

I, Watts Sherman, cashier of the Albany City Bank, do solemnly swear, that the foregoing statements, taken from the books of the Bank, are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
WATTS SHERMAN.

Sworn before me, this 12th day of October, 1840.

ISAAC FORDY, Notary Public.

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STATE OF NEW-YORK.

No. 14.

IN SENATE,

January 21, 1841.

REPORT

Of the Commissioning their Memo - Payment to the On Paid to One line
TO THE LEG on hand claims
OF NEW-YORK.
Office, respect- act in relation

The Commissioning the following report, yet the Commissioners conceive that a regard for the interests of the parties concerned and of the State, renders it proper that a statement of the manner in which the powers and duties conferred by the act, have been executed, should be presented to the Legislature.

By the first subdivision of the first section of the act referred to, the Commissioners were authorized to direct the payment of the actual surplus arising from the sales of land purchased of the Onondaga Indians, after a certain date therein specified, over and above the moneys theretofore paid in consideration of such purchase, and the expense of survey and sale, to be paid to such Indians, or any recognized party of them. It was ascertained upon investigation, that the lands purchased of the First Christian party, under the treaties referred to in the act, had been sold, and that after deducting all expenses of sale and survey, and the payments made for the purchase, there was a clear surplus of \$8,133.10. It was also ascertained that a like surplus existed in respect to the [Senate, No. 14.] A

lands purchased under similar treaties, of the Orchard party, amounting to \$4,174.97.

In the distribution of these sums, the Commissioners found it necessary to exercise the powers conferred by the fifth subdivision of the same first section of the act, and to determine two disputes which existed between different parties of the Indians. One of these related to an annuity which belonged to the whole party of Orchards, but which had been for a number of years erroneously paid to that portion of them at Oneida, instead of being apportioned between them and their brethren at Green Bay. The other related to an error committed by Peleg Gifford, in the partition of the lands that remained after the treaty of 1826, between the Orchards at Green Bay, and the 2d Christian or Schuyler party. These questions were decided, and the disputes adjusted: and then the surplus arising from the sales of lands, was divided between those parties according to their respective rights, and the sum belonging to each section of the respective parties, was distributed among them in proportion to their numbers; and it is believed that this humane, but perfectly just provision, was executed to the entire satisfaction of the Indians.

By the second subdivision of the section referred to, the Commissioners were authorized to direct the payment of the principal of the annuities, or such portion of such principal as they might deem proper, to the said Indians, or any party of them. These annuities were the income or interest of the consideration money for lands heretofore purchased of the same Indians. While the amount of these annuities, when distributed among the persons entitled, was utterly insufficient for their support for even a few months, the Indians were in the habit of relying on them, and obtained credits upon their strength, during the year, from different persons, far exceeding what they were entitled to receive. Their natural inclination to idleness was increased; and they were continually involved in difficulties, arising from their various pledges of the same fund. To avoid these consequences, as well as to enable them to procure essential articles of husbandry, the Commissioners were of opinion that it was expedient to pay the principal at once, to all who were inclined to receive it. They accordingly directed the payment of the principal of the annuities belonging to the First and Second Christian parties at Oneida, and to the Orchards at that place. Adopting the principles of policy which induced the act chap. 92, laws of

1838, by which the Oneidas at Green Bay were permitted to receive the principal of their principal, the Commissioners also directed the payment to them of the remaining half.

In the distribution of this principal, great difficulties were encountered, in consequence of misinformation given by the Indians, and the want of authentic documents to indicate what had been previously done, or upon what principles payments had been made, or to whom. The accounts rendered by the Indian agents, and the letters written by them, since 1829, were examined, and inquiries were personally made of the late agent in this city; and, from the best information they could obtain, the Commissioners endeavored to make an equitable division. Although more than a month has been spent in the investigations of the subject, there were some points upon which it was impossible to arrive at certainty; and some mistakes, unimportant in amount were committed, which were, however, rectified upon a farther hearing of the parties, and on further examination. In consequence of the imperfect materials before them, but chiefly owing to misinformation from the parties, small inducements were in the first instance paid to the Orchards at Oneida, and to some individuals of that party, more than belonged to them, as was subsequently discovered. They are charged with them on the Comptroller's books; and provision for their reimbursement can be made in a future treaty that may be negotiated with them. Under this provision of the act, the Commissioners directed the payment of the following sums:

