



9-17-1851

Treaty of Fort Laramie with the Sioux, ETC., 1851

David D. Mitchell
Indian Affairs

Thomas Fitzpatrick
Indian Affairs

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/indigenous-gov-docs>



Part of the [American Politics Commons](#), [Indigenous, Indian, and Aboriginal Law Commons](#), [Indigenous Studies Commons](#), [Law and Politics Commons](#), [Military History Commons](#), [Native American Studies Commons](#), [Political History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Treaty of Fort Laramie with the Sioux, Etc., 1851. September 17, 1851. US Government Documents Related to Indigenous Nations, University of North Dakota. <https://commons.und.edu/indigenous-gov-docs/16/>.

This Treaty is brought to you for free and open access by the Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in US Government Documents related to Indigenous Nations by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact und.common@library.und.edu.

Articles of a Treaty made and concluded at Fort Saramie, in the Indian Territory, between D. B.

Mitchell Superintendent of Indian Affairs and Thomas Fitzpatrick, Indian Agent, Commissioners specially appointed and authorized by the President of the United States, of the first part; and the Chiefs, Headmen and Braves of the following Indian Nations residing south of the Arkansas river, east of the Rocky Mountains, and north of the line of Texas and New Mexico, to wit: the Sioux or Dacotahs, Cheyennes, Arapachoes, Kiowas, Assinibons, Gros Ventres, Mandans and Arikaras, parties of the second part, on the seventeenth day of September A. D. One thousand eight hundred and thirty seven.

Article 1st. The aforesaid Nations, parties to this Treaty, having assembled for the purpose of establishing and confirming peaceful relations amongst themselves, do hereby covenant and agree to abstain in future from all hostilities and wars against each other to maintain good faith and friendship in all their mutual intercourse, and to make an effective and lasting peace.

Article 2nd. The aforesaid Nations do hereby recognize the right of the United States Government to establish roads, Military, and other Posts within their respective Territories.

Article 3rd. In consideration of the rights and privileges acknowledged in the preceding article, the United States binds themselves to protect the aforesaid Indian Nations against the commission of all depredations by the people of the United States, after the ratification of this Treaty.

Article 4th. The aforesaid Indian Nations do hereby agree and bind themselves to make restitution or satisfaction for any wrongs committed, after the ratification of this Treaty, by any band or individual of their people, on the people of the United States, whilst lawfully ascending in, or passing through their respective Territories.

Article 5th. The aforesaid Indian Nations do hereby recognize and acknowledge the following limits of Country included within the present and boundary boundaries of their respective Territories, to wit:—

The Territory of the Kiowa and Arapachoe Nations, commencing at the mouth of the Little River in the Arkansas River, thence up the Arkansas River to the mouth of the Red River, thence along the range of Mountains known as the Red Hills, thence along the range of Mountains known as the Blue Hills, thence along the range of Mountains known as the Headwaters of Heart River, thence down Heart River to its mouth, and thence down to the place of beginning.

The Territory of the Gros Ventre, Mandan, and Assinibon Nations, commencing at the mouth of Heart River, thence up the Arkansas River to the mouth of the Yellow Stone River, thence up the Yellow Stone River to the headwaters of the Little Bow River, thence from the mouth of Bow River in a south-easterly direction to the headwaters of the Little Missouri River, thence along the Black Hills to the head of Heart River, and thence down Heart River to the place of beginning.

The Territory of the Cheyenne Nation, commencing at the mouth of the Yellow Stone River, thence up the Missouri River to its source, thence along the main range of the Rocky Mountains, in a southerly direction to the headwaters of the Yellow Stone River, thence down the Yellow Stone River to the mouth of Twenty-five Bend Creek, thence down to the headwaters of the Muscoda-Shelle River, and thence down the Muscoda-Shelle River to the place of beginning.

