

on education; they were at that very time endeavoring to get English schools established in the settlement. Williams, always profuse in cheap promises, had caused it to be circulated among them, that if they would use their influence with the Menomonees to grant the New York Indians a participation in their country, they should forthwith have established among them the several institutions of civilization, emphasizing that of schools, where their children and young people should receive proper instruction. The Indians as well as the French people comprehended the importance of this proposition; and the latter especially noticed that many of the New York Indian deputies wore the dress of civilization; that they spoke the white man's language, and even some of them could read books and write on paper. These things did not escape their observation, and the proposition of Williams to give them schools made a deep impression; and it is beyond a doubt that both the Indians and the French traders were influenced to consent to the great thing of a joint occupation of the Menomonee country, by these propositions, as much as, or more than, by any pecuniary consideration promised.

It is strange how soon Williams forgot his engagements in this behalf, by which he lost the confidence of the people of the new country, both of the Indians and half-breeds, and of the French; which had he been careful to retain, it is possible the efforts to colonize the New York Indians west of the Great Lakes had not miscarried.

Through the courtesy of Col. Ninian Pinkney, commanding Fort Howard, Williams had been permitted to occupy the old Indian agency buildings, left vacant by the death of Col. Bowyer, late Indian agent. The buildings were somewhat extensive, very comfortable, and affording not only room for family purposes, but also a large, square room which might have been occupied for a school. I proposed that disposition of it to Williams, reminding him of his promise to the people, as also his and my own engagement to the Missionary Board, not doubting he would give it a hearty approval. I was mortified by his only replying with a ribald remark ridiculing my zeal at so early an hour. The inhabitants were in expectation; both the French and Indian impor-