

ARTICLES OF A TREATY MADE AND CONCLUDED AT LA POINTE, IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, BETWEEN HENRY C. GILBERT AND DAVID B. HERRIMAN, COMMISSIONERS ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE CHIPPEWA INDIANS OF LAKE SUPERIOR AND THE MISSISSIPPI, BY THEIR CHIEFS AND HEADMEN, ON THE THIRTIETH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOUR.

ARTICLE I.

The Chippewas of Lake Superior hereby cede to the United States all the lands heretofore owned by them, in common with the Chippewas of the Mississippi, lying east of the following boundary line, to wit: Beginning at a point where the east branch of Snake river crosses the southern boundary line of the Chippewa country; running thence up the said branch to its source; thence nearly north in a straight line to the mouth of East Savannah river; thence up the St. Louis river to the mouth of East Swan river; thence up the East Swan river to its source; thence in a straight line to the most westerly bend of Vermillion river, and thence down the Vermillion river to its mouth.

The Chippewas of the Mississippi hereby assent and agree to the foregoing cession, and consent that the whole amount of the consideration-money for the country ceded above, shall be paid to the Chippewas of Lake Superior; and in consideration thereof the Chippewas of Lake Superior hereby relinquish to the Chippewas of the Mississippi all their interest in, and claim to, the lands heretofore owned by them in common, lying west of the above boundary line.

ARTICLE II.

The United States agree to set apart and withhold from sale, for the use of the Chippewas of Lake Superior, the following described tracts of land, viz:

1. For the L'Anse and Vieux Desert bands, all the unsold lands in the following townships in the State of Michigan: Township fifty-one north, range thirty-three west; township fifty-one north, range thirty-two west; the east half of township fifty north, range thirty-three west; the west half of township fifty north, range thirty-two west; and all of township fifty-one north, range thirty-one west, lying west of Haron Bay.

2. For the La Pointe band, and such other Indians as may see fit to settle with them, a tract of land bounded as follows: Beginning on the south shore of Lake Superior, a few miles west of Montreal river,

township; thence south to the southeast corner of township forty-six north, range thirty-two west; thence west the width of two townships; thence north the width of two townships; thence west one mile; thence north to the lake shore, and thence along the lake shore, crossing Shagwaw-mie-quom Point, to the place of beginning. Also, two hundred acres on the northern extremity of Madeline Island for a fishing ground.

3. For the other Wisconsin bands, a tract of land lying about Lac de Flambeau, and another tract on Lac Court Orielles; each equal in extent to three townships; the boundaries of which shall be hereafter agreed upon or fixed under the direction of the President.

4. For the Fond du Lac bands, a tract of land bounded as follows: Beginning at an island in the St. Louis river, above Knife Portage, called by the Indians Paw-paw-sco-me-ne-tig; running thence west to the boundary line heretofore described; thence north along said boundary line to the mouth of Savannah river; thence down the St. Louis river to the place of beginning. And if said tract shall contain less than one hundred thousand acres, a strip of land shall be added on the south side thereof large enough to equal such deficiency.

5. For the Grand Portage band, a tract of land bounded as follows: Beginning at a rock a little east of the eastern extremity of Grand Portage bay; running thence along the lake shore to the mouth of a small stream called by the Indians Maw-ske-gwaw-caw-maw-se-be, or Cranberry Marsh river; thence up said stream across the point to Pigeon river; thence down Pigeon river to a point opposite the starting point, and thence across to the place of beginning.

6. The Ontonagon band, and that subdivision of the La Point band, of which Buffalo is chief, may each select, on or near the lake shore, four sections of land, under the direction of the President, the boundaries of which shall be defined hereafter. And being desirous to provide for some of his connexions who have rendered his people important services, it is agreed that the chief, Buffalo, may select one section of land at such place in the ceded territory as he may see fit, which shall be reserved for that purpose, and conveyed by the United States, to such person or persons as he may direct.

7. Each head of a family, or single person over twenty-one years of age at the present time, of the mixed bloods, belonging to the Chippewas of Lake Superior, shall be entitled to eighty acres of land, to be selected by them, under the direction of the President, and which shall be secured to them by patent, in the usual form.

