

8 THE OTTAWA WAR CHIEF

views, but further proposed that dogs should be used to hunt them down. 'You will do well,' Amherst wrote to Bouquet, 'to try to inoculate the Indians by means of Blankets as well as to try every other method that can serve to extirpate this Execrable Race. I should be very glad if your scheme for hunting them down by dogs could take effect, but England is at too great a Distance to think of that at present.' And Major Henry Gladwyn, who, as we shall see, gallantly held Detroit through months of trying siege, thought that the unrestricted sale of rum among the Indians would extirpate them more quickly than powder and shot, and at less cost.

There was, however, one British officer, at least, in America who did not hold such views towards the natives of the soil. Sir William Johnson, through his sympathy and generosity, had won the friendship of the Six Nations, the most courageous and the most cruel of the Indian tribes.¹ It has been said by a recent writer that Johnson was 'as much Indian as white man.'² Nothing could be more misleading. Johnson was simply an enlightened

¹ For more about Sir William Johnson see *The War Chief of the Six Nations* in this Series.

² Lucas's *A History of Canada, 1763-1812*, p. 58.