

Besides the opposition of the Indians to his grand scheme, Mr. Williams was constantly goaded with petty annoyances, that gave him no peace. There was a population around Oneida that he was having dealings with almost every day, for supplies of different kinds, labor, &c. In these matters of deal he was always in hot water; they complained of his refusing them justice in every way, mostly in delaying payment of their just dues. Almost every day he would have high words with some of them, and they charging him with all manner of injustice. These controversies went so far that he was openly and notoriously charged with dishonesty; and to which accusations he seemed perfectly indifferent. He had no mind or thought for anything but Indian empire. In pursuance of this he was in daily correspondence with the War Department, the Ogden Land Company, and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal church, making in these communications, most unwarrantable representations of the readiness of the Indians to engage in the enterprise, when, as it appeared to me, most of them were in heated opposition.

Early in the summer of 1821, a delegation set out from Oneida and Stockbridge for Green Bay. Excepting those of the first Christian party of the Oneidas, and the Stockbridges, all these delegates, to-wit: one from Onondaga, one from Tuscarora, one from the Senecas and one, Williams himself, from St. Regis, went on their own private responsibility, without any authority from their tribes. If any exception should be made in case of Williams, as for the St. Regis, it never appeared, so far as I could discover, in any authentic form. In fact, with the exception of the first Christian party of the Oneidas, and the Stockbridges, the sentiment was universal, and most emphatically expressed against removal from their homes in New York.

On arriving at Detroit, Gov. Cass added C. C. Trowbridge, Esq., to the delegation to represent and protect the interests of the general government. If human action can be accepted as testimony, the Western Indians were taken entirely by surprise. There was no Indian agent at Green Bay, Col. John Bowyer having died in 1820, and the Indians had not been apprised of the coming