#### ARTICLE III.

The United States will define the boundaries of the reserved tracts wherever it may be necessary by actual survey, and the President may, from time to time, at his discretion, cause the whole to be surveyed, and may assign to each head of a family, or single person over twenty-one years of age, eighty acres of land, for his or their separate use; and he may, at his discretion, as fast as the occupants become capable of transacting their own affairs, issue patents therefor to such occupants, with such restrictions of the power of alienation as he may see fit to impose. And he may, also at his discretion, make rules and

regulations, respecting the disposition of the lands in case of the death of the head of a family, or single person occupying the same, or in case of its abandonment by them. And he may also assign other lands in exchange for mineral lands, if any such are found in the tracts herein set apart. And he may also make such changes in the boundaries of such reserved tracts, or otherwise, as shall be necessary to prevent interference with any vested rights. All necessary roads, highways, and railroads, the lines of which may run through any of the reserved tracts, shall have the right of way through the same, compensation being made therefor as in other cases.

#### ARTICLE IV.

In consideration of and payment for the country hereby ceded, the United States agree to pay to the Chippewas of Lake Superior annually, for the term of twenty years, the following sums, to wit: Five thousand dollars in coin; eight thousand dollars in goods, household furniture, and cooking utensils; three thousand dollars in agricultural implements and cattle, carpenter's and other tools and building materials; and three thousand dollars for moral and educational purposes; of which last sum, three hundred dollars per annum shall be paid to the Grand Portage band to enable them to maintain a school at their village. The United States will also pay the further sum of ninety thousand dollars as the chiefs in open council may direct, to enable them to meet their present just engagements. Also, the further sum of six thousand dollars in agricultural implements, household furniture, and cooking utensils, to be distributed at the next annuity payment, among the mixed bloods of said nation. The United States will also furnish two hundred guns, one hundred rifles, five hundred beaver-traps, three hundred dollars' worth of ammunition, and one thousand dollars' worth of ready made clothing, to be distributed among the young men of the nation at the next annuity payment.

#### ARTICLE V.

The United States will also furnish a blacksmith and assistant, with the usual amount of stock, during the continuance of the annuity payments, and as much longer as the President may think proper, at each of the Points herein set apart for the residence of the Indians, the same to be in lieu of all the employees to which the Chippewas of Lake Superior may be entitled under previous existing treaties.

#### ARTICLE VI.

The annuities of the Indians shall not be taken to pay the debts of individuals, but satisfaction for depredations committed by them shall be made by them in such manner as the President may direct.

#### ARTICLE VII.

No spirituous liquors shall be made, sold, or used, on any of the

lands herein set apart for the residence of the Indians; and the sale of the same shall be prohibited in the territory hereby ceded, until otherwise ordered by the President.

#### ARTICLE VIII.

It is agreed between the Chippewas of Lake Superior, and the Chippewas of the Mississippi, that the former shall be entitled to two-thirds, and the latter to one-third, of all benefits to be derived from former treaties, existing prior to the year 1847.

#### ARTICLE IX.

The United States agree that an examination shall be made, and all sums that may be found equitably due to the Indians for arrearages of annuity, or other thing, under the provisions of former treaties, shall be paid as the chiefs may direct.

#### ARTICLE X.

All missionaries, and teachers, and other persons of full age, residing in the territory hereby ceded, or upon any of the reservations hereby made by authority of law, shall be allowed to enter the land occupied by them, at the minimum price, whenever the surveys shall be completed, to the amount of one quarter section each.

#### ARTICLE XI.

All annuity payments to the Chippewas of Lake Superior shall hereafter be made at L'Anse, La Pointe, Grand Portage, and on the St. Louis river; and the Indians shall not be required to remove from the homes hereby set apart for them. And such of them as reside in the territory hereby ceded shall have the right to hunt and fish therein, until otherwise ordered by the President.

#### ARTICLE XII.

In consideration of the poverty of the Bois-Forte Indians, who are parties to this treaty, they having never received any annuity payments, and of the great extent of that part of the ceded country owned exclusively by them, the following additional stipulations are made for their benefit:

The United States will pay the sum of ten thousand dollars, as their chiefs in open council may direct, to enable them to meet their present just engagements. Also, the further sum of ten thousand dollars in five equal annual payments, in blankets, cloth, nets, guns, ammunition, and such other articles of necessity as they may require.

