

Chief Blackbird, or *Se-ge-nae*, head of the band upon the Bad River Reservation, was a conspicuous orator; he spoke oftener, and occupied more time, probably, than any two other chiefs. He was delegated to speak the sentiments of a good number of bands, and other chiefs; he contended long and earnestly to have the \$90,000, provided by the treaty for the payment of the debts of the Chippewas, paid directly into the hands of the chiefs, to be by them disbursed; in which case, it was rationally concluded by the traders or creditors, that the chances of getting their pay would be few, and far removed.

At the close of one of his speeches—other chiefs had spoken on the question—the Commissioner requested a vote among the chiefs, expressive of their wish, as to whether the money should be placed in their hands, or remain in the Government officer's hands, until these debts should be investigated, and the payment directed by those officers.

Of the number of chiefs present, one or two hundred, we should say at least three-fourths arose to side with Blackbird. This chief was suitably named; he was very dark, ugly, with frowning features, arch and cunning expression. He is about the middling size and height, wore blue cloth pants, and frock coat, and a slouch wool hat. These had been received from the Agent. He bears the reputation, quite uniformly conceded to him by his acquaintances, of *skillful rascality*.

Chief Na-gon-ub, or *The Foremost Sitter*, was a general favorite, at the payment, with the *red and white folks*; he made issue with Blackbird, and the chiefs who acted in concert with him, in the disposition of the \$90,000.

He spoke in a spirited manner. He advocated the propriety, quite wisely to our mind, of leaving the money in the hands of the Agent, until he should investigate the claims against the Chippewas, learn to whom they were justly indebted, and disburse the amounts accordingly. Not over one-fourth of the chiefs sided with Na-gon-ub; though, very judi-