Journal #2633

from sdc 7.12.12

Northern Nevada Teens: Injection Connection

5th Session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Interested in hosting an international visitor for dinner? George Washington's Letter to the Cherokee People

"Our Hearts are Sickened": Letter from Chief John Ross of the Cherokee

Equal Justice Works seeks Compliance Officer The 15th annual Neighborhood Partners Fund

Traveling History Trunks

Sioux Indians, strangely organized into military Masonic lodges

Kivalina: A Climate Change Story Indians and the Revolutionary War

Nevada Diabetes Association

Northern Nevada Teens: Injection Connection Reno Ace's Baseball Game!!!

Friday, July 13th, 2012 at 5:30pm-until the game is over, about 9:30-10ish. Food, fun,

fireworks, and....it's FREE!!!

Please email me if you can go :tara@diabetesnv.org

5th Session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - Agenda Item 4

Statement by the Indigenous Peoples Council on Biocolonialism (IPCB) and the Indigenous **Peoples and Nations Coalition**

...Continue Reading

Previews: Life on the Rez - OWN TV www.oprah.com

Native American stereotypes are alive and well: extreme poverty, high teen suicide rates, and alcoholism. We meet the people who are seeking both modern and traditional solutions to give the next generation a fighting chance at a brighter future Tune in Tuesday, July 10th at 10/9c for this all new ...

Janine Winnemucca

All shots were taken on a cell phone; not my finest work, but wanted to share a part of many Native history shared here @ Haskell. (more to come). — HERS 2012 Summer **Internship - Haskell (32 photos)**

Interested in hosting an international visitor for dinner?

The International Center seeks families or individuals interested in hosting a dinner for a group of high-level delegates through the US Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program as well as international graduate students coming to the United States to complete their graduate programs under the Fulbright Program.

The International Center will be hosting the following visitors:

Farm to Table Project July 17-10, 2012

Thirteen delegates are visiting Reno to learn more about US agricultural practices "from farm to table." They would like to be hosted in a home for dinner either July 17 or 18 (18th is preferable). The visitors hail from Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, and Uganda.

Fulbright Arriving Masters and Ph.D. Students August August 15, 2012

Seventy-two incoming Fulbright participants will visit Reno for a three-day Gateway Orientation August 13-17. We are organzing a "drive-by" hosting evening on August 15 a little different from our usual dinner hosting arrangements. Here is how it will work: as a home host, you tell us how many visitors you would like to host (by sending an e-mail to nnic@unr.edu). You then prepare dinner for the amount of people you would like to host, drive to the Siena Reno (1 South Lake Street) between 5:30-6:30pm and pick up the number of Fulbright participants you indicated earlier. Neither you nor the participants will know anything about one another (that's the big surprise)...they will simply be lined up in the lobby and enter your car. We envision dinner hosts hosting between 2-12 participants (if more, we can assist with transportation). Please note that these incoming Fulbrighters from 45 different countries are truly the best and brightest. They have been chosen by US embassies and Fulbright agencies abroad to complete a master's or Ph.D. program in the US and this is their orientation prior to beginning their new life in the United States. The visitors hail from the following countries: Afghanistan, Antigua, Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Romania, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Vietnam and Yemen.

The Latino Vote in the US Election - August 9-12, 2012

Three visitors from Uruguay and one interpreter will be visiting Reno to examine the US electoral process and what role the Latino vote will play in the November election. They'd like to be hosted for dinner August 10 or 11.

US Elections - September 20-25, 2012

Six delegates and two English Language Officers will be visiting Reno to examine the US electoral process. They would like to be hosted for dinner September 21, 22, 23 or 24.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S LETTER TO THE CHEROKEE PEOPLE BELOVED CHEROKEES.

Many years have passed since the White people first came to America. In that long space of time many good men have considered how the condition of the Indian natives of the country

might be improved; and many attempts have been made to effect it...I have considered how this could be done; and have discovered but one path that could lead them to that desirable situation.

Beloved Cherokees--You now find that the game with which your woods once abounded, are growing scarce; and you know when you cannot meet a deer or other game to kill, that you must remain hungry; you know when you can get no skins by hunting, that the traders will give you neither powder nor clothing; and you know that without other implements for tilling the ground than the hoe, you will continue to raise only scanty crops of corn. Hence you are sometimes exposed to suffer much from hunger and cold; and as the game are lessening in numbers more and more, these sufferings will increase.

