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Records of Panton, Leslie and Company

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THE RECORDS OF
PANTON, LESLIE & COMPANY
A Claim of John Forbes & Company for
Cattle Killed by the Indians

Prospect Bluff Appalachicola River
6th. April 1815

Gentlemen

In consequence of advices which I lately received of Mr John Innerarity one of the partners of the firm of Messrs. John Forbes & Co. of Pensacola, I have the honor of submitting to your consideration the following particulars.

That on the arrival of Captain Woodbine, His Britannic Majesty's agent to the Creek Indians I was employed by the firm of Mr Forbes as agent to their Establishment for Indian trade at this place, which employment I held for several years before his arrival ; wishing to aid His Majesty's at the Solicitation of Captn. Woodbine, I relinquished my charge of their affairs and accepted the Employment of Store Keeper under His Majesty.

By these Means the affairs of Mr Forbes has been in a great Measure exposed, and of course a considerable loss has accrued to them in part of their property formerly in my charge (as they could not get any person to venture their person amongst the Indians who was capable of Managing their affairs) It therefore becomes my duty to State that a Considerable Stock of Cattle has been nearly destroyed *by the Indian Allies of His Britannic Majesty*. Several of the Horses carried off and the following Negroes, who

NOTE—These documents are in continuation of the series, survivals of the records of Panton, Leslie & Co. and its successor John Forbes & Co., the publication of which has been continuous in the QUARTERLY. These are in the possession of Mrs. John W. Greenslade who has transcribed them.

are now on the Bluff, the restoration of them appears doubtfull, to Wit—Billy & Lally & their children Cressy, Flora Beek, Cynthia & Nero—Stephen & his wife Cynthia— Tom a House Servant— I make these particulars known to you that you may be pleased to act therein as in Your wisdom shall deem expedient—

I am &c

P.S.

EDMUND DOYLE

Since writing the above I am informed that Negro Tom mentioned herein went Yesterday down to the Bay—

The Value of the Cattle can only be ascertained by having the few now left collected and a reference to the Books of this Establishment now in Pensacola, Wherein a particular account of their Value is noted E . D .

To the Honble. R. C. Spencer Captn. R. [oyal] N. [avy] and Robert Gamble Esqr.

* * *

Pensacola 2d May 1815

The Honourable the Commissioners for Victualling his Majesty's Navy London

Debtors to John Forbes & Co.

for the amount of upwards of four hundred Heads of Cattle of different sizes and ages Killed by the Red Stick Indian allies of His Britannic Majesty in the Creek Nation at a time of extreme distress for want of provisions as p . account of same kept in the Books at their Establishment at Prospect Bluff on the River Appalachicola

\$2,668 3½

Deduct

The value of 50 Heads which is reported still exists on the Cattle range 400

400

Dollars 2,268 3½

Gentlemen

In consequence of the Communication made to you by our late agent at Appalachicola Mr. Edmund Doyle in his letter under date of the 6th ulto you have as above stated an account of the prime cost & charges of a stock of Cattle killed and made use of by the Indian Allies of His Britannic Majesty. The circumstance of our Cattle being killed is notorious & known to some of the officers now on board the Cydmus & who were stationed at Prospect Bluff. You can receive of them further details concerning the Cattle if deemed necessary. The extreme distress the Garrison at the Bluff has often been reduced to, obliged the Indians to trespass on the Holders of Cattle in the vicinity.

We are Gentlemen Respectfully
your obt. humble servants
John Forbes & Company

The Honble. Captain Spencer, R.[oyal] N. [avy]
& Robert Gamble Esqr
Commissioners etc. etc.