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## The Panton, Leslie Papers: Talk from the Indian Chief Mad Dog

Benjamin Hawkins



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## THE PANTON, LESLIE PAPERS

Talk from the Indian chief Mad Dog.

Tookaubatche 31<sup>o</sup> May 1801.

Efau Haujo, Speaker for the Creek Nation, to  
Mr. Forbes, Merchant of Pensacola-

Their former trading house Mr. Forbes has sent us a talk and we have heard it. We have heard it and shall do our endeavours to bring it to perfection. We cannot do anything in a hurry. Your house are our old friends it is true, but there is many little people going about picking up the skins. We shall use our endeavours this winter to make good hunts and pay off our debts, but whether the fault is in us, or in our white traders we do not know. Our traders have property enough in negroes, cattle, horses, and it may be that the skins have been given for things which ought to have paid your debt. I do not mean the white traders alone, I include the Indian factors, they have accumulated property and they certainly could pay off some. It is very true, I have taken into consideration in the fall of the year we shall want ammunition altho our deer and game is almost gone. The game is gone ; and it seems a useless promise we make you. When the Acorns fall deer are usually about, but where now are the deer? I hope you will let the traders have powder, bullets, lead and flint for this winter's hunt, every trader knows the numbers of his hunters and have their promise to try if they can find the deer.

We find there is a new course of trade and that some people are not in debt, those who owe you we will endeavour to turn to you, the others who can shew they have paid what they owe, may go to the market of their own choise. We mean in this to include red and white. One thing we wish an increase of the measure of powder, it is now reduced to 10

or 12 loads for a chalk. This is the end of our talk for Mr. Forbes.

Written as interpreted by Timothy Barnard, Alex Cornells and James Durauseau.

(Signed) Benjamin Hawkins,  
Principal Agent for Indian Affairs South of Ohio.

[Endorsed :]

Talk from the Mad Dog  
on the subject of Indian debts.

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NOTE-This document is in continuation of the series of 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.