And how are you to provide against these sufferings? Listen to my words and you will know.

My beloved Cherokees--Some among you already experience the advantage of keeping cattle and hogs; let all keep them and increase their numbers, and you will ever have a plenty of meat. To these add sheep, and they will give you clothing as well as food. Your lands are good and of great extent. By proper management you can raise livestock not only for your own wants, but to sell to the White people. By using the plow you can vastly increase your crops of corn. You can also grow wheat, (which makes the best of bread) as well as other useful grain. To these you will easily add flax and cotton, which you may dispose of to the White people, or have it made up by your own women into clothing for yourselves. Your wives and daughters can soon learn to spin and weave...

Beloved Cherokees--What I have recommended to you I am myself going to do. After a few moons are passed I shall leave the great town and retire to my farm. There I shall attend to the means of increasing my cattle, sheep and other useful animals, to the growing of corn, wheat, and other grain, and to the employing of women in spinning and weaving; all which I have recommended to you that you may be as comfortable and happy as plenty of food, clothing, and other good things you make you.

I now send my best wishes to the Cherokees, and pray the Great Spirit to preserve them.

Geo. Washington (1796)

On November 28, 1785, the Confederation Congress negotiated a treaty with the Cherokee Nation in which the Cherokees were allotted certain lands for hunting grounds. The treaty also stipulated that no non-Native settlers would be allowed on the land. In the following letter to the U.S. Senate, President Washington notes that the treaty with the Cherokees has been violated by White settlers. Do you think Washington is a friend to the Cherokee people? What does the President intend to do about the treaty violations? In this case, why might the U.S. government not be responsible for living up to the terms of the original treaty?

View the <u>original document</u>, from <u>George Washington Papers</u>, <u>1741-1799</u>. Use your browser's Back Button to return to this point.

United States, August 11, 1790

Gentlemen of the Senate: Although the treaty with the Creeks may be regarded as the main foundation of the southwestern frontier of the United States, yet in order fully to effect so

desirable an object the treaties which have been entered into with the other tribes in that quarter must be faithfully performed on our parts.

During the last year I laid before the Senate a particular statement of the case of the Cherokees. By a reference to that paper it will appear that the United States formed a treaty with the Cherokees thereby placed themselves under the protection of the United States, and had a boundary assigned them.

On August 11 the Senate resolved that the treaty at Hopewell with the Cherokees be carried into execution at the discretion of the President, and that the Senate guarantee the Cherokee boundary. On August 12 Congress adjourned, to convene again on the first Monday in December, 1790.

That the White people settled on the frontiers bad openly violated the said boundary by intruding on the Indian lands.

That the United States in Congress assembled did on the first day of September 1788 issue their proclamation forbidding such unwarrantable intrusions and in joining all those who had settled upon the hunting grounds of the Cherokees to depart with their families and effects without the loss of time, as they would answer their disobedience to the injunctions and prohibitions expressed, at their peril.

But information has been received that notwithstanding the said treaty and proclamation upwards of five hundred families have settled on the Cherokee Lands exclusively of those settled between the fork of French Broad and Holstein Rivers mentioned in the said treaty.

As the obstructions to a proper conduct on this matter have been removed since it was mentioned to the Senate on the 22d of August 1789, by the accession of North Carolina to the present Union, and the cessions of the Land in question, I shall conceive myself bound to exert the powers entrusted to me by the Constitution in order to carry into faith tiff execution the treaty of Hopewell, unless it shall be thought proper to attempt to arrange a new boundary with the Cherokees embracing the settlements, and compensating the Cherokees for the cessions they shall make on the occasion. On this point therefore I state the following questions and request the advice of the Senate thereon.

1st. Is it the judgment of the Senate that overtures shall be made to the Cherokees to arrange a new boundary so as to embrace the settlement made by the white people since the treaty of Hopewell in November 1785?

2. If so, shall compensation to the amount of dollars annually of dollars in gross be made to the Cherokees for the land they shall relinquish, holding the occupiers of the land accountable to the United States for its value?