To the First Christian party at Green Bay.....	\$21,353 33
“ do do at Oneida.....	16,939 34
“ Second do or Schuyler party, at Oneida, ..	31,457 28
“ the Orchards, at Green Bay.....	11,105 34
“ do at Oneida.....	9,829 52
“ members of the emigrating Orchard party at Oneida or elsewhere,	1,674 61
Besides which, there has been an over payment to the Orchards at Oneida, of \$630.25, and to individuals, of \$265.01.	

All the above proceedings were submitted to, and approved by, the Governor.

By the third subdivision of the first section of the act of 1839, before referred to, the Commissioners were authorized to purchase of the said Indians any portion of their lands situated in the counties of

Onida and Madison, and to pay the full value thereof, or what such lands might sell for by the State, after deducting expenses. A large portion of the First and Second Christian parties at Onida were desirous to dispose of their lands, and remove to regions where they could be in the vicinity of their own people, and where, from the cheapness of land, they could procure quantities adequate for their support. Believing that their interest, as well as that of the citizens of Madison and other counties, would be promoted by the purchase of the lands now imperfectly cultivated, and wholly insufficient to maintain the Indians who reside on them, negotiations for a treaty were entered into by the Commissioners, through the agency of very respectable persons residing in the vicinity of those Indians, who consulted the whole body and obtained their views and wishes in general council, instead of the former mode of dealing with deputations, or pretended deputations, at the seat of government.

The propositions of the Commissioners were fully and freely considered, and finally a treaty was completed on the 19th of June, 1840, which was approved by the Governor, and by which the Indians ceded to the State 3,123,754 acres of land. It was agreed on the part of the State to sell the lands in the manner provided by law for the sale of its own land, and to pay over the proceeds after deducting expenses, to certain trustees chosen by the Indians for that purpose, who are bound to distribute it among them on the principles specified in the treaty. The lands were to be surveyed, described, and appraised, by an agent on the part of the State, and one appointed by the Indians, and the agent was to make certain advances to the emigrating parties, to enable them to procure and remove to their new homes, which were to be repaid with interest out of the proceeds of the sales. Thus, in 1841, the State became merely a trustee to make the best disposition of its property for these tribes, and to account to them for every dollar received. The surveys were made, and together with maps and accurate descriptions of the lands ceded and reserved, have been filed in the Secretary's office. The appraisals embraced not only the value of the land ceded, but also the improvements made by any individuals, and are to be paid such appraised value out of the proceeds of the sales.

The sales were made under the direction of the Surveyor-General, at an auction held near the lands, on the 30th of December last, when 648 acres were sold, in lots containing various quantities, at the agree-

Entire sum of \$94,375, which is \$26,492.12 more than the appraised value.

The average of the sales was \$30.90 $\frac{3}{4}$ per acre. The sales of similar lands acquired under the treaties of 1829, 1830 and 1834 produced much less; that in 1834 having averaged \$16.12 per acre. It is very gratifying to be able to furnish to these Indians such evidence of the care which has been taken of their interests, and of the justice and good faith of the State. Out of the proceeds of these sales the Treasury has been reimbursed all the advances made under the treaty.

It has not been deemed expedient to encumber this report with copies of the voluminous decisions and proceedings of the Commissioners, or of the treaty, as they are all on file and recorded in the Secretary's office, where access to them can be had at any time.

JOHN C. SPENCER, Secy of State,
BATES COOK, Comptroller,
O. L. HOLLEY, Surveyor-General,
J. HAIGHT, Treasurer,

Commissioners of the Land Office,

January 19, 1841.

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Isaac FORDY, Notary Public.

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NEW YORK STATE SENATE
Documents 1841 of A. N. 14.
STATE OF NEW-YORK.

