

tures were being taken to punish their treachery and cruelty, exhorting them to make peace in time, and inviting them to a grand council at Niagara. As they had suffered severely by the stoppage of the presents made every year, and from the suspension of the free trade by which their supplies of ammunition on which their daily provision depended, were cut off; as they began to understand that the power had departed from the French and that they had made no impression on the English, they were impelled by policy as well as necessity to accept the overtures. Accordingly all the tribes except the Delawares, Senecas, and such of the Ottawas as adhered to Pontiac's fortunes were represented.

By a judicious system of threats, bribes, and cajoling the astute Indian agent made most advantageous treaties with those turbulent savages, and effectually smoothed the way for the future operations of the troops. Where such a crowd of fickle savages were assembled the presence of the troops was trebly necessary—first, because it impressed them with an idea of the resources of the British; secondly, it enforced respect to the agent; and, thirdly, it made an attack on the fort impossible. They were accordingly detained at Niagara till 6th August, on which day they marched to Fort Schlosser, and on the 8th sailed from thence to accomplish the purposes of their expedition. On the 12th, in the neighbourhood of Presqu' Isle, being obliged to camp ashore during a storm on the lakes, he was visited by ten Indian warriors or chieftains, who proclaimed themselves to be deputies from the Delawares and Shawnees, and were empowered to beg for peace in the name and on behalf of those tribes. As the whole of this transaction involved much bitter feeling and mutual recrimination, and evoked a very reprehensible party spirit on the part of the chief actors, it is almost impossible to arrive at the true character of the deputies. One party in Bradstreet's camp, having the whole of the Indian allies on their side, regarded them as spies and wished to put them to death; another, headed by himself, with all his principal officers, believed in their character of ambassadors, and proceeded to treat with them accordingly, the conditions of which were as follows:—

He agreed to refrain from attacking them on condition that the two tribes should, within twenty five days, surrender all their prisoners and conclude a definitive treaty of peace, for which purpose the deputies were to meet him at Sandusky.

Immediately on making this arrangement he despatched a messenger to Colonel Bouquet narrating what he had done, which gave the latter great offence, he being the superior officer; and he so placed the matter before Gage that he got him to disavow Bradstreet's conduct as unauthorized. In the meantime that officer had led

his expedition to Sandusky, at which point the Wyandots, Ottawas, and Miamis met him with a deputation, promising if he would not attack them, to follow him to Detroit and there conclude a treaty. Before his departure he despatched Captain Morris, with several Canadians and friendly Indians, to the Illinois country, in order to persuade the savages to treat of peace, a service of great danger, but one of essential benefit to the objects of both expeditions.

On the 26th of August the expedition arrived at Detroit, whose gallant garrison was at last relieved from a blockade which had lasted fifteen months. Pontiac had retreated to the Maumee, whence he sent a defiance to the English commander. The Indian villages near Detroit were half emptied of their inhabitants, most of whom followed the fortunes of the great chief, while those who remained were sincerely desirous of peace, the war having involved them in great distress by cutting off the free trade from which their chief supplies were derived. They readily obeyed the summons of Bradstreet to meet him in council. It was held in the open air on the seventh September, with all the circumstances of military pomp necessary to inspire awe and respect in the minds of the assembled savages. The tribes represented were the Ottawas, Pottawatomes, Miamis, Sacs, and Wyandots. The Sandusky tribes were represented by Wasson, chief of the Ojibawas, the same by whom Major Campbell was put to death the previous year. Being a distinguished orator he opened the council in a speech carefully considered, deprecating the anger of the English, and blaming, as in all such cases, the younger warriors and old chiefs. Bradstreet would accept no excuses, and would grant no peace except as follows:—

"1. Yourself, and the nations you represent, must acknowledge that you are subjects and children of His Majesty George III., of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith; and that he has the sole right of sovereignty over all and every part of this country in as full and ample a manner as in any part of his other dominions whatever.

"2. If any nation or tribe of Indians herein comprehended, dare violate this peace, the others shall look on themselves as bound to make war upon the offenders, separately, or jointly with the English and their allies, at all times when they shall be commanded by His Majesty, his general, or officer appointed for that purpose, and reduce to reason the offenders or extirpate them, and that you will, whenever commanded, take up arms and join His Majesty's troops or other his subjects against any of his enemies whatever, and use your utmost endeavours to execute the orders that may be given you for that purpose; and you may be assured of the protection of the King your father, and what assistance you may stand in need of at all times.

"3. That you may show further proofs of your duty and obedience to the King your father, should it happen that any Indians belonging to the hereinbefore mentioned

nations, plunder or kill any of His Majesty's subjects in this or any other of his colonies now settled or that hereafter may be settled, you are voluntarily and immediately to deliver the offender up to the officer commanding this garrison to be tried and punished agreeable to the laws and customs of this colony at that time in force.

"4. You must deliver up all prisoners and deserters that you have as soon as possible. Should any white people desert to you, you are to send them immediately prisoners to the post or settlement nearest to you; but when any families come to settle by permission of the King, you are to esteem them as friends and brothers.

"5. The French commanding officers have at times granted lands in some of your villages. To give you a testimony of my intentions to do you the greatest justice, I will oblige all persons settled on such lands to remove immediately.

"6. At the request of Captain Morris, whom I have sent round to all the southern nations respecting the general peace, and also on account of Pontiac's submission and promise of future good behaviour and friendship to the English, I do hereby pardon him, and he may meet me with the utmost safety at Sandusky.

"By the power and authority to me given and granted by His Excellency the Honorable Major General Thomas Gage, Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's forces in North America, the above are the terms on which I grant peace to the nations heretofore mentioned—that is to say, the Ottawas, Chippewas, and others hereunto subscribing. Given under my hand and seal the 7th day of September, 1764.

(Signed)

"JOHN BRADSTREET."

"By the power to us given by the nations we represent, we do in their names, together with ourselves, most gratefully accept the terms above granted, and we most solemnly bind ourselves and them to the true performance of each article in every respect.

"In witness thereof we have hereunto affixed the arms of the nations we represent, at Detroit, this 7th day of September, 1764, in the fourth year of the reign of our now sovereign Lord King George, &c."

The signatures are, a stork, an eel, a stag; the totems of the Ojibawa, Shawnee, and part of the Ottawa tribes.

"We hereunto subscribing, and several principal men of our nations of Hurons being present at the above submission made by the Ottawas and Chippewas (Ojibawas), and at the peace granted to them, and being unanimously of opinion that nothing can tend so much to the real safety and happiness of all the Indians on this continent as following their example in begging the protection and making themselves subjects of His Majesty King George III., and at all times obeying his will and commands, and strictly keeping up to every article of the submission made by the Chippewas and Ottawas, and the peace granted to them as fully and amply as the said Ottawas and Chippewas, promising most faithfully never to violate or depart from any article therein contained.

"In witness thereof we have hereunto set the arms of the nation of Hurons, this 7th day of September, 1764, and in the fourth year, &c."

The signature is a deer with a cross. This totem belonged to that part of the Wyandot tribe professing Christianity, and who were prevented by their priest, Father Pathier, from joining in the siege of Detroit till com-