3dly. Shall the United States stipulate solemnly to guarantee the new boundary which may be arranged?

top of page

View the <u>original document</u>, from <u>George Washington Papers</u>, <u>1741-1799</u>. Use your browser's Back Button to return to this point.

"Our Hearts are Sickened": Letter from Chief John Ross of the Cherokee, Georgia, 1836

By President Andrew Jackson's election in 1828, the only large concentrations of Indian tribes remaining on the east coast were located in the South. The Cherokee had adopted the settled way of life of the surrounding—and encroaching—white society. They were consequently known, along with the Creek, Seminole, Chickasaw, and Choctaw, as one of the "Five Civilized Tribes." "Civilization," however, was not enough, and the Jackson administration forced most of these tribes west during the first half of the 1830s, clearing southern territory for the use of whites. Chief John Ross was the principal chief of the Cherokee in Georgia; in this 1836 letter addressed to "the Senate and House of Representatives," Ross protested as fraudulent the Treaty of New Etocha that forced the Cherokee out of Georgia. In 1838, federal troops forcibly displaced the last of the Cherokee from their homes; their trip to Indian Territory (Oklahoma) is known as the "Trail of Tears."

[Red Clay Council Ground, Cherokee Nation, September 28, 1836]

It is well known that for a number of years past we have been harassed by a series of vexations, which it is deemed unnecessary to recite in detail, but the evidence of which our delegation will be prepared to furnish. With a view to bringing our troubles to a close, a delegation was appointed on the 23rd of October, 1835, by the General Council of the nation, clothed with full powers to enter into arrangements with the Government of the United States, for the final adjustment of all our existing difficulties. The delegation failing to effect an arrangement with the United States commissioner, then in the nation, proceeded, agreeably to their instructions in that case, to Washington City, for the purpose of negotiating a treaty with the authorities of the United States.

After the departure of the Delegation, a contract was made by the Rev. John F. Schermerhorn, and certain individual Cherokees, purporting to be a "treaty, concluded at New Echota, in the State of Georgia, on the 29th day of December, 1835, by General William Carroll and John F. Schermerhorn, commissioners on the part of the United States, and the chiefs, headmen, and people of the Cherokee tribes of Indians." A spurious Delegation, in violation of a special injunction of the general council of the nation, proceeded to Washington City with this pretended treaty, and by false and fraudulent representations supplanted in the favor of the Government the legal and accredited Delegation of the Cherokee people, and obtained for this instrument, after making important alterations in its provisions, the recognition of the United States Government. And now it is presented to us as a treaty, ratified by the Senate, and approved by the President [Andrew Jackson], and our acquiescence in its requirements demanded, under the sanction of the displeasure of the United States, and the threat of summary compulsion, in case of refusal. It comes to us, not through our legitimate authorities, the known and usual medium of communication between the Government of the United States and our nation, but through the agency of a complication of powers, civil and military.

By the stipulations of this instrument, we are despoiled of our private possessions, the indefeasible property of individuals. We are stripped of every attribute of freedom and eligibility for legal self-defence. Our property may be plundered before our eyes; violence may be committed on our persons; even our lives may be taken away, and there is none to regard our complaints. We are denationalized; we are disfranchised. We are deprived of membership in the human family! We have neither land nor home, nor resting place that can be called our own. And this is effected by the provisions of a compact which assumes the venerated, the sacred appellation of treaty.

We are overwhelmed! Our hearts are sickened, our utterance is paralized, when we reflect on the condition in which we are placed, by the audacious practices of unprincipled men, who have managed their stratagems with so much dexterity as to impose on the Government of the United States, in the face of our earnest, solemn, and reiterated protestations.

The instrument in question is not the act of our Nation; we are not parties to its covenants; it has not received the sanction of our people. The makers of it sustain no office nor appointment in our Nation, under the designation of Chiefs, Head men, or any other title, by which they hold, or could acquire, authority to assume the reins of Government, and to make bargain and sale of our rights, our possessions, and our common country. And we are constrained solemnly to declare, that we cannot but contemplate the enforcement of the stipulations of this instrument on us, against our consent, as an act of injustice and oppression, which, we are well persuaded, can never knowingly be countenanced by the Government and people of the United States; nor can we believe it to be the design of these honorable and highminded individuals, who stand at the head of the Govt., to bind a whole Nation, by the acts of a few unauthorized individuals. And, therefore, we, the parties to be affected by the result, appeal with confidence to the justice, the magnanimity, the compassion, of your honorable bodies, against the enforcement, on us, of the provisions of a compact, in the formation of which we have had no agency.