No. 14.

IN SENATE,

January 21, 1841.

REPORT

Of the Commissioners of the Land-Office, respecting their proceedings under the act in relation to the Oneida Indians.

TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK.

The Commissioners of the Land-Office submit to the Legislature the following report of their proceedings, under the "act relating to the Oneida tribe of Indians," passed March 8, 1839. Although, the act does not require a report, yet the Commissioners conceive that a regard for the interests of the parties concerned and of the State, renders it proper that a statement of the manner in which the powers and duties conferred by the act, have been executed, should be presented to the Legislature.

By the first subdivision of the first section of the act referred to, the Commissioners were authorized to direct the payment of the actual surplus arising from the sales of land purchased of the Oneida Indians, after a certain date therein specified, over and above the moneys theretofore paid in consideration of such purchase, over the expense of survey and sale, to be paid to such Indians, or any recognized party of them. It was ascertained upon investigation, that the lands purchased of the First Christian party, under the treaties referred to in the act, had been sold, and that after deducting all expenses of sale and survey, and the payments made for the purchase, there was a clear surplus of \$8,199. 10. It was also ascertained that a like surplus existed in respect to the [Senate, No. 14.] A

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The propositions of the Commissioners were fully and freely considered, and finally a treaty was completed on the 19th of June, 1840, which was approved by the Governor, and by which the Indians ceded to the State 3,123 2/3 acres of land. It was agreed on the part of the State to sell the lands in the manner provided by law for the sale of its own land, and to pay over the proceeds after deducting expenses, to certain trustees chosen by the Indians for that purpose, who are bound to distribute it among them on the principles specified in the treaty. The lands were to be surveyed, described, and appraised, by an agent on the part of the State, and one appointed by the Indians, and the State was to make certain advances to the emigrating parties, to enable them to procure and remove to their new homes, which were to be reimbursed with interest out of the proceeds of the sales. Thus, in fact, the State became merely a trustee to make the best disposition of their property for these tribes, and to account to them for every dollar realized. The surveys were made, and together with maps and accurate descriptions of the lands ceded and reserved, have been filed in the Secretary's office. The appraisals embraced not only the value of the land ceded, but also the improvements made by any individuals, who are to be paid such appraised value out of the proceeds of the sales.

The sales were made under the direction of the Surveyor-General, by an auction held near the lands, on the 30th of December last, when 3,045 acres were sold, in lots containing various quantities, at the agree-

gate sum of \$394,375, which is \$96,498.12 more than the appraised value.

The average of the sales was \$30.96 1/2 per acre. The sales of similar lands acquired under the treaties of 1830, 1830 and 1834 produced much less; that in 1834 having averaged \$16.12 per acre. It is very gratifying to be able to furnish to these Indians such evidence of the care which has been taken of their interests, and of the justice and good faith of the State. Out of the proceeds of these sales the Treasury has been reimbursed all the advances made under the treaty.

It has not been deemed expedient to encumber this report with copies of the voluminous decisions and proceedings of the Commissioners, or of the treaty, as they are all on file and recorded in the Secretary's office, where access to them can be had at any time.

JOHN C. SPENCER, Secy of State,
BATES COOK, Comptroller,
O. L. HOLLEY, Surveyor-General,
J. HAIGHT, Treasurer,

Commissioners of the Land Office,

January 19, 1841.

Sub. Indian Agency Grand Div.
Oct. 25th 1842

Sir,

My letter of the 24th of April & 20th of May last directed to the Head of the War Dept. is deemed unworthy of an Acknowledgment; if the manifest injustice therein complained of, merits no redress at the hands of the Hon. the Secretary of War; then am I forced to believe that the Extraordinary Communication, & Extraordinary powers therein exercised, from the Acting Supt. of Indian Affairs for the State of Michigan, Mr. Robert Stuart, & now enclosed, has received the deliberate sanction & authority of the War Department. One answer only can be given to it.

You have it, Sir, in the independent return of my honorable appointment as Sub-Agent at Green Bay.

