

satisfaction that no Indians were assembled on the Mississippi, and that no French troops were present to support any hostile attack. He had feared that the Indians might be induced to resent the treatment they had received, being left to fight the United States alone, and accept peace after having repeatedly defeated them. Much of the information sent by Brant was found to be unreliable, and his conduct gave ground for the necessity of caution in dealing with him.

In 1799 a road was completed from York to the bay of Quinté; and it could be stated that there was a passable highway through the province from Quebec to Sandwich.

On the 13th of July Hunter had arrived at Quebec. As has been said, he remained in Lower Canada until Prescott's departure; it was not until the 15th of August that he reached York, and assumed the government.

From the circumstance that Hunter was at the same time in chief command of the forces, he had frequently to be present at Quebec. His appointment as lieutenant-governor of Ontario, in connection with the performance of these military duties, was attended with inconvenience and was never repeated. To obviate any obstruction to carrying on the government, he nominated the chief justice, Russell and Grant to act in his absence as might be expedient. By these means the provincial business was transacted without interference or delay.

In the beginning of 1800 a fatal duel took place, in which the attorney-general, White, was killed by Small, clerk of the council. Small, having traced to White a report reflecting on the good reputation of Mrs. Small, asked for an explanation. The answer not being satisfactory, Small sent a message to the attorney-general. They met the following morning, the 3rd of January, when White received a serious wound in his side. He lingered in great pain until the evening of the 4th, when he died. Mr. Small surrendered himself to justice. It does not appear that any prosecution followed. White left a wife and large family. He