

The Commissioners were permitted to leave Niagara July 10th and, awaiting a favorable wind, the British sloop on which they were passengers sailed from Fort Erie, opposite the present city of Buffalo, on the 14th, and arrived at the mouth of the Detroit River or Strait the 21st. They were received, and entertained during their enforced stay there of nearly four weeks, by Captain Matthew Elliott, British Assistant Agent for and to the Aborigines. So had they been with Simcoe, and yet were, in fact, prisoners of the British. They continued frequently to urge an early meeting of the council according to agreement, without satisfactory reply.

On July 29th, a deputation of over twenty Aborigines, with the notorious Simon Girty as interpreter, arrived at Captain Elliott's house from the grand council that had been for weeks assembled at the foot of the Maumee Rapids. After a brief preliminary, they presented to the Commissioners a short written communication, ostensibly from the council, the principal sentence of which was that, "If you seriously design to make a firm and lasting peace, you will immediately remove all your people from our side of that river" (the Ohio). The Commissioners delivered to them in writing a long and carefully prepared reply in which the treaties