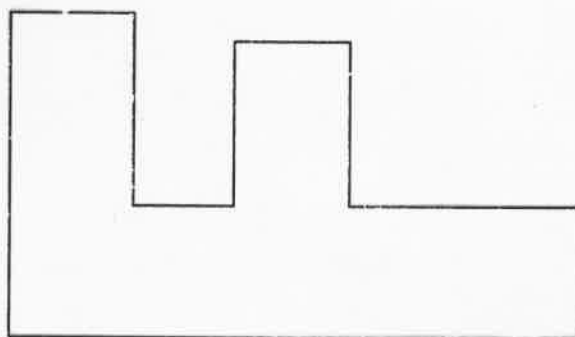
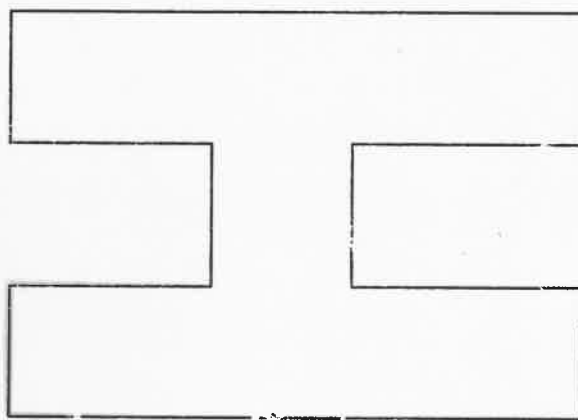
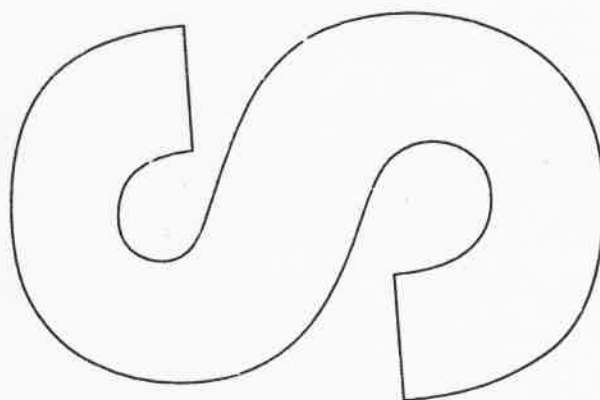




Mss
A
H947
1

Henderson, Thomas, Papers.

Letters from Richard M. Johnson and others re:
The Choctaw Academy.

1824-1825

35x1

~~15~~ items
15

A
7497

Dear Sir,

Great Crofting
27th Sept 1824

Have received your favour and
have put the affidavit in the hands of Mr
Johnson who will hand it to Smith
to day - It is indispensable that you
should be at the Franklin Circuit
court on the 3^d day in the morning
which commences on the 2^d Monday
in Oct. - I wish you to be up at least
a day previous - wish to settle the con-
test with Green & Co, in that suit & if I
have all my witnesses I can cast
him. My friend you know how
much depends upon that trial & do not
fail to come if health permits yours
R. W. Johnson

Price
20.00

Great Grappling
Sept 17. 88

W. H. S.
Henderson
Tenders, By Edge
Grant House

Wm

Rev Mr Johnson

H 497

Friday night. Dec 2? 1825

City of Washington

My dear friend,

I came into the City last night about 9 o'clock. I am in tolerable health only very much fatigued & sore with the journey - I have not been able to attend much to business but shall soon get at it, and when I complete the arrangement as to the Indian school you shall know the whole affair. Had a general conversation to day at some length with the Sec of war on the subject preparatory of something definite I will do the best I can for you in the affair; all I want is a reasonable compensation that I must have, or quit the business. I have no fear but whatever thing I wish will be accorded to me. I feel great interest in the success of our undertaking.

I have to perform duties here which will
detain me 4 or 5 months; and I shall expect
you to contribute all in your power
to promote order, industry & good conduct
among the Indian Boys while absent from
school, as well as that of my own people.

I wish you particularly to make
all hands employ themselves that they will
be obliged to occupy their leisure hours in
study & particularly on Sunday, when
the mind is more apt to wander about
mischief, having nothing to engross it.

