

Alain Beaulieu

*Les suite du traité
de Swegatchie
(1760-1774)*

DOCUMENTS
ET RÉSUMÉS

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Les suites du traité de Swegatchie (30 août 1760)

Recherche sur la nature des pourparlers
entre les Indiens du Québec et les autorités britanniques
(1760-1774)

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Rapport préparé par
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Pour le
Ministère des Affaires indiennes
et du Nord Canada

Documents et résumés

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• Documents et résumés •

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Document n° 1

- Date :** 28 janvier 1761
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG11, C.O. 42, bob. vol. 24, f. 3-5.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de James Murray à ?, de Québec.
- Résumé :** Un Britannique a tué deux Montagnais de Tadoussac, peu après que son navire ait fait naufrage près de l'embouchure du Saguenay. Murray l'a fait arrêter à son arrivée à Québec. Le Britannique plaide la légitime défense. Les Hurons de Lorette ont agi en tant qu'intermédiaires pour régler la situation. Lors des pourparlers, les Montagnais ont demandé que tous les sujets britanniques soient informés «that they having submitted to his Majestys Government, expected his Protection, and to be exempted for the future from the insults of the crews of the ships trading in the River». Murray a demandé à Jeffery Amherst de publier cette requête des Indiens dans les colonies américaines, afin de prévenir la répétition de tels incidents.

Transcription préliminaire

Sir, [...] [f. 3 v]

Since I had the honor to write to you last nothing extraordinary has happened here except the murder of two Tadusac Indians by In^s : Collins Master of a New York Schooner which was wrecked near the mouth of the River Sagouney in attempting to make this port. I confined Collins upon his arrival here, he confessed the fact, but declared it proceeded from self defence, which may be true, tho' circumstances are against this Opinion, and would induce me to think him entirely to blame had he not a very good character from many creditable people now residing in this Town. By the intercession of the Huron Indians of Lorrette this affair has been accommodated to the satisfaction of the Savages, the safety of the Prisoner and [f. 4] consistent with the dignity and Justice of the British Government. In the course of this Treaty the Savages desired I would acquaint all the King's subjects that they having submitted to his Majesty's Government, expected his Protection, and to be exempted for the future from the insults of the crews of the ships trading in the River. I have in consequence beg'd of General Amherst to publish this request on the manner he shall think proper to his Majesty's [colonies?] and if it was [hinted?] to the Vessels from Europe disorders may be prevented which when they happen alienate the affections of the Indians, and may be productive of very bad consequences to many of his Majesty's faithful Subjects. [...]

Ja : Murray

5
3

Quebec 28th January 1761

Sir

By the Mail which arrived from New York yesterday I had the honor to receive your letter of the 27th October acquainting me of the most melancholy news of the sudden death of the late King on which occasion I most sincerely condole with you

This day his present Majesty was proclaimed in my Government in English at the head of the troops, and in french to his Majesty's Canadian Subject. The proclamation relating to Officers continuing six months in their present employments in case of a demise has likewise been published.

Since

Journal of Governor

C.O. 42, X. 24,

600 44100-2800

Since I had the honor to write to you
last nothing extraordinary has happened here
except the murder of two Tadusac Indians by
Mr. Collins Master of a New York Schooner which
was wrecked near the mouth of the River Sa-
guiney in attempting to make this port. I con-
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Majestys colonies, and if it was hunted to the
Vessels from Europe disorders may be preven-
ted which when they happen alienate the
affections of the Indians, and may be produc-
tive of very bad consequences to many of his
Majestys faithfull Subjects
The misery and distress to which
the

The Canadians of the Quebec Government are reduced is beyond my power to describe, to think of it is really shocking to humanity. I afford the Kings British Subjects an opportunity of exerting that charity and Benevolence inseparable from the Sentiments which the dictates of our Religion, and the freedom of our laws must inspire. The Officers and Merchants have made a collection of near six hundred pounds Sterling and the Soldiers have insisted upon giving one month's provision in a month for the support of the most wretched; without these aids many must have perished, and still I dread a famine unless the supply of corn which I have solicited from the upper Government can be furnished us; that part of the Colony suffered little in comparison of this, and Mr Gage makes

me

no hope for relief. Nothing shall be wanting
in me to make effectual every means that can
be devised.

I have the honor to be with the at:

most Faith and regard

Sir

Your most faithful & most
obliged humble servant

J. A. Murray

Document n° 2

- Date :** 8 juillet 1763
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 7, p. 581-582.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de William Johnson à Jeffery Amherst, de Johnson Hall.
- Résumé :** Johnson a écrit à Claus afin que ce dernier mette tout en œuvre pour convaincre les Indiens du Canada de prêter assistance aux Britanniques (contexte du soulèvement des Indiens des Grands Lacs).

Since my arrival here, I find that in consequence of my application to the Captains of Militia, about 50 Volunteers from these parts, exclusive of those raised in *Schenectady*, have marched towards the Oneida Lake; and I flatter myself the steps I have already taken, and shall constantly pursue, may produce a strict neutrality as well on the part of the Six Nations, as other Indians, who though perhaps wavering in their sentiments, may by good management, be prevented from Associating with those Indians now in arms against us, as well as some prevailed upon to act offensively in our favour should hostilities be continued.

I at present labour under a violent Fever, but I hope to be sufficiently recovered to attend the Conference, as I flatter myself many good consequences will result therefrom.

