

estimation—and challenged him to mortal combat, but the chief declined.

In 1825, Gov. Cass was ordered by the Government to assemble the Sioux, Chippewas, Winnebagoes, Monomonees and the Sauks and Foxes at Prairie Du Chien, to fix and settle upon the boundary lines between these respective tribes. There was but little trouble in doing this, except between the Sioux and Chippewas. This dispute was fierce, and threatened an open rupture between them. The Sioux claimed the country to Lake Superior, and down it as far as Keweenaw Point, at least; while the Chippewas claimed it as far south from that Lake as to the St. Peter's, or Minnesota, and Chippewa rivers. The Governor asked the Sioux upon what ground they claimed the country in dispute. They answered, "by possession and occupation from our fore-fathers;" as the whites would say, "from time immemorial." This was literally true, as far as our knowledge of the matter goes, for some two hundred years ago, the Sioux pursued and attacked their foes as far East as Sault St. Marie.

But turning to the Chippewas, he asked the same question. Hole-in-the-day, who, by common consent, was their chief speaker, at once rose in his usual impetuous manner, and gracefully waving his right arm, said: "My father! We claim it upon the same ground that you claim this country from the British King—by conquest. We drove them from the country by force of arms, and have since occupied it; and they cannot, and dare not, try to dispossess us of our habitations." "Then," said Cass, "you have a right to it." But to harmonize all differences, as far as possible, a line was run between them, but the Chippewas secured "the lion's share."

War continued between these two powerful tribes, despite the effort of Government troops to prevent it. In 1837, Gov. Dodge, of Wisconsin, then Superintendent of Indian Affairs on the frontier, convened the two tribes at Fort Snelling, with a view to settling all disputes between them, and making a permanent peace. They agreed to the terms proposed, signed the treaty, and the young men of the two tribes had a friendly