Until I shall be regularly relieved in the duties of this Office, every facility short of my personal attendance on the pay-grounds at Wolf River will be afforded by me to the person designated by Mr. Stuart to make the annual payment of annuities to the Menomonee Indians. You may however find, Sir, when too late to admit of redress, that you have sent a too willing son, to the slander and detraction of my enemies, as well here as at Washington; enrolled against an old and faithful Officer of the United States of 33 years service, and now standing on the brink of his grave; persecuted by vile slanders, because he has dared to do his duty, not only to the Government, but to the Indian, and ground to the dust by poverty; because of the injustice of his government, and because he has dared to be honest, in the worst of times to both.

I have delayed making this letter, until the

Memorandum payment should have been made. In the
mean time, we have the announcement of the Hon: Mr.
Bell's resignation of the Office of Secretary of War. How
could it be otherwise? when he, as well as others,
here, as well as at Washington, wear the Collar, not
of our President, John Tyler, but of another would be
President, who shall be named; Do not suppose
for a moment, Mr. Secretary of War, that I am now
writing to curry favor, either with yourself or the
President - I have nothing more than when justice
justice to demand at the hands of either. It is true
that I am a Whig, (not of the 11th hour, and for office)
with the Whigs who go for it - but still believe,
that because a man is President, his conscience is no
longer in his own keeping, but in the keeping of his
privy Council, or in that of a bare Majority of
Congress; I am a Whig, (a Southern one, & consequently
a proud one) but no empty Seditious Abolitionist;
I am a Whig also, who dare to honor John Tyler
for his independent Veto, however contrary to my
own constitutional opinions, on many points involved
in them, because in them, I think I see, that firm
-ness & decision of Character, which God in his Mercy
grant, may never be found wanting in our future
Presidents; and without which, the Henry - Statesmen
of 76 would have fought and bled, and Spoke
and written and labored in vain.

The papers enclosed to the Hon: Mr. Bell, in
my letter referred to, in the first part of this commun-
-ication, (and which are again respectfully requested to
be returned to me) will explain to you, Sir, why
I have received but \$320 dollars for myittance of

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a Salary for the year 1840, with equal justice you might take from my Salary the value of the Agency Buildings, destroyed by lightning as to take four hundred dollars from me, by the accidental burning of this Amount of provisions at Marazion. By reference to this letter it is hoped also that my Account against the Indian Dep^t for \$350, for Post Office Contingencies will receive the sanction of the present head of the War Department. It is justly due to me. — At this moment the Cattle are arrested in my plough and the Grain is under execution in my Barn, because the Indian Bureau has failed to remit what is justly mine. — Would to God that I had the strength and the means to reach Washington — Mr. J. H. Crawford should soon find, that one Sub. Agent & Supt. Treasurer, at least would dare to heed him in his way Office.

The Menomonee payment, has at last been made by the Agent of Robert Stuart, himself once a Clerk in the employ of the Old British North West Company, and transferred, together with their Stock in trade & Cattle to John Jacob Astor in 1816. How it has been made you Sir, shall learn. Instead of making the Indians pay for Extra — Interpreters, & Clerks, as heretofore practiced by the Military Disbursing Agents, and myself at a Charge of from 150 to 200 dollars Annually: they have been charged with the transportation of their provisions to the Sag-ground, 60 miles from Green Bay. — so that instead of \$3,000 worth of Provisions guaranteed to them by their Treaty of 1836, they have received but \$1,500. This is manifestly wrong. This kind of penny wise, and pound foolish policy may perhaps recommend Mr. Stuart, for a time, to the

