One treaty made with the
Navajo Indians on the 18th
Inst. at Saguaro, Negra, or
Black Jack, and inter-
yated with those Indi-
ans.

For 'Talk' see file, box = 'Indian
Deputy, Councils,' etc.

Received September 1st 1865

Adjourn, 5th, 1865

Mr. Wright, Secretary
of the Indian Department.

T. C. Gilmer, Secretary.

1865.
Office, Dept. of Int. Offs.
Santa Fe, N. Mervic
July 27, 1853.

Sir:

I have the honor, herewith, to send you a treaty, concluded by me, with the Navajo Indians, on the 18th inst., at Lasana Wagon (a Black Lake) under your general instruction of the 18th of March last, and hope that its provisions may meet your approval.

There was a very full attendance of the warriors of the tribe; the number could not have been less than fifteen hundred, and several officers of the army, who were present, estimated them at two thousand; but few of their women and children were present and every man was mounted on his horse and well armed. I was particular in ascertaining whether the chiefs, captains, and head men were authorized, by their followers, to enter into negotiations, and conclude a treaty with me; and after the treaty was reduced to writing, to ascertain if there was any objections on the part of the Indians present, and but one
Every hand except that of Vandervel, was fully represented, and every chief, captain, and head man, except Vandervel signed the treaty willingly, after understanding its fair part fully, and after a long conference with their followers. Vandervel's band numbered about one hundred souls who depature from the remainder of the tribe some years since, and the two parties are decidedly hostile to each other; which separation and hostility grows out of the fact of this little band having refused to join with the remainder of the tribe in hostilities against the whites, as I am informed. During these Mecone hostilities, a small Mexican settlement called Schott was broken up or abandoned, and Gov. Cole known gave Vandervel and his party permission to occupy it, which they have done up to this time, cultivating the soil with some degree of success. But I am informed that the former occupants of this settle- ment claim the land under a Mexican grant, which will render it necessary to provide, for Vandervel and his followers in some other quarter, unless this grant
be purchased by the government, which I would strongly recommend; for if these Indians are required to remove west of the mountains ... will survive less.

The Navajo tribe is generally estimated to number from fifteen thousand to two thousand warriors, and from eight to ten thousand braves, and from the number ascertained at Laguna Nigra I am of the opinion that this is not too large an estimate, and the county assigned to them, by the treaty, is estimated to contain about seven thousand square miles. This reservation encroaches the present planting grounds of these Indians, and was located by them; but from my own observation in traveling through it, and the best information which I could gather, the entire reservation does not contain over twenty-five or thirty square miles suitable for cultivation, and this is in small detached portions, situated in the gages of the mountains, along the bases of the little streams which afford water for irrigation.

The right to gather salt at the lake near Zuni is important to the Indians and does not interfere with any vested rights, as this lake is not contained within the grant held by the Pueblos of Zuni; and...
and by the laws of Mexico and Spain all salt lakes on New Mexico are reserved and made common to all the inhabitants thereof.

To enable you to understand the eastern boundary of this reservation, refer to Parker's map of New Mexico, which I conclude to see during the last winter, then draw a line from the head of the Camanche to the head of the San river or creek, which will give you the true position of the ridge which divides the waters of the Rio Grande from those of the San Juan, which is a well defined boundary, well understood by the Indians.

The annuities proposed to be paid to the Navajos are not to large in propor
tion to numbers as the annuities stipula
ted to be paid to the Southern Apaches. But the annuities contained in the Navaj
o treaty were satisfactory to them; the county court is not to valuable, and the necessaries of these Indians does not re
guire the payment of a larger sum annu
ally to enable them to live in comfort and improve their condition. Indeed, these Indians may not be considered in a
Prosperous condition; they have a large
number of horses and sheep, together
with their domestic animals; have planted
some four thousand acres of grain this
season, and by another year will be able
to raise a sufficient amount to feed the
whole tribe intelligibly, after which time
I hope that they will have a surplus
sufficient to supply the wants of Fort
Defiance, which now has to be supplied
over one hundred miles at great cost to
the government.

The last paragraph of my letter of
the 26th of June last, enclosing the Black
Treaty, relative to an early action on
the part of the executive and Senate,
is equally applicable to the one enclosed,
and I cannot urge this point
in too strong terms, but as I expect
to visit Washington by the 1st December next I hope to have the plea
sure of doing this in person.

I regret the necessity of sending
you so important a document with so
many treasurers and interlocations,
and my only apology is that the Indians be
began to impatient to depart to their
home, so to render it impracticable to
detain them long enough to enable
to make a more perfect copy, and
the one enclosed had to be written
on a bent during the prevalence of a
heavy storm without a chair or table.
I also enclose for the sake of
the talk between myself and our
sheriffs on the subject under negotia-
tion.

I have the honor to

Very respectfully,

Frankland, D.

and Visit of Va. in N. W.


County of D.C.

Washington, D.C.