
Champions of the Cherokees

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EVAN AND JOHN B. JONES

William G. McLoughlin

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*This Book is Dedicated to the Memory of
Omar Mercado (1948–1987)—*

a teacher, chess player, and lover of the Spanish classics, who fought as a young man to free his country from a dictator and who died defending his country from an invasion by the proxy army of a foreign nation. A hero.

It is impossible to civilize Indians. There was never a full-blooded Indian who took to civilization. It is not in their nature. They are destined to extinction. . . . I do not think they are, as a race, worth preserving. I consider them as essentially inferior to the Anglo-Saxon race which is now taking their place on this continent. They are not an improvable breed, and their disappearance from the human family will be no great loss to the world. In point of fact, they are rapidly disappearing and . . . in fifty years from this time there will not be any of them left.

—Henry Clay,
speaking as a member of the Cabinet,
December 25, 1825
Christmas Day