

his friend the Duke of Northumberland, by letter, in June, 1823. A correspondence of some length ensued, and repeated efforts were made to compass a satisfactory and final arrangement of the vexed and long-pending controversy. But these efforts were as unsuccessful in the end as they had been in the beginning.

While in England upon this mission, the young chief determined to vindicate the memory of his father from the aspersions that had been cast upon it there. Campbell's "*Gertrude of Wyoming*" had then been published several years. The subject and general character of that delightful work are too well and universally known to require an analysis in this place. With a poet's license, Mr. Campbell had not only described the valley as a terrestrial paradise, but represented its inhabitants as being little, if any, inferior in their character, situation, and enjoyments, to the spirits of the blessed. Into a community thus innocent, gay, and happy, he had introduced the authors of the massacre of 1778, led on by "the monster Brant." This phrase gave great offence to the family of the old chief, as also did the whole passage in which it occurred.

John Brant had previously prepared himself with documents to sustain a demand upon the poet for justice to the memory of his father; and in December, 1821, his friend Bannister waited upon Mr. Campbell, with an amicable message, opening the door for explanations. A correspondence ensued, only a portion of which has been preserved among the papers of John Brant; but in a note of the latter to the poet, dated the 28th of December, the young chief thanked him for the candid manner in which he had received his request. The documents with which the chief had furnished himself for the occasion were thereupon enclosed to Mr. Campbell, and the result was a long explanatory letter from the poet, which has been very generally republish-