They shall have the right to select their reservation at any time hereafter, under the direction of the President, and the same may be equal

in extent, in proportion to their numbers, to those allowed the other bands, and be subject to the same provisions.

They shall be allowed a blacksmith, and the usual smith-shop supplies, and also two persons to instruct them in farming, whenever, in the opinion of the President, it shall be proper, and for such length of time as he shall direct.

It is understood, that all Indians who are parties to this treaty, except the Chippewas of the Mississippi, shall hereafter be known as the Chippewas of Lake Superior: *Provided*, That the stipulation by which the Chippewas of Lake Superior, relinquishing their right to land west of the boundary line shall not apply to the Bois-Forte band, who are parties to this treaty.

#### ARTICLE XIII.

This treaty shall be obligatory on the contracting parties as soon as the same shall be ratified by the President and Senate of the United States.

In testimony whereof the said Henry C. Gilbert, and the said David B. Herriman, commissioners as aforesaid, and the undersigned, chiefs and headmen of the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, have hereunto set their hands and seals, at the place aforesaid, this thirtieth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

HENRY C. GILBERT, [L. s.]  
DAVID B. HERRIMAN, [L. s.]

*Commissioners.*

RICHARD M. SMITH, *Secretary.*

#### *La Pointe Band.*

Ke-che-waish-ke, (or The Buffalo,) first chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Cha-che-qui-oh, second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
A-daw-we-ge-zhick, (or Each Side of the Sky,) second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
O-ske-naw-way, (or The Youth,) second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Maw-caw-day-pe-nay-se, (or The Blackbird,) second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Naw-waw-naw-quot, headman,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Ke-wain-zeence, headman,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Waw-baw-ne-me-ke, (or The White Thunder,) second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Pay-baw-me-say, (or The Soarer,) second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Naw-waw-ge-waw-nose, (or The Little Current,) second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Maw-caw-day-waw-quot, (or The Black Cloud,) second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Me-she-naw-way, (or The Disciple,) second chief,	his x mark, [L. s.]
Key-me-waw-naw-um, headman,	his x mark, [L. s.]
She-gog, headman,	his x mark, [L. s.]

*Ontonagon Band.*

O-cun-de-cun, (or The Buoy,) first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Waw-say-ge-zhick, (or The Clear Sky,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Keesh-ke-taw-wug, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]

*L'Anse Band.*

David King, first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 John Southwind, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Peter Marksman, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Nay-taw-me-ge-zhick, (or the First Sky,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Aw-se-neece, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]

*Vieux Desert Band.*

May-dway-aw-she, first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Posh-quay-gin, (or The Leather,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]

*Grand Portage Band.*

Shaw gaw-naw-sheence, (or The Little Englishman,) first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 May-mosh-caw-wosh, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Aw-de-konse, (or The Little Reindeer,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Way-we-ge-wom, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]

*Fond Du Lac Band.*

Shing-goope, (or The Balsam,) first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Mawn-go-sit, (or The Loon's Foot,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 May-quaw-me-we-ge-zhick, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Keesh-kawk, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Caw-taw-waw-be-day, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 O-saw-gee, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ke-che-aw-ke-wain-ze, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Naw-gaw-nub, (or The Foremost Sitter,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ain-ne-maw-sung, second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Naw-aw-bun-way, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Wain-ge-maw-tub, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Aw-ke-wain-zeence, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Shay-way-be-nay-se, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Paw-pe-oh, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]

*Lac Court Orielle Band.*

Aw-ke-wain-ze, (or The Old Man,) first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]

Key-no-zhance, (or The Little Jack Fish,) first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ke-che-pe-nay-se, (or The Big Bird,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ke-che-waw-be-shay-she, (or The Big Martin,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Waw-be-shay-sheence, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Quay-quay-cub, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Shaw-waw-no-me-tay, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Nay-naw-ong-gay-be, (or The Dressing Bird,) first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 O-zhaw-waw-sco-ge-zhick, (or The Blue Sky,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 I-yaw-banse, (or The Little Buck,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ke-che-e-nin-ne, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Maw-daw-gaw-me, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Way-me-te-go-she, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Pay-me-ge-wung, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]

