

" been submitted to the Secretary of War, who has a general
 " supervision & control of Indian concerns, a plain and candid
 " statement of the situation & circumstances of the Seneca tribes,
 " an extract from which is here submitted.

" To John C. Spencer, Secretary of War

" Respected friend, The undersigned, representing the Seneca
 " Meetings of Friends, of Tennessee, New York, Philadelphia and
 " Baltimore, Respectfully state, that they have for a number of
 " years, been engaged in endeavouring to instruct the Seneca
 " Indians residing in the western parts of New York, in some
 " of the more useful arts of civil life, and have also estab-
 " lished schools amongst them for the education of their chil-
 " dren; and it is with much satisfaction they can further
 " state that a most gratifying improvement has taken place
 " in the condition of these people. A considerable number
 " of their children regularly attend school - a large portion
 " of them, on several of the Reservations, are becoming industrious
 " agriculturists - their moral and social condition is improved -
 " they have a sufficient number of horses, and other domestic
 " animals for their accommodation, and many of them have
 " constructed and now occupy good dwelling houses and barns.
 " By the advice and management however of certain designing
 " persons, a treaty was procured to be signed by a minority of
 " their chiefs, in the year 1838, by which it is alleged, that the
 " Seneca nation alienated its lands to a company of individuals
 " who claimed a pre-emption right to purchase the same, and under
 " this treaty measures are in train to force these people from their

" Reservations, and to drive them into a distant wilderness country
 " against the known wishes of a vast majority of them.

" Of the character of the treaty under which it is sought to
 " despoil these people of their property, or of the means that were
 " used to procure it, we deem it not necessary here to speak further
 " than to say, that there is ample proof in the War Department, much
 " of which will be found referred to in the documentary evidence here-
 " with submitted, to show, that its execution was procured, even
 " on the part of the minority whose names are found attached to it,
 " by the most unjust and iniquitous means; and we solemnly believe
 " that to enforce it would not only be to inflict a cruel injustice
 " upon these Indians, but under existing circumstances, leave a
 " lasting stigma upon the country.

" We herewith hand thee a statement of ^{the} 'case of the Senecas'
 " and also a publication containing 'a further statement of their
 " case', in which will be found the most abundant proof of the
 " allegations here made. In page 47 of 'The Case' it will be seen,
 " that President Van Buren, in a communication to the Senate of
 " the United States, referring to this treaty, says, 'no advance towards
 " obtaining the assent of the Seneca tribe to the amended treaty, was
 " made, nor can the assent of a majority of them in council be now
 " obtained.' In allusion to the charge of bribery, alleged to have
 " been used in procuring this treaty, the President further says 'that
 " improper means have been employed, to obtain the assent of the
 " Seneca chiefs to the amended treaty, there is every reason to believe;
 " and I have not been able to satisfy myself that I can consist-
 " ently with the resolutions of the Senate of the 2nd. of March, 1839, cause