

we restore a single acre of that country, by which they would be repossessed of the means of acting against us, our prospect would be dreadful indeed. A general confederacy I am persuaded would be immediately formed betwixt the Ohio Indians, and the upper Five Nations; for I will suppose the constancy and fidelity of the Mohawks are not by any consideration to be moved. To this confederacy, those tribes inhabiting the banks of the lakes Huron, Erie, and Ontario, must of necessity accede, as Niagara and Oswego, from whence they draw all their necessaries of life, would soon fall from our hands, by being cut off from the means of support in the manner I have already explained*.

As

* The tribes here meant consist of Hurons, Wyandots, Puttawatamies, Uttawas, Chippawawas and Messasagas.