

fight dragged on, they began to drift away. Thus the whites claimed the victory, even though they lost many more men and had many more wounded than the Indians. Shortly after this Cornstalk signed the Treaty of Camp Charlotte. By this treaty the Indians recognized the right of the whites to territory south of the Ohio (Before this Kentucky had long been regarded as the Indians' hunting ground.). Other prominent Shawnees who fought with Cornstalk in this war were Red Hawk, Red Eagle, the Shawnee Logan, Blue Jacket, and Puckeshinwa, Tecumseh's father.

Soon after this, Puckeshinwa was killed by whites for no real reason. Then in the fall of 1777 Cornstalk himself was treacherously killed by lawless white men. He had remained true to his treaty promises but this made no difference to the men who killed him. Tecumseh was about nine years old at this time. The death of his father and Cornstalk--both of whom were murdered by lawless whites--helped make him the bitter enemy of white people.

Tecumseh was then adopted by Chief Blackfish who lived in Old Chillicothe, and Tecumseh moved there to live with him. Blackfish was a successful warrior and raider and fought with white men on many occasions. Tecumseh learned a great deal from him.

In 1780 an American army under George Rogers Clark came into the Ohio country and drove the Shawnees away from Old Chillicothe and Old Piqua. Both of these towns were burned. This was during the Revolutionary War, and the Americans were trying to defeat the combined forces of the English and Indians in the Northwest Territory. After their towns were burned, the Shawnees, including Tecumseh, moved west to the Miami River. Here another town called Piqua was built.

Tecumseh Becomes a Leader

The Revolutionary War ended in 1783, and the British relinquished control of Kentucky and the Northwest Territory. The Indians accepted the loss of Kentucky--the land south of the Ohio River, but they still regarded the land north of the Ohio--the Northwest Territory--as theirs. However there was a flood of westward-moving settlers pouring into both sections of this country west of the Appalachians. From Pennsylvania they came west down the Ohio River, and they poured through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. Border warfare blazed, and Tecumseh took part against the whites. His oldest brother, Cheeseekau, was killed in battle in 1792.

As strife between Indians and white settlers increased, a new American army came into the Northwest Territory in 1793. This army was commanded by Major General Anthony Wayne, and he was ordered to settle the Indian troubles for good. At this time the Shawnee chief, Blue Jacket, was in command of all the Indian forces in the Northwest Territory. Tecumseh and his followers were scouts during these troubles. Wayne built a fort at Greenville, Ohio, and next summer he started to the Maumee River in northwestern Ohio. He had a force of 3000 men. Blue Jacket had about 1400 warrior. The climax of this campaign was the Battle of Fallen Timbers, fought August 20, 1794. Tecumseh fought in this battle and his behavior was bold and courageous. Another one of his brothers was killed in this battle.

Although Wayne's army suffered more losses than the Indians in this battle, still the Indians retired from the field and he claimed the victory. He proceeded through the country destroying every Indian village he could find. The following spring he called all the Indian tribes to a peace council. Over a thousand warriors, representing twelve different tribes, came to the council. Here the Treaty of Greenville was made and signed. By this treaty the Indians ceded to the United States two-thirds of Ohio, including the Shawnee sites of Old Piqua and Old Chillicothe. They also ceded some land in southeastern Indiana and some other areas in the Northwest. The