

Brant," and led to the surprise and almost defeat of the entire party under Gen. Herkimer. Capt. Brant with a strong force of Indians, with true Indian sagacity, formed an ambuscade in a position admirably fitted for the purpose. The whole rebel army, with the exception of the rear guard, fell into the trap, and would have been destroyed had not a severe storm of thunder, lightning and rain, put a stop to the work of death. Col. Claus in a letter to Secretary Cox, dated, November 6th, 1777, compliments Joseph Brant for his distinguished services, and that of his party on this occasion. In November, 1777, Cols. Bolton and Butler wrote to Sir William Howe from Niagara, that Joseph Brant was there, and with themselves, waiting his orders, wishing to know when and where they can be of use, saying they only wish to know the time and place, as they were confident of being well supported.