and some of them very sociable, and that 35 Eel River Indians had been at his station, who acknowledged that his corn was equal to any they had ever seen on the Wabash. He also says that he has had a conference with Samuel the principal chief of the Eel River Indians, who informed him that he expects the Indians of his village will settle at his station, and further informs that they would gladly receive assistance from friends some farming utensils – such as ploughs, traces, and axes, he says would be very acceptable. This chief added that he did not expect they will make a great progress immediately, but thinks it a proper time to lay a foundation for their children & is in hopes the present establishment will make a beginning. Philip Dennis also informs that when he first went to the Wabash, he built a temporary house 18 feet square, & expected soon after the date of his last letter to begin another, to be 16 by 32 feet and 1½ stories high; and observes he very sensibly feels the lonesomeness of his situation, but on reflecting upon the business in which he is engaged, & the distressed situation of the poor Indians, he feels no cause of regret.

We also received a letter from William Wells Indian agent, dated the 30th of the 6th month – who informs that the Indians agreeably to expectation, held their council in the 6th month and that 874 Indians attended!

The following is extracted from the minutes of their proceedings.

June 13. 1804.

The council was opened by the agent of Indian affairs, who observed that he was ready to receive any communications they might wish to make. When a letter from the society of friends at Baltimore in Maryland, was produced read and interpreted, wherein it appeared that George Ellicott,

and Gerard T Hopkins were appointed to come & visit the Indians, on their behalf. A written speech of the said George Ellicott and Gerard T Hopkins was then produced, read, and interpreted to all the different nations present. After some observations made by Buckingehelas, and the Little Turtle the council adjourned until tomorrow.

June 14th

Council opened agreeably to adjournment, present the same as yesterday. After several chiefs had spoken to different matters relative to their nations, Toothlebuxe spoke on behalf of the Delawares, thus.

Brothers.

For many years before I came into the world, the white people have offered to us what you now mention, & it appears that our eyes were never opened before now – addressing himself to the Indians, My grandchildren, listen to what I am now going to say to our fathers! Three years ago we were invited to a council at Vincennes by Governor Harrison, he told us to listen, and I will speak about the way we have been brought up! My brothers, let us go together as one people, and we will hand to you our way of living. I told him this was several times he had mentioned this to us; now we will take hold of it, and receive it. I told him we wanted it soon, as I was an old man, and wanted to see it before I died. If I once I see it I will die in pleasure to think I have left my women and children in comfort. One year ago, from this, my grandchildren, the Mohickanins came to renew their friendship with us. Hendricks told us, they had brought what the white people had put into their hands; when it was given to us it gave us great pleasure, we thought of our grandfathers,