His Excellency Sir Jeffrey Amherst.

I have the honor, &c

(S^d) W^m JOHNSON.

Sir William Johnson to Sir Jeffrey Amherst.

Johnson Hall, July 8. 1763.

Sir,

I have been honored with your Excellency's letter of the 26th Ult^o together with the several enclosures therewith transmitted, and I shall use every means within my power, at the meeting which I mentioned in my last was to take place shortly at the German-Flatts, to engage some Indians to assist His Majesty's Troops, or to act by themselves against the Enemy, as at that place I shall have an opportunity not only of sounding their sentiments in general, but also of proposing it to the several nations, and flatter myself my endeavors may not prove ineffectual, although it is a request of such a nature as cannot be agreeable to them in general.

Yesterday I received an account from the Mohawks who were all at my house, that the Oneidas had sent to acquaint them at Canajoharie, that the Garrison at *Venango* has been cut off, and that some French partizans sent from the Governor of New Orleans have been very busy amongst the Western Indians for some time past, but that many of those Indians and also some of the Delawares and their neighbors were apprehensive of the Six Nations joining against them, and therefore did not express much Alacrity to assist the rest. These Frenchmen have been very lately amongst them, and I am certain, however extraordinary it may appear, that the French have been principally instrumental in creating the present disturbances; I expect hourly the arrival of the *Oneidas* here, when I shall be more particularly informed on that head.

As the Indians will at the intended meeting, expect your Excellencies answer with regard to the several points concerning the posts, of Trade, &c, mentioned in my letter of the 6th Ultimo, I must request to be favored therewith; that I may be enabled to satisfy them therein. I should likewise be glad to have it in my power at the same time to deliver them something of your Sentiments and Resolutions on the present disturbances, as well as what you would in general, desire from them, together with the Encouragement you think proper to offer. The treating them with the appearance of Confidence will be considered as a great Compliment, and prove a means not only of removing many groundless Suspicions, but of disposing them the better to relish the proposals which I purpose to make them.

I have wrote to Captain Claus to use all his endeavors amongst the Indians in Canada to engage some in our assistance, and hope to be able after my return from the German Flatts, to inform your Excellency of the success of that Meeting.

I cannot conclude without representing to your Excellency the great panic and uneasiness into which the inhabitants of these parts are cast, which I have endeavored to remove by every method in my power, to prevent their Abandoning their Settlements, from their apprehensions of the Indians. As they in general Confide much in my residence, they are hitherto prevented from taking that hasty measure; but should I be obliged to retire (which I hope will not be the case,) not only my own tenants, *who are upwards of 120 families*, but all the rest would immediately follow the Example, which I am determined against doing 'till the last Extremity, as I know it would prove of general bad consequence.

His Excellency Sir Jeffrey Amherst.

I have the honor, &c—

(signed) W^m JOHNSON,

Sir William Johnson to Sir Jeffrey Amherst.

Johnson Hall, July 11. 1763.

Sir,

Since my last, a number of the Oneidas arrived here, and acquainted me with the manner in which *Venango* had been surprised, which was effected by the Indians entering the Fort as friends, after which they put the garrison to the sword.

This Morning *Thomas*, a *Canajoharie* Chief, who was one of the Messengers I sent with the Messages, and to invite the Six Nations to meet me at the German Flatts, arrived express, and after informing me that all the Chiefs of each Nation, (except the *Senecas* who refused to attend,) were on their way to the place appointed, he told me that 2 Onondagas who were sent about 20 days ago by their Sachems, towards the Ohio, to enquire into the cause of the present troubles, had returned and confirmed the account of the taking of *Venango*, which was done by a party of *Chenussios* residing in the neighborhood thereof, and that after putting the Garrison to the Sword, they made the Officer write the reasons which induced them to act as they had done; which were—First, the scarcity and dearness of Powder for these two years past, being obliged to pay 2 *Deerskins* for a gill of powder, and so in proportion, for other articles, and that when they complained they were ill treated and never redressed. Secondly that the many posts which the English kept possession of induced them to believe they intended to possess all their Country, for all which they were determined to destroy them. After writing this, *they put the Officer to death*, and sent the paper with a party of Warriors then going towards Fort Pitt, in order to do mischief on the Communication, where they proposed to drop it, that it might be found by the English.

The Mohawk Express further informed me that the *Onondagas* had, in the presence of all the nations assembled, declared their Resolutions of living and dying by the English, let the Consequence be what it would, and had absolutely rejected every proposal made to them by the *Senecas*, &c. That they had received the Account that the *Twightwees*, *Ottawons Hurons*, *Delawares*, &c. had destroyed Six forts, of which he mentioned the following *Viz* Detroit,

Document n° 3

- Date :** 7-12 septembre 1763
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 7, p. 553-559.
- Nature du document :** Compte rendu de la rencontre entre William Johnson, les Six-Nations et les Indiens du Canada, à Johnson Hall.
- Résumé :**
- Le 7 septembre : Message des Onondagas à Johnson, à propos des Senecas. Ils ont envoyé une ceinture de wampum aux Indiens du Canada «whereby we bound ourselves altogether in a peaceable alliance».
- Le 8 septembre, «the Caghnawagas acquainted Sir William that as they had unexpectedly found the Six-Nations here, they judged it necessary to have a Meeting with them ; which they would accordingly hold that morning».
- Johnson s'adresse ensuite à l'ensemble des Indiens. Il les remercie d'avoir tenté de ramener les Senecas à la raison et leur recommande de rester tranquilles. Il les remercie d'avoir envoyé une ceinture aux Indiens du Canada pour promouvoir la paix et l'unité.