I wish you to persevere in your
attention to Eugene, Adeline & the girls
and expect to satisfy you for your
trouble. It will require sternness
& decision on your part to convince
them that the subject is not to be trifled
with. Soft words alone will not do
& I wish you to manage that matter
in such a way that the mind
will take pleasure in the tasks to be

performed. I want you to send me on the
report as to the number of Boys &c as soon
as you can. If at any time you have
any commands at this place write
to me freely. I will always give me
pleasure to serve you. My Brother has
not yet arrived - we separated 100 miles
from here. He went by Harpers
Ferry to see every thing about
the national Armory - Wish
you to remember me to
the Indian Boys & express to them my
hope that they will be industrious
& conform in all things to your
advice to them. My respects to Mrs
Henderson & the Family & believe
me every your friend

W. M. Johnson

A
H497 Thursday night - (11)

City of Washington

(Private)

4th Dec 1825

Dear Sir

I have had my mind very much occupied indeed with the discovery of the best plan to arrange permanently our Indian school at the Blue Spring & to day after much reflection and many drafts of plans & conversations with the Rev of War & Col McClellan I submitted a plan which was approved and as soon as I can get a copy of the proceedings & plan I shall enclose it to you. I found it was best to enlist the Baptist Board of managers for the general convention for missionary purposes to take hold of the subject & give the sanction of their name & patronage to the institution. This I effected and

(2)

had a meeting of that Board & after
several conferences & meetings & after
- nations they entered into resolutions
my next object was to arrange it in
such a manner as to give you
a prominence in the business & to
keep myself out of any arrangement
with the Government. The Board at my
instance appointed you Superintendent
& teacher - to provide every thing in
your name, or to employ some other
person to furnish the Boarding & Clothing &

I demanded 500 \$ for your services
per annum besides the house you live
in &. I demanded 250 \$ per scholar
per annum for all other expenses
the fee of war cut down Boarding &
Clothing & to 225 \$ per scholar
& your salary to 400 \$ besides a house

(3/4)
to live in after much reflection and
conversation, a wish was expressed that I
would only demand 200 \$ per scholar
per annum. I was anxious to make
the plan & expense conform to the
wish of the department of war & with
the ideas of the Choctaw nation as to a
perfect system of economy. & as it was
known that they were at my house
and a number of Congress I was
anxious that my compensation
should not be or appear to be
extravagant. I then made this propo-
-sal - for accommodations you with
a house 75 \$ per annum. for pro-
viding school room & fire 75 \$ for
books, stationery &c 75. making 225
dollars; for you the sum of 500 \$

making $\$25^H$ and for each scholar
for all other expenses $\$200$ per annum
The Sec of War then agreed to give
you $\$450$; for your house & to
allow me $\$60$ for school Rooms &
 $\$60$ making $\$120$ & for Books &c
 $\$50$ per annum - to this I ultimately
agreed upon condition they would
make your salary per annum $\$500$
& to which they have agreed; for as
I had determined in my own mind
to give you that sum - at all events
on account of your kindness in
teaching my wife Ada Cline & the girls
I thought it was best to deduct in my
allowance & let your salary be
what I intended to make it if it
had been a left sum -

The matter now stands thus —

Superintendent & Tutor — \$ 500

House & for Superintendent 60

Rooms for school 60

For Books & — 50

For 25 Indian youths @ \$200 each 5000

making ————— 5670

Leaving for a Contingent fund annually

out of the 6000 \$ 330 \$ — Mr Ward

of course will be ordered to send on

4 other children from other districts

Congress has for many years appropriated

10,000 \$ to be distributed among

the missionary schools &c. we intend to

push hard for 200 \$ to enable us to

bring an other scholar which would

be 26. and I have no doubt but the

Board will provide funds for
one other scholar & no doubt the

[64]
Committee or Trustees appointed in
Kensington by the Board here, at my
instance will raise funds for
another & then I have a hope that
the Nation will raise funds
to send a few more so that
our number may be 30 in
all at least. This will be to
my advantage & no disadvantage
to you - thus you see that I
have not been idle. My whole mind
has been occupied with this business
& now I have in a good measure got
through with the most of it. I have so
arranged that we receive our pay
quarterly, ^{I could say no better} but I have insisted upon
the first quarter as soon as I can
hear from you. The 1st quarter
is to commence on the 1st day of Nov.

