

TREATY WITH THE SIOUX, 1805.

*Conference Between the United States of America and the Sioux Nation of Indians.\**

Whereas, a conference held between the United States of America and the Sioux Nation of Indians, Lieut. Z. M. Pike, of the Army of the United States, and the chiefs and warriors of the said tribe, have agreed to the following articles, which when ratified and approved of by the proper authority, shall be binding on both parties:

Sept. 23, 1805.  
Laws Relating to Indian Affairs, 1853, p. 316.  
Ratified Apr. 16, 1808.  
Never proclaimed by the President.

ARTICLE 1. That the Sioux Nation grants unto the United States for the purpose of the establishment of military posts, nine miles square at the mouth of the river St. Croix, also from below the confluence of the Mississippi and St. Peters, up the Mississippi, to include the falls of St. Anthony, extending nine miles on each side of the river. That the Sioux Nation grants to the United States, the full sovereignty and power over said districts forever, without any let or hindrance whatsoever.

ARTICLE 2. That in consideration of the above grants the United States (*shall, prior to taking possession thereof, pay to the Sioux two thousand dollars, or deliver the value thereof in such goods and merchandise as they shall choose*).

ARTICLE 3. The United States promise on their part to permit the Sioux to pass, repass, hunt or make other uses of the said districts, as they have formerly done, without any other exception, but those specified in article first.

In testimony hereof, we, the undersigned, have hereunto set our hands and seals, at the mouth of the river St. Peters, on the 23rd day of September, one thousand eight hundred and five.

Z. M. Pike, [SEAL.]  
First Lieutenant and Agent at the above conference.  
Le Petit Carbeau, his x mark. [SEAL.]  
Way Aga Enogee, his x mark. [SEAL.]

AGREEMENT WITH THE PIANKESHAW, 1818.

*Contract entered into under the authority of the United States, between governor Thomas Posey, superintendent of Indian affairs, and Chekommia or Big River, principal chief of the Piankeshaws.*

This indenture, made this third day of January, 1818, between governor Thomas Posey, superintendent of Indian affairs, on the one part, and Chekommia or Big River, principal chief of the Piankeshaw tribe of Indians, acting as well in his own name, as in the name and

Jan. 3, 1818.  
Unratified.  
Indian Office Compilation of Treaties, 1837, p. 230.

\*This treaty does not appear among those printed in the United States Statutes at Large. It was, however, submitted by the President to the Senate, March 29, 1808. The Senate committee reported favorably, on the 13th of April, with the following amendment to fill the blank in article 2, viz: "After the word 'States' in the second article insert the following words: 'shall, prior to taking possession thereof, pay to the Sioux two thousand dollars, or deliver the value thereof in such goods and merchandise as they shall choose.'" In this form the Senate, on the 16th of April, 1808, advised and consented to its ratification by a unanimous vote.

An examination of the records of the State Department fails to indicate any subsequent action by the President in proclaiming the ratification of this treaty; but more than twenty-five years subsequent to its approval by the Senate the correspondence of the War Department speaks of the cessions of land described therein as an accomplished fact.

behalf of the said Piankeshaw tribe of Indians, on the other part, witnesseth:

Whereas, at a treaty held under the authority of the United States, with the chiefs and head men of the said Piankeshaw nation of Indians, at Vincennes, in the Indiana territory, the 27th day of August, 1804, [1084] and William Henry Harrison, governor of the Indiana territory, superintendent of Indian Affairs, and commissioner plenipotentiary of the United States, for concluding any treaty or treaties with said tribe, it was agreed by said William Henry Harrison, on the one part, and the chiefs and head men of said tribe, on the other; that the Piankeshaw tribe, for the consideration therein mentioned, should cede and relinquish to the United States forever, all that tract of country, which lies between the Wabash and the tract ceded by the Kaskaskia tribe, in the year one thousand eight hundred and three, and south of a line to be drawn from the northwest corner of Vincennes tract, northerly seventy-eight degrees west, until it intersects the boundary line which has heretofore separated the lands of the Piankeshaws from the said tract ceded by the Kaskaskia tribe.

And it was also further agreed by the chiefs of the said Piankeshaw tribe, on the one part, and the said William Henry Harrison, on the other part, that the said tribe should reserve to themselves, the right of locating a tract of two square miles, or twelve hundred and eighty acres: the fee of which is to remain with them forever.

And whereas the said Piankeshaw nation, being reduced in number, and being unable to occupy the land reserved to them, by the treaty concluded between the chiefs of said tribe, and William Henry Harrison as aforesaid: therefore be it known, to all to whom these presents shall come, greeting: That the said Chekommmia, commonly called Big River, principal chief and head man of the Piankeshaw tribe of Indians, as well in his own name and behalf of the said Piankeshaw tribe, for the consideration of one thousand dollars received to our full satisfaction, of governor Thomas Posey, superintendent of Indian affairs, and with full power and authority from the President of the United States, to act concerning the within named premises, have relinquished, and do by these presents, cede and relinquish to the United States, all that tract of land two miles square, and containing twelve hundred and eighty acres, being the same tract which was reserved to us by the treaty concluded at Vincennes, as aforesaid, between governor William Henry Harrison, on the one part, and the chiefs and head men of the said Piankeshaw nation, on the other.

In testimony whereof, the said Thomas Posey, superintendent of Indian affairs, and Chekommmia, principal chief, and representing the said Piankeshaw tribe, have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals.

Done at Vincennes, this third day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, and of the independence of the United States the forty-second.

Th. Posey. [L. s.]  
Chekommmia, or Big River, his x mark. [L. s.]

Signed, sealed, and executed, in presence of—

John Law, attorney at law.

H. Lasselle.

Caleb Lownes.

Joseph Barron, Indian interpreter.

Macatamanguay, or Loon, a Wea chief, his x mark.

This may certify, that Chehommmia, or Big River, who has signed the above, is principal chief and head man of the Piankeshaw tribe, and with full power and authority from said tribe, to sign and execute the above contract, on behalf of said tribe.

Macatamanguay, or Loon, a Wea chief, his x mark. [L. s.]

Little Eyes, or Washington, a Wea chief, his x mark. [L. s.]