In truth, our cause is your own; it is the cause of liberty and of justice; it is based upon your own principles, which we have learned from yourselves; for we have gloried to count your [George] Washington and your [Thomas] Jefferson our great teachers; we have read their communications to us with veneration; we have practised their precepts with success. And the result is manifest. The wildness of the forest has given place to comfortable dwellings and cultivated fields, stocked with the various domestic animals. Mental culture, industrious habits, and domestic enjoyments, have succeeded the rudeness of the savage state.

We have learned your religion also. We have read your Sacred books. Hundreds of our people have embraced their doctrines, practised the virtues they teach, cherished the hopes they awaken, and rejoiced in the consolations which they afford. To the spirit of your institutions, and your religion, which has been imbibed by our community, is mainly to be ascribed that patient endurance which has characterized the conduct of our people, under the laceration of their keenest woes. For assuredly, we are not ignorant of our condition; we are not insensible to our sufferings. We feel them! we groan under their pressure! And anticipation crowds our breasts with sorrows yet to come. We are, indeed, an afflicted people! Our spirits are subdued! Despair has well nigh seized upon our energies! But we speak to the representatives of a Christian country; the friends of justice; the patrons of the oppressed. And our hopes revive, and our

prospects brighten, as we indulge the thought. On your sentence, our fate is suspended; prosperity or desolation depends on your word. To you, therefore, we look! Before your august assembly we present ourselves, in the attitude of deprecation, and of entreaty. On your kindness, on your humanity, on your compassion, on your benevolence, we rest our hopes. To you we address our reiterated prayers. Spare our people! Spare the wreck of our prosperity! Let not our deserted homes become the monuments of our desolation! But we forbear! We suppress the agonies which wring our hearts, when we look at our wives, our children, and our venerable sires! We restrain the forebodings of anguish and distress, of misery and devastation and death, which must be the attendants on the execution of this ruinous compact.

In conclusion, we commend to your confidence and favor, our well-beloved and trust-worthy brethren and fellow-citizens, John Ross, Principal Chief, Richard Taylor, Samuel Gunter, John Benge, George Sanders, Walter S. Adair, Stephen Foreman, and Kalsateehee of Aquohee, who are clothed with full powers to adjust all our existing difficulties by treaty arrangements with the United States, by which our destruction may be averted, impediments to the advancement of our people removed, and our existence perpetuated as a living monument, to testify to posterity the honor, the magnanimity, the generosity of the United States. And your memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray. Signed by Ross, George Lowrey, Edward Gunter, Lewis Ross, thirty-one members of the National Committee and National Council, and 2,174 others.

Source: John Ross, Letter from John Ross, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation of Indians, in Answer to Inquires from a Friend Regarding the Cherokee Affairs with the United States (Washington, D.C., 1836), 22–24.

Compliance Specialist

ABOUT THE POSITION

Equal Justice Works a \$12 million nonprofit organization, seeks a Compliance Specialist to provide programmatic, technical and reporting support to programs funded by AmeriCorps and other federally or state funded programs. The ideal candidate is someone who can quickly learn a set of rules and regulations and apply them to a diverse set of players, ensuring maximum compliance. We also need someone who can critically evaluate and improve the systems of a growing organization. This is an ideal position who wants to apply their talents to a set of vibrant programs putting attorneys and law students into action for social justice, with sites across the country.

Equal Justice Works Federal Programs is the largest federally-funded postgraduate legal fellowship program in the United States. Every year, hundreds of law students graduate with a desire to work on behalf of underserved communities and causes and apply for the opportunity to work for a nonprofit organization or public defender office that has agreed to host a fellow. This year Equal Justice Works funded 98 such fellowships. In the next several years, we hope to grow that number significantly.

Please be sure to click on the following YouTube link for a video clip of the AmeriCorps Veterans Initiative: www.youtube.com/watch?v=y5XOCtks89k.