Les Indiens de Kahnawake font un discours. Ils affirment à William Johnson qu'ils gardent leurs guerriers sous contrôle. Ils vont respecter leurs engagements. Ils craignent cependant que les Anglais, à cause de certaines personnes mal intentionnées, laissent tomber le «Covenant». Les Iroquois de Kahnawake demandent ensuite aux Cinq-Nations iroquoises d'être sincères, d'exprimer leurs véritables sentiments et de respecter leurs engagements. Ils réprimandent les Senecas pour avoir brisé la chaîne du «Covenant». Ils donnent aux députés senecas une ceinture exprimant l'avis unanime des chefs et guerriers des Sept-Nations. Ils remettent ensuite à Johnson une lettre de Daniel Claus à propos du litige qui les oppose aux Jésuites pour une portion de la seigneurie de La-Prairie-de-la-Madeleine. Ils demandent à Johnson d'intervenir en leur faveur.

Le 9, message d'une nation iroquoise, puis Johnson rencontre, en public et en privé, différents groupes autochtones.

Le 10, Johnson promet aux Indiens son aide et sa protection contre toute nation alliée qui serait attaquée par d'autres nations.

Le 11, un orateur parle au nom de la Confédération de 18 nations, dont les Sept-Nations du Canada. Ils vont retourner à Onondaga, afin de délibérer sur le message de Johnson et promettent une réponse. Ensuite, un orateur onondaga sort une ceinture donnée en 1754 à Albany ; il répète et

renouvelle les engagements pris à ce moment-là.

Le 12 au matin, Johnson donne des présents à l'ensemble des Indiens. Ensuite, il s'adresse à ceux de Kahnawake. Il se déclare satisfait des messages qu'ils ont adressés aux Six-Nations et aux Senecas. Johnson avait enterré la hache de guerre des Sept-Nations lors de la réduction du Canada. Cependant, des nations rebelles s'attaquent aux Anglais et Johnson a décidé de leur donner « a good English Axe » pour leur permettre de se défendre et d'attaquer ceux qui ont brisé la chaîne du « Covenant ».

Pour ce qui est du litige avec les Jésuites, Johnson leur dit que la concession a été faite au nom de la Compagnie de Jésus seulement, mais qu'il va soumettre le problème aux personnes en autorité, qui leur rendront sûrement justice.

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Indians

[Enclosure in Sir
Wm Johnson's let-
ter to Sir Jeff. Am-
herst dated, 14
Sept 1763]

Extracts from the Minutes of proceedings between Sir William Johnson Bart and the Six Nations, and Indians of Caughnawaga, in Canada, &c

Johnson Hall, Sept^r 7. 1763.

Sir William Johnson had a private meeting with the Chiefs of the *Onondagas*, wherein they acquainted him with the steps they had taken with the *Senecas*.

P. M. The Indians of each Nation assembled.

PRESENT— Sir William Johnson Bart

Sir William acquainted the Indians with his having heard that some of their People had committed hostilities on the frontiers of Virginia, and desired to be informed who were concerned therein, after which he gave them an account of Colonel Bouquet's successful engagement near Fort Pitt, and of the loss sustained by the Indians.

Then *Teyawarante* Speaker of Onondaga addressed Sir William, as follows.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

In consequence of your Speech made to us lately at the German Flatts, we sent immediately to the *Senecas* to know the cause of their behavior, and on the arrival of our Deputies in that Country our Warriors addressed theirs desiring they would immediately lay down the hatchet and bethink themselves of the danger in which their bad proceedings must involve their families, and not proudly Continue the war, but consider their welfare.

Then our Sachems addressed theirs desiring they would think for the Public good, and not permit their young men to prosecute hostilities, but that they would remember the old agreement, whereby they were to keep peace and never begin any disturbances, whereby they might be assured they would never be hurted; That therefore they should talk wisely to their Warriors, and not suffer them to get drunk and behave as they had lately done, and desired they would mind their proper affairs, which was the Public business, and prevent any bad designs by observing the agreement by which they were bound to shake any Nation by head who behaved amiss; and that if they acted as we desired, our Children yet unborn, should reap the advantage thereof; And desired they would remember that this was the Third time we had spoken to them thereon, that we expected they would communicate what we had said to all their Bretheren to the Westward, as we should expect their immediate answer at Onondaga.

The next day we met again, when the *Senecas* acknowledged some of them had acted foolishly, and did not know what they did, but begged that we should return, and endeavour to make up affairs with our Bretheren the English.

After which they returned our belts, But Ours and the *Seneca* Warriors were of opinion that the *Seneca* Sachems did not act right, & that they only talked; therefore they agreed with us, that we should consider our safety, and preserve peace: The *Seneca* Warriors saying that we had wise men to guide us, but they had none, which was the cause of the present trouble; and assured us that they would join themselves, once more, to us, and act peacably, and that these their words were from their hearts.

