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CONDITIONS.

TWO DOLLARS if paid in advance.—TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS in six months.—THREE DOLLARS at the expiration of the year.

No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages have been paid.

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LYON'S DREAM.

(Concluded.)

In the old world one man frequently possessed hundreds of thousands of acres, which descended to him from his predecessors obtained by conquest or by purchase, while others do not own a foot of the soil. We feel that there is something wrong in this distribution, and look at the state of things with horror and detestation, although the land cultivated to the best advantage, and the people obtain its fruits for their labor, or the fruits of labor. How much is the state of things, where the land is to lie waste merely to grow upon; that the savage may hunt his support, instead of gaining that support by the labor of his hands, in the cultivation of his equitable share of the soil. It is high time we should discard those notions about the aboriginal claim to the American soil, and get out of this house those farcical treaties. Instead of Indian treaties, let us make laws to govern these people, pointing out punishment for offences, and safety for obedience and placing them under the government of officers accountable to the national or state government.

One of the attributes of sovereignty, President, is the power of making treaties with foreign nations. With foreign nations I say sir, not with subjects of the sovereign power. Although a treaty may in common parlance, be applied to any kind of compact; in modern political language it is applied to transactions and compacts between two or more sovereign powers, and to such only.—The states which compose this Union were each of them sovereign within its limits, but for the benefit derived from the Union, they relinquished to the national government, several of the attributes of sovereignty. The most prominent of which is that of treaty making. The exercise of this attribute of sovereignty is by the will of this nation vested in the President of the United States, acting with the consent of the senate. Thus sir, if a state rebel, the transactions between a state, and the nation after she saw error, and wished to be restored to station, would necessarily be legislative on the part of the nation, and obnoxious on her part, partaking neither of the name or nature of a treaty, the constitution forbids it.—If sir, we not constitutionally make a treaty with a state which might contain a part of the strength and power of the nation because such a transaction would imply two sovereignties within the same limits, and absurdity both as terms and possibility. How it comes about, that the President and senate have arrogated to themselves authority to make treaties with gangs of Indians sometimes of an hundred & sometimes of a thousand or two, has been to me a matter of wonder & astonishment.—However different their language, customs and manners they have no more pretensions to sovereignty than the people of the smallest county of this state. It cannot be denied that we have as good a right to legislate for the Indians within our limits, with respect to their property, their persons, and their conduct as for any people in the nation or their concerns. By this power has been taken from the supreme legislature of the nation the right it is to say what is the duty of every human being, in the limits of the national territories, for the purpose of treating with a set of creatures who are the least deserving and least entitled to indulgence; I cannot conceive—Indulgence, I say sir, because the language of treaty is, we for certain considerations promise to do certain things, whereas the language of this you shall under certain penalties do your duty.

This fashion of treating with Indians must have taken its rise from the policy of Europeans who might consider them foreigners, and at first possessed of sovereignty, but this sovereignty absorbed into that of the European as soon as they become sovereign in this country; so little did the British court think of Indian sovereignty, that when they surrendered to

us their pretensions to the sovereignty of this country, "and all the territorial right of the same," and acknowledged the American States to be sovereign & independent, they said not one word of the sovereignty of the Indians; they transferred to us with the lands; the savages, the wolves and bears altogether, without naming them. What ever excuse there may have been for the British in times of ignorance and darkness, there can be no apology for the executive of this enlightened nation, in this enlightened age, to progress in this preposterous practice.—Politicians are not agreed sir as to the force and operations of the clause, in the constitution which consigns the treaty making power to the President and Senate. The federalists of 1797, and some of the moderns of the present day contend, that under the name and color of treaty making, the President and Senate can make regulations that have the force of law, that they can abrogate the laws, constitutionally enacted, and they can promise money, which the other branch of the legislature, are bound to give their aid to levy on the people, and to appropriate, however improper, impolitic or unjust, they may think the treaty which contains the promise. Professing myself a democratic republican, of the good old faith of 76 and 1797, which profession no conduct of mine, ever has or ever shall counteract. I abhor this doctrine, which contradicts the first words in the first article of the constitution, which are "all legislative power herein granted, shall be vested in a congress of the United States which shall consist of a senate and house of Representatives." Whenever it happens that contradictory declarations are found in the pages of our much revered constitution, I am bound to abide by that declaration, which is most consistent with reason, common sense, the general tenor of the work itself, as well as the wishes and the good of the nation. The result of this aristocratic doctrine, and that of the president and senate, having a right to make treaties with bodies of people living within the jurisdiction of the U. States, when put together, is that the president and senate, can make a treaty with any little corporation, in the nation, abrogating the laws of the land in their favor, investing them with privileges inconsistent with the rights of their neighbors and the laws of the nation, and even promising them money, which the popular branch of the legislature are bound to see paid, however adverse they may be to it. Absurd as this doctrine is, it necessarily grows out of the two other doctrines, and shows the error of treating when we ought to legislate.

