

Memo + Sheila
Treaty Notes
1820 - 1830's

1820
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Notes of a conversation between T.L. Ogden and Jacob Taylor regarding the land company's activities. HAVERFORD COLLEGE LIBRARY, HAVERFORD, PA., INDIAN COMMITTEE RECORDS, PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING, SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, BOX 3, 1816-1830.

1st Mo. 1820.

Some time previous to the late Council held at Buffalo with the Seneca Indians, T.L. Ogden one of the holders of the Preemption right called upon Jacob Taylor at Cattaraugus, and presented him at introductory letter from Joseph Ellicot. Counties in the Allegheny Reservation as T.L. Ogden spent some time at Cattaraugus, a good deal of conversation passed between Jacob Taylor and him on the subject of obtaining the Land of the Seneca Nation by the purchases of the Preemption right, in the course of which T.L. Ogden, said he was satisfied the Allegheny reservation was not sufficient to support the whole of the Seneca Indians, and that the Company was disposed to grant them the two Reservations ob Allegheny and Cattaraugus, if they would sell their rights to the remainder. J. Taylor informed him that them two Reservations were insufficient for the maintenance of the Indians, and thought that not less than two thirds of the Buffalo Reservation added to Allegheny and Cattaraugus would answer the purpose, and that the remainder o the Reservations would remunerate the Purchasers of the right for all their trouble and expense, and afford them a great profit also. T.L. Ogden replied to this - That he doubted the consent of the others concerned will have to this. That is was important, both as it affected the Natives, and some of the purchasers that, the business would be settled early, that some of the --- circumstances were much that they must sell, speedily and therefore there was a great desire to arrange the business without delay, some others of them were affluent and willing. Affairs should remain as they are knowing that Lands would rise in value, and not subject to Taxation in their present circumstances of lessee. Those who were susceptible to sell should dispose of their shares, in small quantities to a number of persons, it would augment the difficulties both to the prospector and the Natives, particularly to the latter as in that case the purchasers of small quantities would take possession of the Lands so purchased. ----- themselves ----- and that this has been proposed by several persons who solicited Jacob Taylor to accompany him to the Council, which Jacob declined, shortly after a Council was held, in which appeared great diversity of opinion, respecting the ----- a Missionary from a Presbyterian Society in New York, to reside on the Buffalo Reservation, and much ----- was manifest, but great if not entire unanimity in refusal to part with any part of there lands to the purchasers of the Preemption right, and the Council T.L. Ogden addressed the letter which accompanies this to J.T. The Buffalo, are many of them idle and intemperate but them that reside some distance are of different character many of whom cultivate the ground, and present as favorable an aspect as the other Senecas, and are a --- - of considerable involvement to the Traders at Buffalo, members of whom are opposed to their parting with their Lands. The division occasioned in the Buffalo tribe by the Missionary friends, threatens to have an injurious effect as it is advocated and protected by Pollard and other respectable Chiefs, and is throughly opposed by Red Jacket and his adherents at present by far the most numerous. Red Jacket in the Council threatened that rather than have the Missionary on the Land he would have all the whites, Quakers, and all ordered off, and that in the event of their

determining to retain homes on the Land he would go to New York and sell to the Preemption holders but stated he would be satisfied if the supremacy would remain his establishment. From off of their Land as the Quakers had done. A----- is entertained that these desires respecting the Missionary scheme may prove the means of depriving the Indians of their Lands.

Jacob Taylor, describes the situation of the Cattaraugus Indians, as it respects their progress in agriculture as prospering as at any period since his living among them. From 10 to 15 children attending the school, for whose accommodations a New Building has recently been erected. May have had some encouragement to believe they would be furnished with a stove.

1820
9TH FEB.

J.C. Calhoun to Gov. Lewis Cass. Eleazar Williams is to proceed to the Northwest territory to buy land for the Six Nations. DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY, DETROIT, MICH., BURTON HISTORICAL COLLECTION, C.C. TROWBRIDGE MANUSCRIPTS.

Department of War 9th February, 1820

For,

Eleazar Williams with others of the Six Nations forming a party ten individuals, intent to make an exploring tour, in the course of the ensuing spring & summer, this certain parts of the Northwestern territory, with the view of making arrangements with the Indians residing there, for a portion of their country to be hereafter inhabited by such of the Six Nations as may choose to emigrate hither. The purpose for which the sum of Mr. Williams, and his party is undertaken, has the approbation of the President & I have to request, you will afford them every facility in traveling thro' the Indian Country, and promote as far as is in your power, by your influence with the Indians, the object intended to be accomplished by their journey.

