

This request was promptly acceded to by the Government, and on the day appointed, Ambrose Spencer appeared as commissioner duly authorised on the part of the United States, Samuel Hoare as Commissioner on the part of Massachusetts, which State claimed the right to exercise a supervision over the treaty, on account of having been the original proprietor and grantee of these lands; and Abraham Dixon appeared on behalf of the Legislature of New York.

At the request of the Indians and with the approbation of the general Government, a committee of Friends delegated from the joint committee of our several Yearly Meetings likewise attended, as did also the agents authorised and appointed by the Ogden Land Company, to give the requisite sanction and validity to the compact and treaty, so far as that association were interested.

At this council there were about two hundred Indians in attendance, of whom seventy-one were Chiefs;—the proceedings were conducted with the utmost deliberation and decorum,—the sittings were continued daily from the opening of the Council on the 16th of the month to the 20th inclusive, during which time, the whole subject at issue was minutely and thoroughly discussed, and every article and provision of the proposed treaty carefully examined: after which it was finally agreed to, and was signed by fifty-six Chiefs, being nearly all that were present, except the Tonewandoes, who declined any participation in the matter, they having, as it was understood, in the event of their being removed some intention of emigrating to Canada, where a considerable number of their Clan are already located.

By this arrangement there has been restored to the Senecas, two very valuable tracts of land, amply sufficient it is believed with care and industry for all their necessities. These Indians will moreover under the present treaty, be paid a compensation to be settled by arbitration, for the lands and improvements which, by the present contract will be relinquished: they will also be removed from

a situation where their proximity to the demoralizing examples of a populous City, has had a very corrupting influence upon many of them, and will be concentrated in a more retired district, surrounded by an agricultural population in general friendly to them, and from whose example they will have many opportunities of gaining much useful information regarding their farming operations.

It is worthy of being remembered that the Seneca Nation, as soon as they had agreed to accept the terms of compromise which had been secured for them, did by a spontaneous act of voluntary liberality unanimously determine in Council, to appropriate the whole of the annual income which would accrue, during the first five years after the ratification of the treaty, from the sale of the lands now ceded for the exclusive use and benefit of such families as might under the provisions of the treaty, be required to remove from the two relinquished Reservations. This act of disinterestedness on the part of the Nation is most honourable to it, and affords ample evidence, that these people are not only sensible to the obligations of humanity and justice but disposed faithfully to conform to them.

The committee deem it proper to state to the Meeting, that in the measures which have been pursued by Friends in relation to this concern, no steps were taken without the full consent and approbation of the Government. It is also proper to add, that throughout the arduous struggle in which the committee have been engaged, they have most cordially and zealously been aided by the Secretary of War, John C. Spencer, to whom the general supervision and control of Indian affairs is committed. He has from the time he came into office, and was made acquainted with the true character of the former Seneca treaty and the position taken by Friends in relation to it, done every thing in his power, consistent with his official station & public