

*Cherokee Government.*—We this day present to our readers a document new in its character, and certainly not devoid of interest—the Message of the principal chiefs of the Cherokee Nation to the General Council. The formation, by a people rescued from a state of barbarism, of a government, republican in its foundation, and having for its objects the extension of civilization, by the promotion of a system of moral and literary instruction, is, and deserves to be, regarded as a phenomenon in the political histories of the times. Such is the government instituted by the Cherokees. Whether, in the character and capacity of this people, there is a sufficient guarantee for the continuance of this political system, we have not sufficient knowledge to enable us to determine; and as to the other question, whether the barriers which nature, education and habit, have created between the red race and the white citizens, by which it is encompassed, may not be so immutable and impassable as to prevent the protracted existence of a government of this character, we leave it for time and circumstances to disclose. To this point the message itself speaks, when it declares—“by the adoption of the constitution; our relation to the United States, as recognised by existing treaties, is not in the least degree affected, but, on the contrary, this improvement in our government is strictly in accordance with the recommendation, views and wishes of the Great Washington,” &c.

After the organization of the two Houses, the National Committee, comprising sixteen members, and the National Council, containing twenty-four members, a code of rules was adopted, evidently framed from the rules which governed the proceedings of our Congress. To this, however, the 7th and 8th rules are an exception; the 7th providing a fine of 25 cents to be paid by any member not in his place in fifteen minutes after the hour of meeting, and for every half hour beyond that time, 25 cents more; and the 8th rule imposing a fine on every member who shall absent himself after the meeting of the House, above five minutes, of 12½ cents for every fifteen minutes.—The first business appears to have been the election of officers under the New Cherokee Constitution. John Ross and George Lowry were elected principal Chiefs for the term of four years.

The Message combats the arguments advanced by Georgia to sustain her demand upon the United States, for the appropriation of the Cherokee lands within her territory, and indicates a determination not to surrender the lands, rendered dear to them by possession and the reminiscences attached to it.