

was a necessity to put a stop to the Indian depredations, it was determined to detach a force for the relief of this place, and General Bradstreet was selected to take the command on this occasion.

The knowledge of the customs, manners, and language of the Indians, which Mr. Henry had acquired during his residence among them, rendered him a highly useful auxiliary in this undertaking, and he was prevailed upon to accompany the force sent under General Bradstreet's command, for the relief of Detroit. In this service, however, he did not go as an idle spectator. From among the friendly Indians at Niagara at the time, a battalion was formed to accompany the regular troops, and the command of it was given to him, as the most suitable person for such a charge. These were but of little service, for, partly from excuses many of them made, when ordered to march, and partly from their deserting on the way, before they had proceeded far on their expedition, his battalion was reduced to a mere skeleton, and very few accompanied the expedition the whole way.

After surmounting so many difficulties, and having had the good fortune to escape so many dangers, this his second return to the Indian country, may by some, be looked upon as an act of rashness and inconsideration. But Mr. H. had many inducements to undertake this step: he was assured that whenever Detroit should be relieved, a party of regular troops would be detached from thence to Michilimackinac. At the surprise of this last place, he had lost a great deal of property, and hopes were held out to him, of either being able to recover part of it, or of receiving indemnification for his loss. And, lastly, he had a number of debts owing to him at the Sault Sainte Marie, and he was in hopes, by going there in person he might recover a part of them. Under the impulse of all these inducements, and in the hopes of rendering his acquaintance with the Indian character serviceable to the expedition, he accordingly set out. Fortunately, the object was accomplished without bloodshed. In the course of their journey, the Indians came in from all quarters, and entered into friendly terms with the English, and at last a definitive treaty of peace was concluded at Detroit, in August, 1764. Soon after this, we find him in company with a party of British regulars, commanded by Captain Howard, and about 300 Canadian volunteers, setting out for Fort Michilimackinac. On their arrival at the last mentioned place, pacific arrangements were also entered into with the Ottawa and Chipewa Indians; and the whole country being thus tranquillized, the subject of our memoir was left at liberty to pursue his own business and to attend to his own affairs.

The first object which engaged his attention was the attempt to recover what he could of the debts owing to him about the Sault Sainte Marie; and, with this intention, he determined on proceeding thither to spend the winter; and where he informs us he was successful.

The fur trade of Canada, while the country formed a colony of France, had, as we have already seen, been under a diversity of strict rules and regulations, all tending to encourage monopolies, and to place in the hands of government the right of granting or withholding licenses to pursue this trade. And although this pernicious system was much curtailed when Canada became a colony of Eng-