I have the honor to be, Sir
your very obedient. Servant
J.C. Calhoun

The Excellency Gov. Cass
Detroit

1820
12 August

Letter from the Oneidas, Brandt, Cornelius, Daniel, and John, to Gov. Lewis Cass. DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY, DETROIT MICH., BURTON HISTORICAL COLLECTION, C.C. TROWBRIDGE MANUSCRIPTS.

To his Excellency Lewis Cass
Governor of The Michigan Territory

Father,

We the undesigned, Deputies of the Oneida nation of Indians, being a branch of the Six Nations, have a few things to say to you.

Our Great Father, the President of the United States gave to The Six Nations his consent that they should move to the west, if they could obtain lands from their brothers there. The Oneidas, have sent us to look out and procure a place for them from the Menominee Tribe in the neighborhood of Green Bay. Our Great Father the President, this thro Secretary of War, advised us to go there, and instructed his Agents thru this country to afford us all necessary facilities for that purpose.

Father,

We have been in the vicinity of Detroit for some time past, not being able immediately obtain a passage up the Lakes. While remaining, we have been informed on good authority that the lands at Green Bay, which we hope to obtain, have been purchased by the Great Father's Agent at that place. Whether this Agent has been authorized to make such a treaty, we do not as yet know. But we are disappointed, because we cannot obtain from the Indians the land which we expected.

We think it altogether improper to procure at this time, but we should excite jealousy of trouble among our brothers to the west.

We shall expect that you Father, and our Great Father the President of the United States, will remove these obstacles out of the way, that your children may get quiet possession of the land which they have been encourage to expect.

Father,

In your letter to a certain gentleman, you approved of our plan, and declared, that there are none of your citizens, in that country to oppose the measure that there will be no political prejudice to encounter, and no misrepresentations to correct.

It seems then, that you are disappointed too, and we hope that you will set these matters right, and deal fairly with your children.

Father,

We wish peace - we wish to obtain a place to get our foot on peaceably, and to live in friendship with our brothers of the west and our Great Father the President.

Father,

We now return to our nation & will declare to them what we have done.

We hope that it will be explained to us how these obstacles, have been thrown in the way, and if there lands, can be still procured , and if we can be assured that our Great Father wishes us to have them, we expect to come back again & see these land, which we wish to purchase.

We hope, you, Father, will look into this matter, and, on your return to Detroit, to be so good as to inform us by a letter, whether we can still have the lands about he Green Bay.

With Sentiments of deepest respect, we are your
Dutiful Children,

His
John & Brandt, -----
Mark

His
Cornelius & -----
Mark

His
Daniel & -----
Mark

His
John & -----
Mark

Detroit August 12th 1820

Signed in the presence of
Eleazar Williams

To His Excellency
Lewis Cass

1820
12 August (II)

Brandt, Cornelius , Daniel, and John, Oneidas, to William Woodbridge,
Secretary of the Territory of Michigan, about treaty at Green Bay
between Menominees and U.S. agent. DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY,
DETROIT MICH., BURTON HISTORICAL COLLECTION, C.C.
TROWBRIDGE MANUSCRIPTS.

Dear Sir,

The departure of Mr. Williams, enable, me to acknowledge your favor of the 5th of May last. Upon his arrival at Detroit he will call on Genl. -----, and in all things pursue his instructions.

From the prudence and discretion of Mr. Williams, aided by your -----,& advice, I expect the most pleasing results, particularly as the Secretary of War has patronized the project.

In addition to my former communication as to the object & views of Mr. Williams, I can only add, that any measure, you may pursue to aid his undertakings, will be considered as a favor conferred on.

Your Friend,

David A. Odgen

His Excellency
L. Cass

To the Honorable William Woodbridge
Secretary of the Territory of Michigan

Most Excellent Sir,

The Deputies of the Oneida Nation of Indians, being a branch of the Six Nations, have been informed, from a source which I say cannot be doubted, that a treaty had been held at Green Bay, between the United States Agent and the Menominee Nation of Indians, and that said Menominee Nation have ceded to the United States that portion of their country which borders on the southern extremity of Green Bay, & from the mouth of the Fox River to Winnebago Lake.

We the undersigned, Deputies of the Oneida Nation, were authorized to hold a treaty with the above mentioned nation, and, if possible, to obtain from them, that very tract of country, which, is believed, they have ceded, to the United States.

Now, if your Hon. has any information upon this subject, the Deputies, will be happy to receive any communication that you may please to make to them.

The Deputies have concluded to return to Buffalo, & may they presume to ask your Hon. to procure them a passage in one of the Government vessels.