*Lac Du Flambeau Band.*

Aw-mose, (or The Wasp,) first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ke-nish-te-no, second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Me-gee-see, (or The Eagle,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Kay-kay-go-gwaw-nay-aw-she, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 O-che-chog, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Nay-she-kay-gwaw-nay-be, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 O-scaw-bay-wis, (or The Waiter,) first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Que-we-zance, (or The White Fish, second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ne-gig, (or The Otter,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Nay-waw-che-ge-zhick-way-be, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Quay-quay-ke-cah, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]

*Bois Forte Band.*

Kay-baish-caw-daw-way, (or Clear Round the Prairie, first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Way-zaw-we-ge-zhick-way-skung, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 O-saw-we-pe-nay-she, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]

*The Mississippi Bands.*

Que-we-sanse, (or Hole in the Day,) head chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Caw-nawn-daw-waw-win-zo, (or The Berry Hunter, first chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Waw-bow-jieg, (or The White Fisher,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ot-taw-waw, second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Que-we-zhan-cis, (or The Bad Boy,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]

Bye-a-jick, (or The Lone Man,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 I-yaw-shaw-way-ge-zhick, (or The Crossing  
 Sky,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Maw-caw-day, (or the Bear's Heart, second  
 chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Ke-way-de-no-go-nay-be, (or The Northern  
 Feather,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Me-squaw-dace, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Naw-gaw-ne-gaw-bo, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Wawm-be-de-yea, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Waish-key, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 Caw-way-caw-me-ge-skung, headman, his x mark, [L. s.]  
 My-yaw-ge-way-we-dunk, (or The One Who  
 Carries the Voice,) second chief, his x mark, [L. s.]

John F. Godfroy,  
 George Johnston,  
 T. A. Warren,  
 Louis Codott,  
 Paul H. Beaulieu,  
 Henry Blatchford,  
 Peter T. Coy,  
*Interpreters.*

Executed in the presence of—

Henry M. Rice,  
 J. W. Lynde,  
 G. D. Williams,  
 B. H. Connor,  
 E. N. Muldaugh,  
 Richard Godfroy,  
 D. S. Cash,  
 H. H. McCullough,  
 E. Smith Lee,  
 William E. Vantassel,  
 L. H. Wheeler.

## MESSAGE

FROM THE

### PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

COMMUNICATING

*A treaty with the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior and the Mississippi,  
 by their chiefs and headmen.*

JANUARY 4, 1855.—Read, and, with treaty and documents, referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs, and ordered to be printed in confidence for the use of the Senate.

*To the Senate of the United States:*

I herewith transmit to the Senate, for its constitutional action thereon, a treaty made at La Pointe, Wisconsin, on the 30th September, 1854, by Henry C. Gilbert and David B. Herriman, commissioners on the part of the United States, and the chiefs and headmen of the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.

WASHINGTON, December 20, 1854.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
*Office of Indian Affairs, December 8, 1854.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you, to be submitted, should you concur, to the President of the United States, and if approved by him, for transmission to the Senate for its constitutional action thereon, "articles of a treaty made and concluded at La Pointe, in the State of Wisconsin, between Henry C. Gilbert and David B. Herriman, commissioners on the part of the United States, and the Chippewa Indians of Lake Superior and the Mississippi, by their chiefs and headmen," on the 30th day of September last.

For explanations concerning these articles, I would refer you to the report of Commissioner Gilbert to this office, of the 17th October last, a copy of which is herewith.

After a careful consideration of them, the only provisions which, in my opinion, are seriously objectionable, are one in the fourth article, whereby it is provided that "the United States will also pay the further sum of ninety thousand dollars, as the chiefs, in open council, may direct, to enable them to meet their present just engagements," and one in the twelfth article providing for the payment of ten thousand dollars in a similar manner.

There are understood to be provisions in favor of those making claims against individuals and bands of the tribe, and are in derogation of the policy of the government in this respect.

If these articles be in other respects approved by the executive, and should the President and Senate be of the opinion that the provisions referred to could be so altered by resolution as to make the sums just mentioned payable to the Indians as annuity, and it yet be unnecessary to return the articles to the Indians for their approval of the modification, I would respectfully recommend that such a modification be made as indicated.

