

that bound our people with the children of the immortal Washington, continued untarnished, and the guarantee of the U.S. Government for a peaceful and quiet possession of our lands by solemn treaties was given; yet a peculiar antipathy still existed towards our people, and the avarice of the pale face still pursued our nation, until the winter of 1837 & 1838, "when it prevailed", - thus the prediction of a dying chief many winters before, was literally fulfilled.

Our lands were taken from us by the arts and schemes of rapacious white men, assisted by a few wicked chiefs of our nation, whom they had corrupted and seduced to betray their people, and sell the inheritance of their nation.

Brothers, - You all know the history of their wicked proceedings. You have recorded them in the page of history; it will therefore be unnecessary for us to repeat them here, inasmuch as the narration of the events that transpired at the time alluded to, never fails to renew our sorrows and pangs, - to open afresh our wounded feelings, and to cause the Stone Son of the Forest, to weep for his race and his country.

Brothers, - When our nation was friendless and in distress, and seemed doomed to destruction, an appeal was made to you for aid. You immediately informed yourselves of our condition, and interested yourselves with the authorities at the City of Washington on our behalf. Months and years passed without success, still you rem-

ained our firm and unwavering friends. In the year 1842 you at length succeeded in procuring the return of two of our Reservations containing more than 53,000 acres of land, by which our people were saved from the horrors and destruction that would have followed their compulsory removal, and which did befall such of them as emigrated.

When we think of the inevitable and certain destruction that awaited us, and especially of the bitter experience of the 213 emigrants of 1846, we tremble; and offer our gratitude to the Great Spirit for providing us in you a friend, and for his goodness in opening a way, by which you were enabled to rescue us.

You have stood by us on all occasions of danger and trouble, and by bringing our wrongs to public notice, you awakened the popular sympathies in our favour, and rolled back the tide of prejudice and oppression, which was threatening the destruction of our race. - By these measures the people of the State of New York have been awakened to a sense of justice towards us, and have opened their coffers, and furnished the means for the erection of school houses and the support of competent school teachers among us; and they have likewise passed legislative enactments in order the more effectually to protect our rights and preserve our race. Our females have also received valuable instructions from you, regarding their domestic duties and employments, by which increased comfort have been introduced into