After this, a few of us were sent forward to *Chenusio*; where the Senecas have two Castles, but as those who went thither are not yet returned, we know not the success of their negotiations; And now Brother, we beg you may be assured we are unanimously determined to hold fast by the old agreement, and preserve Peace, a necessary step to which, we think will be your allowing us a large and reasonable trade at *Onoigo*, and the *German Flatts*, as formerly; As for our parts, we shall say nothing further concerning the *Posts* which have caused so much disturbance, But We, The *Five Nations*, the *Coghawagas*, and many others in our alliance, will carefully preserve peace, and use our daily endeavors to bring about the same with the Rest; and we desire the General may be immediately acquainted with our Resolutions, and that we may have his Answer. Gave a large Belt with 13 Rows.

Brother. We now deliver you the Belt which we sent to Canada, whereby we bound ourselves altogether in a peaceable alliance, and we are glad the Governor of Montreal is so well disposed thereto. A Belt of 8 Rows.

Brother. By this String we are to acquaint you that the friendly Ottawaes near *Michilimackinac* have brought home your flesh and blood, who were Prisoners in that Country. Six Strings.

Brother. We are heartily sorry that any of our People have been suspected for striking the Inhabitants of Virginia: It is more probable the *Shawonese* have done so; or if not, we are sure we have no hand therein;—

Then the Meeting broke up.

Next day the *Coghawagas* acquainted Sir William that as they had unexpectedly found the Six Nations here, they judged it necessary to have a Meeting with them; which they would accordingly hold that morning.

Sir William afterwards assembled all the Indians.

PRESENT— as before.

Brethren of the Several Nations.

I have hearkened, with attention, to what you said yesterday, regarding your Proceedings with the Senecas, and I shall now give you my sentiments thereon.

Your design in going to the Senecas in order to bring them to their senses, was very well meant, but you know it was your mere notion; and not at my desire, as that nation had refused to attend the meeting held lately with me, at the *German Flatts*; we had nothing else to expect but their continuance of hostilities which they have really done ever since, and have now parties out engaged in the same, but the indifference with which they have received all my admonitions, and your endeavours, is a sufficient proof that they are badly disposed, and can only be brought to reason by a proper punishment.

It is highly unreasonable to suppose that any nation will sit still and accept of the Sorrow of another for the murders they have committed; This would be folly in us to the highest degree, and what I am sure not one Nation of the Confederacy would put up with, as you make war amongst yourselves on occasions not in the least comparable to the present.

If your hearts be good, and your old Agreements can be relied upon, you can't but consider that every Nation who are enemies to us, and Covenant breakers, are traitors to yourselves, and are depriving you of Trade and quietness, and as such ought to be punished with your joint assistance: But we have not asked that of you, and we only desire you who are friends, to sit still, and observe that we can punish those who have wanted war, as well as reward them that maintain Peace.

Can they pay us for the blood of some hundreds of their Innocent Brethren? Can they make retaliation for the places they have plundered, burned, and destroyed, or what security have we for their keeping the Covenant half a year, who have basely and treachefously held one hand to us in show of peace, and with the other struck an axe into our Heads?—

I know you can't expect such folly from us, and I sincerely hope, for your own sakes, you will remain quiet, and observe the event, which behavior will not only entitle you to reward, but prevent your destruction; the General having assured me that he is determined on noticing and rewarding every nation that preserves the Peace, and is equally resolved to bring all those who have taken up the Hatchet to an immediate and severe punishment, without which our children's children can never expect ease, but must spend their time in war and conferences, and lose the benefits of hunting and trade, And till this punishment be felt by our Mutual Enemies, you cannot expect the trade to be so extensive as formerly, for which you must blame your perfidious brethren, who have so treacherously struck us on the head, and thereby deterred our traders from bringing up any more goods. However, we shall endeavor all in our power to prevail on some to continue it as formerly in some places, provided you make no bad use of this Indulgence.

The demand for an extensive trade was made by the very nations who have lately struck us; and the largest promises given for the safety and protection not only of the Traders, but also of the several posts in their Country; yet the former have been robbed and murdered, and the latter surprised, pillaged, and destroyed.

Judge yourselves what encouragement there is for our People to go amongst you, what reliance we may repose on any promises, and you must then be of opinion that no punishment can be too great for a People who have broken their old agreements, inhumanly butchered their brethren, and deprived you of the happiness and advantages which Peace and plentiful trade could afford you.

I make no doubt you will consider matters as I have justly represented them, and I am heartily glad to hear your professions of peace and friendship, the observance whereof can never be sufficiently recommended to you, as the means of preserving your lives and Properties, and securing the inestimable advantages of liberty and commerce to your Posterity.

A Belt.

Brethren, I return you thanks for the Belt which you sent to the Indians in Canada, for the promoting of Peace and Unity, which I am of opinion that wise people will never attempt to violate.

A Belt.

Brethren, It is with pleasure I find that the *Ottawaes* near *Michilimackinac*, have had the prudence and friendship to deliver up several of our People who were Prisoners in that Country, and I expect that so laudable an example will be followed by many others.

Then Sir William concluded with acquainting them that he would lay their Speech before Sir Jeffrey Amherst, the event of which was uncertain, as measures were already taken for punishing those who had been in arms against us.

Eod= Die.

