"God named this land to us that is the reason I am afraid to say anything about this land. I am afraid of the laws of the Amighty, this is the reason I am afraid to speak of the land. I am afraid of the Almighty that is the reason of my heart being state this is the reason I cannot give you an answer. I am afraid of the Almighty. Shall I steal this land and sell it? Or what shall I do? This is the reason my heart is sad.

"My friends, God made our bodies from the earth as if they were different from the whites. What shall I do. Shall I give the lands that are a part of my body and leave myself poor and destitute? Shall I say I will give you may land? I cannotsay. I am afraid of the Almighty.

"I lovemy life and is the reason why I do not give my lands away. I am afraid I would be sent to hell. I love my friends. I love my life, this is the reason why I do not give away my to ency lands. The my life, this is the reason why I do not give away my friends. I love my life, this is the reason why I do not give away my lands. I have one more word to say.

"My people are far away they do not know your words, this is the reason why I can not give you an answer now. I show you my heart, this is all I have to say."

When Skloom spoke, at Stevens invitation, he said:

"What I have to say is about this the earth; it is long since the e arth was made and the trees were made to grow out, and there was one there, a very small boy, I do not know what he knew but he took an axe and cut a tree, and made it as if he had made a watch, he went to the tree and looked up and saw a set star, he took a line and measured the land from that tree; all the land he measured he plowed; about half way on the line he threw the tree across. For this country that he had plowed up he got \$800 for each mile; that is the reason the Indians like the place where they have their gardens; for the reason there was such a price paid for them; the land uncultivated where there are no gardens is not worth so much; it might be sold for \$\frac{1}{2}40 a mile. Why should I speak a great deal? We are not bargaining for lots, you know your own country above, you select your piece of land and pay a price for it. The dosoet theod My friends, Thave understood ded what you have said; when you give me what is just for my land you shall have it.

Control of total Endian affairs in Washington Territory

was vested in the governor of Vadaloddar to the territory, Isaac I. Stevens,

ORegon and Washingfon territory was separated when the territory was separated from Oregon territory by act of Congress,

March 2,1853. Sevens served as ex-official superinendent of total was linding affairs for four years, taking office March 21,1853 and being relieved June 2,1857 by James W. Nesmith) who was designated superintendent of total was designated superintendent.

The original Washington Territory included one of all the process the process the process of Idaho and the western pertion of Montana

Stevens negotiated nine treaties in the first of the steven medicine

December 26,1854 and January 25,1856, but only that of the creek was guickly ratified and the others are delayed until March to and april of 1859. These created the Chehalis, Colville, Flathead, Lapwai, Muckleshoot, Weah ay, Port Madison, Puyallup, Quinaielt, Skokomish,

Swinomish or Perry's Island, Umatilla and Yakima reservations. Of the first within the eventual to reservations, later reduced to eight reservations within the wishington superint endercy, May 1/9

Finally 17 reservations were set up of which 15 were under treaty.

Stevens organized his treaty commission on December 7, 2 1854 by appointing James Doty secretary; George Gibbs, surveyor; H.A. Goos

Coldsborough commissary and Frank Shaw interpreter, and toldthem

When they were gathered at Clympia of the vaccasity for speedy conclusion

of treaties and placing the Indians on reservations and read treaties

that had been concluded with the other and Missouri meters and the

Omahax and desired Gibbs was instructed to prepare a program of treaties which

was Presented when the three days later

The background group reconvened on Pecamber 10, desired Gibbs presented his

deart of the a treaty for tribes alonguered west of the Cascades.

Doty proceeded to prepare the way for treaties east of the Cascades.

He wrote, March 21,1355 from Walla Walla that he had reached a camp of two and one-half miles from Ft. Walla Walla on the river and had decided upon establishing a depot on the Touchet river six miles from the fort and ten miles from Brooke and Bradfords too trading post. "It is impossible to place it at Walaptu (Whitman's old mission) " on account of high water."

"The 10 Grimsley pack saddles are like all these saddles, worthless and you had better buy H.B. Co. saddles or others similar."

