

in Council, & succeeded beyond my hopes, in reconciling them to the Peace. The Chief difficulty was the mortifying cession of this Island. They behaved nobly on the occasion, & I trust I shall be able to effect the object I have so much at heart, of inducing them to follow our fortunes to our new Establishment. I propose visiting them at Arbre Croche in a few days.

MICHILIMACKINAC, 5th May, 1815.

SIR.—In my Letter of the 2nd Instant, I communicated to you the orders of Lt. General Sir Gordon Drummond, as conveyed thro' Lt. Colonel Harvey, Dep't Adg't Gen'l, for the giving up Fort McKay to the Government of the United States, with the Guns which were in it at the time of its capture.

Tho' I have not myself yet seen the Treaty of Ghent, at full length, a circumstance which I exceedingly regret, yet from the heads of it, as stated in several of the Papers, there can be no manner of doubt that the Indians are to be put upon the footing they were on before the war. There is therefore a strange inconsistency which I cannot account for, in the order of Sir Gordon Drummond, directing Fort McKay to be given up to the Americans. It *may* have been the result of inadvertence, & and not recollecting that it is situated in the heart of that Country, which belonged to the Indians in 1812, & is guaranteed to them by the recent treaty. Should this appear to you to be clearly and unequivocally to be the case, from no demand being made of it, or preparations to take possession, or any correspondence upon the subject, there then can be no doubt that the literal meaning & spirit of the Treaty as understood by both Governments *is*, that the Indian country, alluded to, shall be mutually evacuated by both parties. In that case,

neau, was an Ottawa who, having a Pottawattomie wife, was elected a chief in the latter tribe. His village was near Chicago. Dickson accuses him (*Wis. Hist. Colls.*, x., p. 110) of selling to the Americans, news of British movements in 1814.—Ed.