In so doing your Hon., will confer a great obligation upon your most obedient & very humble Servants,

Joseph X Brandt

Cornelius X Ononguatgona

Daniel X Teganciakria

John X Conadeha

Detroit
August 12th 1820

1820
11 DEC.

Gov. Lewis Cass to the deputies of the Oneidas. Cass thinks that the Oneidas can find land upon the Fox River upon which to settle. DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY, DETROIT, MICH., BURTON HISTORICAL COLLECTION, C.C TROWBRIDGE MANUSCRIPTS.

Gov. Cass, to the Deputies of the
Oneida Tribe of Indians

My Children,

I have received since my return from the Northwest, your letter of the 12th of August last, and should have answered it much sooner, had I not expected to receive information upon the subject to which you refer. As yet I have heard nothing, nor do I know any thing more respecting the purchase made by Col. Bowyer of the country upon the Fox River, then you do. It was a measure in which I had no agency and of which I was wholly ignorant, until the object was effected.

Whether the cession will be ratified by the Government I cannot tell. I have taken the liberty of stating to the War Department, my opinion, which is adverse to the ratification, in consequence of the extent of country which is included in the treaty.

I have exclaimed the land upon the Fox River, and in the vicinity of Green Bay. I believe you can find situations which will suit your people, and where they can sit down and remain for a long course of years.

As your Great Father, the President of the United States, has approved of your plan for changing your place of residence, and has directed his Officers in this part of the country to co-operate with you in carrying this object into effect, you may expect to be aided in every proper manner by all persons in the Indian Departments. The consent of the Menominees and Winnebagoes will be necessary, and this consent, I presume a deputation from your tribe, aided by the authorities at Green Bay, can procure.

What course shall be taken in the event of the ratification of the treaty negotiated by Col. Bowyer, I am unable to say. The War Department can alone determine this question. That determination will be made upon a view of the whole subject, and with every disposition to promote your interest where it can be done without interfering with that of others.

It will be my object, as it is my duty to carry into effect as far as may be in my power, the decision of the Government upon this subject.

To the deputies of the Oneida Tribe of Indians sent to explore the country in the vicinity of Green Bay.

With Sincere Esteem,
Your friend.

1820
11 Dec. (II)

Two letters of the same date: Gov. Lewis Cass to D. A. Ogden and Cass to Eleazar Williams. Both letters mention treaty made by Col. Bowyer. Cass thinks that Bowyer exceeded his authority in procuring so large a cession. DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY, DETROIT, MICH., BURTON HISTORICAL COLLECTION, C.C. TROWBRIDGE, MANUSCRIPTS.

Gov. Cass. To the Honorable D.A. Odgen

Detroit December 11th 1820

Dear Sir,

You have undoubtably learned long since, that the region of the Oneida, to their country proved fruitless, and you probably know the causes which Col. Bowyer acted in making the purchase of the country upon Fox River, I know nothing.

I never heard that such a measure was in agitation, until I heard that a treaty was concluded. I saw Col. Bowyer at Green Bay, who stated that he was authorized to procure a cession as extensive as that embraced in his treaty. But from an observation in a letter to me from the Secretary of War, dated last winter, I have reason to believe, either that Col. Bowyer misunderstood his own authority, or that he acted and a instruction which had been issued long previously, & which were not at that time intended to be carried into effect.

However this may be, should the treaty conclude by him not be carried into effect, I think there is no reasonable doubt, but that a situation can be found in that country, which would suit the Oneidas, and which might by proper execution be procured from the other Indians.

I have this day written to Williams, and to them, stating my opinion upon the subject and recommending the course, which I think should be pursued.

I should have done this and should have written to you also, immediately on my return, had I not expected to receive information respecting the nature of the cession procured by Col. Bowyer. In this I have been disappointed, but I have stated to the War Department that the purchase is, in my opinion, much larger than necessary, and that the ratification of the treaty in total would be impolitic, and would have a strong tendency to defeat the plan for the removal of the Oneidas. What the ultimate determination will be I know not. Should the Oneidas determine to renew the attempt, they ought to reach this place at an earlier date than last year.

With much Esteem

Your Friend,

Honorable David A. Odgen

Gov. Cass to Mr. Eleazar Williams

Detroit December 11th 1820

Dear Sir,

I should long since have answered the letter of the Oneida Chiefs, of the 19th of August last, which I received on my return from the northeast, had I not expected to receive information respecting the views of the Government upon the subject of the cession of the country upon the Fox River, made by the Indians to Col. Bowyer.

