

Lower Canada had become uneasy, and they finally gave notice of their determination to return to their homes in these terms :

“BROTHERS,—The Seven Nations of Canada salute you. We have remained here some time, and no time is mentioned when anything is likely to take place. Our young men are going and only the old people remain. At first we were told only four or five days and we would see the fight. We have waited patiently ; a month has passed, and it has not yet taken place. It is said that it is the fleet you are waiting for, and now that it is out, it cannot be long before it must, come and as we wish to see the end of this, we now tell you that we will wait ten days, and after that you will not think it hard if we return to do something for our families, and as the Six Nations have sent for their young men, we think that surely before the ten days are out they must be down and our small number will not be missed.”

To this speech Claus replied :—

“BROTHERS,—I thank you. The general wishes me to speak to you on behalf of the poor people about us who have complained that they lose everything about their places and he requests that you will exert yourselves to prevent these acts of cruelty. It is very hard upon these poor people, for on the one hand they are injured by the enemy, and on the other by us.”

A chief said :—“The provisions are not enough and the young men go on the hunt for something to eat. Your people take the poor people's things and our men are blamed.”

The superintendent assured them that their wants should be supplied, and a chief known as The Echo replied : I hope our brothers from the West will listen and desist. We understand our father desires that no more liquor than the usual allowance should be given us. It is right. We see the injury it does.

“We are wrong and confess our faults. It seemed as if these men wished to side with the strongest. We have taken