If, however, the ingrafting of it would render the return of the articles to the Indians necessary, I would recommend the ratification of them as they are, that the opportunity of securing the benefits otherwise to be derived through them to the United States and the Indians might not be lost; relying on the general control that would belong to the department in regard to the disposition of the amounts alluded to effect the application of them to such debts and claims as may be found meritorious; for there is reason to believe that however anxious the Indians might in fact be that this change should be made in the application of their money, their chiefs would be prevented, by the persuasions, intrigues, and improper influences of interested whites from agreeing to the same in due form, on the occasion of the assembling of the Indians for such a purpose.

I am unable to state the exact number of acres of land to which the Chippewa claim will be extinguished in case these articles are ratified and approved. It is believed, however, that if the tract was accurately surveyed, it would be found that it contains a greater number of acres than seven millions one hundred and sixty thousand, which is the estimate of Commissioner Gilbert, as will be perceived by the copy of a letter recently received from him under date of the 10th ultimo, which is herewith.

I submit also, for the information of the President and Senate, a map of the region of country exhibiting the boundaries and location of the ceded tract, according to the best information now in possession of this office; which, however, I would remark, is not relied on as fully complete and accurate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. MANYPENNY,  
*Commissioner.*

Hon. R. McCLELLAND,  
*Secretary of the Interior.*

OFFICE MICHIGAN INDIAN AGENCY,  
*Detroit, October 17, 1854.*

SIR: I transmit herewith a treaty, concluded at La Pointe on the 30th ultimo, between Mr. Herriman and myself, as commissioners on the part of the United States, and the Chippewas of Lake Superior and the Mississippi.

On receiving your letters of August 10th, 12th, and 14th, relative to

this treaty, I immediately dispatched a special messenger from this place, by way of Chicago, Galena, and St. Paul, to Mr. Herriman at the Crow Wing Chippewa agency, transmitting to him your letter, and requesting him to meet me at La Pointe with the chiefs and headmen of his agency at as early a day as possible. I adopted this course in preference to sending a messenger from La Pointe on my arrival there, for the purpose of saving time, and I was thus enabled to secure the attendance of Mr. Herriman and the Mississippi chiefs, some ten or twelve days earlier than I could otherwise have done. I left for La Pointe on the 26th of August last, and arrived there the 1st day of September, Mr. Herriman meeting me there the 17th of the same month.

By this time a large number of Indians had assembled, including not only those entitled to payment, but all those from the interior who live about Lakes de Flambeau and Lake Courteilles. The chiefs who were notified to attend brought with them in every instance their entire bands. We made a careful estimate of the number present, and found that there were about 4,000. They all had to be fed and taken care of, thus adding greatly to the expenses attending the negotiations.

A great number of traders and claim agents were also present, as well as some persons from St. Paul's, who, I had reason to believe, attended for the purpose of preventing, if possible, the consummation of the treaty. The utmost precautions were taken by me to prevent a knowledge of the fact that negotiations were to take place from becoming public. The messenger sent by me to Mr. Herriman was not only trustworthy, but was himself totally ignorant of the purport of the dispatches to Major Herriman. Information, however, of the fact was communicated from some source, and the persons present in consequence greatly embarrassed our proceedings.

After Major Herriman's arrival we soon found that the Mississippi Indians could not be induced to sell their land on any terms. Much jealousy and ill feeling existed between them and the Lake Superior Indians, and they could not even be prevailed upon to meet each other in council. They were all, however, anxious that a division should be made of the payments to become due under former existing treaties, and a specific apportionment made between the Mississippi and the Lake Superior Indians, and places of payment designated.

Taking advantage of this feeling, we proposed to them a division of the country between them and the establishment of a boundary line, on one side of which the country should belong exclusively to the Lake Superior and on the other side to the Mississippi Indians. We had but little difficulty in inducing them to agree to this proposition, and after much negotiation the line designated in the treaty was agreed upon.

We then obtained from the Lake Indians a cession of their portion of the country on the terms stated in the treaty. The district ceded embraces all the mineral region bordering on Lake Superior and Pigeon river, and is supposed to be by far the most valuable portion of their country. But a small portion of the amount agreed to be paid in annuities is payable in coin. The manner of payment is such as, in our judgment, would most tend to promote the permanent welfare and hasten the civilization of the Indians.