of course the quarter will end the last of Jan.
in all of your communications &
reports you must give exact date
the commencement of the School
1st of Nov 1829. I send you the draft
of a letter which you must ^{write} to the
Sec of war, also send you the
substance of a power of attorney
you must sign & acknowledge
before Wm Johnson justice of the
peace to enable me to draw the
money & to act as agent & attorney
for you, for ^{tho} it was better
for me to arrange it in this way
than to make any ^{direct} arrangement with
the Government. If you do your duty
of which I have no doubt & if I do
my duty the School will be permanent
for the 20 years at the Blue Spring.

[8th Dec 1825]

My situation requires every exertion on my
part to retain this school as long as
I find I can be of service to the Choctaws
& to my self & it will be of great
service to our neighbourhood.
your situation also requires that
the school should be permanent
since I have secured you at least
\$500 for an annu. price. of
course in my absence I shall
depend upon you greatly to keep
your eyes open & give your counsel
freely to Julia & the girls & make
them do honor to me, to you, to them
selves & to the cause. you must visit
the Blue Springs every night when in your
powers as also in the day. It is best to
keep our arrangements to our
selves & do our duty

[Steel 1825]

A
H497

(9)

You have always been my friend &
I feel grateful for the manner in which
you commenced learning my house-
hold & I know you will not relax
in your exertions. If Julia should remain
well enough to attend to my matters
she will make all do their duty &
to conduct & industry & she will only
want your assistance to make all
act with the same propriety as if I
were at home; if ^{she} should get unwell
you will have to take a little
more trouble upon your self to see
that no disorder takes place with
my people particularly the younger
part of them. I want you to perse-
vere in learning ^{my Greek} ~~from~~ every night
when you can & of Sundays make them
get a lesson when they do not go to meeting

I have nothing particularly interest-
 -ing to say to you - as soon as you
 receive this write the letter & sign
 the power of attorney & send them
 on to me without delay. I will
 try to pay for the order you gave
 him during this week out of my
 own funds & write me when con-
 venient. you must not fail as soon
 as convenient after you receive
 the plan to make a report as to
 the school & the accommodations of
 the Boys in every respect be full
 my respects to Mrs Henderson
 and the family & believe me as
 ever your friend in haste

R. H. Johnson

SETH

Rev. Wm. A. Henderson

Col. R. M. Johnston
8th Dec 1875

A
H497

Dear Sir,

City of Washington

9th Dec 1879

you will see that in the plan which is adopted no detail of clothing or boarding is entered into. It was thought best to omit it some might want more home & if we specified I must find the exact amount in every case & where the amount specified was not sufficient yet ^{more} it must be furnished to keep them warm & decent. So of boarding we omitted details. Now you will perceive that you can ^{not} be too particular in inspiring each with as much emulation in taking care of their cloths as to excel in learning. unless you are very particular in this respect you know how careless & how scarce boys are; more especially where boys think they can get more without any more money out of their ^{pockets} or their parents we must even give small premiums if necessary for carefulness in clothing &

This is one point in which you can guard my interest & at the same time perform an indispensable duty; Your desk should be the center of all students if they have the papers at command

There is another point you must guard. I am responsible for medical attendance. Now in case of little ailments or common sickness you must be the physician yourself and Julia is as good as one half the physicians where the complaint is not dangerous. When ever dangerous or severe then we meet the expense of medical aid. you must be kind but rigid in the management of the Boys to make them love & fear you. To make them love to stay with us, yet to love order &

industry; and while it is proper to allow them
innocent amusement not to take up
too much of their time. It is as difficult
in drawing the cord too tight as not to
draw it tight enough. They are fond of
dancing & that is an innocent amuse-
ment. yet the mind should be so
interested as not to long after it, too much
for it will not do to attempt to
prevent them this enjoyment
by force. Pardon me for the
freedom I take in giving you
every hint which crosses my mind
and I want you to improve upon
them. Please write me frequently