rationage of Mr. J. H. Crawford, and may tend to
my own disparagement. But in the end it will be
found that there is nothing gained by double dealing,
and especially with Indians. - If the payment had
been confided to me, as it should have been, the trans-
-portation would have been charged to the U. States as in
1839. & 1840. and the Indians would have received thirteen
hundred dollars worth of provisions, more than they
have actually received for 1841. - but then they would
have lost \$150 (money withheld by the Government
for services clearly extra, and absolutely necessary
to the payment) and have received in lieu thereof
say 150 Bushels of Corn, to be distributed, as it
should be in mid winter to their suffering & starving
children. - Again - had the payment been made by
the Agent of the Menomonees, they never would have
been called to receive their Annuitie before the 15th
of October, when they would have had ample time
to have secured their Wild Rice Crop, a provision
created to meet their necessities, by an all wise
Providence from year to year, and infinitely more
important to them than the miserable pittance
of \$3,000 worth of provisions, under their treaty of 1836,
and one half of this pittance absorbed in trans-
-portation. The operation will not bear to be looked
at for a moment by any one, So as you or Mr. G,
who claims to be honest. As their Agent, I have
been denied a voice in this matter, and I
wash my hands of it. The consequence however
has been that a large Band of these Indians

has prepared to gather in their Wild Rice Crop - and absent themselves from the Pay-ground - The money for these people, amounting to between \$1. & \$4000 have been distributed to some few of the Band at Okavance Lake, distant about 40 miles from the place of Payment, Ual-nee-cumny Lake, (by their former Special Agent and turned he now Agent, by any means, however vile, & moreover a whole Hagg-Scorfoes, and just Cousins to the Hon: J. S. D. Morgan & Martin) and the great body of them, and certainly, the most necessary, have perhaps received nothing. This Payment, from the valid claims set forth in my Report of last year, and now on file in the War Dept. (never answered) should have been made at the Agency House at Green Bay, and no where else. I have fulfilled my duty to the Almoner, and to the Government faithfully & fearlessly at all times. The Commissioner of Indian Affairs on the contrary, has in my opinion in every possible shape been wanting in his duty both as regards the Agent & these Indians, as the whole of my correspondence with the War Dept will fully establish. In the multiplication of his forms of Office he has forgotten the substance which belongs to both. These Records, which cannot be controverted are in my possession, and shall never pass into other hands. They will be found to correspond exactly with the Records of the War Dept. unless they shall have been mutilated by my foes, for sinister purposes. They may make their appearance some day. Should it be the will of the Almighty to spare my life, for a few months longer when Mr. J. H. Crawford Gov. of Indian Affairs, & now by the paper, Special joint Commissioner, to hold Treaties with the whole W. Western & S. Western Tribes of Indians shall be held, as his conduct to me deserves.

Mr. Secretary, time and again, it has been urged
by me on the Office of Indian Affairs at Washington
to consult the Agent for this Commission, as to their
wants, in making the purchase of provisions under their
Treaty. No attention whatever has been paid to their common sense
- Cav.

They ask & superfine flow should always conclude
- title but a small portion of their provision annuity.
The first article is mostly traded on the pay-grounds
for whiskey - the second, they do not know how to
use well coming. Now is the Chief Article which
they want, and which they know how to use to the gre-
- test advantage - and this year they have not receiv-
- ed a handful for each soul belonging to the Nation.
Last year they received not a Bushel! You will tell me
Sir, that Mr. Stuart, from the circumstances alone of his
having been the factor, Clerk, Agent & Partner in
Indian Trade of the late American Fur Co. with the
American Cross. John Jacob Astor, at its head, has
been wisely selected by the Hon. Mr. Bell, for the ex-
- pensive situation of Acting Superintendent of Indian
Affairs for the powerful & hostile Bands of Chippeways
and Ottoways embraced within the Bands of the State
of Michigan. The Indians Sir, are a shrewd people
and those especially. I as their Agent, for 13 years, know
them well, and know them to be thoroughly British.
All Indians as far as my knowledge goes (and a
- residence with them of 23 years, should entitle my opin-
- ion to some weight) draw a strong line of distinction
between their Trader, and their Agent. The one may
buy, cheat, may skin them, (as they usually do,) with
impunity - The other never. The Indian, it is true will

eye, and make a merit of it, to his Agent; but
when the Agent must not lie in return to the Indian
or his confidence in his Agent is gone forever.