We found that the points most strenuously insisted upon by them were, first, the privilege of remaining in the country where they reside, and, next, the appropriation of land for their future homes. Without yielding these points it was idle for us to talk about a treaty. We therefore agreed to the selection of lands for them in territory heretofore ceded.

The tract for the Ance and Vieux Desert bands is at the head of Ke-wa-we-naw bay, in Michigan, and is at present occupied by them. I estimate the quantity at about 60,000 acres.

These reservations are located in Wisconsin, the principal of which is for the La Pointe band on Bad river. A large number of Indians now reside there, and I presume it will ultimately become the home of most of the Chippewas residing in that State. It is a tract of land well adapted for agricultural purposes, and includes the present missionary station under the care of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. About one-third of the land, however, lying on the lake shore is swamp and valueless, except as it gives them access to the lake for fishing purposes.

The other Wisconsin reservations lie on Lac de Flambeau and Lac Courteirelle, in the interior, and the whole amount of land reserved in that State I estimate at about 200,000 acres, exclusive of the swamp land included in the La Pointe reservation. In the ceded country there are two tracts set apart for the Indians, one on St Louis river, of 100,000 acres for the Fond du Lac bands, and one embracing the point bounded by the lake and Pigeon river, and containing about 120,000 acres.

There are two or three other small reservations to be hereafter selected under the direction of the President. The whole quantity of land embraced within all the tracts set apart we estimate at about 486,000 acres. No portion of the reserved lands are occupied by whites except the missionary establishment on Bad river.

The provision giving to each half-breed 80 acres of land was most strenuously insisted upon by the Indians. There are about 200 such families on my pay roll, and allowing as many more to the interior Indians, which is a very liberal estimate, the amount of land required will be about 32,000 acres.

A principal source of embarrassment was the provision setting aside a portion of the consideration to be paid as the chiefs might direct, &c. In other words, to pay their debts with. We had much difficulty in reducing the amount insisted upon to the sum stated in the treaty. I have no doubt that there are many just claims upon these Indians. The regular payment of their annuities was so long withheld that they were forced to depend to a great extent upon their traders. These claims they were all disposed to acknowledge, and insisted upon providing for their payment, and without the insertion of the provision referred to we could not have concluded the treaty.

I regret very much that we could not have purchased the whole country, and made the treaty in every particular within the limit of your instructions. But this was absolutely impossible, and we were forced to the alternative of abandoning the attempt to treat or of making the concessions detailed in the treaty.

There are many points respecting which I should like much to make explanations, and for that purpose, and in order to make a satisfactory settlement of the accounts for treaty expenses, I respectfully request the privilege of attending at Washington at such time after making my other annuity payments as you may think proper.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY C. GILBERT,

*Commissioner.*

HON. GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,

*Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.*

OFFICE MICHIGAN INDIAN AGENCY,

*Detroit, November 10, 1854.*

SIR: In reply to your letter of 27th ultimo, asking for my estimate of the area of the territory ceded by the treaty recently concluded at La Pointe, I would state, that both Major Herriman and myself found it difficult to form a reliable estimate of the amount of territory ceded. We had no map except the old one sent from Washington, and the statements made to us of the distances from point to point by persons best acquainted with the country were very conflicting. The following is the best estimate I can make, and, in my judgment, is not far from correct: The western boundary of the ceded territory is nearly a straight line, and is about 155 miles in length. From the mouth of Vermillion river to the mouth of Pigeon river, in a straight line, is about 135 miles. These distances are obtained from those most familiar with the country. Many estimate them much higher. The eastern boundary of the ceded country will nearly coincide with a line drawn from the mouth of Pigeon river to the starting point fixed for the western boundary, thus giving us a tract of country nearly triangular and containing, if the above estimates of distance are correct, 10,462 square miles, or about 6,700,000 acres of land. A small portion of the ceded territory, however, is not included in this triangle, and this we estimate to contain about 460,000 acres, making a total of 7,160,000 acres.

I am aware that such an estimate must be unsatisfactory, but we had no facilities for calculating more closely. If we had more accurate information, I think the result would show a larger rather than a less quantity than above stated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY C. GILBERT,

*Indian Agent.*

HON. GEORGE W. MANYPENNY,

*Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C.*