I know nothing of the instructions under which he acted, nor did I know that such a measure was in agitation. He told me when I was at Green Bay, that he had made the purchase as reported, & that he was authorized so to do.

I have written to the War Department, stating my opinion upon the subject, and that a cession to the extent required by Col. Bowyer is in every point of view impolitic. What decision will ultimately be made I am not able to conjecture. I have little doubt, from a personal inspection of the Country, that a situation might be found, which would be agreeable to the Oneidas, and I presume that with the cooperation of the Agent at Green Bay, the consent of the Winnebagoes and Menominees could be obtained to the measure.

I will thank you to deliver the accompanying speech to the Oneida Chiefs.

I trust they will not think that my delay has arisen from any indisposition to promote their wishes, or from any indifference to the object which they have in view.

Their ulterior measure must depend upon the views of Government. I am only a subordinate Agent, but it shall be ready at all times to assist in the accomplishment of this object which is so proper in itself, and which has been sanctioned by the War Department.

Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant,

Mr. Eleazar Williams
Oneida, New York

1821
11 July -1 Sept.

JOURNAL OF C.C. TROWBRIDGE'S TRIP TO GREEN BAY IN COMPANY WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONEIDA INDIANS OF NEW YORK. INCLUDES INFORMATION ABOUT COUNCIL WITH MENOMINEE CHIEFS, 16-30 AUGUST, ABOUT ONEIDAS SENECAS, AND MUNSEES, AND ABOUT THE LAND PURCHASED. DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY, DETROIT, MICH., BURTON HISTORICAL COLLECTION, C.C. TROWBRIDGE MANUSCRIPTS.

Journal of a tour to Green Bay in the Steam Boat Walk in the Water, Jedediah Rodgers master, in the capacity of Agent for certain gentlemen of the State of New York, interested of that Reversionary title to land, owned there by the Six Nations of Indians. 1821.

On the 11th of July 1821, Mr. Eleazar Williams Missionary among the Oneidas in the county of that name, in N.Y., arrived at Detroit in the Steam Boat, expecting to proceed without delay to Green Bay. But owing to some misunderstanding in respect to the arrival of a body of troops & a quantity of stoves for the freight of which she was chartered; it became necessary to extend the charter until the 31st inst.

On the 31st July we left Detroit in the Boat which was crowded with passengers. Our party consists of Mr. Williams, five Stockbridge Indians among whom are Kaukapot & Hendrick two principal chiefs, five Oneidas, two Senecas, and one Onondaga. They are a representation from the six nations, sent to explore the country on the Fox River of Green Bay and to treat with the Menominees and Winnebagoes, inhabiting the Lands on that River for a tract of country on which they may locate themselves. There are on board 120 troops and among the officers are Cols. Pinckney, McNiel, Major Larabee and Wation, Capt. Garland, Greene, and Mason, Major Baker, Lieuts. Taft, Caldwell, Major Barker, and Yates of Schenectady. Rev. G. Richard of Detroit and J. Nott of S---- are also of our party.

Capt. Rodgers intended to leave Detroit so early as to enable us to reach the mouth of St. Clair river before dark, but it was impossible to get under way before 3 o'clock p.m. and consequently we did not accomplish our object, but were obliged to Kauatanchoir for the night on the flats of Lake St. Clair. These flats extend about six miles from the mouth of the river and the lake is here so shallow (only 2 feet in many places) that it is necessary to cross them by guide set up in the -----, which we could not distinguish in the night.

Wednesday August 1. We weighed anchor about ½ past 4 and in a short time entered the River by the largest of its numerous mouths, leaving on the right ----- island. The strangers on board were highly delighted with the picturesque and fertile appearance of the borders of the river and the comfortable looking farms on the American shores, which is more thickly settled than the Canadian. About 1 p.m. we overtook the schooner Erie of Buffalo, Capt. Neils, master, bound for Chicago and laying about 4 miles below ----- waiting for a favorable wind to carry up the rapids of St. Clair. Capt. Rodgers took her in tow and we proceeded on to the mouth of Black River, about 1 mile below the fort where the boat landed and recieved a supply of wood. After an hour delay we continued on to the fort, and unfortunately in an operation to ascend the rapids by keeping near the shore, one of the wheels struck the bottom and received an injury in consequence of which we were detained another hour, during which time we laid opposite the

fort, which is abandoned by the Govt. tho' occupied by Capt. Farley a disbanded officer who has turned Indian trader.

At Eight o'clock in the evening we were in Lake Huron and separated from the Erie. The night was pleasant and when we awoke on Thursday 2 Aug. we found ourselves nearly opposite point Aux Bangers the Southeastern extremity of Sogorian Bay. The day continued extremely pleasant, and at seven o'clock p.m. we had crossed Thunder Bay.

