

which is one of the last things he overcomes after [being] brought under the influence of the gospel, and to the weakness or rather want of principle which makes them an easy prey to any vice.

Provided the Indian party succeed in selling and remove to the State of Missouri it will be quite as much exposed to temptation of this kind as those who remain behind; in addition to this in that state they will be far more exposed than they are here to pagan influence which will exert a deliterious effect. So that it is difficult to determine, under existing circumstances which will finally prove the most injurious citizenship or removal and remaining in the Indian state. Were all united in becoming citizens; and provided they were determined to cast off as speedily as possible every relic of paganism and avail themselves of the gospel, this measure would unquestionably be the best and wisest which could be adopted. Because difficulties, divisions and jealousies, growing out of their land and annuities, being a common stock are inseparable from the Indian state. In addition to all of these things there is oftentimes a faithlessness, and want of a spirit of strict Justice on the part of government officers in fulfilling Treaty-stipulations which destroys the confidence of Indians in white men and is a source of a vast amount of disquietude and difficulty amongst themselves. As for example the treaty which this Nation made in 1839 with the general govt. and which was duly ratified by congress, was grossly violated by Govt. officers and the Money was paid over in such a way after a tedious delay of between 2 & 3 years, that with the exception of what was appropriated for a school-fund, it is questionable whether more evil or good will result from any payment ever being made. These things have a most important bearing upon the influence of the Missionaries amongst them, for it keeps their minds in a state of turmoil and suspense most unfavorable to any improvement.

This, Sir, has been my painful situation during the whole of the last year. Still I believe that the Great Head of