The Caughnawagas had a meeting with Sir William Johnson, and the Indians of the Several Nations, when they spoke as follows.—

Assaragoa Speaker,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We thank the Great Spirit for enabling us to meet this day, which is in consequence of your Message recommending Peace and quietness to our Confederacy, and that we should keep our

Warriors in order, with which we have punctually complied, And you may assure yourself we shall always concur with your desires, and hold fast by our old agreement. And that we have noticed what you said to us, on the reduction of Canada, when You took the *war-axe* from us, and directed us to pursue our hunting, So that we must now be still, having no *axe*. And now, Brother, we are afraid that through the means of some bad people you may let slip the Covenant-chain which we are determined ever to hold fast by, and therefore entreat you to do the same.

A Belt.

Brethren of the 6. Nations,

I am now to speak to you, and to return thanks to the Great Spirit for this unexpected meeting with you at this place.

We listened with attention, yesterday, to what you said to our Brother *Warraghiyagey*, and we then told you we should speak to you this day.

We are sorry to find that what you then said, does not appear to us to have proceeded from your Hearts, but from your lips only. Therefore we now desire you will pay due regard to the old agreements, and speak the real sentiments of your hearts; And we address you the Sachems and Warriors here present, to recollect yourselves, as you appear to us to be drunk, We therefore expect you will be all of one mind, and speak your true sentiments to your Brother Brethren of the Senecas,

What are you now about, or what do you think will be the consequence of your letting slip the Covenant Chain?

We desire you will recollect yourselves, and we now shake you by the heads, to bring you to reason.

You are too apt to listen to false news and idle stories, but as that is no excuse for your breaking the Covenant Chain, we desire you will bethink yourselves in time, and pay no regard to them, and that you will seriously consider what we have said to you, and for your Children's and families sakes, mind our words, otherwise you will lose your Country and Possessions.

Don't despair of the English forgiveness. You see an example of it in us, who were for a time their Enemies, and we doubt not if you will show a proper sorrow for your behavior, you may obtain the same; We therefore desire you will hold fast by your old Agreements, and mind your Brother *Warraghiyagey*, and that you will take this our Belt to the Senecas Country, which is spoken on behalf of the Sachems and Warriors of Seven Nations who are all unanimous, and acquaint them that if they will not pay due regard thereto, our Nations must assuredly be obliged to quarrel.

A Belt.

The Caghnawagas then delivered Sir William a letter from Captain Claus, D. Agent in Canada, giving an account of a complaint made by the Indians concerning a tract of Land Six miles in length, and one and a half in breadth, claimed by the Jesuits by Patent from Lewis the 14th, and adjoining the land lately in dispute. They therefore begged that Sir William would procure them redress therein.

Next day the Indians all assembled.

PRESENT — as before.

Conoghquieson Speaker,

Brother *Warraghiyagey*,

We assure you that on our going to the Senecas Country we persuaded all of that nation to peace, so far as *Canaderagey*, so that, that Castle and *Canadisega* are your friends. And we

are to inform you that we are Eleven nations of one mind, linked together in the Chain of friendship and determined to preserve peace; But as to the more distant Castles of the Senecas; we cannot at present answer for them, as our Messengers are not returned from thence; And as you may rely on our Resolutions, we earnestly request you will, on your parts, be as careful of observing the peace as we are.

A large Belt.

Brother, On the declarations you made us at the German-Flatts, of the General's favorable disposition towards all those who are peaceable, and that he had no designs against us who were friends, we Unanimously agreed to continue so, and to keep our Warriors at home, according to the old agreement; And we desire you will not believe we are a proud People, inclined to quarrel; but that we are all well disposed. We likewise beg, that in consequence of these our Resolutions, you will not break your Engagements with us Your friends, as we are determined never to strike first, but only to defend ourselves in case of being attacked.

Two belts together.

Brother, We request you will pay the most serious attention to what we shall now say in the name of us all.

We are very sensible of the Hostilities committed and the Indignities offered you which we know, must awake your resentment, and that therefore you will probably have occasion to use the road up the Country, which was formerly considered as a Road of Peace. Therefore knowing your foot to be large and broad, we earnestly desire you will take care and not touch us your Friends therewith in passing the same, as we shall give you no hindrance: And we have further to request that you will not hurt the party of ours which is now out against the Southern Indians, as we are certain they will do you no harm.

A Belt.

Then the Meeting broke up for this time.

Sir William had also this day, several other Meetings both public and private with the Indians, but delayed answering the Caghnawgas until he had finished with the rest.

The 10th Sir William had a meeting with all the Nations, when he assured them that should any nation whatsoever, from a dislike of their Fidelity to us, and their present Engagements, fall upon their Confederacy, they should find we would afford them both assistance and protection; And that as they had acted so friendly a part, as well as for a reward of their trouble in Endeavoring to prevent any further Hostilities, and an encouragement to them to act as became our Friends, He in His Majesty's name, had prepared a present for them, which should be delivered out the next day, Recommending it to them to act such a part for the future, as should make them appear worth our favour.

11th All the Nations assembled, when *Tiyehaseré* addressed Sir William Johnson as follows, on behalf of the rest.