Friday 3rd Aug. at 12 p.m. we arrived at the island of Mackinac amidst the roar of Cannon from the Fort and the Boat, and the congratulations of numerous friends, and acquaintances. I dined with the youth of the Fur Co. The Capt. expected to find a supply of wood ready for him on the wharf, but owing to the a misunderstanding it had not been removed from the place of its first deposit, distance of 7 miles; and the boat left me at 2 p.m. to receive it. At 11 at night we again got under way, and on Saturday at 8, we were opposite the Long Brave Island which is the largest in this lake. Our course is south of this island.

On Sunday the 5th Aug. at 1 p.m. we arrived at Fort Howard, distant from the mouth of Fox River 3 miles. The same afternoon we put our goods and men in a boat and proceeded up the river in search of a house for quarters. We had not proceeded a mile before we met with Mr. John Lawe, who procured of a Mr. Grignon a house for us occupied as the Court House of Brown County.

Monday 6 - Visited Camp Smith, 3 miles above Fort Howard. Here two companies are stationed in log huts, and the land in the vicinity is occupied by Grog Shops. We called on Robert Irwin Esq. by whom I was very politely treated.

The land on the river is extremely sandy for some distance from the Fort, tho' it appears susceptible of cultivation in a considerable degree.

Tuesday 7, at 7 o'clock the steam boat left the river for Detroit and really I was grieved that I could not be a passenger. At 11 o'clock a Menominee Chief with some of his warriors called upon us and he have appointed tomorrow for holding a council.

Wednesday 8th, at 10 o'clock a party of Winnebago and Menominee Chiefs with some of their warriors (in all about 60) assembled at our Council room; and the council was opened by Hendrick, the Stockbridge Chief, who told them that we were all pleased to be able under the direction of the Great Spirit, to meet them, and that we had a very important message to communicate to them providing the Menominee, ----- their principal Chiefs were present. To this they answered in the negative, but said that they could send for the principal Chief, and bring him here in four or five days - accordingly two runners were dispatched to Winnebago Lake for the Chief of the Menominee, and the two nations were severally presented with belts of wampum. The Winnebagos and Menominees replied separately to the speech of our party with the usual compliments, and then they partook of a bountiful feast which we had prepared for them. After this the council broke up.

In the night we were visited by another party of Indians, who only wanted some food, after receiving which they departed.

Thursday 9th

Visited Fort Howard and dined with Capt. Whistler; called on Mr. Irwin Esq. Indian factor and recieved from him Col. Bowyer's Treaty with the Menominees.

Sunday 12th. In the afternoon the runners dispatched for the Menominee Chief returned, and told us that the Chief would be here in two or three days. They then rcvd. A blanket each and some tobacco and provisions for themselves and departed.

Monday 13th. About noon a party of Winnebagoes arrived and brot with them a venison, which they presented to us. After some little conversation they encamped near us, to await the arrival of the other Chiefs.

Tuesday 14th. This being the day set for the arrival of the Menominee Chief we have been constantly on the look out, but have been sadly disappointed in not seeing any of them. What the reason is we cannot conjecture, but are afraid that some of the french traders here, have secretly advised them to stay at home. If this be the case our cause is almost hopeless, for by intermarriages with the females of the principal Menominee families the leaders have gained an influence over them which it is difficult to oppose. Indeed it is almost impossible to know how to direct an operation, is secretly do they conduct any means which they may protect against the whites.

Wednesday 15th, Two Canoes containing the principal Winnebago Chiefs arrived at our encampment and hoisted the AM. Flag. They came to see us and tomorrow is appointed for the great counsel, in which we are to reveal the grand object of our mission.

Thursday 16th, The Chiefs of the Menominee and Winnebago Nations assembled at an early hour at our Council Room and after exchanging the usual salutations, the Council was opened by Cornelius Bread, a Chief from Oneida who made a complimentary speech to them, which was followed by Hendrick who was appointed to open the grand business. Having prepared himself he disclosed our object in a gradual and hansom manner, setting forth at the same time all the advantages that would result to the Indians from a cession to them. The Menominees and Winnebagos replied separately in a short complimentary way and stated that it would be necessary for them to hold a council with each other before they could answer our request. Accordingly it was agreed that we should meet again tomorrow to receive their answer.

