

Keys of hell and of death " and sways the sceptre of universal dominion.

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Whilst it has been a time of prosperity and peace generally during the past year, still we have had trials particularly towards the close of it. Some of them are unquestionably inseparable from the Indian state growing out of the frequent Treaties for the purchase of land and the oftentimes gross neglect on the part of the officers of the general government to carry into effect promptly treaty stipulations. Often these are not only neglected but violated, which perplexes the Indian, and destroys his confidence in the white man; which appears to render them less susceptible of being benefited by the instructions of Missionaries. This is and has been the case with this tribe, for a treaty made almost three years ago in which a portion of their Reservation was ceded to the United States<sup>1</sup> has not been carried into effect according to its provisions. This has been a great injury to them and a source of great perplexity and is so still. How long they may be kept in this state is impossible to tell.

Another trial and difficulty is the division of feeling which exists amongst themselves relating to becoming citizens. At present they make and execute their own laws, and are not amenable to the laws of the U. S. Their govt. is republican in form; but owing to their ignorance upon the subject of legislation, and more especially want of energy, in most cases as to the executive part, it succeeds poorly. Some see and feel this and have become weary of such a state and choose rather to become citizens; others are still tenacious of the Indian state. There is nearly an equal division in the Nation upon this subject. The Brotherton Indians living upon a Reservation South of this became citizens some two or three years since and the experiment has succeeded well. This is seen by the Stockbridges and exerts an influence in favor of citizen-ship. This appears to be the only alternative at least for all the rem-

<sup>1</sup> See *ante*, p. 161, note.— Ed.