

Land Legacy: Broken Promises

British officials made many promises to the warrior in order to convince them to take to the war trail. Grand River Chief Jesquoquo (Seneca John) told a missionary Robert J. Roberts in 1872 that he had been in thirteen fights on behalf of the British Crown. He also said that he and other warriors were promised 200 acres of land as special reward for their services in the War of 1812. "That promise was never fulfilled towards me," he said.

Red Jacket spoke in 1813 of broken American promises: *Gen. Porter and myself had promised our warriors that they should have pay for one month's services, for guarding the lines. Gen. Wilkinson also promised them pay for their services, but went away, and told them that Gen. McClure would fulfill the promise made to them. We have not received pay, according to promise. We think you were not authorized to promise us. We think we are trifled with. We were promised that all horses and cattle should be free plunder. We took horses; we had to give them up. We have been deceived. . . We are an independent nation. We have taken up arms in your favor. We want to know on what footing we stand.*