After having exposed my principles, my opinions, and my sentiments on this important subject before us, I now enter my solemn protest against this treaty, and against every thing called a treaty, made or pretended to be made with our savage subjects since the ratification of our constitution, being inconsistent with the spirit and principles of that constitution, and opposed to the very basis of the law of nation, I consider them as void in their nature, and by no means binding on the people of the nation.

I will take the liberty of saying, something respecting the operation of those things called Indian treaties in Tennessee and Kentucky and the laws in consonance with them.—The State of Virginia, ever liberal and generous, early made the savages donations to their satisfaction for all their claims on this side of the Ohio—they granted western lands to their Revolutionary officers and soldiers, a share of those lands were laid between Tennessee, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The State of North Carolina toward paying her debt incurred during our struggle for independence, sold her land lying between the Mississippi and Tennessee rivers, south of and adjoining to the before mentioned tract. This large body of land within the limits of Kentucky and Tennessee, has been ceded to Indians who did not inhabit it, and laws have been passed forbidding the right owners the use of it. Annexing a penalty of one thousand dollars fine, a year imprisonment, and loss of title to the transgressor of those laws. This tract of country remains a wilderness and serves not only as a rendezvous for the Indians of the North and South, but a covert in which the wretches hide while preparing for and returning from murdering our neighbors. In 1812, a gang of those wretches from this covert crossed the Tennessee river to a place about 60 miles from my residence, butchered a number of women and children, they took two prisoners & conveyed them by the settlement of the same Indian general who lately received 8000 dollars from the national treasury. This famous Gen. Col-

bert had it in his power to have cut off the retreat of those marauders, or to have redeemed the prisoners at ten dollars a head, but he did neither, notwithstanding the obligations the Chickasaws are under to us by treaty. I called at his house not long after this affair, and promised his people that the next time a murdering party passed through the Chickasaw country unopposed, my neighbors and myself would take ample vengeance on them, beginning at that very house. Since that time the savages frequently from this covert have fallen on and massacred families north of the Ohio, and west of the Mississippi.—And we found it necessary in my immediate neighborhood, within ten or fifteen miles of my residence, to build block-houses to be sent out frequent scouts to defend ourselves and families from their incursions.

Since 1802 the legislature of Kentucky has been unavailingly soliciting the executive government of the nation through their senators, and representatives, to extinguish the Indian claim to this tract, who have applied to the executive both separately and in a body with no other success than fair promises.—The last time I saw the late secretary at war, who is now Minister at the court of Holland, he swore by God it should be done, the extinguishment should take place that summer. This is the last I have heard or ever wish to hear of the extinguishment.

I did think that the trouble we had given the executive on the subject of those lands would have warned them against giving any more lands to the savages, but it seems sir, the game has lately been played again. A great country lately re-conquered by the courage, the toil, the enterprise and even the blood of your western fellow citizens, had been ceded by one of those things called treaties, to Indians who had no claim to it.

M. LYON.

Eddyville, July 31, 1816.

POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES.

Niles's Weekly Register presents us with views of the past and present population of the U. States. According to the census of 1790, we had 3,929,326

1800, 5,303,666
1810, 7,259,903
Mr. N. calculates, that in 1820 we shall probably have a population of 9,965,173 souls. The western states will, of course, increase much faster than those on the seaboard. Kentucky (for instance) is calculated to increase 60 per cent. in ten years.—Tennessee, 75 per cent.—Ohio, 150—Louisiana, 125—Indiana, 700—Mississippi territory, 125—Illinois territory, 600—Missouri territory, 500—Michigan territory, 500—White, of all the Atlantic States, the greatest increase is allowed to Pennsylvania, being but 33 1-3 per cent.—Virginia is estimated at but 15.