March 26th he wrote that he had conferred with Lawyer "the acknowledged head chief of the Nez Perces and he has promised to bring his people together at any time within four or eight weeks... I also had several conferences with Responsible Peo Peo Mox Mox the only chief of the

with him today he has the opinion that it is better to sell out his lands now for a gair price and retire to a reservation than to be continually quarreling with the water and in the end possess nothing. Much was said upon both sides but It is sufficient to state that has has agreed to meet the "ayuses, Nez "erces & Palouse Indians in council upon your arrival at some point near Brooke and Bradford's and conclude a treaty."

hen Doty went into the Yakimacountry and from "Camp in the Atanum Valley,

April 3, 1855, Treated to Tuesday wrote Stevens:

I'We reached here on Saturday the 30th ulto. Contrary to my

information received at palles and "alla Walla The Jakimas were not in

their winter camp but were scattered in the mountains. Knowing that the first Sunday in April is a feast day with the Catholics on that day I (Kamillan) Jeins called at the mission and was not mistaken for Camiackun and to-ay-ass were at church.

"In the afternoon a long conference was held with them is an inviation of the given to meet me at my camp as soon as the other chiefs, for whom messenger had been dispatched, should arrive.

"Camiackun flatly refused and Telay-ask accepted. Westerday all
the chiefs but one, owning and a large number of Indians were present but
being determined to have all the chiefs present the council adjourned

until today when I am happy to inform you everything was concluded in the most satisfactory manner. They wish the godenadogodenmentd gov. (enument?) Appyernor or government?) to conclude treaties with them and your views inrelation to the manner in which they be made Aviev ... all the Yakima chiefs, viz Camiackun, Ling ass, Ouw-hi, S Skloom have agreed to meet you at Walla Walla bringing other people with them. Four of them expressed an earnest desire to hear what you wished to say to them and to conclude a treaty which would place them forever on friendly terms with the whites ... Many are already far advnced... they make butter and cultivate the soil. I duly paid my respects to the priests at the mission and Father andosy has been very polite rendering me every assistance .

"I now see the way car for effecting the following arrangement, one of which I much wished to make. Bring together at Walla Walla the Cayuses, Walla Wallas, Nez Perces, Palouses, Okinagans, Pisquoses, Wakimas and the Indians on the Columbia from the Cascades up. Messengers will go from here. Skloom volunteered to go to the Okinagans, Pisquouse and Palouses. I shall leave tomorrow, reach W. on the 6th and proceed at once to the Day Wez Perces. Dan You can bring the Indians from above the Cascades. A bout the first of May is the time I think for holding the treaty.

"The charges against Mr. Bolon are, I have reason to believe, entirely groundless. Their truth or falsity must be proven by the Yakima chiefs who are the best informed as to Mr. Bolon's conduct while among them."

(Hore "charge," we (Some light in the charge of the Charges" in Aktavam)

He wrote again from Occord "Camp on the "ttanum, 10 miles below the

mission, suggesting that Stevens bring considerable gold of small denomination and some silver for small purchaes maps showing as tribes east of the Cascade and estimate of numbers, an Almanac for 1855 and copies of treaties concluded on the sound.

Affairs, July 6,1855 from Dayton, 0.7. that he had recently returned from Middle Oregon where "i have been engaged in negotiating treaties with Indians in that country. An extensive country has been purchased and is now open to settlement, extending from the 44th parallel of North Latitude to the northern boundary of the Nez Perce country

Besides the actual Freaty Notes of the Council of "alla "alla in about that event May and June of 1855, one of the Sources for information is decided and the Star Job Office, Eugene in 1897.

The had gone by stemer) to Fort Vancouver early in May from San Francisco, a six-day voyage and six first visited view was the picketed enclosure,

Son years square of the Audson's Bay Company near the river on low meadow The fence was grounds. These were made of split pine logs and within were the company based buildings. Some distance back, on a rise of the ground. Stood the buildings of Fort Vancouver with the American flag

The same ship which brought him from an Francisco brought 150 recruits for the Fourth Infantry, under Capt. A ugur. Fort areas Vancouver was Benjami L-E.

The same ship which brought him from an Francisco brought 150 recruits for the Fourth Infantry, under Capt. A ugur. Fort areas Vancouver was Benjami L-E.

The same ship which brought him from an Francisco brought 150 recruits to the Fourth Infantry and one of the 3rd Artillery were stationed there.

