

ABANDONMENT BY CANADIAN BLACKFEET OF RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE  
IN CLAIMS OF AMERICAN BLACKFEET AGAINST UNITED STATES.

A Trading Expedition Among the Indians in 1858. From Fort Walla Walla to the Blackfoot Country and Return, by William T. Hamilton. Historical Society of Montana, volume III.

- p. 33. During the Spokane and Yakima War Hamilton was employed as a scout by Colonel Wright.
- p. 34. War was concluded about first September, 1858. It was rumoured that tribes east of the Rocky Mountains were hostile, and it was determined to investigate
- p. 35. the rumour. Hamilton called to officer's council and directed to go and ascertain disposition of tribes east of Rocky Mountain, whether friendly or hostile, and report on same to Military Authorities at Walla Walla. Hamilton set out about September 9th, promising to return and report by November 15th, 1858.
- p. 52. October 18, met Agent Vaughn at Tiegan Agency and requested report on disposition of Indians under his charge.
- p. 55. Met Little Dog camp.
- p. 63. Traded robes with Mountain Chief.
- p. 63. Met Old Yellow Bear and Rotten Tail, Chiefs of River Crows. River Crows called Hamilton Crooked Nose, and were surprised to meet him, having heard that he had been killed.
- p. 68. Started to Blackfoot Camp on North Fork of Milk River, called by Indians, Bear River.
- p. 69. Met Blackfeet at Bear River, their head Chief's being Calf Shirt and Father of All Children.
- p. 70. These Indians according to Hamilton had a dislike for anything American, belonging, as they said to Canada, or Red Jacket's land.

Note: Calf Shirt was a signer of the treaty of the Judith, 1855. Father of All Children signed the Fort Benton treaty of 1865.

Indian Office Files, Treaty jacket, Blackfeet, 1865. Montana, 16392.

Treaty, and other papers, including letter from Acting Governor Meagher to Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington, from which following is taken:

"The Blackfoot Nation was fully represented on the occasion, although the Blackfoot tribe appeared in the presence of one chief only and all the hostile Bloods were absent. These two tribes retired sometime ago beyond our line into the British possessions and have been living there ever since."

"It strikes me forcibly that Indian tribes who voluntarily abandon their lands seeking shelter and protection in a foreign country cease to be essential parties to any treaty which the United States previous to their emigration might have held it necessary to conclude with them."

Annual report of the Department of the Interior for the Year Ended 30th June, 1877. Printed by order of Parliament, Ottawa: (Canadian) at pages xliv to 1, inclusive.

Treaty number 7 with Blackfeet, Blood, Piegan, Sarcee, Stony, etc., Indians, and Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, etc.

Provides among other things as follows, that:

"And the undersigned Blackfeet, Blood, Piegan and Sarcee Head Chiefs and Minor Chiefs, and Stony Chiefs and Councillors on their own behalf and behalf of all other Indians inhabiting the Tract within ceded do hereby solemnly promise and engage to strictly observe this Treaty, and also to conduct and behave themselves as good and loyal subjects of Her Majesty the Queen."

At least fifteen out of fifty two Indians/ <sup>names appearing on</sup> signing the above treaty appeared on ~~signed~~ treaties with the United States either before or after 1877, the following names appear on the Canadian treaty of 1877, above, together with the treaties which the parties signatory to the Canadian treaty signed with the United States.

Canadian Treaty, 1877.	American treaties, ratified and unratified (With Blackfeet)
Bull Head.	U.S. Treaty 1868 (Unratified)
Medicine Calf.	U.S. Treaty of Judith, 1855 (ratified)
Bad Head.	do. do. do.
Running Rabbit.	do. do. do.
Heavy Shield.	do. do. do.
Bull Back Fat.	Treaty of Judith, 1855, ratified, Treaty of 1865, unratified.
White Striped Dog.	Treaty of 1865, unratified.
Wolf Collar.	Treaty of 1868, unratified.
Eagle Head	Agreement of 1888, ratified.
Low Horn.	Treaty of Judith, 1855, ratified.
Big Plume.	Treaty of 1868, unratified.
Calf Robe (Shirt)	Treaty 1855, ratified, 1868, unratified.
White Eagle,	Treaty of 1855, ratified.
Going to Bear,	Treaty of 1865, unratified.
Three Bulls.	Treaty of 1855, at Judith, ratified.

The Treaty of the Judith, ratified, with U.S., 1855.  
 Unratified treaty with U.S. 1865, ten years after Judith treaty.  
     do. do. 1868, thirteen years after Judith.  
 Canadian Treaty of 1877 twenty two years after Judith.  
 Agreement U.S., 1888, ratified, thirty three years after Judith.