According to these data, the state will stand in the following order as to their gross population: New-York, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, N. Carolina, Ohio, Massachusetts, South Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland, Georgia, Maine, New-Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont, New-Hampshire, Louisiana, Indiana, Missouri, Mississippi, Rhode Island, Delaware, Illinois.

In gross numbers, Virginia now stands first, (being 974,622.)—New-York next, (being 969,049.)—Pennsylvania third, (being 810,091)—Massachusetts, inclusive of Maine, the fourth, viz. (700,745) &c. &c.

Mr. Niles has not calculated the rates of actual increase on the last three censuses; but the rates of the whole increase may thus be stated:
Increase from 1790 to 1800—35 pr. cent.
1800 to 1810—36

Taking 36 per cent, therefore, as the average of our increase for every ten years, these conclusions follow:

1st. That the U. States double their population in 28 years.

2d. That applying the same ratio of increase to the next census, we may be expected to number in 1820, about 9,846,268—only 117,910 souls less than Mr. Niles estimates.

Let us say, then, in round numbers, that in 1820, our population will amount to ten millions of souls. Where is the limit to this astonishing extension?—Let us suppose, what will probably be more correct, that our numbers will not advance every ten years as much as 36 per cent—but that they increase about 3 per cent less in that period, in other words, that from 1820 to 1830, the increase is only 33 per cent—to 1840, 30 per cent—and 1850, 27 per cent—Making this allowance, (that we may sin on the safe side) still it follows that
In 1830 we shall have 13,300,000
1840 17,290,000
1850 21,958,300

By these estimates, the United States

will have in thirty-three years a population of nearly twenty-two millions—considerably more than the population of Great Britain and Ireland—and in about ten years more, more than the population of France.

What an astonishing scene thus bursts upon the sight! If the people of the U. States continue to understand their own interests; if they silence the voice of local prejudices and personal passions; if they preserve this free government, bequeathed to us by the virtues of our fathers; and guard the Union, as the best security against the machinations of foreign enemies, or the turbulence of intestine contests; if they march on for the next thirty-three years in the same track which they have pursued for the last thirty years, who will dare to calculate the prosperity of this western region? We may say without vanity, that we shall be the greatest people which the sun ever shone on.—Happier even than Anchises predicted the Roman people would be; for, the arts and sciences will advance at least as rapidly as our power. We dare to hope, that in statuary, in oratory, and in astronomy, we shall not fall so far behind our contemporaries; that we shall not despise them as the ancient Romans did; but that we may boast of these arts also—that we shall use our political power more mildly than the descendants of Anchises; and that their

boast, *Parcere subjectis, et debellare superbis*—To spare the conquer'd, and pull down the proud,

may only mean, as to us, that we assert rights against all who infringe them, and never impose any unreasonable terms upon the conquered enemies.

Visions of glory! spare the aching sight: Ye unborn ages, press not on our soul!

FROM THE ENQUIRER.

VIEWS IN THE WEST.

The following is an extract of a letter from Dr. William Henry Hening of this city, now regimental surgeon to the detachment of troops commanded by col. Miller, of the 3d regiment to his father, W. W. Hening Esq. of this city, which contains some interesting information relative to the *Western Interests of the United States*.—The observations are judicious, and we take much pleasure in submitting them to our readers.

The letter, too, encloses the speech of a chief of the Winnebago tribe of Indians; marked with that peculiar vein of thought and expression, which distinguishes the *long talk* of the Indians.

"Camp on Fox River Green Bay August 29, 1816

"In a letter which I addressed you previous to my leaving Mackinaw, you were informed of the route which I probably would pursue, in returning to Virginia. These anticipations seem thus far realized. In conformity to my expectations, early in July the detachment of riflemen stationed at Mackinaw, received orders to repair to Green Bay, and there establish a fort with all convenient expedition: to look down all expected opposition, from the Indians residing in this country. We sailed from Mackinaw on the 26th of July last, with the schooners Washington, Wayne, Mink, and sloop Amelia, having on board col. Miller, of the 3d regiment, col. Chambers of the Rifle, major Gratot, of the engineers, a detachment of artillery under captain Pierce, and four companies of the 3d infantry, amounting in the whole to 500 men. We entered the mouth of the river on the 7th of Aug.; and, contrary to expectations, received from the French inhabitants and Indians a very friendly reception. Whether these professions were sincere, or proceeded from their fears, time will determine. After looking on for some days for a proper site, the engineer has finally fixed on the position, where the old French fort (Le Bay) formerly stood. It will be a stockade with strong pickets, a bastion at each angle, with a piece of artillery on each, amply sufficient to beat off any Indian force that can be brought against it.—The garrison will consist of two companies of riflemen and two companies of infantry, all under the command of colonel Chambers. Some account of this very delightful country may prove not uninteresting. When the French first established themselves here, they found the contrast between it and Mackinaw very striking; for on leaving the latter place, vegetation was scarcely apparent; whereas, on arriving at the Bay, they found the woods & fields clothed in the most luxuriant verdure. At that time the country was inhabited by two tribes of Indians, the Winnebagoes, (called by the French 'Puons,' or stinking) and the Manomemies, (called 'Faulsavains,' or eaters of wild rice.) The Winnebagoes, proving most troublesome, the French

