A CHAPTER OF THE HISTORY OF THE WAR OF 1812. IN THE NORTHWEST. EMBRACING THE SURRENDER OF THE NORTHWESTERN ARMY AND FORT, AT DETROIT, AUGUST 16, 1812. WITH A DESCRIPTION AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE CELEBRATED INDIAN CHIEF TECUMSEH

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### WILLIAM STANLEY HATCH

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### A CHAPTER

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# HISTORY OF THE WAR OF 1812

IN THE NORTHWEST.

EMBRACING

# The Surrender of the Northwestern Army and Fort,

AT DETROIT, AUGUST 16, 1819;

With a Description and Biographical Sketch

OF THE

## Celebrated Indian Chief Tecumselt.

BY COLONEL WILLIAM STANLEY HATCH,

Yolunteer in the Cincinnati Light Infantry, and from the invasion of Canada, to the surrender of the Army, Acting Assistant Quartermaster General of that Army.

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### INTRODUCTORY.

### HISTORICAL INCIDENTS.

The aggressive acts of the British Government upon the ocean, especially in the boarding our merchant vessels, and forcibly taking therefrom any sailor that the boarding officer thought proper to consider as having been born in England, and forcing such of our citizens so taken into actual service on board their fleet, until the numbers taken reached nearly seven thousand, and this most insulting and hostile course having been continued for many years, notwith-

standing the continued and earnest remonstrance of our Government, together with the instigation of the savage tribes of the west and north-west by English traders and the official agents of that Government to commit acts of hostility against our western settlements, had at length produced in the mind of almost every man west of the Alleghanies a feeling of hostility towards that Government, but by no means against the English people as individuals, as there were none of our citizens more respected or beloved, nor were there any more patriotic in volunteering in the war that ensued, than our fellow-citizens of English birth.

At the close of the Anglo-Indian war of 1791, the British Government still held, in contravention of the treaty of 1783, a strongly built fortress, near the foot of the Rapids of the Maumee, and which was persistently held by that Government for a length of time, and only vacated by British troops after many complaints and many re-

It was finally, after the close of this war by Wayne's treaty at Greenville of the third of August, 1795, evacuated, and our territory at that point was relieved of the presence of a hostile flag, and the forces of a foreign power, for so long a time trespassing upon our territory and instigating and assisting the savage tribes to continued hostility against our earliest settlers, in what was at that time a vast wilderness.

They however but crossed the head of the Lake to their previously established post of Malden, just at the entrance of the Detroit River into the Lake; and from this point they sought to keep a strong hold upon the Indian tribes of the old north-western territory as well as all others that they could reach or control. In carrying this policy into effect they made Malden their great trading post, and from it made to the Indians annually presents of arms and ammunition as well as medals, trinkets and

showy articles of merchandise, and for the use and accommodation of this annual assembling of the Indian tribes, erected a large Council House, and established their great council ground at *Brownstown*, near to Lake Erie, and within our territory of Michigan. Again by this act of flagrant aggression upon our territory, continuing the bitter feeling manifested towards us on every occasion.

These annual convocations of all the Indian tribes of the north-west were attended by British agents, speaking their language, or haranguing them through their interpreters.

It was here that Elliot and McKee, two most atrocious renegades from the United States, whose presence at St. Clair's defeat was made known to us after the treaty of Greenville by Indian chiefs, who asserted that they, especially the latter, tomahawked more of our soldiers, and tore the scalps from more of our wounded men

than any Indian actor in that terrible conflict. It was here that these men with bloody hands and scalps of American citizens ornamenting their dress, regularly met the Indians in council, speaking their language, and as chief agents of the British Government with royal commissions as British officers, had immense influence over them.

In the meantime Troumsen and his brothers had grown up to manhood, and whilst one of them became renowned throughout all the north-west and south-west as a mighty Prophet of the Great Spirit, one other became the Warrior and Great Orator of his tribe and race. They unitedly matured their great plan for a general confederation of all the Indian tribes to act and war against any further approach and dominion of the White Race, and if possible to regain their old territorial boundary of the Ohio River.

Large bodies of Indians were gathered at different points. The PROPHET was ever