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and maintain systems to ensure compliance with federal government rules on program management and finances, ensuring maximum compliance without being unduly rigid.
- Develop and maintain systems that make it easy to detect when rules are not being followed.
- Develop training materials and provide training and technical assistance to Equal Justice Works partners (non profit legal aid and public defender offices throughout the country) on financial policies, budgeting procedures, and grant compliance.
- Cultivate strong relationships with Equal Justice Works' partners to ensure that federal government requirements are adhered to, and that all reporting is accurate, on time, and goes above and beyond what our funders ask for.
- Review and approve host site applications, budgets, reimbursement forms and closeout materials.
- Collaborate with information technology staff and consultants to develop and maintain systems for recording and tracking grant proposals, awards, budgets, expenditures, documents, and related information.
- Develop training, informational updates, and newsletter articles for stakeholders that encourage compliance with rules and regulations. Assist with applications for federal funding, reporting, processing and selecting program applicants, and other processes.

EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree and a minimum of three years of relevant work experience;
- Track record of developing and maintaining systems to facilitate adherence to program requirements.
- Attention to detail, the ability to multitask, and deadline management skills.
- Experience in developing training materials and providing training both in person on through webinars.
- Ability to work with a team and to interact with a diverse group of people.
- Ability to work with Microsoft Office suite of productivity tools and online database.
- Experience working with federally-funded grants or contracts strongly preferred.
- Experience with quality improvement, process management, workflow, or other systems improvement preferred.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

Salary commensurate with experience, comprehensive and generous benefits package included. Some travel will be required.

TO APPLY

Send cover letter detailing how your experience meets the above qualifications, résumé, writing sample, and salary requirement to: wwinfield@equaljusticeworks.org Applications without a writing sample will not be reviewed. **Résumés will be reviewed as they are received. No telephone calls please.**

The 15th annual Neighborhood Partners Fund (NPF) application process has begun, offering registered city of Las Vegas neighborhood associations the opportunity to apply for a maximum of \$5,000 to help improve the quality of their neighborhoods. Applicants are encouraged to register and attend one of six workshops scheduled during July to learn about the program and the paperless method of applying for the grant. The next workshop is Wednesday, July 11. Complete information about NPF grants is available on the city of Las Vegas website. Residents with questions can contact Maria Castillo-Couch at 229-6681. The deadline for applications is Aug. 9, 2012.

School Programs

School Visits

- Reservations required, no admission charge
- Chaperons requested at one adult for every five children
- Information packet sent for each teacher with reservation
- Clipboard Tours focusing questions for each gallery included in teacher packet
- Museum clipboards and pencils available for use during visit

Obvious need for another trunk! sdc

Call Stacy Irvin at 702.822.8746 or emai <u>sirvin@nevadaculture.org</u> to make a reservation. (*pun intended? sdc*)

Traveling History Trunks

A trunk-on-wheels loan program of artifacts, reproductions, reprint books and informational materials on: Women in Nevada 1850-1920, Pioneer Children 1850-1920, Mining in Nevada, Centennial Las Vegas

- Loan period of two to three weeks
- Teacher pick up and return of trunk to museum
- Advance reservations required

Artifacts found in Women in Nevada 1850-1920 Artifacts found in Pioneer Children 1850-1920 Artifacts found in Mining in Nevada Artifacts found in Centennial Las Vegas

Call Stacy Irvin at 702-486.5205 x 8746 or email sirvin@nevadaculture.org to reserve a trunk.