Brother Gorah Warraghiyagey,

I am now, on behalf of all the Confederacy, consisting of Eighteen nations, including seven in Canada, to return you their most hearty thanks for the wholesome admonitions you gave them, and I am in their name to assure you that they are determined to pay the greatest regard to them. Were they not so inclined, they would not have taken so much pains as they have done, to preserve peace in those parts; I am further to assure you they will never forget the friendly offers you have made them of assistance and Protection, as we know we can rely on your Promises; We shall take your Belt and what you have said thereon, to our Council fire at Onondaga, and after we have acquainted all our people therewith, shall send you a Belt in Exchange, with our further sentiments.

Then the Onondaga Speaker stood up, and taking a large Covenant Chain belt in his hand, delivered to them at Albany in 1764, by the Governor in the presence of Commissioners from the Several Governments, he repeated the Engagements made thereon, and then on behalf of the Eighteen Nations, brightened and renewed the same, which he desired Sir William Johnson should acquaint the General and Governor with, and let them know that so many nations were our friends and determined to remain so, whilst we treated them in a peaceable friendly manner.

Sir William Johnson answered them that he was pleased they had remembered their Engagements, the observance of which he strictly recommended to them, as we should, on our parts, strictly observe the same, whilst they adhered thereto; Adding that he would acquaint the General with their proceedings, and made no doubt but he would approve thereof, with which they should be made acquainted.

12th A. M. Delivered out a present to the Indians. Then assembled the Cagnawaga, when Sir W^m Johnson addressed them as follows,

Brethren of Cagnawaga,

I have heard with satisfaction the speech you made to the Six Nations in general, and to the Senecas, in particular. The manner in which you expressed your disapprobation of their Conduct Convinces me of your sincerity and good sense, and in justice to you I shall lay it before the General, and also send it home, that the Great King may know your good disposition and honest intention.

A large String

Brethren, Your Concurring with my request lately made to your nations by Captain Claus, my deputy, and your present promises of a due observance of the Treaty of peace and Friendship into which you and several other Nations were received on the reduction of Canada, gives me much pleasure.

The Wisdom which your Sachems and Chiefs have manifested in adhering thereto, leaves me no doubt of your holding the violators thereof in the greatest detestation, and of concurring with us in bringing them to Punishment, which I strongly recommend to you.

A Belt.

On the reduction of Canada, we became one people; and Peace was established throughout the Country. Trade was beginning to flourish to our mutual advantage, when on a sudden these foolish treacherous nations whom we took into the Chain of friendship with you and the rest of our Brethren, without any notice or provocation, fell upon our Traders, butchering and Captivating them, taking the goods designed for their conveniency and that of others, surprising by the vilest stratagems, and destroying the King's Posts and Troops who were for the protection of trade posted in their several Countries, by which unwarrantable behavior they have sullied the Covenant Chain, which we brightened so lately, and thereby debarred the well disposed Indians of the benefit of trade and good offices, which the English intended and were inclined to do them.

At the Treaty with You on the Conquest of Canada, I considered the axe given you by the French as a dangerous weapon amongst friends, and therefore, on receiving you into our Alliance, I buried the same by pulling up a large pine tree under which ran a stream of water, into which I cast the Axe, so that it might no more be found; But as the Covenant Chain which was then brightened and renewed by us, is broken by those quarrelsome bad People whom we received amongst the number of our friends, I think it necessary that you as a

people who held the same, should be enabled to defend yourselves, and act agreeable to your engagements, in concert with your Brethren the English against all who have violated the said agreement.

I now therefore deliver you a good English Axe, made of the best stuff, which I desire you will give to the Warriors of all your Nations, with directions to use the same against these Covenant breakers, by cutting off the bad links which have gullied the chain of friendship, in which they will not fall being supported by their Brethren the English.

A large Black Belt.

Brethren, I am heartily sorry to find that a set of People who pretended solely the care of your salvation, should thirst after Worldly possessions. You find on your application concerning the former tract in dispute, that the Governor of Montreal gave you immediate redress, which you would have met with in this, but that the case is different, as these lands were given by the King of France to the Jesuits, Solely. But I shall, notwithstanding, lay the matter before the persons in power, who will certainly do you all the Justice which your case shall appear to deserve.

A Belt.

Sir William Johnson to the Lords of Trade.

[Pittsford General Papers, B. 19, No. 14.]

Johnson Hall Sept^r 25. 1763.

My Lords,

Since I had the honour of writing to your Lord^{sh} the first of July last, I met the Indians at the German Flatts, as I mentioned in my letter, I should then shortly do.

At that conference all the Nations attended except the Senecas, who together with some Onasas and others took *Prisque-Ile la Bas* and *Venango* about that time, the rest of the Indians renewed the Covenant, and expressed themselves in the most friendly manner, and as a proof of their inclination for peace, agreed to send the Chief Men of each Nation Deputys to bring the Senecas to reason, which was done accordingly, and about the beginning of this month, the Five Nations arrived here to the amount of 320 in order to acquaint me with the result of their negotiations, in which they informed me that they had had success, having brought to friendship and peace the two first Seneca Castles, as a proof of which they were accompanied by 6 Seneca Indians. — At the same time 270 Indians of several Tribes living along the Banks of the Susquahana and its Branches arrived here, to renew the Covenant Chain, and acquaint me, that all the Indians inhabiting that quarter, so far down as *Oney* were our Friends, & determined to remain so.