M. H. Johnson

Dec 9. 1891

Dec 9. 1891

in

WHEAT
Dr. James Henderson
Great Britain
Dec 9. 1891

A
H497

private

Cty of Washington

12th Dec 1875

Dear Sir,

I have requested Brother John T
and Messrs B. S. Chambers to ride to your
school & consult as to the meeting of the
Board composed of Doct Furber, Rev
Jacob Breckinridge, Messrs Ben S. Chambers
and John T. Johnson; unless they think
that they could make some arrangement
to create the fund by a temporary
society to lend for one student to be
educated at the Blue Springs, the Board
need not be troubled to meet unless
they please till I return home. But
as it may be important to make the
Academy popular with the nation
in the commencement nothing would
have a greater tendency than to

find that the Great Baptist Convention
& Baptist Society had without delay
added so much to their 6000 \$ as
to educate one student. & the one
already sent for by the Government
would make a show among
the Choolows. If you all think any
effort would be premature till I come
out let the Board or any one of them
or yourself appear in ward that
such a move will be made when
I return home that he may let the
nation know it. I would advise that
the name of the student if sent for
be James Gushback in honor of
the doct^r. I advise you to take
all the papers I have sent
you & ride in Saturday or
Sunday & see Brother John &

Chambers as that will
save them trouble there-
haps they may not find
it convenient to visit
you. This matter is important
to be attended to as far as practicable
you will explain the whole
Plan to John & Chambers but
let us all be silent as to the
terms of the Boarding and as to
your compensation there will
be no necessity ^{that I know of} for silence; but
my pecuniary embarrassments &
my being a member of Congress
makes it desirable to myself that
some few friends alone should know—
Show this to John T. & Chambers yours
R. H. Johnson

just
L Bar
adds
to ed
already

Red Thompson
Great Grapings
than

1825

Dec. 12, 1825
Col. B. M. Johnson

A
H497
1

Choctaw Agency Nov. 16th 1895
Rev. P. Thos. Henderson

Dear Sir,

I have been informed that you had been selected by Col. Johnson as teacher of the Choctaw boys sent to Ky to the care of our mutual friend Rich. —

I was very much gratified when I understood these boys were under your management, first because, I know you to be well qualified for to teach them everything that is useful for them to know. Also that my long acquaintance with you, will give much satisfaction in the nation and with their parents, who feel much anxiety for their treatment &c. I am aware of the trouble of pleasing, parents of such uneducated children, in deed it is not a small matter to please my description of people.

I know your labours must be very

labourous, and when I frankly tell you that
much is expected from these Boys upon
their return to this Country, I know you will
justly appreciate my motives in thus address-
ing you. There is about 10 Schools in this
nation under the Superintendence of a very
Pious Puritanical Preacher and the most of
his teachers & others attached to his mission
are of the same description of Pious
zeal for the cause of Christ and his
Kingdoms, yet they are like other men
anxious to exult in their works. —

I have a good deal of will with them so
far and I trust to get on with them.
but I fear a little coolness will be
put on account of my aiding the
Boys in going on to Ky. — I heard the
scholars examined at one of the Estab-
lishments (May here) a few days since and
I was much delighted with the progress
they had made in the different studies.

you will be pleased to let the Boy know that
I have seen many of their friends lately at
a Council, and that all is well and nothing
new or strange has happened in the nation
since they left here, That Doct. Keen was
here a few days ago and brought letters to
the parents of some, who was glad to hear
from them &c. — I shall be glad to receive
a letter from [redacted] and the
Chap. Marshfield [redacted] wishes you to write
often that he can hear from [redacted]

Tell the Boy their father says they must
learn to talk English, and give Choctaw, I
have a Spelling Book printed at Cincinnati
and would send you one but perhaps you
can get it easier from [redacted] It is of some
advantage to me in giving the names of every
thing &c. &c. —

I am Respectfully your friend
Mrs. give my respects to the 3
Boys. also to your family &c

Dec 16/25-

By J. S. W. Ward, D.D.

