

probability of many of them continuing at their present habitations much longer. Under these considerations the committee felt themselves engaged to address to those Chiefs the following communication and received the annexed reply ^{from them}.

Brothers. We have heard of the disposition which seems to be increasing amongst our Red Brethren to remove from the several scattered villages now occupied by them and become united together at one place beyond the great River Mississippi.

Brothers. This conclusion which we understand is about to be adopted by our brothers at Traupaknetta and Lewis Town renders the present interview the more deeply interesting to us, as it will in all probability be the last time we shall ever have an opportunity of taking you by the hand during our continuance in this state of existence.

Brothers. Although by your removal to the distant country which may be selected for the future occupation of the Red People you will be very remote from us, and perhaps so far beyond our reach as to place it out of our power to continue those efforts which we have for so many years been making to assist you, yet you cannot go to any place however distant where you will not carry with you our most earnest desires for your welfare and our undiminished solicitude that the Great Spirit who is the common Father of all nations however diversified by complexion will continue to extend to you his paternal regard and preserve you through the many dangers which beset us all in this uncertain state of being.

Brothers, you have for many years witnessed our

efforts to be serviceable to you in the Towns now occupied by you and although as much has not been effected for your good as we could have desired yet we hope something has been gained for you; your knowledge of Agriculture has been improved, some of your Children have been taught to read and your minds have been opened to an enlarged and more correct view of various matters important to your welfare. We sincerely hope that when you become fixed in your new habitation you will not only endeavour to hold fast what you have gained but strive to advance still further in useful information, the welfare of yourselves and of your Children will greatly depend on this.

Brothers. We do not now undertake to give an opinion whether or not it will promote your welfare to take the step you have determined on in removing to the West & concentrating your whole people together. There are amongst you wise men who understand well your own interests.

Brothers. We are not unacquainted with the difficulties which have oppressed you in your present scattered & divided situations. By removing you may probably avoid some of these, but dangers perhaps not less fatal will assail you in your new situation—against these your utmost prudence will be necessary to enable you to guard yourselves.

Brothers. We are told that not less than forty different Nations or Tribes will be collected on the Land which will be selected for you, many of these Nations speak different languages, have different habits and being more or less