This morning Sir, a Bill for incidental expenses
furnished by Messrs Mitchell & Devins (and which was
left corrected by Mr. Hubbert, the person appointed by Mr.
Stuart to make the Memorial Payment) is laid on
my table, with a request that I, as the Agent, would
certify as to the correctness of the charges, in order to the
payment. For the payments of 1839 & 1840 what was
deemed necessary was ordered by me and paid for by
drafts on the Comd. of Indian Affairs at Washington
first consulting the then Secty. of Indian Affairs of this
country, as to the propriety of the measure. He agreed
with me in opinion that all incidental charges atten-
-tant on the payment of Annuities, should be borne by the
United States and not by the Indians as heretofore
practiced by the Military Disbursing Agents, and not a
word of reproof manifested by the Commissioners
of Indian Affairs. It would therefore appear, that so
long as every expenditure necessarily appertaining
to the payment of Annuities, are paid by the Indians,
so long the Commissioners wink at the proceeding
or is silent on the subject. - but the moment that
these expenses are to be met by drafts on the Treasury
or otherwise than Mr. Commissioner is all alive
to the interest of the United States, and thinks he has
performed his duty to both, by sacrificing the agent,
with a view to save, at the utmost, the petty sum
of three or four hundred dollars to the U. States
and which should, without demur, be paid
by the Government. Under all the circumstances

connected with this irregular. and as far as I now know unauthorized payment. I would respectfully recommend the Bill in question to be paid, reducing it however to the amount paid by me for similar Expenses for last year, viz, \$360.00

In 1839, a host of charges were preferred against me, not by the Menomonee Indians, who knew nothing of the matter, but by their Special Agent, Morgan L. Martin, who by my permission was suffered to attend their Councils, and to be present at their payment of Annuities; with the avowed purpose as he declared to me he had stated to the "Indians" to redress the grievances complained of by them, thro' his influential friends at Washington. Feeling conscious that I had done my duty faithfully to these people, I had not a suspicion, that these charges were to be levelled against me as their Agent - and that the whole end and aim of Mr. Martin (now a member of the legislative Council of this Territory, & late President of the Swindling & Wild Cat Bank of this country) aided by some half dozen of hay Breeds, was to supplant me in the Agency & ultimately to give these Rascals the entire control of the Menomonee Annuity for 20 years! My answer to this charge (and which has never been acknowledged to this day, by W. J. A. Crawford, Comr. of Indian Affairs to whom it was addressed) will furnish the Key which will unlock & unravel this whole matter.

From that time to the present moment the same system of persecution, by the same men, has been continued against me. If you will take the trouble Sir, to examine this reply to these charges, I am persuaded you will believe, that I have been unjustly persecuted, for intended purposes, and by men without honor or honesty. If the War Department could for a moment credit the statements of these men, it would have been but their duty to have discharged the Agent at once. I have never designed to rebut any of the testimony taken against me, at various points, by these honorable & disinterested gentlemen. If my bare word will not stand good against a legion of such witnesses, with the War Department, then would I not consent to leave the Department - I will no longer. - In my answer to their charges among other papers enclosed, was my account against the Menomonees, for depreciation on my private property, and for expences incurred by me on their account - You will do me a favor, Sir, by directing the account in question to be returned to me, without delay - I will no longer consent to be robbed by the Indian without redress, or to be swindled by the Agents of the Government without remonstrance.

P. S.

P. S. I feel so indignant at the whole course of ^{this} Indian Department at Washington as regards this Sub-Agency and the several tribes of Indians entrusted to my care under the appointment, that I cannot forbear to trouble you, Sir, with an extended communication.

On the 15th Sept 1818, now 23 years since, Mr. Monroe then President of the U. States Com-
-missioned me as Agent for the Chippeways & Ottawa Indians (now held by Mr. Robt. Stuart) with directions to repair to Mackinac, and redress the grievances Com-
-plained of both by Whites and Indians, as regarded that Agency. For five years the duties belonging to this Sub-Agency were performed by me to the satisfac-
-tion of all concerned, when the then Governor of this territory of Michigan Mr. Cass, thought proper to divide this Agency, and to assign the Lake Superior portion to his friend & protégé Henry R. Schoolcraft late Act^y Supt. and Agent for these same Indians and now under the charge of Mr. Robert Stuart, who during 13 years of my Agency at Mackinac held the situation of Agent for the American Fur Company, and whose arbitrary power, aided by the Money-means of this overgrown Company, it was my painful and unpleasant duty to stru-
-gle against for this long period.

