

directed to use his own discretion. In the event of another defeat of the American troops he believed that the generosity shown by the cessation of the western posts might induce the people of the United States to agree to the adjustment of a satisfactory boundary, but observed that owing to the increase of their western settlements Great Britain would surely lose the peltry trade. The valuable fur trade with the North-west, could not be acquired by the United States in any event. The results of permitting the Indians to conclude a treaty with the United States without intervention would be most serious. As soon as the frontier forts were occupied by the Americans there would be nothing to prevent the Indians from attacking the Canadian settlements. Brant had already informed him that the Senecas residing at Buffalo Creek had threatened him and his people with vengeance if the western Indians were crushed and he thought it probable that this quarrel would be fomented by subjects of the United States.*

Writing to Mr. Dundas, Simcoe reiterated his opinion that the increase of the military force in Upper Canada would be the means of preventing a war with the United States, but should the mediation of Great Britain be "accepted by them to procure a permanent peace with the Indians so that we should preserve a national consequence with those people and not let our connexion or command rest upon the personal tenure of the frail lives of Butler and McKee, as I believe it does at present, I should deem it unnecessary."**

William Johnson, the interpreter detailed to accompany the deputation of chiefs and warriors of the Five Nations, living at Buffalo appointed to attend the council in the west, kept a record of his journey in the form of diary which has been preserved.

"August 29, 1792.—Left Niagara with Captain Bunbury. On the 30th arrived at Fort Erie; remained for two days, and then set sail for Detroit on the Chippawa, Captain Harrow,

* Simcoe to Hammond, Niagara, September 27, 1792.

** Simcoe to Dundas, Navy Hall, November 4, 1792.