

the honorable Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

We the Undersigned Chiefs of the Saut
de Ste Marie Band, Bayway Dick, Hay,
bay, no, din, Garden River Grand Island, Drum-
mond Island Bands of Chippaway Indians in-
habiting the Upper Peninsula of Michigan,
respectfully represent that we have advanced
in the arts of Civilization and are converts to the
religion of Christ. We are anxious to attain
still further perfection and to place ourselves upon
a level with the Whites. The only, yet great, ob-
stacle to our rapid improvement is the fear of
amotion to the West of the Mississippi under
which we constantly labor. We desire a certainty.
We wish to know our destiny. We have no
security that ~~the~~ we shall inhabit the dwellings
we erect, or that the crops we plant shall be
ours. We know that under the Constitution of
the State of Michigan we can become citizens
& that by availing ourselves of its provisions we
are placed beneath a protection, which no power
can violate; but in order to do this we must aban-
don our organization as a tribe & our connection
with the general government. The test is the proof
of the fact. We are members of tribes so long as
we approach your pay tables. We have a hard
alternative placed before us - to forego all the bene-
fits of the treaty of 1836, or to give up the profits of the
Constitution. We turn to you as the only power
that can aid us, & request that you will
communicate our wants to Congress.

By the treaty of 1836, we have our rights

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remove west of the Mississippi. You guarantee
to us a permanent settlement & lands there.
Since that treaty was made the reasons, which
rendered our removal necessary have ceased
to exist. We are at peace with the whites. We are
becoming educated, Christianized, civilized. The
vices & bad example of a new country are here
passing away - we can resist their influence. It
is the desire of the State that we remain - a desire
expressed in the most solemn manner, by the
organic law, by frequent resolutions of the
legislature, by the public press & by memorials
from the citizens among whom we reside. The
lands west of the Mississippi are more valuable
& are becoming more rapidly ~~settled~~ occupied
than any portion of the Upper Peninsula, except
the mineral range of Lake Superior. By remo-
ving us, you will place us among a larger popu-
lation of whites than we have here, or will have
during many years. You will renew those blighting
influences from which we ^{are} just emerging - influ-
ences which attend the first settlement of our country
& which will only cease, when your people are
no longer migratory. You will take from us that
great safeguard, which the Constitution has
given to us - a vantage ground which has won us
many precious liberties as to exert a power, which
must result in our prosperity. You will rob this
country of a large portion of its inhabitants, of its
sailors, fishermen, agriculturists & lumbermen, and
lastly, you will tear us from all those incentives
to sober, contented industry, which cluster around

RA002761

Saint de Ste Marie Nov 1st 1853.

C, Shaw, a, nah	his + mark	Chief Tent the main
Waw, to, jieg	his + mark	Chief Iyau, bay, waw, tick.
Kay, bay, no, din	his + mark	Chief Kay, bay, no, din.
A, men, no, me, ne,	his + mark	Chief Grand Island.
Shaw, eren	his + mark	Chief Drummonds Island
Py, yaw, be, daw, sung	his + mark	Chief Garden River.
Waw, we, gun	his + mark	head man. Tent
Say, ne, yewen	his + mark	head man Iyau, bay, waw, tick.
A, law, gun	his + mark	head man Tent Grand.
Boi, win.	his + mark	head man, Kay, bay, no, din
Men, co, bung	his + mark	head, man. Drummonds Is

In presence of

А. Лизан, (С. Липован)

Kenneth Kenner U.S. Air Corps etc

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