Rev. J. H. H. Henderson

Great
L
S

Wm. W. Ward

Thomas Henderson Esq

City of Washington

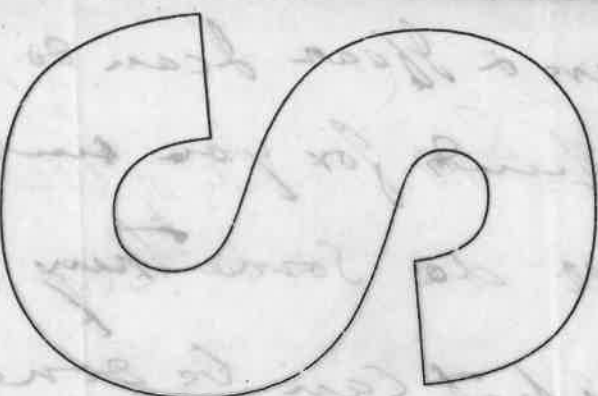
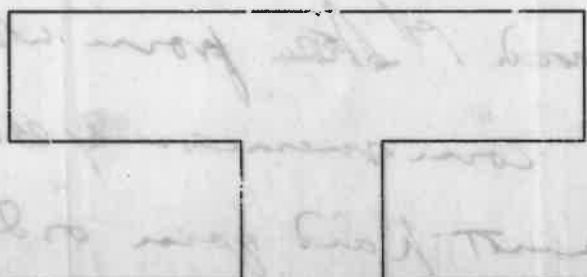
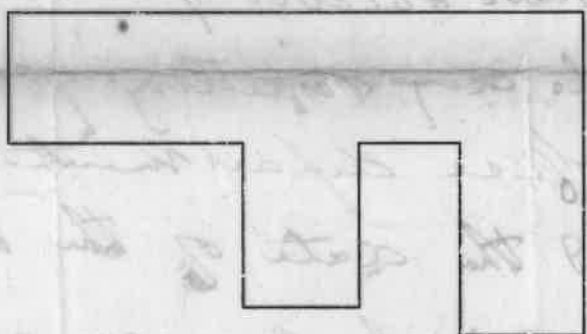
16th Dec. 1925

Dear Sir,

I have received your several com-
 munications to day respecting your account
 with the Post office department of the Schools.
 I have changed the date of the Report so as
 to make the School commence ~~the day~~
 the boys arrived ~~at the~~ from what date
 your salary commences ~~of~~ ~~starting~~ the
 loan department paid your order \$ to Paul
 46.62 ~~to~~ I am extremely sorry that your
 situation is so much like my own as to
 money matters & I fear I can do but little
 wth raising funds for you unless the
 P.M. fund will do something for you
 I will see what can be done in any
 way & write ^{by} my next ^{mail} I wish your situation
 was such that you could be free from un-
 pleasant pressures I depend much upon your
 promise to continue your evening
 work to my house, if you stay only 30
 minutes - ~~if~~ you say nothing of them
 progress in learning & your friend
 Wm. Johnson

Chas. Johnson

Col. D. M. Johnson



A
H 497

My Dear Friend,

City of Washington
17th Nov 1825

I now begin to receive
some letters from the Anacostia Boys &
I wish to impress you with the advantage
of making boys write to their Parents
and friends & recollect that a student can
never be better employed than writing
letters. ^{They} can do on Saturdays and
as well as at school ^{if necessary} on
Sundays. It is extremely important for
us to keep our eye open & make the
School popular with the Nation &
with the Govt & I have no doubt we
shall have 60. scholars at a white
this would augment your salary &
my profits. I wish you to visit my house
often & particularly you will oblige
me to continue to hear reports from
my girls whenever you can at night
so as not to make it a burthen to
you, as it has a tendency to keep order
as well as improve the mind & manners

In haste your friend

M. L. Johnson

1771

1771

1771

1771

Col. Richard M. &
1771

^A
4497
Recd

Thomas Henderson

(Senate Chamber)

Dear Sir,

I now send you a check upon the Br. Bk
of States Lexington for one hundred \$ you
will give me credit for 105 as
explained in a former letter as I had to
scratch out a word or two on the
Bank of the check on account of
a mistake in writing the transfer to
you, when you send your
Dor for the money this letter
had better accompany the check
you - or D

