

later day by Pownall in relation to the final and successful form of the Plan described hereafter. He had obtained the valuable adherence of Colonel Francis Nicholson, former Governor of New York, and now of Massachusetts, the same to whom Bayard had described the idea in 1689, who was to assist in the attack, with forces to start from Albany to consist of 1500 men contributed by the united colonies while provisions for three months were to be previously deposited at Wood Creek. Vetch, with rank of colonel, was to accompany the fleet to Quebec, and it was specially stipulated that Colonel Peter Schuyler was to be secured and given the practical command of the land expedition; as Nicholson was no soldier. The fleet failed to arrive that year, so in 1710 (1) Schuyler proceeded to England at his own expense and took with him to the court of Queen Anne five of the principal Five Nation chiefs in order both to strengthen their allegiance and especially to arouse interest in Britain for he held and expressed the firm conviction that, through their predominance over all other tribes, they held "the balance of power in North America." He was completely successful. References to the "Indian Kings" and "Mohawks" in the *Spectator*, show the popularity of the visit, and it had substantial results in military aid. Queen Anne became personally very friendly to him, presented him with his portrait, a set of silver plate, and one of diamonds for his wife, and repeatedly urged him to accept knighthood, which however

(1) Smith's Hist. of N. Y. See post.