

favor of remaining in the Indian state; and at present it seems likely to break up the Nation.

The Citizen party succeeded in getting an act passed by Congress at its last session, for the division of their land and permission to become citizens, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Indian party. The latter appears by a census lately made out to be the most numerous. Such has been the course pursued by their opponents and the treatment which they (that is the Indian party) have received from them, that they have unanimously resolved to sell out and remove to the state of Missouri West of the Mississippi river. Application has already been made to the Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs of the Territory to this effect and they are expecting an answer soon. The whole number of the Nation is only a little over two hundred, so that if the Indian Party leaves as they now intend to there will be but between eighty and ninety left. There is a majority of the best and most intelligent portion of the Nation as well as a majority in numbers belonging to the Indian party. Of those belonging to the citizen party fifteen are members of the Church, and some of them are its most substantial and useful members too. The division therefore is the more to be regretted, because amongst brethren of the household of faith as I had fondly hoped & do still. The consequences of this step to become citizens I can even now perceive will prove the ruin of at least some if not of many for both worlds. Hitherto the Nation has strictly prohibited by its laws the introduction of ardent spirits amongst them, and have succeeded to a great extent; but since the Act of Congress has passed, they begin to be introduced again, and some of the leaders in the citizen party, as well as others are returning to their old courses, "like the Sow that was washed to Ret[urn] wallowing in the mire." Such is the propensity of Indians for strong drink that when exposed to the Temptation, few have the moral courage to resist it. Much of this is to be attributed to the strength of previous habit, but still more I imagine to the extreme indolence of the native character,