

Commodore's Affairs
Nov 4. 1853

D. H. Shelton's Bond & Secum returned
with instructions to Agent Cooper

Rec^d. Nov 21. 1853.

Department of the Interior
Office Indian Affairs
November 4. 1853

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, of the 12th Ultimo, enclosing a license without date granted by Agent Cooper to D. H. Shelton & Co to trade with the Choctaws, and asking that the license may be so dated as to correspond with the Bond forwarded by Mr Cooper on the 18th of June last.

As the Bond was taken by late Agent Wilson, Mr Cooper's predecessor, the license granted by Mr Cooper, and so expressed upon its face, could not be dated so as to take effect before he was in office; and if dated on the day when issued, the Bond taken but for one year from its date would be invalid for a portion of the time for which the license was granted.

Under the circumstances therefore I return the Bond and license, that the former may be taken anew and the latter issued in accordance therewith

Very Respectfully
Your obt. Servt

Thomas S. Drew. Esq
Supt &c
Fort Smith
Arkansas.

Wm. M. ...
Commissioner