

## HISTORY.

## CARVER'S TRAVELS.

(Continued.)

AND these are equally surprising in their operation against the great king's enemies when engaged in battle; the terror they carry with them your language wants words to express.— You may remember the other day when we were encamping at Wadawpawmefeter, the black clouds, the wind, the fire, the stupendous noise, the horrible cries, and the trembling of the earth, which then alarmed you, and gave you reason to think your gods were angry with you; not unlike these are the warlike implements of the English when they are fighting the battles of their great king.

Several of the chiefs of your bands have often told me, in times past when I slept with you in your tents, that they much wished to be counted among the children and allies of the great king my master. You may remember how often you have desired me, when I return again to my own country, to acquaint the great king of your good disposition towards him and his subjects, and that you wished for traders from the English to come among you. Being now about to take my leave of you, and to return to my own country, a long way towards the rising sun, I again ask you to tell me whether you continue in the same mind as when I spoke to you in council last winter; and as there are now several of your chiefs here, who came from the great plains towards the setting of the sun, whom I never spoke with in council before, I ask you to let me know if you are willing to acknowledge yourselves the children of my great master the king of the English and other nations, as I shall take the first opportunity to acquaint him of your desires and good intentions. I charge you not to give heed to bad reports, for there are wicked birds flying about among the neighbouring nations, who may whisper evil things in your ears against the English, contrary to what I have told you; you must not believe them, for I have told you the truth.

“And as to the chiefs who are about to go to Michillimackinac, I shall take care to make for them and their suite, a straight road, smooth waters, and a clear sky, that they may go there, and smoke the pipe of peace, and rest secure on a beaver blanket, under the shade of the great tree of peace. Farewell.”

To this speech I received the following answer, from the mouth of the principal chief:

“Good brother! I am now about to speak to you with the mouths of these my brothers, chiefs of the eight bands of the powerful nation of the Naudowessies. We believe and are well satisfied in the truth of every thing you have told us about your great nation, and the great king our greatest father, for whom we spread this beaver blanket, that his fatherly protection may ever rest easy and safe among us his children: your colours and your arms agree with the accounts you have given us about your great nation. We desire that when you return, you will acquaint the great king how much the Naudowessies wish to be counted among his good children. You may believe us when we tell you, that we will not open our ears to any who may dare to speak evil of our great father the king of the English and other nations.

“We thank you for what you have done for us in making peace between the Naudowessies and the Chipeways, and hope when you return to us again, that you will complete this good work, and quite dispelling the clouds that intervene, open the blue sky of peace, and cause the bloody hatchet to be deep buried under the roots of the great tree of peace.

“We wish you to remember to represent to our great father, how much we desire that traders may be sent to abide among us, with such things as we need, that the hearts of our young men, our wives, and children may be made glad. And may peace subsist between us so long as the sun, the moon, the earth, and the waters shall endure. Farewell.”

I thought it necessary to caution the Indians against giving heed to any bad reports that may reach them from the neighbouring nations to the disadvantage of the English as I had heard, at different places through which I passed, that

emissaries were still employed by the French to detach those who were friendly to the English from their interest; and I saw, myself, several belts of wampum that had been delivered for this purpose to some of the tribes I was among. On the delivery of each of these, a talk was held, wherein the Indians were told, that the English, who were but a petty people, had stolen that country from their great father the king of France whilst he was asleep, but that he would soon awake, and take them again under his protection. These I found were sent from Canada by persons who appeared to be well affected towards the government under which they lived.

Whilst I tarried at the mouth of the river St. Pierre with these friendly Indians, I endeavoured to gain intelligence whether any goods had been sent towards the Falls of St. Anthony for my use, agreeable to the promise I had received from the governor when I left Michillimackinac; but finding from some Indians, who passed by in their return from those parts, that this agreement had not been fulfilled, I was obliged to give up all thoughts of proceeding farther to the north west by this route, according to my original plan. I therefore returned to La Prairie le Chien, where I procured as many goods from the traders I left there the preceding year as they could spare.

As these however were not sufficient to enable me to renew my first design, I determined to endeavour to make my way across the country of the Chipeways to Lake Superior, in hopes of meeting at the Grand Portage on the north side of it, the traders that annually go from Michillimackinac to the north west, of whom I doubted not but that I should be able to procure goods enough to answer my purpose, and also to penetrate thro' those more northern parts of the freights of Anbian.

And I the more readily returned to La Prairie le Chien, as I could by that means the better fulfil the engagement I had to the party of Naudowessies mentioned at the conclusion of my speech. During my abode with this people, wishing to secure them entirely in the interest of the English, I had advised some of the chiefs