



# LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

## **Ratified treaty no. 229, Documents relating to the negotiation of the treaty of November 23, 1837, with the Iowa Indians. November 23, 1837**

Washington, D.C.: National Archives, November 23, 1837

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/XUBDWPEI4VNIF82>

As a work of the United States government, this material is in the public domain.

For information on re-use see:

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

RATIFIED TREATY NO. 229.

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATION OF THE  
TREATY OF NOVEMBER 23, 1837, WITH THE IOWA INDIANS

O. J. A. G. Menahaw. C471.  
Gen. Wm Clark.  
St Louis. Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> 1837.

Transmits treaty made by  
Maj. Picheu, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst, with the  
Sourays, for the extinguishment of all  
their interest in the land ceded by  
the treaty of 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1830. —

Also letter of 24<sup>th</sup> inst. to this Off-  
fice, enclosing this treaty, from Maj. Picheu  
& another of same date from same, ex-  
plaining the delay in answering letter ad-  
dressed to him at Phil<sup>a</sup>, & requiring his views  
in relation to the policy of paying the  
Sour<sup>s</sup> in good sense; will report soon. Sta-  
ting also that the Sourays still persist  
in refusing the offers of Gov<sup>t</sup> in relation to  
their claims on the Des. Minnes. Suggest  
the propriety of disregarding all com-  
plaints & applications on the subject,  
from every quarter, & letting them remain  
as they are until their means under Gov<sup>t</sup>  
of St. Louis are exhausted & then  
let the Gov<sup>t</sup> give as a donation whatever  
they may think right. —

2 enclosures

{ Rec<sup>d</sup> 9 Dec. 1837 }

ack<sup>d</sup> 21 Dec 37

Superintending of Indian affairs  
St. Louis, Nov. 28, 1837

Sir,

I enclose a treaty made with the Iowa  
on the 23<sup>d</sup> of this month by Major Pilcher, for the  
extinguishment of all their interest in the land ceded  
by the treaty of 15<sup><sup>th</sup></sup> July 1830.

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

Respectfully

Yr. Mo. S. Sot.

Wm. Clark S. I. J.

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

On board the Perote mouth  
of Mission River 24 Nov 1834

Genl. C. A. Harris  
Comd. In Chief

Sir: Your letter of -  
directed to me at Philadelphia, and regarding  
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 received  
a few days sooner, and my health been  
such as to enable me to do so - From  
Mr. H. 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. McKimney who knew I was in the  
city and conveyed to my room - It is not  
unlike that your letter had gone the  
same round as it had been written ~~and~~  
~~some~~ some days before I received it - so  
much for explanation, and it is hoped I need

give no reason for not having complied with ~~the~~  
your orders since I left Philadelphia con-  
stantly occupied as I have been with the deliga-  
tions 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 deligations, 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 Saways, have finally  
refused the favourable offers of the government  
in relation to their claims on the Des Moines  
after we exerting all my powers of explanation  
and advice. At St. Louis, I called to my  
aid the advice and Council of both Genl 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 there means under them

Treaty of Pacarw die chim are examined, and they become fully sensible of their destitute situation, and then 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~~ thought connection that it will be the surest means of ultimately reclaiming and improving their condition.

I have the honor to be Sir  
Your Very Obedt Servt  
Cornelia Filchen  
U.S. Ins. Agent.

St Charles Mo: 24 Nov: 1834

Genl C A Harris  
Comd In<sup>a</sup> affrs

Sir: Herewith I enclose  
a Treaty concluded yesterday at the City  
of St. Louis with the Iowa 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 or privi-  
ledge granted by the Treaty of Prairie  
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 calculat<sup>d</sup> to preserve peace  
on the Northen frontier of this State.

Very Respectfully Sir

I have the honor to be

Your Obedt Servt  
Joshua Pilcher  
U. S. In<sup>a</sup> Agent



RATIFIED TREATY

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATION OF A RATIFIED TREATY  
WITH THE CHIPPEWA OF SAGINAW INDIANS, DECEMBER 20, 1837

C.S.A. Sagoyewew. 1729  
Henry D. Schoolcraft,  
Detroit. December 26. 1837.

Encloses treaty concluded by  
him with the Sagoyewew, on 20th Dec. 1837  
in pursuance of letter of 2<sup>d</sup> October.

The Indians are deeply set against going  
west, & refused the proposition to shorten to 11  
months the period of their right to live on the  
land reserved.

Thinks the provisions of the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>d</sup> 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 inter-  
views with them, within the sum at his  
disposal. - Will send on the acct im-  
mediately, with the prior unpaid ex-  
penditures.

Rec<sup>d</sup> 10 Jan 7 1838.

ask<sup>d</sup> 17 Aug 1838.

Com

Detroit December 26<sup>th</sup> 1837

Sir,

I have effected an arrangement with the Saganaw, securing the objects mentioned in your letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 negotiations 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 <sup>shorten to</sup> 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 expense of their removal to it. These provisions constitute the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> article, leaving it optional with  
the

President to direct, on what particular items, the reductions 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 <sup>the sum</sup> 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 pressed 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 im-  
mediately 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.

A. B. List of debt & depredation claims, against the  
Sagawos, have been put on file, in this office, subject to  
the future directions of the department.