At various times during the life time of the former Agent, Mr. Peltoff, (the particular friend of Lewis Cass) my removal indirectly was

was attempted. In 12 months, I think in the year
1821, under the Law of Congress, directing the Stoppage
of Salary to all Officers in answer to the Government my
pay was suspended and my Account rendered to and
paid by the Governor of the Territory, because I was a de-
faulter to the U. States, for some two or three thousand
dollars, on account, as alleged, of foreign Interchange
— Not owing at the time, or at any time, the present
moment included, one farthing to the United States
the necessary proofs, (at hand) were at once furnished
to the Department of State, when the prosecution (alias
persecution) was directed to be stopped, with a loss
to me however, as well as I recollect, it being 20 years
since, of 60 or 70 dollars." My feelings on this occasion
cannot be estimated by dollars and cents. One high
minded and intelligent Senator from the State of
Michigan Mr. Woodbridge will no doubt remember
the transaction, he being employed at the time as the
prosecuting Attorney of the United States. It was
Mr. Cass's object no doubt, by removing me to
Green Bay in 1832, to provide for his protege H.
N. Schoolcraft, and to give him, as it turned
out, the entire control & management of the
Treaty of 1835 with the Chippeways & Ottoways
which assigned 150,000 to the hoof breeds, and
out of which funds this same modest gentleman
secured for his own immediate family and
concerns, the sum of seventy five thousand

dollars, or the one half of the whole amount appropriated for Holy Wears under the Treaty!

The Indian Dept. Liv, for the last 8 or 10 years, has been held up to the whole Country, as corrupt and rotten to the very core— All that I shall say as regards myself (having been connected with it for 23 years and of course implicated in their changes with the rest) is that my conscience is clear as to these wholesale changes— and that my very poverty before any honest and independent jury in the land will go far to establish the fact—

I say to you, Sir, that instead of my indebtedness to the Government, the United States owe me at this moment over and above my pittance of a salary one thousand Dollars! If all your, Capt., Agents, Sub Agents & Sub. Treasurers could say as much and with the same truth, your Treasury would not contain as at this ^{present} time, such a beggarly account of empty Boxes!

For 23 years in the service of the Indian Department, I have never had a far lough — but have been always at my post performing the duties of sub Agents employed by Gov. Cass in his treaty making and exploring Expeditions with neither thanks or extra compensation. The Archives of the War Dept will prove the fact. Is this right? is this just? In 1832 Lewis Cass had influence enough at Washington to remove me from

the agency at Michilimackinac to the agency at Green Bay. In the Law of 1834, arranging the several Agencies, the Green Bay Agency (decidedly among the most important in the Country) was certainly overlooked. — Mr. Elbert Herring, then Commr. of Indian Affairs, writes me that this Agency had been by accident omitted to be reported to Congress but that the President, Genl. Jackson, would, he believed under his Authority, continue the Green Bay Agency until Decr. 1837, when it would expire under the Law.

The old General — God bless him — did continue me in my Office, & give bread to my family until that time. — The next Commr. of Indian Affairs, Mr. C. A. Harris in December 1837, orders me to turn over the Agency to General Brooke.

