

Agent, which drew from him, under date of Nov. 13th, 1831, the following amusing remarks:

"The idea I had formed of the duties of an Indian Agent, I find by the light you have reflected upon the subject, was by no means correct. I had thought his only duty was, to sit behind his desk, and issue out to the Indians their regular supply of whiskey, powder, lead and other articles which Uncle Sam covenants to furnish to the said Indians at an unusually low price; and in payment for said articles, said Indians have ceded to Uncle Sam a certain tract or parcel of land known by certain boundaries, &c. But no; in place of enjoying himself in luxurious ease, the poor Agent has to take long and painful journeys by land and water; suffer from the bites of musquitoes, from heat and cold, &c. Pretty tough work this, for a Kentucky lawyer especially. But it is not, I find, Uncle Sam's plan to hire laborers to work his farm, and suffer them to sleep out their time in complete torpidity. No, they must be up and doing, must earn their wages by hard labor.

"It must certainly have been a queer kind of a sight, to have seen a Kentuckian, learned in all the lore of the law, holding a council with the red men of the forest. Like a young Mercury he arrives among them; they are assembled together; mute silence reigns throughout the Assembly; deep thought and anxious expectations sit on every countenance. Now is the time; he rises, tells them in the most finished language of the most fertile imagination, the object of the meeting, what Uncle Sam expects to do for them, and what they must do for him. As he warms with his subject, his imagination expands; the earth, air and sea are brought to his aid, as comparative objects. He ceases, and his audience knows not what he has said."

During the time that Mr. Burnett had been at the agency, he had attended as counsel to some important suits, in which the Government through some of its agents was a party, for which he claimed fees as attorney, this not being embraced in his duties as Agent, and if he had not done so the Government must have