RATIFIED TREATY NO. 229

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATION OF THE

TREATY OF NOVEMBER 23, 1837, WITH THE IOWA INDIANS

O. S. A. G. Nemahaw. 6471.

Gen. Wm Clark,

St Louis. Nov. 28th 1837.

Transmits treaty made by Maj. Fletcher, on the 25th inst, with the Sowaxys, for the extinguishment of all their interest in the land ceded by the treaty of 15th July, 1830. —

Also letter of 24th inst. to this Office, enclosing that treaty, from Maj. Fletcher & another of same date from same, explaining the delay in answering letter addressed to him at Philda, requiring his views in relation to the policy of paying the Indns in goods &c; will report soon. Stating also that the Sowaxys still persist in refusing the offers of Govt in relation to their claims on the Des Moines. Suggests the propriety of disregarding all complaints & applications on the subject, from every quarter, & letting them remain as they are until their means under Treaty of Pr. du Chien are exhausted &c & then let the Govt give as a donation, whatever they may think right. —

2 enclosures

{Recd 9 Dec. 1837.

Ack'd 21 Dec 37

11-23-37

Superintendy of Indian affairs
St. Louis, Novr. 28, 1837

Sir,

I enclose a treaty made with the Ioways on the 23d of this month by Major Pilcher, for the extinguishment of all their interest in the land ceded by the treaty of 15th & 6 july 1830.

I forward also two letters from him to you, dated 24th ult. which were enclosed with the treaty; all of which papers were received at this office last evening under cover to me.

Respectfully
Yr. mo. ob. Svt.

John Clark S.I.

C. A. Harris, Esq
Commr. Ind. Affs
Washington

On board the Packet mouth
of Missouri River 24 Nov 1837

Hon. C. A. Harris
Comr. Ind. Affairs

Sir: Your letter of — directed to me at Philadelphia, and requiring my views respecting the policy of paying the Indians in goods — the propriety of changing the present System of trade &c did not fall into my hands until late in the evening before I left that place, and it is one of the few instances in which I have found myself unable to fulfil the orders of a superior — Nothing would have afforded me greater pleasure than a compliance with your instructions, had the letter been returned a few days sooner, and my health been such as to enable me to do so — From Mr. Ward I received a note at the same time, which had been taken from the office by some person and left at one of the Hotels, and returned to the office by request of Col. McKenney who knew I was in the City and confined to my room — It is not improbably that your letter had gone the same round as it had been written ~~a~~ ~~num~~ some days before I received it — So much for explanation, and it is hoped I need

give no reason for not having complied with ~~to~~ your orders since I left Philadelphia constantly occupied as I have been with the obligations under my charge without aid, and wishing if possible to get them home before the winter closes in upon me. The subject of your letter however will not be lost sight of, and so soon as I shall have fulfilled my orders in relation to those obligations, you will receive a report from me. It may be too late to answer the purposes contemplated by you, but from other applications as well as your orders, I feel called upon and shall not fail to comply.

It is much to be regretted that these deluded people, the Sowacks, have finally refused the favorable offers of the government in relation to their claims on the Des Moines after exerting all my powers of explanation and advise. At St. Louis, I called to my aid the advise and concil of both Gen. Clark and Capt. Hitchcock, but all without effect and under these circumstances it is hoped, that it will not be considered out of place if I suggest the propriety of disregarding in future, all complaints and applications upon the subject, regardless of the source from whence they come — let them remain as they are until their means under the

Treaty of Paraiso die chim are examind, and they become fully sensible of their destitute situation, and their let the government give as a donation, whatever it may think right. The suggestion is made with a full knowledge of these people and the whole subject, and under the ~~most thorough~~ strongest conviction that it will be the surest means of ultimately reclaiming and improving their condition.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your Very Obt Svt
Joshua Pilcher
U. S. Ind. Agent.

St Charles Mo 24 Nov 1837

Hon C A Harris
Comr Ind Affrs

Sir: Herewith I enclose a Treaty concluded yesterday at the City of St Louis with the Ioway Indians by their chiefs and delegates returning from Washington City.

