

Harmon, St. Clair and Wayne. In 1810, messengers arrived among the Menomonees with war-belts from Tecumseh and the Prophet, inviting them to join their Indian Confederacy against the Americans. I was then at Mackinaw on business, but well remember hearing it, and am confident neither Tecumseh nor the Prophet ever came in person; but I doubt not that a council was called, that the Shawanoe emissary made his harangue, and that Tomah made the reply, as mentioned by Mr. Biddle, in the 1st Vol. of the Society's Collections. But though Tomah's judgment may have been for peace, yet he and his people actively joined the British in the war that ensued.

A part of Tecumseh's plan was to make proselytes to the Prophet's new religion, and one thing that was strongly impressed upon the Indians was, that they should furnish no meat to the whites; but if they should, to be certain that the meat was separated from the bones, and the bones unbroken to be buried at the roots of some tree; and that the Indians should not break any bones of the deer they should kill for their own use, and to bury them as already indicated. Quite a number of the Menomonees embraced the new faith, and were careful not to let the whites have meat, except it was boned; and the Winnebagoes pretty generally obeyed the Prophet's injunctions, and refused to furnish the whites any meat. Louis Bauprez wintered on the Lemonweir, trading with the Winnebagoes, in the winter of 1810-11, and nearly starved, as the Indians refused to furnish him any meat, and he had some of the time to cook and eat hides. I spent that winter on Pine river, and had much trouble to get meat of the Menomonees and Winnebagoes, and by refusing to sell them ammunition until they should supply me with meat, finally constrained them to compliance.

Early in 1812, Col. Robert Dickson arrived at Green Bay with a party of about one hundred Sioux, and were joined by Tomah, and probably a hundred of his Menomonees—I