and Manomemies turned their arm against them, and having killed a number, drove them to the Winnebago Lake and the Rock river, where they have ever since resided. The soil on both sides of the river is very fine and the wheat fields and gardens give every appearance of a rich and fertile country. The river abounds with fish, particularly a species of sturgeon, which exceeds that of James river, in the richness and delicacy of its flavor and in the spring and fall myriads of water fowl, attracted by the wild rice, darken the air. This plant springs up in water six or seven feet deep, so thick, as in many places to impede the progress of boats and canoes. The Indians call it Ma-no-men, and living almost entirely on it, they have received from the French the appellation of Faulsavains, or Wild Rice Eaters.—When the heads become ripe, they pass through it with their canoes, and bending them over, strike them with small sticks, and in a very short time, nearly fill their canoes with the grain. This, when cleaned, becomes an excellent article of diet, scarcely inferior to the rice of the south. Every thing at present bears a peaceable aspect, but how long this state of things will continue is very uncertain. Without a great deal of circumspection on the part of the Indian department, and a chain of posts always properly garrisoned, I have little hesitation in saying, that our frontier again will witness the horrors of savage warfare.—The Winnebagoes, it is manifest, are decidedly opposed to our making any establishment in this country, as are also a part of the Faulsavains. Nothing, I believe, but the strong force they have to combat, keeps them quiet.—The storm is murmuring at a distance, which I am fearful will, sooner or later, burst on us with all the accumulated horrors of savage vengeance. To give you an idea of the present feelings of the Indians, I enclose a speech of Nat-aw-pin-daw-qua, or the Smoker a Winnebago chief, delivered before colonel Boyer, the Indian agent.

SPEECH

Of *Natawshindaw-ua Smoker, a Winnebago Chief, delivered at Green Bay, on the 23d of August before col. Boyer, the Indian agent.*

FATHER—you fancy, father, that I am of a nation, who are in the habit of telling lies, because other tribes give us that character; but all I am going to say now shall be the truth.

FATHER—It is true that we have committed faults, but the white people are the cause of it. We red skins believe all that you say, and if your intentions are to attack us, we are no alone.

FATHER—When at Mackinaw, I there told you the general thought of the Indians, and that they were in dread of you. We were afraid that your intention in coming here, to build forts was with a view to do us harm.

FATHER—On your arrival here, we were much troubled, because we were apprehensive you had come to injure the Red Skins, but we beg that you may take us under your wings.

FATHER—You know that the Master of Life governs us all. It is him who placed us on the earth and is our Master. Should your intentions be to destroy us, I doubt if you could succeed, because he protects us as well as you.

FATHER—The words that are issuing from my mouth are the words of truth. I am always seeking good.—When at Mackinaw, we told you the opinions of the Red Skins. There are many words, my Father, that are repeated with false meaning. I beg you will not listen to those words.—I am desirous that the children of the same great Father should always be friends. Be charitable, and listen to the words I am telling you. We hope that our Father will conform to the promise he has made us.

FATHER—Believe not that if you should have any troubles with the Red Coats, that any of us will mix in them. We first saw the French; they were our first Father: Next to them, came the Red Coats. Now, our determination is not to listen; and should you have any shock among you, we shall remain neutral.

FATHER—I tell you no lies.—All the other nations think as we do, and it is my reason for repeating it now. You have doubts respecting your children the Red Skins. Why have you brought big guns along with you? Certainly it must have been with a view of using them against us. We hope that you will have no use for them, but we do not like to see them in the country.

FATHER—All that I am telling you is the truth. The French inhabitants residing in this country, who are acquainted with us, and who assist us in our wants, were you to drive them away from the lands they occupy, a