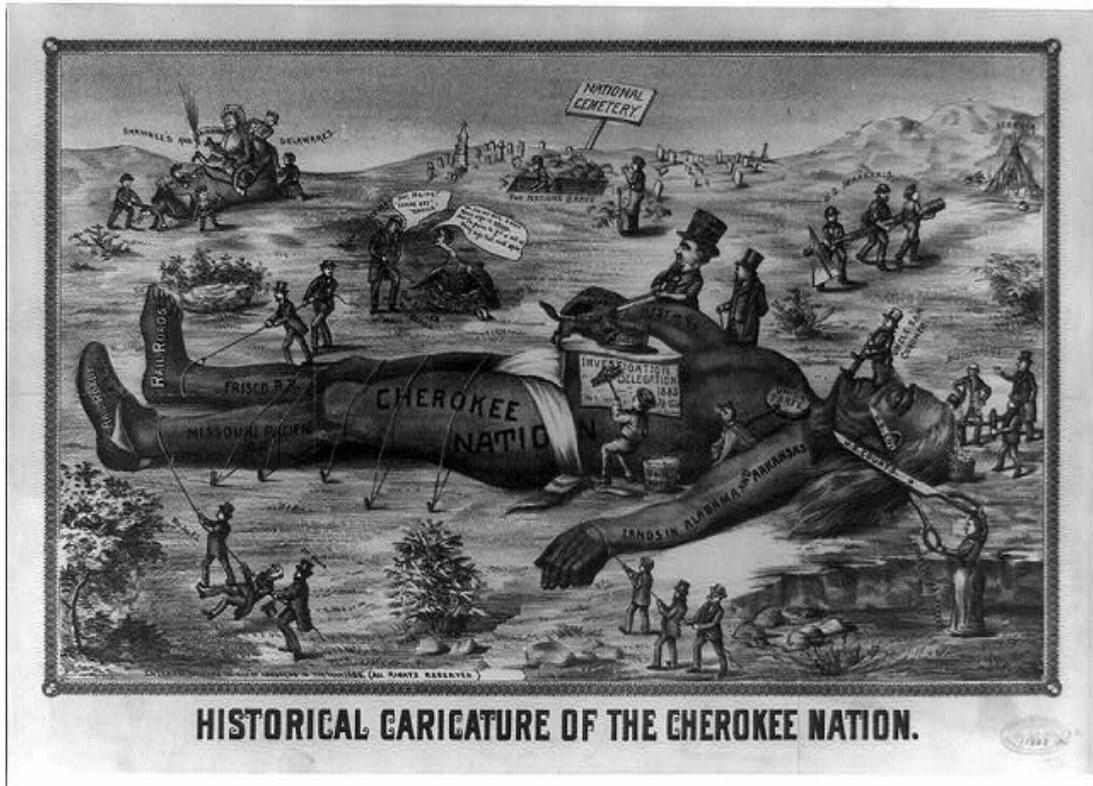


Georgia Land Lottery. George I. Parrish Jr., circa 1832. Retrieved November 16, 2016, from <http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/file/10859>

Supporting Question 4

Featured Source A

Historical caricature of the Cherokee Nation



(1886) Historical caricature of the Cherokee nation. [Image] Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/2008661841/>.

Summative Performance Task

Compelling Question	Was the Cherokee Removal fair?
Argument	Create a graphic organizer categorizing the various arguments for and against the Cherokee Removal from their lands in the state of Georgia.
Extension	Form a group of four or more of your fellow students and prepare to defend a specific point of view in a mock Congressional debate on the Indian Removal Act. Your “team” should not only make an argument from the point of view of people of the time but should also attempt to anticipate other groups arguments and prepare to counter them.

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