

they were selling, to Indians whom they did not know, and many of whom, they had never heard?

Such a proposition is absurd on its face.

It shows that the Indians, (who could neither read nor write) were deceived and misled by the United States commissioners, who represented the Government in the making of said treaty.

The Indians say, and the survivors who signed the treaty are ready to testify, that the Commissioners told them that when said treaty was ratified, the sum of \$300,000 would be placed to their credit, and as soon as the lands were sold by the United States the money received therefor, after deducting the cost of survey and sale, and the said \$300,000, would be paid to the Indians in common: meaning, as they understood, the Osage Indians.

The Interpreter was an uneducated Osage and scarcely understood the meaning of the English language, while not a single one of the Indians, who made the treaty, could either read or write. And the same is true of all who signed it as witnesses.

In view of these facts, it is not to be wondered at, that Congress sought an early opportunity to correct the treaty and prevent the consummation of so great a wrong.

But notwithstanding the Acts of Congress, above quoted, and the manifest injustice and injury to the Osage people, the Department of the Interior, as shown by Senate Ex. Doc. No. 30, 47th Congress, 2d session, (copy herewith,) diverted and used the entire amount of the proceeds of sales of said lands, not merely for the "education and civilization" of Indians generally, but for general purposes, in connection with the Indian Bureau expenditures.

Prior to the 23d day of November, 1882, the sum of \$770,179.42, less \$11,577.45, of the proceeds of sales of the said Osage ceded lands, every dollar of which justly belonged to the Osage Indians, was taken and used by the Interior Department for the support, maintenance, education, and comfort of Indians and tribes of Indians, in whom