

and if the Indians would generally turn out and join them, they would advance and fight the American army; that Blue Jacket had been sent by the British to the Chippewas, and Northern Indians, a considerable time since, to invite them, and bring them to *Roche de Bout*, there to join the British and other hostile Indians, in order to go to war.

I do certify, that the foregoing is an exact and true narrative, delivered by the two Shawanese warriors, prisoners, upon examination before me, at Greenville, through my interpreter, Christopher Miller, this 26th day of June, 1794.

Copy of a letter from Major General Wayne to the Secretary of War, dated Head Quarters, Grand Glaize, 14th August, 1794.

SIR:

I have the honor to inform you, that the army under my command took possession of this very important post on the morning of the 8th instant—the enemy, on the preceding evening, having abandoned all their settlements, towns, and villages, with such apparent marks of surprise and precipitation, as to amount to a positive proof, that our approach was not discovered by them, until the arrival of a Mr. Newman, of the Quartermaster General's department, who deserted from the army near the St. Mary's, and gave them every information in his power, as to our force, the object of our destination, state of provision, number and size of the artillery, &c. &c. circumstances and facts that he had but too good an opportunity of knowing, from acting as a field quartermaster on the march, and at the moment of his desertion. Hence, I have good grounds to conclude, that the defection of this villain prevented the enemy from receiving a fatal blow at this place, when least expected.*

I had made such demonstrations, for a length of time previously to taking up our line of march, as to induce the savages to expect our advance by the route of the Miami villages, to the left, or towards Roche de Bout, by the right; which feints appear to have produced the desired effect, by drawing the attention of the enemy to those points, and gave an opening for the army to approach undiscovered by a devious route, i. e. in a central direction, and which would be impracticable for an army, except in a dry season, such as then presented.

Thus, sir, we have gained possession of the grand emporium of the hostile Indians of the West, without loss of blood. The very extensive and highly cultivated fields and gardens, show the work of many hands. The margins of those beautiful rivers, the Miamies of the lake, and Au Glaize, appear like one continued village for a number of miles, both above and below this place; nor have I ever before beheld such immense fields of corn, in any part of America, from Canada to Florida.

We are now employed in completing a strong stockade fort, with four good block houses, by way of bastions, at the confluence of Au Glaize and the Miamies, which I have called *Defiance*. Another fort was also erected on the bank of the St. Mary's, twenty-four miles advanced of Recovery, which was named Adams, and endowed with provision and a proper garrison.

Every thing is now prepared for a forward move to-morrow morning, towards Roche de Bout, or foot of the rapids, where the British have a regular fortification, well supplied with artillery, and strongly garrisoned, in the vicinity of which the fate of the campaign will probably be decided; as, from the best and most recent intelligence, the enemy are there collected in force, and joined by the militia of Detroit; &c. &c. possessed of ground very unfavorable for cavalry to act in. Yet, notwithstanding this unfavorable intelligence, and unpleasant circumstances of ground, I do not despair of success, from the spirit and ardor of the troops, from the generals down to the privates, both of the legion and mounted volunteers.

Yet I have thought proper to offer the enemy a last overture of peace; and as they have every thing that is dear and interesting now at stake, I have reason to expect that they will listen to the proposition mentioned in the enclosed copy of an address, despatched yesterday by a special flag, who I sent under circumstances that will ensure his safe return, and which may eventually spare the effusion of much human blood.

But, should war be their choice, that blood be upon their own heads. America shall no longer be insulted with impunity. To an all-powerful and just God I therefore commit myself and gallant army, and have the honor to be, with every consideration of respect and esteem,

Your most obedient and very humble servant,

ANTHONY WAYNE.

The Hon. Major General Knox, *Secretary of War*.

To the Delawares, Shawanese, Miamies, and Wyandots, and to each and every of them, and to all other nations of Indians, northwest of the Ohio, whom it may concern:

I, Anthony Wayne, Major General and Commander-in-chief of the Federal army now at Grand Glaize, and commissioner plenipotentiary of the United States of America, for settling the terms upon which a permanent and lasting peace shall be made with each and every of the hostile tribes, or nations of Indians northwest of the Ohio, and of the said United States, actuated by the purest principles of humanity, and urged by pity for the errors into which bad and designing men have led you, from the head of my army, now in possession of your abandoned villages and settlements, do hereby once more extend the friendly hand of peace towards you, and invite each and every of the hostile tribe of Indians to appoint deputies to meet me and my army, without delay, between this place and Roche de Bout, in order to settle the preliminaries of a lasting peace, which may eventually and soon restore to you the Delawares, Miamies, Shawanese, and all other tribes and nations lately settled at this place, and on the margins of the Miami and au Glaize rivers, your late grounds and possessions, and to preserve you and your distressed and hapless women and children from danger and famine, during the present fall and ensuing winter.

The arm of the United States is strong and powerful, but they love mercy and kindness more than war and desolation.

And, to remove any doubts or apprehensions of danger to the persons of the deputies whom you may appoint to meet this army, I hereby pledge my sacred honor for their safety and return, and send Christopher Miller, an adopted Shawanese, and a Shawanese warrior, whom I took prisoner two days ago, as a flag, who will advance in their front to meet me.

Mr. Miller was taken prisoner by a party of my warriors, six moons since, and can testify to you the kindness which I have shown to your people, my prisoners, that is, five warriors and two women, who are now all safe and well at Greenville.

But, should this invitation be disregarded, and my flag, Mr. Miller, be detained, or injured, I will immediately order all those prisoners to be put to death, without distinction, and some of them are known to belong to the first families of your nations.

BROTHERS: Be no longer deceived or led astray by the false promises and language of the bad white men at the foot of the rapids; they have neither the power nor inclination to protect you. No longer shut your eyes to your true interest and happiness, nor your ears to this last overture of peace. But, in pity to your innocent women and children, come and prevent the further effusion of your blood; let them experience the kindness and friendship of the United States of America, and the invaluable blessings of peace and tranquillity.

ANTHONY WAYNE.

GRAND GLAIZE, 13th August, 1794.

* This man having called at the War Office, on his way from Niagara to Kentucky, (as he said) a few days previous to the receipt of this letter, immediately on the arrival thereof, information respecting him was transmitted to Pittsburg, with directions to apprehend and secure him. He has been accordingly taken, is now secured at that place, and ordered to be sent down the Ohio, to Head Quarters.