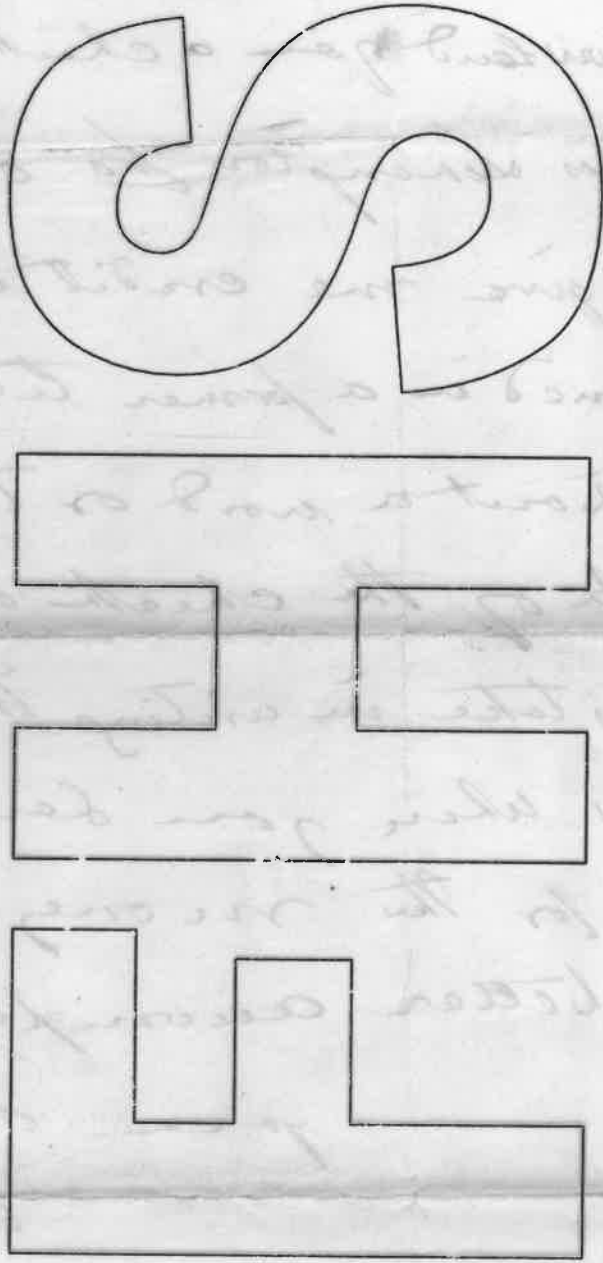
W. H. Johnson

23^d Dec. 1825

Col. Rec. M. Johnson

1800.

23rd Dec



A
H 497

Dear Mother,

City of Washington
31. Dec 1885

Besides the 6000\$ annually for
20 years the Choctaws in another Treaty
reserved as a literary fund 54 sections of
Land in the State of Mississippi in another
Treaty, and this Land which would bring
about 40 or 50,000\$ they have requested
should be sold & the proceeds be appropri-
ated to increase the students at my place

Col M. C. Kinney says he will
take steps to have the Land sold in
the Spring or Summer so as to vest the
proceeds in 6 per cent stock & increase
the students next fall; but he says he
must have at least one report from
the Committee or Trustees as to the condition
of the school & the future prospects.

Any three of the Committee will answer
and if you can not get Doct. ~~Whitback~~
or Cresseth to attend, May Chambers or
William Lybbett or yourself can
do it. This will induce Doct. McKim
to recommend at once the sale of
the 54 sections of land & it will be done
You must not neglect this thing. It
must be done. You must make
out at least two reports. one as soon
as may be; the other about the 1st of
April - you can easily estimate the
value of these things to me & to all
of those connected with me. If I could
get about 12,000 \$ a year for Boarding
as you see what effects would follow
the more scholars I have the more
profit. I hope Sophia is well. yours
Sincerely
Th. W. Johnson

Rev Thomas Henderson,

Dear Sir,

City of Washington

31st Dec 1895

A
H497

To day I let Mr McKimrey read the letters the Boys wrote me; he was delighted, & requested me to enclose them to Mr Ward

The school gaining popularity. Col McKimrey has agreed to comply with the request of the school nation to see the