The cession made by this Treaty is in my opinion of great importance for although they relinquish nothing which can be made useful to them hereafter; it settles the mere question of right a priviledge granted by the Treaty of Paraire du Chien 1830, which if continued, would soon be the means of creating contention and conflicts between them and other tribes. And it is hoped that similar Treaties will soon be effected with all other tribes who were parties to that Treaty, as there is nothing better calculated to preserve peace on the Northern frontier of this State

Very Respectfully Sir
I have the honor to be
Your Obt Servt
Joshua Pilcher
U. S. Ind Agent

RATIFIED TREATY

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATION OF A RATIFIED TREATY

WITH THE CHIPPEWA OF SAGINAW INDIANS, DECEMBER 20, 1837

U.S.A. Saginaw. N 729.
Henry R. Schoolcraft.
Detroit. December 26. 1837.

Encloses treaty concluded by him with the Saginaws, on 20th Dec. 1837, in pursuance of letter of 2d October.

The Indns are deeply set against going west, & refused the proposition to shorten to 18 months the period of their right to live on the reservn.

Thinks the provisions of the 1st & 2d articles will lead to their removal, within the five years, allowed in former treaty. —

Makes explanations in regard to the treaty. —

Has limited the expenses of his interpreters with them, within the sum at his disposal. — Will send on the accts immediately, with the prior unpaid expenditures. —

Recd 10 Jany 1838.

ackd 17 Dec 1838.

Com

Detroit December 26th 1837

Sir,

I have effected an arrangement with the Saginaws, securing the objects mentioned in your letter of the 2nd of October and have the honor herewith to enclose the articles agreed on, in the form of a separate treaty. All the objections to the former treaty have, I believe, been obviated, but this has not been effected without encountering the usual obstacles to negociations with a people, who are prone to take the advice of interested individuals, without perceiving the object of their interference. The minds of the Indians had been deeply set against going west at all, after the return of the exploring party, and they gave, in consequence, a negative to the proposition to shorten to 18 months the period of their right to live on two of the reserves;— a point which I had hoped to carry. They were, finally, brought to see the advantage of having secured to them, a reservation on the Osage river, near their relatives, while it remained in the power of the government to assign it for their use, and to pledge a sufficient fund for its purchase, and the expenses of their removal to it. These provisions constitute the 1st and 2nd articles, and will, I am confident, lead to the removal of this tribe, before the expiration of the five years, allowed in the former treaty.

The obligation of the government to make advances is limited by the 3rd article, leaving it optional with the

President to direct, on what particular items, the reduction shall be made, or to make it rateably on all.

I found the population of the tribe less, than it had been formerly reported, and embraced the opportunity to reduce the annuity to be advanced to them in 1838 & 1839, to less than half the sum previously fixed. The sum of five thousand dollars in cash, and ten thousand dollars in goods, as it now stands in the 4th article, will constitute an ample annuity for their entire numbers, for these years, and save them thirty thousand dollars.

It appeared necessary, under the existing state of settlements in that district, to preclude the possibility of any pre-emption right being established on the ceded reserves. Such a right would materially diminish their fund, and prove a boon, not from the government, but from the Indians, which the latter never designed.

The death of two of the Chiefs rendered it proper to authorize a re-division, to a limited extent, of the sum provided to be paid to the Chiefs, which it is proposed should be made in accordance with the wishes of the surviving Chiefs, expressed through their local agent.

The Chiefs preferred further allowances to certain of their half breeds and others, which were yielded, to a limited extent, but with the understanding that the sums thus allowed, by the 6th article, should not be advanced by the United States.

I availed myself of the collection of the Indians for

receiving their annuities, to curtail the expenses of my interviews with them, and have limited them within the sum at my disposal. The accounts will be immediately made up, and forwarded, together with the prior expenditures still unpaid.

I am Sir,
~~Very respectfully~~
Your obt Servant

Henry R. Schoolcraft

C. A. Harris Esq.
Commissioner Indian Affairs
War Department
Washington.

N.B. Lists of debt & depredation claims, against the Seganaws, have been put on file, in this office, subject to the future directions of the department.