

nants of tribes within the limits of the United States. The rapid increase of population within them, together with foreign immigration to their shores, is yearly sending an irresistible tide of emigrants upon their frontiers. The vicinity of the whites to the red man is reciprocally injurious and unpleasant. The Indian wishes to be alone as much as possible in the earth; and by proximity to the white man whilst he (the Indian) is in a pagan state is exceedingly injurious for he readily imbibes all of the vices of the whites but none of their virtues; besides the white men covet the Indians' unoccupied land, which excites his jealousy. On the other hand the whites dislike the habits of the natives and wish them removed. This will lead to Treaties and removals until the poor natives will be eventually utterly extinguished from the face of the earth, unless they will avail themselves of the privileges and blessings of civilisation and the gospel and become a component part of the American nation. Another painful consideration relating to the Natives in their independent state, is their ignorance and want of judgement in managing pecuniary matters. An Indian has no correct idea of the value of money, and if he has it whether much or little he cannot rest until it is spent, and often as any way for that which he does not need. The annuities which many of the tribes receive do vastly more injury than good.

The tendency is to destroy individual effort to obtain a livelihood whether by hunting or from cultivating the ground, and to depend upon them for a subsistence by credits from the Traders. This state of things is fast producing a state of dependence upon such scanty means and extreme idleness in respect to their habits.

For the Natives have no disposition to labor until (dire) necessity drives them to it. Besides in the distribution of monies so received there is often great partiality which gives rise to endless difficulties and jealousies. In giving you this account of Indian relations I have two objects in view, viz. to let you see something of the existing state of the Indian tribes in this country, and that they