

the Michigan Territory. These were to have been at Detroit by the time their plans were matured, and on the first intimation of war, to march over and take possession of Amherstburgh, and that before we possibly could have been prepared to receive them, pushed through the country to Burlington Heights or Fort George, and thus accomplish their own measures. Happily their tardy movements frustrated these designs, and turned their mighty preparations to their greater discomfiture; as counter orders arrived to act only on the defensive, and protect our own frontier, before the St. George detachment left. The order was, fortunately, not extended to Capt. Roberts; who, shortly after, or about the time Gen. Hull invaded Canada, took possession of Michillimackinac, without the loss of a man. This acquisition, with the noble motives by which Tecumseh was actuated, secured us the friendship of all the western Indians.

About the beginning of July, the celebrated and magnanimous Chief Tecumseh, arrived at Amherstburgh, with about one hundred and fifty Indians of the Shawnee Tribe; and by his singular tact and address, soon gained over the Wyandotts, which, with some others arriving, made a force of between five and six hundred. Self preservation is alone a sufficient plea for our having recourse to the assistance of those warriors. The weaker and invaded party is perfectly justifiable in resorting to every means in their power for defence. The natives had commenced hostilities against the whites some time since, and certainly every candid and unbiassed person must say they had sufficient reasons for so doing, by the settlers unwarrantable encroachments on their lands and property. Every friend of humanity must deprecate the savage mode of warfare: to alleviate and restrain which, as much as possible, a grand council of war was held at Amherstburgh, where their Chiefs solemnly promised to abolish the shocking practice of scalping, likewise to save all prisoners that should fall into their possession.

Part of the Grenadier and battalion companies being sent up, the regular forces of the right division numbered three hundred men. Nearly all the Militia were out, many of whom were deficient in arms, not more than three hundred were in the Fort, the remainder had retired to their homes. Capt. Muir, a most active and enterprising officer, was stationed at Sandwich, with a company of the 41st., and a detachment of Militia, with which force he wished to make a defence, and if beaten, retire to Amherstburgh. He received an order from Col. St. George to retire on the first approach of the enemy, by which means General Hull and his army of twenty-five hundred men were allowed to land on our soil, without a solitary shot to celebrate the event. The first act