Friday 17 Aug., The Council opened again at 11 o'clock and a young man of __ years old, (the brother of the Great Menominee Chief the Brave, and sent to represent him in consequence of illness in his family) made a very handsome speech. We thot' it evident that he had been advised by the Traders not to cede - for the only reason which he gave for his refusal was an untrue on "that their lands were to small, that they could not go out on either side without stepping on the Wigwams of their brethren" and said he, "you have told us that you possessed fine lands in your country that you raised from them your provisions and that the comforts of life were abundant there. If this be the case why do you wish to leave these fine lands and come here among us who are limited in our hunting grounds and deprived of all those comforts of which you boast."

He was followed by another Menominee Chief who spoke to the same purpose and sat down. Then the Dogs Head Chief of the Winnebagos arose in the place of the Smoker their great Chief, who was present but did not speak; and he made the most eloquent speech I ever heard from an Indian, said he - Yes, my Father and bretherens; I have heard of your intention to come here for five years past, and now you have come it seems to know our minds. You say you want to purchase lands of us. The lands are not ours, we cannot sell them, we have no power to sell the property of another. They are the property of the great Spirit who sits above and now sees and hears all that is done and said in this Council. And if they were our lands, do you think that god ever intended that an Indian should sell lands to an Indian, no, I am certain that you can not think so. But they are as I have said the property of the Master of Life. He placed us here and gave us privileges which we now enjoy. These privileges are small it is true, but they would have been greater had we not been deceived by the whites. The french came here early. They told us that

they would take care of us, that they would guard us, that they would feed us, and make us comfortable. These promises they have never been fulfilled. After them came the Americans who made similar promises, but they have ended in the same way.

Now we do not consider you a Frenchmen or Americans, but we consider you as Indian men of our color and our species, and surely the great spirit would be angry if one Indian should cheat another. This we do not expect, we believe that you have told us the truth, that your words have come from the bottom of your hearts, and that they are not from you alone, but from our Great father the President.

I have told you, and I repeat it, that we cannot sell these lands; the Great Spirit would be angry at the idea of receiving payment for his lands. But we are willing, although we have a very small tract of country, to give you to a part of that country the same right which we have. We are willing that you should come and live among us as we live with each other, and if you contemplate giving us anything we repeat to you that we shall not receive it as payment for the lands, but as a token of your love for us and your desire to assist us.

To conclude if you resolve to come on we shall be happy to receive you, and shall expect assistance from you, because we believe that your object is to do us good.

And if you will accept it you may have the lands on this river from the f-----/La Grand Chute to the village on the lake 4½ miles.

This seemed somewhat more favorable than the Menominees and we were about to reply by thanking them and requesting leave to state our wishes again and more fully, when a Menominee Chief arose and spoke - he said little, but from what he said I was confident that they would wish to retract from their speech in the morning; in making which they thought that the Winnebagos would agree with them.

This symptom was favorable and we declared the council finished for the day but requested the Chiefs to remain.

Mr. Williams spoke to them in a very proper manner and Hendrick followed him - we have in these speeches opened their minds a little more and expect them to answer us more favorably tomorrow morning.

Saturday 18th August. Early this morning the Chiefs assembled, and the Winnebago Chief called Shonkapaw or the Dogs Head, who had spoken during the council for the Winnebagos; again addressed the deputation. His speech was long but rather uninteresting - at the end he said that the Menominees had concluded to join with them in a cession and that they would give us the lands from the Grand Kaccalin on the Fox River, commencing at the foot and extending up the river to the rapids at the Winnebago Lake - and from the River extending back to the N. West and S. East, equidistant with the claims of the two nations. This was corroborated by a Menominee Chief who arose, and I immediately sat down to fill the blanks in the articles of the Treaty; but before I had finished the French Inhabitants, and particularly the Grignon's (who have great influence with the Menominee Indians, and one of whom has a Grist and Saw Mill on the Kaccalin) heard of it and immediately advised them secretly not to cede - accordingly they arose and after speaking in a manner rather foreign to the matter in hand, said that they had advised with their French fathers here, and could not upon reflection give us any lands. We were astounded at this sudden change in their sentiments, though we had anticipated opposition from these Frenchmen - but we were still more astounded that the Chief should mention the names of their advisors, because it has even been their endeavor to keep themselves unknown, when opposing any negotiation between the whites and the Indians.

We concluded after some reflection to dissolve the Council for the night and requested the Winnebagos, who were still willing to cede according to their first proposition, to come again to the Council in the morning: and at the same time told the Menominees that if any of them concluded to sign, we should be happy to see them also.

