

ces, amounting to above 25,000l.* has never been obtained. The war having at length put an end to the baleful treaty of 1783, an opportunity is offered to us to redress the wrongs of the Indians; for we dare assert, and recent facts have gone far in establishing the truth of the proposition, that the Canadas cannot be effectually and durably defended, *without the friendship of the Indians, and the command of the lakes and river St. Laurence.*† Of this friendship we cannot be assured, without rendering the Indian country *completely independent of the United States*, by a new line of boundary. Nor can the command of the lakes and the river long remain in our hands, unless we establish the means of maintaining them; in other words, unless the naval force distributed upon them, be, in all respects, equipped as vessels of war, with officers and seamen from His Majesty's navy. For the American vessels on lake Ontario, and those which they are preparing to build on the lakes, are to be commanded by officers of their navy, and manned with efficient sailors. If we secure a naval superiority on the lakes and river, and enjoy the friendship of the Indians; the Canadas, by the efforts of their own inhabitants, together with the aid of a competent force of regular troops, will be found invulnerable by America. The events that have already occurred, shew the vast importance of the fidelity and attachment of the Indians to us, and the expediency of maintaining a naval superiority on the lakes. Indeed, the jeremiahd of the American GENERAL HULL, in his official dispatch to his government, announcing the fate of his army, ought to be regarded by his Majesty's government, as a standing memento, *never to overlook these objects.* There cannot be a stronger proof of the indignation cherished by the Indians against American injustice, than the general, and almost simultaneous, movement among them, on their first knowledge of our war with the United States. *They hailed that event as the precursor of an æra when their wrongs should be redressed, and security obtained against their future recurrence. Accordingly, they flocked to the British standard; and, by their timely co-operation, an handful of British soldiers, from the post of St. Joseph, with the British traders and men in their service, immediately captured the American Fort of Michilimakinac, without shedding a drop of blood. Before this was effected, the Americans under GENERAL HULL, had in-*

* New Quarterly Review, No. II p. 393.

† See "the British Treaty, p. 35," by which it appears, it is intended on the part of the United States to claim "an equal right of navigation of the river St. Laurence, from the sea."