Lt. Hodges was ordered to the Fort palles with recorded a company
of recruits and bored by the monotony of "guard mounting--the morning ride-the drill--the long talk over the dinner table--the evening parade--the
still longer talk at night with 90 reminiscences of West Point days-and then to bed--" The determined to acce pany the party. They left wend

and the steamer, Belle which operated to the Cascades, the head of
navigation, made the portage around "the great salmon fishery ...the
season of which commenced in this month when the fish ascend the rice
in incrediblenumbers... the aboriginal village of "ishram, at the head of
the narrows which they (Lewis and Clark) mention as being the place of

allong the Columbia whose waters it divides from those of the Lewis river.

vens with their party were already in compeda

I with the later we dined, wrote. As was proper for the highest dignitary on the ground, he had dining room separate from his tent. An arbor had been erectednear it, in which was placed atable hastily constructed from split pine logs,... A tent we procured from Lieut.

Gracie and myself while the men erected for themselves huts of boughs, spreading over them pack covers.

On Thursday, May 24, he recounted that 2,500 of the Nez Perce tribe

on the ground and tin plates were the only dishes. Steak and liver from one of the cattle killed daily at the camp, were on the table with heavy bread coffee, served in tin cups.

On the 25th the morning broke with rain pattering on the tents and
When it cleared at noon they rode over to the Nez Perce camp to visit

Lawyer whom they found reading a New Festament while a

German soldier was was making his portrait in crayon. This was

The Soldier was

Gustavus Sohon, a photograppid wood carver and bookbinder with art training

who enlisted in the Army in 1852 at New York, which his company abourd the Golden West Remarked on the Pacific coast and reached Fort

Dalles in September, 1852. He was one of contactly escort of 18 men of there on July 18,1853 with a supply train to Party of the Fourth Infantry sent from the Party of Stevens headed the survey of the commence with the railway survey. Stevens headed the survey of the Commanded by a second survey party from the Pacific under Capt. The McClellan of the McClellan of the Pacific under Capt. The McClellan of the

Mas essistent.

Sohon was a gifted linguist, became Lieut In Mulland's interpreter in

IN Manutana,

SKatched

the Flathead country and on his trips drew assert a remarkable series of

OF chiefs and headmen.

person portraits from lifetof chiefs and headmen. Stevens was so

impressed by and work that he made a special request to Major General

E.

John Wool, commander of the Military Peper tment of the Pacific to have Sohon

transferred to his command and the was done in the solution of the council, where over 60,000 square miles of land were ceded by the

tribes, Sohon was present to sketch and interpret. There is a ferral chiefe Although

Lathough

proceedings for a group of Salishan speaking point Indians and his

""ecords of the "alla Walla Council, 30th May 1855 translated in the

language of the Spokan Endians by G. Sohon," a manuscript in the Collections

of the Bureau of American Ethnology, parallels the English-Spokan text of the opening speech at the Council by Palmer.

Khe Army officer, Kip, spent May 26 riding about the country and that evening saw the Cayuse, 200 income in all, come into camp.

broke before noon when kip accompanied

and he accompanied

broke before noon when kip red with Stevens to the Nez Perce camp where

and found one of the chiefs delivering an address from the Temposamao

Ten Commandments of the Bible and Bible an

"They have prayers in their lodges every morning and evening--several times on Sunday--and nothing will induce them on that day to engage in trading," Acceptable Kip wrote.

On Monday the 23th chiefs of more distant tribes and their followers began arriving and the decempose of the encampment stretched over the valley for more than a mile.

The process of plans had been to conclude the treaty by that date.

Stevens sent word by express to the Dalles requesting the soldiers be retained and Major Haller sent word authorizing them to remain until the treaty was concluded and an additional case seven days of provisions were dispatched from the Dalles.

he council was called for noon on May 29, a Tuesday but it was 2 o clock before it met and eight tribes were respected represented. The interpreters rain forced an adjournment, were sworn in, Stevens spoke and then the council adjourned when rain fell.

Kip estimated that 5,000 Indians were encumped.

The council convened at 1 o'clock on May 30 and Kip described it.

"It was a striking scene. Directly in front of Governor Stevens tent a small arbor had been erected in which, at a table, sat several of his party taking notes of everything said. In front of the arbor on a bench sat Governor Stevens and General Palmer, and been them, in the open air in concentric semi-circles, were ranged the Indians, the chiefs in the front ranks in order of their dignity, while the background was filled with women and children. The Indians saw on the ground, (in their own words,) 'reposing on the bosom of their Great Mother.'

"Governor Stevens made a long speech, setting forth the object of the concil. As he finished each sentence the interpreter repeated it to two or the Indians who announced in the a loud voice to the rest-one in the Nez Perce and the other the "alla "alla language."