In five months thereafter (having performed in the mean time, the principal duties of the Office not only at the solicitation of Mr. Harris and General Brooke, but by request of the Indians themselves) Mr. Commr. Harris inclines to me an appointment of Sub-Agent at Green Bay, accompanied with a remark "that an understanding existed between Gov. Cass, the Secretary of War & myself that under the Arrangement of the Law of 1834, the Green Bay Agency, was understood to be the one to be discontinued, in the Report of the War Dept. to

"illustration of the Government." This, Sir, is the
paragraph written and then expunged in my letter
to the Honorable Mr. Bell of May last; giving
what I then, and now believe to be a true charac-
-ter of the man. The sketch of this honorable
Gentleman's Treaty with the Sioux Indians,
as exhibited thro' the public papers, namely the Me-
-gotiata, as plain, as this hand-writing on Balsh
-azzars wall. These Treaties, which remain for the
future action of the Senate of the United States,
(and which it is to be hoped, will never receive their
sanction) have been concocted, not with a view
to the bettering the condition of the poor miserable
red-man - but to put money in the pocket, and
power in the hands of James Duane Doty, and
perhaps in that of the honorable Mr. Bell late
Secretary of War, thro' the wild - Cat financiering
talents of his friends the Governor. All that is want-
-ing to this beautiful arrangement is that a
Mammoth Bank be established, to make overgrown
fortunes for such men as are here described -
and to rob Millions of better and poorer Americans
than themselves, to establish their own power and
standing in this insulted Country thro' the means
of money. I turn my attention now to Mr.
Robert Stuart (the constant supporter of Mr. J. D.
Doty for 23 years) now Acting Supt. of Indian
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will agree, that this man, as the Agent of the
late American Fur Company, is now and has
been directly charged by that overgrown Monopoly
to settle up the outstanding claims against the
various tribes of Indians trading with this Estab-
-lishment from 1816 to 1832, when Mr. Astor
- withdrew from the concern, and it passed into
other hands. I have never known a payment
of monies to Indians, selling lands to the U.
States, but that this man has been on the
ground, Raven-like, either in person, or by attorney,
to come in for the Leons Share in the distribution
and my opinion of the man is, from a full
knowledge of him for 23 years (his Religious
Principles if principally they can be called, to the
contrary notwithstanding) that I would not be
surprised should his friend Mr. Doty, now
Governor of this unfortunated Territory, negotiate treat-
-ties with Indians bordering on the Pacific or
even in the Moon, that there would be found
- this same Robert Stuart as the Agent of the late
American Fur Company, appearing in person
or by proxy, as the first & largest claimant.
With these facts staring him in the face, the
honorable Mr. Bell (a Bell as the Globe truly
says, of a bad sound, and I hope silenced forever

has appointed this man a joint Commissioner, with
others, to settle Claims to an almost unlimited
Amount against the various Nations & Tribes of Indian
whose title to lands still held by them it would seem
to be the present purpose of the Government to purchase.

In the name of God have we not, out of a popula-
tion of 17 Millions some born Citizen of equal hon-
esty & ability, to fill the post of Supt. of Indian
Affairs for the State of Michigan, without being
forced to appoint to this important Station, a
wily Swede, but as yesterday our Enemy,
and who perhaps but for the sake of gain, would
never have changed his allegiance to the British
Power to the present moment! Mr. Secretary I feel
that my days are numbered - (and perhaps before
an answer can be returned to this communication)
admitting that the present incumbent of the
War Department, unlike Mr. Bell shall deem
it worthy of an answer I shall be consigned to
that resting place, to which, sooner or later, you
Sir, together with all Earth's proud ones must come.

I write to you Mr. Secretary, as an American
Citizen, loving his Country, and deeply anxious
that her high destiny may be accomplished.

This can never be accomplished by appointing
an old Trader of the British North West Company
to speak with authority, and in the name & place

of our President, to the Chipewyan & Ottawa
Nations of Indians, hostile to us from the tardy
Surrender of the Post of Michilimackinac by the
British, to the present hour." My experience of
23 years, would tell you Sir, that in the event
of a War between England and the United States,
there is not a solitary Band of Indians within
my knowledge but would be found in the day
of peril and of trial arrayed against us.
Such is the fact, whatever British - American
Agents may say to the contrary.

With every respect & Consideration

I have the Honor to be, Sir,

Your Most Obedt. Servt.

J. P. [unclear]

[unclear]

To
The Honorable
Secretary of War.
Washington