MEMORIAL

INHABITANTS OF BRUNSWICK, MAINE,

PRAYING

That the Southern Indians may not be removed from their present places of abode, without their free consent.

MARCH 15, 1830.

Ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

The memorial of the subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Brunswick, in the County of Cumberland, and State of Maine,

RESPECTFULLY REPRESENTS:

That, in the opinion of your memorialists, the Indians, included within the limits of the States of Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama, have a perfect right, by possession from time immemorial, to the lands now occupied by them, and which they claim to be theirs; that the said Indians have not, through conquest, or by voluntary surrender of their independence to the citizens of the United States, or of any State, or to any foreign State or nation, forfeited their right to self-government; that this natural right to the territories which they respectively occupy, and to self-government, has been solemnly guarantied to them by the United States, in numerous treaties, or acknowledged in various transactions.

Your memorialists, therefore, as those who know the value of self-government, and cherishing as a sacred inheritance the possessions left them by their fathers, feel themselves constrained to address to Congress their earnest request, that the said Indians may be permitted to remain in the peaceable possession of their lands, unmolested in their right of government, by their own laws, and that, in all future measures in relation to them, the

public faith may be preserved inviolate.

Your memorialists would also request, that, if, after full examination of all the facts which bear upon the case, it should be deemed essential to the welfare of the States above named, and for the advantage of the Indians, that said Indians should remove to some portion of the United States further West, no measures may be taken for the accomplishment of this object, or which shall have a tendency to accomplish it, until the free and unequivocal consent of said Indians to such removal shall first be obtained.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

BRUNSWICK, March 6, 1830.

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