

rights; but the lands that had been promised to them by their Father the "Red Head"¹ in the name of the British government, the Americans had refused to give up. All the terms of the treaty were carefully explained to them. Each paragraph, as it was read out, was immediately interpreted to the different tribes, and the Indians were informed of many circumstances showing that the peace which their Great Father had concluded in their name had become necessary for the good of all his red children.

In reply, all the chiefs, one after the other, stood up and spoke, some of them in noble and affecting terms. The head war-chief of the Sacs, the leading man among those who had been the most strongly opposed to the peace,² after recounting the wrongs which his nation had suffered from the Americans, declared he would follow the good counsel which had been conveyed to them, and would endeavour to cultivate peace; but that he could not answer for his people, if any new act of aggression should be committed against them. Similar sentiments having been expressed by the other chiefs, Lieut. Renville brought forward the pipe of peace, which was tastefully ornamented according to the Indian custom, and presented to the commanding officer, who, having smoked it for a moment in silence, presented it to the nearest war-chief. The pipe was then presented in succession, by Renville, to the other chiefs and warriors in the council, a ceremony by which on behalf of their respective nations they engaged to bury the war-club, and to conform to all the conditions of the peace. The entire proceedings, which had occupied nearly five hours, terminated with a salute of nineteen guns, from the fort, announcing the termination of the war on the Upper Mississippi; and in little more than an hour after the breaking up of the council messengers were on their way to proclaim the reestablishment of peace, in the principal Indian villages throughout the Northwest.

¹ The Indian nickname for Dickson, whom Neill calls (*Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xii., p. 138) "a red-haired Scot."—ED.

² Doubtless Black Hawk, of the Rock River band.—ED.