

All the principal articles of the two treaties are of the same tenor, and expressed by the same phraseology. As Governor Blount made the Cherokee treaty after the model of the Creek treaty, there can be little doubt that he was directed to do so, by the head of the War Department. It is morally certain, that the Creek treaty was drawn up, not only with great care, but with the concentrated wisdom of a cabinet, which is universally admitted, I believe, to have been the ablest and the wisest, which our nation has yet enjoyed. General Washington was at its head,—always a cautious man, and eminently so in laying the foundations of our Union, and entering into new relations. This treaty was made under his own eye, at the seat of government, and witnessed by distinguished men, some of whom added their official stations to their names. The two first witnesses were "Richard Morris, Chief Justice of the State of New York," and "Richard Varick, Mayor of the City of New York."

These treaties were, in due season, ratified by the Senate of the United States, at that time composed of men distinguished for their ability. Among them was Oliver Ellsworth, afterwards Chief Justice of the United States; William Patterson, afterwards an eminent Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States; Rufus King, afterwards for many years, Minister of the United States at the British Court; and William Samuel Johnson, who did not leave behind him in America, a man of equal learning in the Civil Law and the Law of Nations. These four individuals, and six other senators, had been members of the convention, which formed the federal constitution; though Mr. Ellsworth did not sign that instrument, having been called away before it was completed. He was a most efficient member, however, in the various preparatory discussions; and did much in procuring the adoption of the constitution, by the state which he had represented.

The reader may fairly conclude, that the document in question is not a jumble of words, thrown together without meaning, having no object, and easily explained away, as a pompous nullity. On the contrary, it was composed with great care, executed with uncommon solemnity, and doubtless ratified with ample consideration. It has, therefore, a solid basis, and a substantial meaning. That meaning shall be considered in a future number.

#### No. V.

What is a treaty?—of peace?—and friendship?—What is a nation?—The United States *estopped*—The five first Presidents admitted the Cherokees to be a nation—First and second articles of the treaty of Holston—Absurdity of the recent pretensions of Georgia.

Having described the manner in which the first Indian treaty, after the organization of our present form of government, was negotiated by the cabinet of President Washington, and shown that it was ratified by senators, not inferior to any of their successors, and who were doubtless