

to the lands, or any of the lands, mentioned in the said treaty," which was just equivalent to rejecting the second article of the treaty altogether.

In 1830, Messrs. Erastus Root and James McCall, of New York, and John T. Mason, Secretary of Michigan, were appointed commissioners by the United States to effect between the contending Indians an adjustment of the whole matter. They arrived at Green Bay in August, and immediately assembled the Menomonees and New York Indians. Eight days were spent in council, and great exertions used by the commissioners to bring the party to terms. The Menomonees were inflexible. Oshkosh, a powerful and influential chief, was at the head of the nation. He confessed to no knowledge whatever of the claims of the New York Indians; said as they were in the country, they could stay during good behavior, but must be regarded as tenants at will, and in no sense considered as owners or controllers of the soil. Several of the other chiefs held the same language. The commission broke up, effecting nothing.

Col. Samuel C. Stambaugh, of Pennsylvania, was appointed Indian Agent to succeed Henry B. Brevoort, who had been removed. The new agent soon became acquainted with the relative position of the contending parties, and espoused the interests of the Menomonees, traders and whites, in opposition to the New York Indians. He affected to have examined the several treaties, and the whole ground of the claims under them, and told the Menomonees that they were without validity or force, and that duty to themselves and their children demanded an absolute denial of the whole claim. No advice could have gone further to place him in favor with, and in the confidence of, this tribe. The Agent told the chiefs, that no other tribe of Indians in the United States was so poor as they were; that with a wide waste of lands entirely useless to them, they had not a dollar of annuity, while many of their neighbors received annually twenty to fifty thousand dollars; that, happily for them, he had been sent among