54 sections of land in the spring or fall; but to recommend this measure to the President

he says he must have, besides your reports, at least one from the Committee or Trustees

into the condition of the school, its future

prospects & its capacity to be enlarged to

50 scholars - you must make out a report yourself as superintendant & tutor stating

the capacity & dimensions of the two school

rooms. The capacity & dimensions of the

2 rooms in the Library (the upper room

with a Franklin stove can be made equal

35 x 1 1/2 ft. In all reports of the school keep my name out of it. Describe the place.

to the room now occupied) It may be reported
with 3 rooms without saying any thing
about any repair or stove for that can be
done at any time you can describe also
the stone house Julia lives in; at any time
I could appropriate that whole house
if necessary - but by building a room to
eat in, the 3 rooms of the library would
accommodate 20 scholars each
you should also describe the 12 rooms
which you occupy & which could be
appropriated for school rooms at any
time & you could take the house
which Mr. Thompson lives in - It is
best therefore to state the present condition
of the school & the capacity of the place
& building for an immediate augmen-
tation of scholars to 60 if sent. These
same views ought to be taken by the
Committee (a concurrence of reports should exist)

John F. Johnson. Benj S. Chambers & Wm. Lyggett
are always convenient to make a
report & they are a majority - a report from
you & from them as soon as convenient
is necessary; & it is ^{advised} to forward
another as to the state of the school
would help; that I may act on every
thing before I leave here; for I
am ^{at home}, in April;
the association will raise say 50,000 \$
this would give in 6 per cent stock
3000 \$ per annum for ever - this & other
means might increase the students
to about 40 - do not expect them to
go beyond that unless they make another
treaty for this specific object which I
have recommended. The importance of
your attention to these reports need not be
urged yours (in haste),
Wm. F. Johnson

State the place as healthy

Col. R. M. Johnson

31st Dec. 1895

Wise

Dr. W. Johnson

Rev. Thomas Henderson

W. C. C. C. C.

W. C. C. C.



the Library with 3 rooms - 20 by 30.

I can prepare this for 3 bed rooms -

If necessary I can appropriate the other
stone house which has 4 rooms 20 feet
square - & by making a dining room
which can easily be done at little
expense I have capacity of accommoda-
tion from 60 to 100 students.

A school house may consist of the
4 rooms where Mr Henderson lives & if
necessary 4 rooms 20 feet square
under the same roof will accommodate
60 scholars. It will be necessary to state
the capacity to enlarge for 60 or more
scholars - If I had such scholars I
could give Henderson the house where
James Davis lived. I could receive 60
students at any moment. (My name not to be
mentioned in the report)

R. M. Johnson

31st Dec.

Wm. H. Johnson

John F. Johnson

George Towns

May



20
11
31
35
4
110
40
40
150

141

H497

(a Rough draft of the power)

Whereas the Choctaw nation of Indians have
sent to the Blue Springs near the Great
Crops in Scott County Kentucky a number
of their children to educate, at this time
twenty one in number, and whereas I have
been appointed Superintendent of Indian
Boys by the Baptist Board of Missions, which
has been approved by the War Department
& the President of the U.S., and whereas the
Choctaw nation of Indians have expressed
a wish that a fund of six thousand
annuum for twenty years which the U.S. has
reserved in the last treaty which they made
with the said Government for the education of their children.
January 1827, should be applied to the
education of such children as they have
sent to this place or which may here
after be sent, and whereas the plan
and Government of the school called the
Choctaw academy has made it my
duty to superintend the said academy & mission
station and its finances & to draw such

sums of money as may be due quarter
ly to the Superintendent ~~for his~~ for
wages & for the Boarding & Clothing of
Boys & all other expenditures made &
allowed by sd plan of government for
sd Choctaw academy, and whereas I am
authorized to draw the sd sums of money
as aforesaid when due or to appoint
some person to do it, now know ye
that for good causes moving me thereto
& for greater convenience & certainty
in providing the funds & drawing the
same from the government as aforesaid
and having confidence in Col Richard
M Johnson I have ^{do} this day authorized
him & by these presents, authorize him
as my agent & attorney to attend to the
drawing sd funds of sd Choctaws in as
full & as complete a manner
as I could myself, if I were to act in

my individual character as Superintendent
& tutor to the Chectow academy & mission
station - ratifying & confirming whatever
the Col Richard M. Johnson may do
in the same manner as I had acted
myself given under hand & seal
this day of Dec 14 25