W: Western portion of the Territory of Utah annexed May 5, 1866

 Northwestern portion of the <u>Territory of Arizona</u> annexed January 18, 1867 Sioux Indians, strangely organized into military Masonic lodges, wiped out 700 citizens of New Ulm, Minnesota and the surrounding area, while the town's young men were off in the Union Army. Albert Pike was at the time the Confederate general officially in charge of arranging Indian attacks against the Union; Minnesota was also part of Commander Pike's Masonic Southern Jurisdiction. Judah Benjamin based his main secret service group in Montreal, a safe haven since Canada was then still British territory. They coordinated across the border with Golden Circle networks in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin, and with the August Belmont Democratic Party machine in New York. Agents led by Jacob Thompson planned prison breaks, tried to burn down northern cities, and instigated anti-draft riots in which drunken mobs lynched black people and burned orphanages. This ugliness was in vain. But just when Lincoln's nationalist money policies and our industrial strength overwhelmed the rebellion, President Lincoln was murdered. A dragnet went out for the Confederate secret service operators, accused of participation in the assassination. Albert Pike escaped and joined Jacob Thompson in Canada. Judah Benjamin fled to England, joining the exiled Robert Toombs and James Bulloch. John Slidell staved permanently in France. Confederate secret service agent John Surratt made it to Italy and hid in the Vatican, while Surratt's mother was convicted and hanged on the charge of plotting with John Wilkes Booth to kill Lincoln. John Surratt was discovered and returned for trial. He was acquitted. But in 1870, Surratt admitted publicly that he had plotted with Booth to "abduct" Lincoln. http://www.topix.com/forum/city/ukiah-ca/T75LFRFIVAKVPF6HE

Kivalina: A Climate Change Story

archive.truthout.org

Climate change was already affecting life in Alaska Native villages. In December 2003, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) went on to report that most of Alaska's more than two hundred native villages were affected to some degree by flooding and erosion.

On 21 April 1775, after the first shots were fired at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, Dunmore seized the Virginia gunpowder supply in Williamsburg (as Governor Gates had recently done in Massachusetts). Many white Virginians believed that the governor had left them defenseless against their slaves, and in the midst of swirling insurrection rumors as slaves took advantage of the increasing chaos of the period. The following day, the Governor threatened to emancipate the slaves and burn Williamsburg down if any one of the senior British officials was harmed. He also reminded white Virginians of their vulnerability not only to slave insurrection but to Indian attacks, especially if they were without his support.

Virginians naturally interpreted such statements as a powerful threat, and the white reaction was, in historian Woody Holton's words, "intensely hostile." 110 The reports of Dunmore's scheme to liberate the slaves in exchange for their military support and his threat to leave colonists exposed to Indian raids soon spread across the South, inflaming white colonial opinion. Rumors abounded that Parliament was considering an emancipation bill, or that a new British official would soon arrive to free the slaves and encourage an insurrection.

Dunmore actually <u>followed through</u> on his threat in November 1775, but he did not make general emancipation a goal of the war, only offering freedom to those slaves who signed up with the British army. <u>Dunmore's decision</u> resulted in the financial devastation of many slaveowners in Virginia, and the specter of armed slaves fighting their old masters was terrifying—but the

institution of <u>slavery survived</u> intact. And Dunmore's gambit failed to secure Virginia for the crown. By the summer of 1776, Dunmore's forces were outnumbered and he had to retreat to New York City, while his actions had turned Loyalists ambivalent and even many loyalist colonists into Patriots by endangering all of them. Native Virginian Thomas Jefferson saw to it that Dunmore's proclamation became what historian Woody Holton characterized as "the largest and angriest complaint in the Declaration of Independence," the last of the 27 enumerated <u>complaints</u> against the tyranny of the British monarchy that were offered to justify American independence.<u>111</u>

Indians also factored into the gentry's decision to lead the way for independence in more than one respect. After mid-century, it seemed that every planter's favorite investment scheme was real estate: specifically, the lands west of the Appalachian Mountains. Land speculators began staking claims in the Ohio River Valley and Kentucky. These claims brought the gentry into direct conflict with a number of parties: the western settlers who were already living out there and working the land as their own; tribes such as the Mingos, Shawnees, Delawares, and Cherokees, who lived and hunted throughout those regions; and the British government, which often disputed such claims and then shut them down entirely with the Proclamation of 1763 that forbade any settlement west of the Appalachians. While they may have resented the gentry for laying claim to the lands they were already working, western settlers had one major commonality with the colonial elites: both groups wanted free reign to expand westward beyond the Proclamation Line of 1763. Independence offered a means of obtaining the coveted land. In this respect, as in the others previously discussed, elites sometimes opted for independence out of personal interest, as did the poorer farmers and settlers.

http://www.shmoop.com/american-revolution/economy.html

http://www.history.com/shows/america-the-story-of-us/videos/the-brooklyn-bridge#the-last-of-the-sioux