Sunday 19th Aug. Altho' Sunday, the great object in view induced us not to defer the opening of the Council today, and about nine o'clock the Chiefs of the Winnebagos assembled at our Council Room. They had not sat long, before, to our very great joy, the Chiefs of the Menominees came in. The Council opened on the part of the Menominees who told us what was said yesterday was not their true sentiments, that they were of the same heart and mind with the Winnebagoes, and were ready to sign the Treaty as before proposed to them. Accordingly after dinner, preliminary matters were settled between them tho' parchment was unrolled and they cordially advanced to the table and signed it.

This change is undoubtedly occasioned by the indiscretion of the Menominee Chief in telling the names of his advisors, for the French know that if the object of the Mission is petitioned by the Genl. Govt.; they also know that their own reputation at the seat of Gov. Stands on a very tattering basis; for during the late war with Great Britain they took up arms against the U. States and headed the Indians of the Country, under commissions from the British Govt. One of the Grignons was at the Battle of Sandusky with the Indians; they were also at Mackinac and Prairie Du Chien. Hearing that they were known in this transaction, they undoubtedly thought it advisable to induce the Indians to cede, rather than meet with a punishment for their disaffection. Tomorrow we are to deliver to the two nations, Five Hundred Dollars in Goods, and the deputation have engaged on the part of their nations to pay fifteen hundred Dollars more within one year. This is the only consideration which they are bound to give, for a tract of beautiful country, Eighteen miles in breadth on the River, and extending with the same breadth to the claims of the Chippeways on the N. West, and to Lake Michigan on the South East. This cession includes all the mill seats on Fox River, the most valuable of which is the Grand Kaccalin, eighteen miles from Fort Howard, and eighteen miles from the South Western extremity of the cession. Here, as before observed a Mr. Grignon has built a Grist and Saw Mill and has improved the Lands; but possession is supposed to be included in our Treaty, at any rate a part of it is included.

Monday 20th August. The Indians assembled at the hour appointed to receive their goods, and after a good deal of speechifying on both sides they were delivered; and in addition one Barrel of Whiskey and one barrel of flour to each nation. This they appeared highly satisfied with and some of them departed, but we did not get rid of the whole of them until.

Wednesday 21st Aug.: on which day to our very great joy the Schooner Jackson arrived from Detroit, and we engaged our passage on her. On the same Day a part of the deputation started to view the Land, which they have purchased.

Thursday Aug 22nd. Mr. Williams, Mr. Grignon and myself started in a Bark Canoe with four Indians to view the Grand Kaccalin, which is the Northeastern boundary of the Grant. We stopped at La Rapide des Peres, for awhile, above the Fort, where the French Jesuits had an establishment in the early settlement of the Country. The Cellars and the Gardens are still plainly to be seen and also the remains of the Cornhills. From this Rapid it is six miles to La Pelibe Kaccalin, where the Govt. Have erected a saw mill, and tried for a year to construct a permanent dam; but their efforts have been unavailing, and if it is now intended to remove the mill to Duck River, which empties its waters into the Bay, about 4 miles below Fort Howard. The River (being

low at present) presents a constant succession of small rapids from La Rapide des Peres to the Grand Kaccalin, where we arrived some time after dark. Here we found a very comfortable farm and house, and about thirty acres enclosed in fence. The house is distant from the Mill before mentioned about 1/2 a mile, but is included notwithstanding in the cession made. We were very politely treated by a squaw lady, who gave us an excellent supper and good beds, and we remained until,

Friday 23rd Aug. About one o'clock, at which hour we left the Kaccalin for the Fort.

The lands from the Rapide des Peres to the Grand Kaccalin are undoubtedly very rich; but those on the South East side are altogether preferable, if we may judge from appearances; to those on the NW side. On the NW the breaks are high and very thickly timbered presenting the appearance of a ----- Sandy Prairie; but on the opposite side they are not so high, and the earth appears to be a rich black mould of a considerable depth. The timber is principally Oak, but occasionally we saw the Pine, Poplar, Chestnut, and Butternut. We arrived at our house about nine in the evening completely drenched with a rain which commenced about the time of our departure from the Kaccalin.

On Thursday the 30th Aug. We sailed for Detroit in the Jackson, Capt. Blake, when we arrived safely on Thursday the 6th Sept.

Members of the Deputation from N. York

Oneidas

Tahyentahneken, alias, John Antony Brandt

Tahnonsongotha, alias, John Skenando

Ononguatgo, alias, Cornelius Beard

Sqanawatgy, alias, Thomas Christson

Onondaga

Yawentanawen, alias, Abraham C. Safort

Senecas

Dagaoyelek, alias, Jacob James

Hanasaongway, George Jameson

St. Regis

Onwarenhiiaki, alias, Eleazar Williams (a Mohawk)

Stockbridge

Uhhaunnonwaunmut, alias, Solomon M. Hendrick

Naurainah, alias, Jacob Kunkapot

Nenomaumnang, alias, Abner Hendrick

Chicksokun, alias, Jacob Chicks

Nankawale, alias, Rob Kunkapot

Munsee

Katakosakont, alias, Rufus Turkey

1822
27 Dec.