Thomas Henderson
Superintendent of

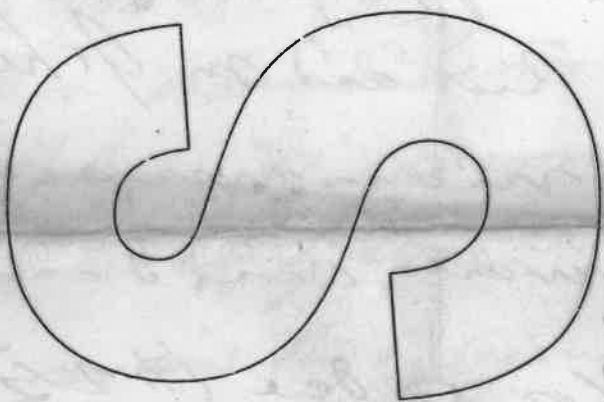
Key T
Scott County, to wit

This day Thomas Henderson came
before me a justice of the peace
for S^d County & acknowledged the above
power of Attorney to Col Richard M. Johnson
to be his solemn act & deed given under
hand this day of Dec 14 25.
Wm Johnson

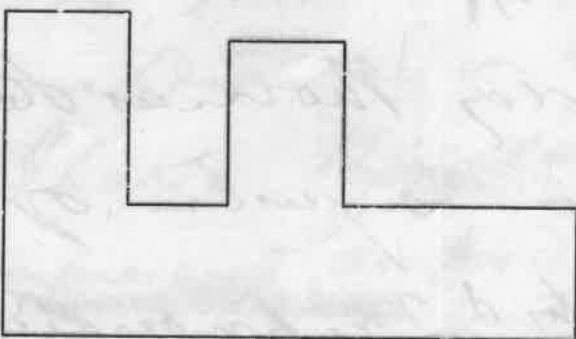
Power of Attorney

of
Col. H. M. Johnson

Dec 1835-



Substance of the
Power of Attorney



A
H497

Dear Sir,

City of Washington

31. Dec 1845

I have received letters from home up to
the 14th instant & I feel uneasy at the situation
of John Adams one of the Indian Boys Julia in
her letter of the 14th complains of Daniel & Jerry
& says she has found great trouble & difficulty
in making ^{men} attend to the Sick Indian
Boy. She writes on Sunday the 14th & says every
man is gone ^{away} except Sandy & Jacob Chase

I have been in Congress near 20
years and every winter is the same thing, my
out hands never can be made to feel my
interest or to act honorably in my absence
and I have never had a friend, in my life that
I could get to give them the flickory or
conkidy, which would bring them to bear if
they have not principle. I should be glad
if you would upon receipt of this converse

with Julia and a portair who has dogged &
skulked, and with whom she has had
difficulty; and then chastise them on their
naked skin, and if you do not wish to do
it, to send for William Johnson, & see if
he will not do it. If he will not, send
for a constable & let him know that it
is my wish that he should chastise
them at least 20 strokes up to. 39 with a
cowhide upon the naked skin; & then see
what he charges & I will send you the
money to pay him. Nothing but this rigid
course will do but I almost despair of
getting any person on earth, to comply
with my wishes, in having them lashed;
They make some little excuse, & then
they are permitted to escape. If you will
attend to this matter & make it a serious
thing with each delinquent you will

oblige me; and if nothing else will do
you are authorized to sell either of
them to Edward P. Johnson for his cotton
farm as soon as he returns & I will
see if I can supply their places some
other way - I have nothing very interesting
to communicate - Present my respects
to your family - your attention to
the learning of Eugene & the rest &
also your attention to my affairs when
they require it will be reciprocated
by me - With sentiments of great
respect & esteem your friend

Wm. Johnson

Rev. Thomas Henderson

Dec 31/25-

tree
Mr. M. Johnson

Rev. Thomas Henderson
Great Groping

1 day

Col. R. M. Johnson
25th Oct. 1895