

them to the English. The Senecas came late but kept their promise of bringing in prisoners, and ratified the treaty made at Johnson Hall, giving in addition the islands in the Niagara river to Johnson himself, who shortly after made them over to the crown. There must have been a large force of soldiers too as Bradstreet had joined Johnson's 550 Iroquois warriors, all had marched to Fort Niagara for this meeting.

Now comes the troublous period of the American Revolution when for a number of years this was the spot where refugees took shelter, where Indians were fed at immense expense by the British government, the spot whence expeditions went out to rescue prisoners or to execute vengeance, where Indian captives were ransomed. During part of this time there lived here Col. John Butler, Sir Wm. Johnson, Molly Brant, Col. Guy Johnson, Chief Brant or Thyengea. These names are handed down in American histories as monsters of cruelty. One says "the infamous tory Col. John Butler and his still more infamous son Walter Butler" and the poet Campbell in *Gertrude of Wycming* uses the phrase the Monster Brant, as partaking in the slaughter, while it is well known he was not present. Capt. John Brant, his son, when in England visited the poet and conclusively proved this, but no vindication was given except a few lines in fine print in a foot note and the obnoxious passage still remains in the poem. It is well known also that Col. Butler showed every kindness possible to prisoners, saved many lives and restrained all that was in his power the Indians, but in the lust of battle the passions are inflamed and men "see red." Both parties availed themselves of the aid of the Indians. In the passionate denunciation of Lord Chatham for the use of the Indians we must remember that part of his zeal was political, just as now in England, Canada and the neighboring republic the party out of power avail themselves of every weapon legitimate or otherwise to attack those in power. Col. Butler in 1777 heard of a party of fugitives, thirty one in number, consisting of women and children who had to flee from the ill treatment of the Revolutionists, had them brought to Fort Niagara for safety, and it is said there was only one pair of shoes in the whole party. The names of Secord, Nelles, Rowe and Buck are given. In the story 1782, of the Gilbert Captivity a household of eleven having been brought as captives from Pennsylvania several were purchased from the Indians, a boy visited his sister living at the home of John Secord where she was well treated. Another was ransomed by Col. Butler and sent to the Fort for safety and the whole party were eventually restored to their homes by the kindness of British officers. Mrs. Campbell was brought as a prisoner to the