

tribe was indoctrinated with the new scheme, and anxious for its consummation. The American Board of Missions gave their influence and aid; through whose suggestions the late Dr. Jedediah Morse, of New Haven, became deeply interested in the plan. This gentleman counselled the Indians and their friends to take immediate measures to have a visit paid, by some discreet agents, to the Western tribes, to select a proper point for location, and open negotiations for a cession of lands. Dr. Morse himself was thought to be the very person to undertake such a mission. Application being made to the Secretary of War, Dr. Morse was commissioned to make a general tour among the North-Western Indians, with a view to forming a better understanding between those tribes and the Government. Under this appointment, this gentleman spent the summer of 1820 in visiting several of the North-Western tribes. Whatever other purposes may have occupied the attention of this commissioner, it is certain that of securing a western retreat for the Stockbridges and other New York Indian tribes was a leading one; though the writer has no evidence of any collusion in the matter, at this date, with the Ogden Land Company. Green Bay was a point specially visited by Dr. Morse, where he spent nearly three weeks, and preached the first protestant sermon ever delivered at that place.\*

It must not be omitted here, that a part of the same tribe, adhering to a chief of much influence, named John Metoxen, about the same period, sought a western asylum among the Miami Indians, on White River in Indiana, and actually moved out to that country in 1817 and 1818†. The United States Government, however, purchased out the Miamies, and with that purchase fell the expectations of Metoxen and his adherents to a

\* Dr. Morse remained fifteen days at Green Bay, from the 7th to the 23d of July, 1820, as we learn from his Report. He was the guest of Col. J. Smith, then commandant of that garrison. L. C. D.

† The Miamies had, many years before, given the Stockbridges a large tract of land on White River, and confirmed it in July, 1817, and that summer two Stockbridge families moved there and took possession of the land, and the next year a large body migrated, but before their arrival, the Miamies had ceded their country to the Federal Government. L. C. D.