

theme of Williams by night and by day. He could hardly restrain his conversation within the bounds of reason or probability.

What of the Indians? But a meager state of favor toward it had as yet been produced among them. The great object was to get the consent of the Senecas. Runners and emissaries were employed; and finally a grand council of all the bands was assembled. Williams laid the project before them in his best style. The chiefs treated the proposal with grave consideration—heard the reasons proposed for it with most serious attention. After a day's consideration they were ready with their answer. In most emphatic terms they refused; the famous Red Jacket being chief speaker.* The council was ended, and Williams resorted to other means which was, to find *individuals*, some of the *young men* who would go as delegates on their own private account. After a week's time one was discovered, a young Seneca of good parts, who remained true to the undertaking for years; but who never could persuade another of the tribe to his way of thinking.

And here it is to be observed, that in the whole of this effort to remove the New York Indians to Green Bay, not one of the several tribes, except the Stockbridges and the first Christian party of the Oneidas, ever yielded their assent in due form, in any regular council, or appointed delegates to attend any of the parties going West. It was, however, claimed by Williams, that the St. Regis Indians had duly and solemnly assented; but this was denied, and himself alone was the only delegate; so far as I recollect. Notwithstanding these discouraging set-backs, Williams retained the most enthusiastic faith; said the single men going out on their own accord would serve every purpose, with the sanction of the general government, of making the treaties; and that the good reports they would make on their return, would raise the enthusiasm of the masses; and the chiefs, the old fogies, would be compelled to fall in and sanction the noble enterprise.

* This discomfiture on the part of Williams must have been all the more mortifying from the fact that he had been successful, two years before, in conjunction with the Seneca agents, Jasper Parrish and Horatio Jones, in persuading the Senecas to establish schools and other improvements among them—a large majority of whom had hitherto strenuously opposed any advance towards civilization. See *Niles' Register*, Dec. 11, 1819, p. 244.