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WRITTEN AND EDITED BY JOE JOURNALIST



George A. Crofutt, "American Progress," ca. 1873. Chromolithograph after an 1872 oil painting by John Gast, courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ppmsca-09855

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Bison skulls, ca. 1890. Photograph courtesy of the Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library.



Map of the Louisiana Purchase Territory; 1903. Records of the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group 49.

When Indians gave their word and smoked the pipe, they sent the smoke to the Creator. It was sacred, and the treaty was good in the eyes of all. The white men had to go back and ask other white men if they could keep their promises and make good on their word.

— Vine Deloria Jr., quoted in the introduction to *Nation to Nation: Treaties Between the United States and American Indian Nations*, ed. Suzan Shown Harjo (Washington, D.C. and New York: Smithsonian Institution, 2014), 3