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“In 1868 men came out and brought papers. We could not read them and they did not tell us truly what was in them. We thought the treaty was to remove the forts, and that we should then cease from fighting. But they wanted to send us traders on the Missouri. We did not want to go on the Missouri but wanted traders where we were. When I reached out to Washington the Great Father explained to me what the treaty was, and showed me that the interpreters had deceived me. All I want is right and justice.”

Red Cloud, in a speech at a reception in his honor at the Cooper Union  
“The Great Chief: Red Cloud Meets His White Brethren at Cooper Institute,”  
*New York Times*, June 17, 1870

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Red Cloud, Oglala Lakota, explains to his audience the consequences of different understandings of the language contained in the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868. Language barriers often led to misunderstandings and even deceit in treaty negotiations.