Deputys from *Coghawagey* in Canada were also present at the meeting and expressed themselves in a most friendly manner towards the English in a spirited speech to the rest, and after intimating to me their desire of being concerned in punishing our Enemies, I gave them the War Hatchet according to custom, which they received with great pleasure, and I do assure your Lord^{sh} that I have great reason to expect the Indians in Canada who consist of eight Confederate Nations will give us good proof of their inclination towards Us, ever since we received them into our alliance or the reduction of Canada—and from the private

Document n° 4

- Date :** 17 septembre 1763
- Référence :** Jennings, Francis, éd. *Iroquois Indians : A Documentary History*. bob. 26. [Archives nationales du Canada, série RG 10, vol. 1824, f. 529-531].
- Nature du document :** Compte rendu de la fin d'une rencontre entre William Johnson et les Indiens de Kahnawake.
- Résumé :** Les Indiens de Kahnawake sont sur le point de partir. Cérémonie des Indiens pour marquer qu'ils approuvent les propos que William Johnson leur a adressés et pour signifier qu'ils acceptent la hache de guerre qu'il leur a présentée pour combattre les ennemis des Britanniques. Johnson leur dit de retourner chez eux et de rappeler aux autres membres de leur confédération les engagements pris au moment de la conquête. Les Indiens promettent d'obéir aux ordres de Johnson.

Transcription préliminaire

[529] [...] Septem^r. 17th

The Caghnawageys being ready to depart, assembled in the Summer House in the Garden, and ten of their Warriors being naked, Painted, and [?], one of whom had a Drum on his back made of a ___ covered with skin marched in slow Order in two Ranks, singing their Song according to the Ottawa Custom : Tom Wildman in the Men's Rink beating the Drum with one Stick, and the rest accompanying it with Notched Sticks, which they struck to good Time on their Axes.

In this manner they proceeded to the House where they entered, when Tom Wildman advanced before the rest, and sung his War Song, which he twice repeated, after which Sir William gave them Liquor, Pipes, and Tobacco, and Paint, whereupon they returned back in the same Order.

The Occasion of this Ceremony was to Show Sir William that they approv'd of what he said, and that they had taken up the Ax against our Enemies.

At their taking leave, Sir W^m. addressed them as follows

Brethren,

I thank you for your Readiness in approving of my Proposal, wish you a safe Arrival at your Town, and Success in your Undertakings [530] I have only to [?] you will there deliver- this Strong loyal Sachems, and Chiefs, and all those of the Confederacy who are at Home, and tell them that I earnestly [hope?] they may Adhere steadfast to their Engagements and hold fully the Covenant, into which they have been admitted ; as a proof of which I expect they will tell all the Violators thereof of the greatest debitation, and use their utmost Efforts to bring them to the Punishment they deserve, whereby they may be assured of the Friendship, Favor, and Protection of the English to the [latest?] Ages

A very long String

Thomas King and Seneca George desired a private Meeting with Sir W^m, where the former spoke as follows-

Brother

We now rejoice that every thing relative to the maintaining of Peace is so happily sent to Chenussios, and we hope that God will direct us both to keep up to the Engagements we entered into- Brother, We now present Adam Hawk and a [?] Sachems who travel here, and are firmly determined to take all possible Pains to deserve the Friendship so long and now firmly made, and Renewed, and as we are now resolved to listen, and Obey any Directions you may think proper to send us at any time til it be [?] Nature it will, hope that you will consider our Wants and Trouble, by letting us have some Clothings, as our Share of the Present yesterday was just [necessary?], we being so many in number.

A Belt

Sir William thanked them for the Pains they had taken in the present Affair, and for their Promises now made of following any Directions they should receive from him, and gave them a [?] Present.

Same Day Abraham at Assaragoa with Two Sons of old Abraham a [M?kander] came, and made a Complaint to Sir William that the Patentees of the [?] Partners near the Highlands in Culkin's County, never paid for said Tract, and when the Demand had been made by their late Father, he was always trifled with, and told that as the Partners lived in different Parts of the Country, they would not make up the [M?] 'till they were all together. On being asked before Sir W^m, what was the Consideration they expected and wou'd satisfy them, they answered they would be content with £110, which they were sensible, that many Same therein had been Sold for five times that Sum.

A Belt

Sir William told them in Answer that he had on Application formerly made to him, by their deceased fathers, wrote to Mr. John [Sickel] concerning said Land, and that Mr. Sickel, and Capt. [Isaish] Ross who were both concerned in said Patent, in their answer to him, denied the Charge ; however, on their importunity, Sir William [531] promised them

he would once more write to Mr. Sackel, and let them know the ultimate answer thereto- Sir W^m then with 2 black Strings covered the Grave of old Abraham their late Father, for which they Returned him many thanks.

In the Evening, most of the Susquehannock Indians, (after much trouble, in giving them private Presents, Orders for Provisions, Orders to smiths, Papers, &c.) took their leave, as did also the Schohares, and set off for their respective Habitations.

Same Day Hendrick [Ha??ch] with about a Dozen of his People came to Sir William with a Complaint against M^{rs}. Brett of the Fish Hills, Col. [Bechim], Verplank, Cortland, and Philips, that they had not paid his Ancestors, viz^t. old old Capt. Ninchain for a tract of Land near the Fish Hills, and desired that Sir William would grant them a Pass to go to New York to the Governor, as they hoped, and expected, would do them Justice in the Affair, as they imagined that he must (from his Surveying the same) be well acquainted wth. the State of the [?]

