

from Portage de Sioux, and therefore could not say any thing about the Mississippi Indians except the old Kickapoo chief Pemwatome whom he says is sulky and will not attend any more on the Treaty. As for the Winnebagoes, Folle avoins, Chippeways and Milwaukee Indians he says it is impossible for them to do anything until the chiefs return from Mackinaw, which will not be until some time in the next moon, but has not a doubt the Shawanoe who went straight home to Milwaukee from Portage de Sioux, will advise the whole of the Indians to make peace with the U. States.

It appears to a certainty, that the British did tell the Indians last spring that they would not give up Mackinaw, but the Indians have been latterly informed that Mackinaw will be given up as soon as the American troops arrive at that place. In a general conversation that I had with the Indians, they (the Pottawatamies), observed to me that they did not mean to trouble themselves any more with the Mississippi Indians, but would in future confine themselves to their own private concerns, and to keep at peace with all parties, and will be always ready to listen to the good council of their American Father.

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FORSYTH TO CLARK.

St LOUIS, Sept. 22, 1815.

In consequence of a conversation that took place a few days ago between your Excellency and myself, I now take the liberty to give you my opinion as respects the method we ought to pursue towards the Indians to gain their good will and friendship, by which means we may be able to procure that necessary influence over the different Nations of Indians, wean them from foreign influence, and make the whole of them dependant on us, until which period we will always have the Indians as Enemies when we are engaged in war with any of the European powers. I have been often surprised, on reflecting that we as Americans, speaking the same language, having the same customs and manners, and having the same means as the British, that we should