Letter from Eleazar Williams to J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War.
Missouri Historical Society, ST. Louis, Mo., Williams Collection.

Green Bay (Michigan Terr.) Dec.27th 1822.

Most Excellent Sir,

I am happy to have it in my power to state to your excellency, that according to government permission, the Delegates of the Stockbridge and Six Nations, have the past season, made a second Treaty with their Brethren here the Menominees - A copy of which has doubtless on this, reached your excellency's office. It is expected that a portion of the Six Nations, being influenced by designing persons, will oppose its ratification, though, I feel confident the numbers will be few, as the principal cause of the heretofore dissenting parties complaint is, (in case of the last Treaty's ratification) remained.

It is also expected that some few of the French traders, who are somewhat interested will use their endeavors to have the government refuse to ratify our proceedings - but as we have been instructed by your excellency, and long had the countenance of the General Government in the business, we give ourselves little uneasiness and rest almost assured that the Six nations and U. States will not finally have spent several thousand Dollars for nothing by having the great object defeated. At least, so firm am I in this opinion, I have taken my final abode on the spot and have commenced my labors among the Menominees, who appear unusually well pleased with their new neighbors, as well as with my Mission, which is thus far very successful.

I would beg particularly to mention to your excellency that we have already commenced a school for the Menominees and half-breed french and Indian children, the latter of which, I think are almost or quite as needy as the former. We design if possible to continue this until the children are educated, or as long as the Mission continues, which is established under the permission of Bishop Hobart, tho, without a great pecuniary support, he not feeling himself at liberty to send funds out of his Diocese. We have, however, for the support of the school, entertained no small hopes from your excellency in as much as your excellency has been very gracious to other institutions of the king as well as to give us encouragement thereto.

About thirty of the before mentioned children attend who are making rapid progress, are very fond of school.

In case your excellency should not see fit to appropriate something to the benefit of these heathen children, I see nothing but the school must stop in the spring as the teacher is now wholly unsupported.

May I hope that your excellency will do me the favor to answer this as soon as convenient, and much oblige, your excellency.

most obedient and very
humble servant, Eleazar Williams.

His Excellency J. C. Calhoun
Secretary of War

1823
27 Oct.

Letter to chiefs and headmen of Onondagas, Senecas, Tuscaroras, Oneidas, and Stockbridge Indians from J. C. Calhoun, about treaty at Green Bay. ONTARIO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, CANANDAIGUA, N.Y., JASPER PARRISH PAPERS.

To the chiefs and headmen of the Onondagas, Senecas, Tuscaroras, Oneidas, and Stockbridge Tribes or Nations of Indians residing in New York.

Brothers,

I have received your memorial in a letter from your friend, Mr. Ellis, representing that you have received information that your Green Bay Treaty, held last season with your brethren the Menominees, had been but partially confirmed by your great father the President.

Brothers,

In answer to your memorial I have to say, that you had the free consent of your, Father, the President to hold the Treaty which you have concluded with the Menominees, and he has not now the least objection to the arrangement which has been entered into between you and the Menominees, in its fullest extent. But when the Government is called on for its special Sanction to said arrangement it cannot go farther than to sanction it in part. Before, however, the President gives his approbation in the manner proposed, he deems it proper that you should absolve the government from its former Sanction, by a formal relinquishment of the lands thereby confirmed to you, so as to leave all the lands comprehended by the arrangement referred to, subject to its operation as it originally stood between you and the Menominees, without the interference of the Government.

Should you think proper to accept of the proposed variation of the Presidents former Sanction and will execute and forward to this department the relinquishment required with the parchment now in your possession on which said sanction is endorsed, he will set his approbation, in due form, agreeably to your request, on the parchment now on file in this department, confirming to you the Lands, within the boundaries hereto before described.

Brothers,

Your great father, the President, meant, as it was originally concluded between you from being carried mutually and faithfully into effect.

Brothers,

I take this occasion to repeat to you the assurance, that all who may choose to change their residence will continue to receive the same friendship and protection from the Government as they did while they resided in New York and that their removal will in no wise change the relation in which they previously stood to the Government.

Given under my hand and the seal of the War Office of the United States this 27th day of October 1823.

J.C. Calhoun