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RATIFIED TREATY NO. 272

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATION OF THE
TREATY OF MAY 18, 1854, WITH THE KICKAPOO INDIANS

1854 May 28

J. C. Rapwood
See

Conference with the Kickapoos

Delegates { Pah-kah-kah or John Kemekuk
Kapi-i-o mah, the Fox carrier
No-ka-wat, the Fox hair
Pe-sha-gon-tug, Made of Bear skin
Ke-wi-sah-tuk or Walking Bear or Squire

May - 9th -

Com^r - Desires to hear from them -

Kapi-i-o mah - You see our delegation - we are poor children - we are here for the benefit of our women & children.

No-ka-wat - You have heard - we are as children - we understand what you said to us last fall - we look to you to do us justice and help us in our poverty. The Kickapoos are the poorest people in the world. So little has been done for them - Compare his lands to a fine horse in the matter of a bargain between man and man, the value being asked and given - they ask \$2 per acre -

Com^r - Do ^{we} want to sell all? - Answer - want a part left. Where have you talked about locating? Answer - From Independent Creek, up to Wolf river. - Would like to think about the place for the future home - point out on the map a tract better for them than that stated. In making the location they must have reference to their children - it must be the last change - they will have to live like white men. They have the means in their hands of making their people as comfortable as any other people - every Kickapoo may become a rich farmer. It is not worth while, however, for them to talk about \$2 per acre. It is out of the question - understands its value and will give it. The Indian mind has been disturbed about the value of their land - will ~~ate~~ take the land and if they don't like the amount

he will agree that they shall receive all that their Great Father can sell it for. alludes to the girls of being near the great river & whites - would prefer to pay for their improvements & and have them go back - they would not be required to remove now

Squire

You have heard the chiefs - do not talk with forked tongue - their Great Father, the President told them to do what would be satisfactory to themselves

Adjourne

May 11th

Govt.

Would like to have some special talk with them about the best locality for their future homes. The Delawares will not be their neighbors anymore - having sold their lands - wishes to know their views as to where they should locate.

To ho-wat }
Fox - }

We don't know what to say more than what we have said. Their wish is to give that part of their land from Indian Creek up - that is what they will dispose of

Govt.

They must change their mind on that point - what will they want with the quantity they desire to retain. In his journey through it, did not see 100 acres cultivated. Why then keep so much useless land? They want but little land and should live compactly and farms keep only enough to support themselves and sell the balance and with the proceeds educate their children, build houses &c. The Shawnees have kept only 1000 acres, selling him the rest.

To ho-wat.

They want to retire and consult about what you have said -

Court - That is right - they can do so - it is very desirable that they, among themselves, should have a perfect understanding of these matters - if desired, they may consult with the other delegations.

Adjourned

May 12th

Gov - They have consulted - and now he wants to know what the Com^r will give for the (horse) land

Com^r - The whole - Answer - $\frac{1}{2}$

Gov - They will let him have the part he ^(the Com^r) wants -

Court - 100,000 acres is as much as they ought to keep - and more than they will ever use - sell the rest for money. If they cannot understand and agree about the location for want of knowledge of the extent of timber, they can make a selection ^{of the 100,000 acres} when they go home, within their present country or west of it.

Gov - We are pleased that you want to do us justice - want to do what will satisfy their principal men & others at home - let them (the delegation) select the land they want - think they will require 150,000 acres.

Com^r - That is more than enough - still he will submit to their wishes

Gov - Is there any land which the Delaware sold to you, they can select? - Answer - none, except back west -

Gov - Don't want to go back - they would like to have

the waters of the Graphopper that belonged to the Delaware

Leant^r - They can select any country north of their southern line or west of their line.

Squire Is pleased with the Court talk - his offer to the Delegates he thinks is good -

Gov. They understand that if they cannot find good enough land as to timber in their own country, that they may select enough to make up the quantity, out of the land sold by the Delaware.

Leant - Cannot agree to let them go on the Delaware tract unless back west.

Gov. Wants pay for improvements on the land. They will go and consult about the location.

Adjourned

May 13

Gov. What have they to say this morning?

Gov. We have not altogether got through consulting together. When they hear from you what will be given for the land, they will better understand and be enabled to decide - they look for justice.

Leant - Is ready to tell them - They must select in the west part of their country 150,000 acres of the best land in their future home - with their pay cash. Kickapoo for the improvements he may now have that he may be able to make others in his new home. With their give for the balance of the land \$300,000

For - How much is that less than their offer
of 2¢ per acre -

Govt - For the whole, it is much less - this land cannot
be valued by a few acres of the best - their great
father would perhaps ~~have~~ get little or nothing
for some of it. It will be proper to dispose
of the \$300,000 in this way \$100,000 to be invested
at interest applied for education &c - \$20,000
in hand - \$20,000 next year &c

For - Inquires about the \$100,000 invested - How long on interest.

Govt - Explains that the interest will be for the education &
religious improvement of the Indians. It will depend
on them - whenever it will be prudent to turn it over to
them

For - We have been talking the matter over - our interpreters
will tell you the truth - they want the 100,000
to remain on interest 5 years - and ~~long~~ after
that ~~as the~~ the principal and interest to accumulate
until they shall want it.

Govt - The investment of \$100,000 will not ~~interfere~~ interfere with
the annuities - they had better leave that matter
with the President

Squire - They look to their Great Father for satisfaction. You
have heard our Councilors

Govt - How does the arrangement suit? Do we understand each other?

Squire - Will \$20,000 last for 20 years that much every year.

Govt - Explains -

Squire

Wishes the President will hear of our Council with you. we are trying to talk with one heart. we hope you will send us this fall \$20,000. and next year for the same amount & from that time \$11,000 per annum - that is what - dear Chief desire

Govt.

can make a better arrangement than that. Suppose we say \$25,000 for 1st pay - \$20,000 for 2^d - \$20,000 for 3^d - \$4,000 each year for 4 years and for 12 years about \$6,000 a year -

Proposes another. \$25,000 for 1st pay - \$20,000 for 2^d - same for 3^d - 14,000 for 4th - same for 5th - 9,000 for 6th - same for 7th - same for 8th - same for 9th - 10th - 11th \$7,000 for 12th 14th 15th \$5,000 for 16th 17th 18th 19th 20th -

1.	of	25,000
2.	"	20,000
2	"	14,000
6	"	9,000
4	"	7,000
5	"	5,000

Squire

Thinks there is something due them for schools

Govt.

The matter shall be examined. Believes there is something due.

May - 16 -

Govt.

Reads to them rough draft of a Treaty - About the lost money he has caused an examination to be made and will let them know when they return home

Squire

Speaks about Council held with Genl Clark years ago - and about treaty at Custer Hill - the Tuckafos were then told that if they suffered,

in removing from their home to the new place
it should be replaced. he counted 11 horses that
were lost on the route - then at every payment they
were to have provisions to amt of \$200. It is now 20 years they
ought to have that & interest. Maj. Harny told us that a
certain Island belonged to us - but white people came
upon it

And about the traders who do not benefit the Indians
don't know how they were put there. Why are not the Indians
consulted when such people are placed in their country.
Want their interpreter always to be between them & the U.S.