

*Late Trials.*—At the Gwinnett term of the Superior Court held last week, the Rev. J. J. Trott, Rev. Ezra Butler, and Rev. S. A. Worcester, Missionaries in the Cherokee Nation, were sentenced to imprisonment in the Penitentiary for *four years each*, for refusing to take the oath to obey the laws of Georgia. At the same term seven other white men residing in the nation, viz: Messrs. Ghan, Delosier, Mayes, Coplin, Eaton and two persons by the name of Thompson, received each the same sentence for the same offence. The old plea denying the jurisdiction of the Court, was the only defence set up.

We are aware that much excitement, especially in other States, will arise from the imprisonment of these men. The enemies of General Jackson, who it is known recommended the extension of our laws over the Indians, will no doubt all unite in using it to his disadvantage, by appealing not only to the sympathies but the religious prejudices of the community. We hope they may not succeed. The penalty we know is severe, but the crime is great, and one which if left to go unpunished in one instance, must result in manifest injury to the whole state. We could have wished the sufferers had acted a wiser part, by complying with the demands of justice, or leaving the state; and though our sympathies may be awakened for their misfortunes, it would be wrong, under all the circumstances, to wish they had escaped. None appreciate more than we do the sacred character of the Missionaries, yet we cannot claim for them higher privileges than are allowed to others. They are equally bound to obey the laws, and professing as they do to teach the truths of the gospel, are doubly culpable if they are disobedient. In this case the rigors of the law fall heavily upon them, yet it is a satisfaction to know that full time has been allowed them by our authorities, to escape its demands, and that their own stubbornness has brought upon them their present misfortunes. We trust the effect will be salutary.