The Territory of the Crow Nation, commencing at the mouth of the Yellow Stone River, thence up the Missouri River to its source, thence along the main range of the Rocky Mountains, in a southerly direction to the headwaters of the Yellow Stone River, thence down the Yellow Stone River to the mouth of Twenty-five Bend Creek, thence down to the headwaters of the Muscoda-Shelle River, and thence down the Muscoda-Shelle River to the place of beginning.

The Territory of the Arapachoe Nation, commencing at the mouth of the Yellow Stone River, thence up the Missouri River to its source, thence along the main range of the Rocky Mountains, in a southerly direction to the headwaters of the Yellow Stone River, thence down the Yellow Stone River to the mouth of Twenty-five Bend Creek, thence down to the headwaters of the Muscoda-Shelle River, and thence down the Muscoda-Shelle River to the place of beginning.

The Territory of the Cheyenne and Arapachoe Nations, commencing at the mouth of the Yellow Stone River, thence up the Missouri River to its source, thence along the main range of the Rocky Mountains, in a southerly direction to the headwaters of the Yellow Stone River, thence down the Yellow Stone River to the mouth of Twenty-five Bend Creek, thence down to the headwaters of the Muscoda-Shelle River, and thence down the Muscoda-Shelle River to the place of beginning.

It is however understood, that in no part of this Treaty and acknowledgment, the aforesaid Indian Nations do not thereby abandon or prejudice any rights or claims they may have to other lands, and further, that they do not surrender the privilege of hunting, fishing, or passing over any of the tracts of Country hereinbefore described.

Article 6th. The parties of the second part to this Treaty, having selected a principal Head Chief for their respective Nations, through whom all national business will hereafter be conducted, do hereby bind themselves to sustain said Chief and their successors during good behavior.

Article 7th. In consideration of these Treaty stipulations, and for the damages which have, or may occur by reason thereof, to the Indian Nations, parties hereto, and for their maintenance, and the improvement of their moral and social conditions, the United States binds themselves to deliver to the said Indian Nations the sum of Fifty thousand dollars per annum for fifty years in provisions, merchandise, domestic animals and agricultural implements, in such proportions as may be deemed best adapted to their condition, by the President of the United States, to be distributed in proportion to the population of the aforesaid Indian Nations.

Article 8th. It is understood and agreed that should any of the Indian Nations, parties to this Treaty, violate any of the provisions thereof, the United States may withhold the whole, or a portion of the annuity mentioned in the preceding article from the nation so offending, until in the opinion of the President of the United States, proper satisfaction shall have been made.

In testimony whereof, the said D. B. Mitchell and Thomas Fitzpatrick, Commissioners as aforesaid, and the Chiefs, Headmen and Braves, parties hereto, have set their hands and affixed their marks, on the day and at the place first above written.

In presence of,	D. B. Mitchell
A. B. Numbers, Secretary	Thomas Fitzpatrick
J. Cooper, Capt. U. S. Army	Commissioners
M. Mitchell, Capt. U. S. Army	Sioux
Thomas Duncan, Capt. U. S. Army	Mah-kah-hay-gah-gak
Wm. H. White, Lieut. Capt. U. S. Army	Pah-lah-tah-hay-gah-gak
W. L. Ellison, Lieut. U. S. Army	Mah-ka-pah-gah-gah
C. Campbell, Interpreter for Sioux	Mah-tah-tah-hay-gah-gak
Wm. Smith, Interpreter for Cheyennes	Mah-ka-hay-gah-gah
Robert Middleton, Interpreter for the Kiowas	Mah-ka-hay-gah-gah
A. Carlson, Interpreter for Arapachoes & Gros Ventres	Mah-ka-hay-gah-gah
Jacques L. L'Archeveque, Interpreter for Arikaras	Mah-ka-hay-gah-gah
John F. Smith, Interpreter for the Mandans	Mah-ka-hay-gah-gah
B. Watz, Interpreter	Mah-ka-hay-gah-gah
Robert Campbell	Mah-ka-hay-gah-gah
Edmond P. Whelan	Mah-ka-hay-gah-gah