The week day

on may 31 Stevens and Palmer made long speeches deplaining the benefits
the tribes would receive from sog straining the treaty which would result to
them from their removal to the new lands

Corental There wasm no come, June 1 , Kip explaining that the Indians wished to meet/ (onsider the proposals and met on noon the following day when Spoke the chiefs becam to apply After the council the troops practiced to target firing and some of the young warriors ran a two mile race while riders accompanied them, encouraging or taunting those who im red June 3 was Sunday and Kip spent the day quietly reading in his tent rude and riding over to the Mission, dining with Stevens that evening and anaited, paralog the arrival of 40 pack mules from the Dalles with provisions hecause it we had originally been Planed to Copplete the treating to may hen council resumed on Q Monday, Lawyer spoke first for the Nez Perces and others followed but the council adjourned at 5 o'clock without After dark progress. That might the Indians sang and danced in their camps. Stevens and Palmer spoke again at the June 5 council and Kip

Stevens and palmer spoke again at the June 5 commetal and Kip wrote that he detected a feeling of hostility among some of the tribes, There was no council June 6 as the Indians wished to meet in their own Council.

Seventh at the table with the conneil met on the 2th, Kip himself sat in the arbor, took

Stevens said: My brothers. We expect to have your hearts today. Let us have your hearts straight out.

Lawyer detrover descibed bew the tribes in the east receded

They passed through our country, they became acquaintd with our country and all the streams, and our forefathers used them well. From the time of Lewis and Clark we have known you, my friends; we poor people have known you as brothers, and he asked that the whites act toward them

Young Chief of the Cayuse, who Kip felt was opposed to the treaty, asserted that he had no right to sell the ground which as Kip wrote, God had given for their sand support. And Young Chief asked:

L'I wonder if the ground desired considered and the anything to say?

L'I wonder if the ground is listening to what is said? Though I hear what
the ground says. The Great Spirit tells me to take care of the Indians, to
feed them aright. The Great Spirit appointed the roots to feed the Andians
on. The water says the same thing. The Great Spirit directs me. Feed the
Indians well. The grass says the same thing. Feed the Korses and cattle.
The ground, water and grass says, the Great Spirit has given us our
names. The have these names and hold these names. Neither the Indians
or white have a right to change the the same names. The ground says, The
Great Spirit has placed me here to produce all that grows on me,
trees and fruit, the same way the ground says, It was from me man was made.

"The Great Spirit, in placing men on the earth desired them to take good care of the ground and to do each other no harm..."

bot yet take hold of what I do not see. When I come to understand your propositions, I will take nodd hold. I do not know when. This is all

Came forward ,

Five Crows of the "alla "allas spoke saying," I will speak a few words.

My heart is the same as Young Chief's," he Said.

Peo Peo Mox Mox.

Po po mox mox.

If he has anything to say, we will be pleased to hear it,"

and that chief relief:

"I do not know what is straight. The not see the offer you have made to the frage. I never say these things which are offered by my Great Father. My heart cried when you first spoke to me. I felt as if I was blown away like a feather. Let your heart be, to separate as we are and appoint some other time. We shall have no bad minds. Stop the whites from coming up here until we have this talk. Let them not bring their axes, with them. The whites may travel all directions through our country, we will not make them, provided they do not build houses on our lands...

Kip, who did not record the arrival of the Jakima to the Chen

. Unrequestion to meeting to morrow I shall condagated withded see you first mentioned Ramakin

alrain and to morrow evening I shall go home."

but before I do so, if Kamiakin wants to speak, I would be glad to hear him.

Kamiakin, Yakimachief said, I have nothing to say.

Governor Stevens then apoke and asked "How will Kamiakin or Addident OR

"What have I to be talking about?"

Conserved Palmer than addressed the council. (."I too like the ground where

I was born. I left it because it was for my good. I have come a long way.

We have you to go but a short distance. We do not come to steal your and.

We pay you more than it is worth. There is the unatilla Valley that affords
a little good land between two streams and all around it is a parched up

plain. What is is worth to you, what is it worth to us? Not half

what we have offered you for it. "hy do we offer so much? Because our

Great Father told us to take care of his red people."

Kip recounted that all but the Nez Terces were evidently disinclined to addled to the treaty and it was melancholy to see their reluctance to abandon the

old hunting grounds of their fathers and their impotent struggle against the overpowering influence of the whites."

