

" Brother,

" We conclude in assuring you that we shall shut our ears to the chattering of evil birds and request that you will do the same, so that nothing in future may disturb our united friendship."

It was, however, alleged by Col. Claus that the popularity of Norton arose from his profuse expenditure and, according to Col. Caldwell, acting deputy Superintendent General, he was lavishing goods on the other tribes to win them over to be under his own control, and Col. Caldwell adds: " It appears to be his wish to gain over the Western Indians at any rate and make Government pay any price, his ambition will impose."

Neywash, one of the chiefs of the Western Indians, confirmed this and said: " As to the Snipe (Captain Norton) having got some of our young men to join him, I only say, he speaks loud and has strong milk and big breasts, which yield plentifully. You know, Father, your children are fond of milk and he gives when they go to him and promises them provisions as they want and goods at discretion. If you will do so, Father, they will not go to him, but we cannot keep our young men in our hands. Now, Father, I have told you the cause of their going to the Snipe."

The differences between Claus and Norton continued unabated, greatly, as Sir Gordon Drummond reports, to the detriment of the service, Norton issuing orders to Claus in an imperious style (see series C, vol. 257, pp. 373, &c.) In the Spring of 1815 the situation was not improved and Sir Gordon Drummond recommended that Norton should be allowed to retire with a pension during pleasure. The object of this, Sir Gordon stated, was to secure Norton's influence with the Indians, as otherwise he might exert it perniciously. A letter addressed to Lt. Col. Foster, Sir Gordon Drummond's Secretary, about a fortnight after (24th March, 1815), showed that Norton considered himself as principal chief of the Grand River Indians (series C, vol. 258, p. 47), and on the 18th of the following May he wrote again to Lt. Col. Foster, thanking Sir Gordon Drummond for liberating him from the disputes, and intricacies of the Indian department and offering to transfer his services to the seat of war in Flanders.

On the 26th of July, 1815, Sir Gordon Drummond gave Norton a letter of introduction to Lord Bathurst, as he was going to London, taking with him his wife and son, described by Sir Gordon as a lad. Sir Gordon spoke in high terms of Norton's knowledge of the Indian nations and added: " This man is of the coolest and most undaunted courage and has led the Indians with the greatest gallantry and much effect on many occasions against the enemy, particularly at Queenston under the late Major General Sir Isaac Brock."

Whatever might be the opinion entertained of his fighting qualities, his other characteristics, were not held in much esteem and Lieut.-Governor Gore interposed obstacles to the payment of the pension granted by General Drummond on the ground of Norton's unworthiness, alleging that authority must first be given by the King before the pension could be paid. The result of the confidence reposed in him by Sir George Prevost was, according to Lieut.-Governor Gore, to make him insolent and insubordinate to such a degree that Sir Gordon Drummond found it necessary that he should be allowed to retire from the Indian department with a