Before the council closed that the bateful day Stevens again spoke again, assenting:

"... Kamiakin the great chief of the tak imas has not spoken at all his people have no voice here today. He is not ashamed to speak? He is not affraid to speak.? Then speak out. Owhi is afraid to lest od be angry at his selling his land. Owhi, my brother, I do not think God will be angry with you if you do your best foryourself and your children. Ask yourself this question, Will not God be angry with me if I neglect this opportunity to do them good .? But Owhi decorded hod do do do do do says his people are not here. Why then did he tell 4s, come hear our talk? I do not want to be ashamed of him. Owhi has the heart of his people. We expect him to speak out. We expect to hear from Kamiakinx and from Saboom. The treaty will have to be drawn up tonight. You can see it tomorrow. The Nez Perces must not be put off any longer. This business must be dispatched. "

addressing the the chiefs who refused to accede to the treaty.

(About this,

Perces reservation he would offer themanother reservation which would embrace part of the lands on which they were now living. After this offer had been clearly explained to them and considered, all acceded to it

except one tribe, the Yakimas.

"It seemed as if we were getting on charmingly and the end of all difficulties were at hand, when suddenly a new explosive element dropped into this little political caldron. Just before the council adjourned a runner arrived with hews that Looking Glass, the war chief of the Nez Perces was coming. Governor Stevens and General Palmer went out tomest meet them...Looking Glass without dismounting from his horse made a short and violent speech, which I afterwards learned was as I suspected an expression of his indignation of their selling the country. "

Lisaturday, June 9th. This morning the old chief Lawyer came down and took breakfast with us. The Council did not meet till 3 o'clock and matters seemed to have reached a crisis. The treaty must either be soon accepted, or the tribes will separate in hopeless bad feeling. On the strength of the assent yesterday given by all the tribes, except the Yakimas, the papers were drawn up and brought into the Council to be signed by the principal chiefs. Covernor Stevens once more-for Looking Glass' benefit, --explained the principal points in the treaty, and among other things told them there would be three reservations--the Cayuses, the "alla "allas and the Umatillas, tobe placed upon one, the Nez Ferces on another--and the Yakimas on the third, and that they were not

- Kipurute

to be removed to these reservations for two or three years. Looking Glass "which had Such an effect" that not only the new Perus, that all other tribes refused to sign it"

then arose and made a strong speech against the treaty... and the Council was forced to adjourned "
was forced to adjourn until Monday. In the meanwhile it is supposed the Commissioners will bring some cogent arguments to bear upon Looking Glass and induce him to accesse x.

"Sunday, June 10th. "e understand there has been great excitement through the did m camps today. The Nez Perces have been all day long holding a council among thems elves, and it is represented, the proposition has been made to appoint Looking Glass head chief over Lawyer. Yesterday , while the Looking Glass was speaking Lawyer left the Council; which many of them are disposed to regardes the surrender of his place. Should this proposition be carried into effect it would be given a quietus to the treaty. "Monday, June 11th. Before x breakfast we had a visit from Lawyer with some other Indians. At 10 o'clock the Council met, Governor Stevens opened it with a short speech, at me close of which he asked the chiefs to come forward and sign the papers. This they all did without the least opposition. What he has been doing with Looking Glass since last Saturday we cannot imagine, but we suppose the savage nature in the wilerness is the same as civilized natura was in England in Walpole's day and Tevery man has his price. After this was over the presents which General

One hundred years after the treaty makers assembled in a cottonwood grove on the present site of Walla Walla, the Yakima attik retain a heritage. Their heritage , even in treaty days, was so old that no one knew just when it was born.

This was a heritage of the race, of a kex deep -rooted religion that recognized the existance of a Creator; of a civilization and of a culture.

And to this the treaty added yet another. These and others the Yakima want their children to remember and they bequeath them to those yet unborn.

For truly the Treaty of 1855 became a heritage theday it was negotiated.

And now, so long after, there is no doubt but the wise old chiefs with a power born to gifted leaders, knew that the future life would change for those who were to follow. So they say that the heritage was born.

The treaty was a forced necessity. Although unwanted by the old chiefs, they accepted it. he Senate of the United States ratified it and the President proclaimed its existence and validity. So it became the law of the people, a document held in the same solemn respect that they look upon the Constitution of the United States.

The written history of all North American Indian people commenced with the arrival of the Europeans. Before that -- the Pre-Columbian period -- was a dim and misty era.