Strings

Agreable to the Indians Desire, Sir W^m. gave them a Pass & a letter to Governor Colden concerning their Complaint, on w^{ch}. they took leave.

to you all in the best & kindest manner, with your Brethren.

Brethren.

The knowledge I have had of you for several Years past, inclines me to believe you will listen to sensible Stories, and I hope you may always con-
vance me of your good Sense, in saying no regard to any Misperch, but what
are made to you by the English, or your Friends.

J. S.
J. Bell

When I could see the Graves of the Nanticoaks, & Conoy, & the Black Indians,

Brethren,

I am sorry to find some Roads which were formerly open, to be now
shut by the bad Behavior of Indians, who have thereby hindered the well disposed
from Trade. As the several Nations have promised at this Meeting to look
only this Way, and have no Intercourse with our Enemies, I trust you will do
the same, by which you may be assured of our Friendship, and by adhering to
your former consistent Engagements.

J. Bell

L. M.

land
17th

The Captains being ready to depart, assembled in the Summer
house in the evening, and ten of their Warriors being naked, painted, and adorned,
one of whom had a Drum on his Back) made of a ^{covered with Skin} marched
in slow Order in two Rows, singing their Song according to the Ottawa custom:
The first was in the front rank, beating the Drum with one Stick, and the rest ac-
companying it with several Sticks, which they struck to give some on their Drums.

In this manner they proceeded to the House where they entered, when the
Wildman advanced to give the rest, and sang his War Song, which he had composed,
all which Sir William gave them. Squaw, Pipes, and Tobacco, and when
they returned back in the same Order.

The Occasion of this Ceremony, was to show Sir William that they approved
of what he said, and that they had taken up the War against our Enemies.
At their taking leave Sir W. addressed them as follows.

Brethren,

I thank you for your Readiness in appearing of my Request, and wish
you a safe & arrival at your Town, and Success in your Warlike Designs.

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only to be taken you will then deliver His String to your Strangers, and
check, and all those of the Gov. Colony who are at Home, and tell them that I
cannot live any more at home, and that to their bagagements, and hold fast by the
Government, into which they have been admitted; as a Proof of which, I find they will
hold all the Violators of the Law, and the great of the Nation, and use their utmost Efforts
to bring them to the Punishment of the Law, which they may be assured of the
Fidelity of your, and the Nation, against such to be called 'Agers'.
I am your Long Strung,

Thomas King, and Lorenza George, send a private Meeting with Sir Wm,
where the former spoke as follows.

Brother,

We now desire that every thing relative to the maintaining of Peace is so
long ago, and that we hope that God will direct us both to keep up to the
same, and to enter into it. Brother, We now present, Adam Jacob
and a young man, who have taken, and are firmly determined to take all possible means
to secure the health of soldiers, and to be made, and removed, and as we are now
worse than before, and to be your satisfaction you may think proper to send me a
letter at the first of the month, that you will consider our words, and
double, by telling us how far you have, and how far you have yesterday was
not a pleasure, and to my, or to me. --
I am,
Yours,
D. Bell

The William that had been for the first time in the present
affair, and that he has been made of the company of soldiers, and that he should receive
his share, and to be a private friend.

The young man that had been for the first time in the present
affair, and that he has been made of the company of soldiers, and that he should receive
his share, and to be a private friend.
I am,
Yours,
D. Bell

...and use their utmost Efforts
to bring them to the Settlement...
...which they may be assured of the
...and the return of... to the last Ages.

Very long Sings

Thomas King, and Teresa George, toward a private Meeting with Sir W^m,
about the former spoke as follows.

Brother

We now expect that every thing will be to the maintaining of Peace is so
happy, and I thank you, and we hope that God will direct us both to keep up to the
... Brother, We now present, Adam Jacob
... and we firmly determine to take a...
... and as we are now
... and I hope you may think proper to send us at any
... hope that you will consider our...
... yesterday was
... of Bell

The William thanked them for the... that in the present
... and he then...
... and...
... of Bell

Thomas King, Abraham at... with two Sons of... a
... complaint to Sir William, that...
... never paid for said Trade, and
... and
... they could not make up
... On... what was the
... they would be content
... had been sold for
... of Bell

Sir William told them in answer that he had an Application formerly
... made to him by their... to Mr John Dickel, concerning said Land, and
... and...
... in their
... Sir William
... friend

1713

provided them he would ever more write to Mr. Sack...
ultimate answer should. In 1713 then with 2 black Indians...
grave of old Stratham then late... for which they...
In the evening most of the Squaw... much Trouble, in
giving them private Orders for Provisions, Orders to...
leave, and set off for their respective Habitatory.

Same Day Hendrick Montross...
Sir William with a complaint against Mr. Bull of the...
Kiplink, Goshland, and Philips, that they had not paid his...
old Capt. Murcham &c for a tract of Land near the...
that Sir William would grant them a... New York...
they hoped, and expected, would... Justice in the...
that he had, (from his... the same) be well acquainted with the...
3 Prings.

Agreeable to the Indians Desire, Sir Wm gave them a...
Lippema... concerning... and...
On Saturday, Chief of the... with a...
... that... came to... and... from that a...
young... brought an... that three...
... and... by the English, and that some...
... with them... He then with a...
... offered to... against them...
... that... of the...
I Bell.

1713

On Saturday, Chief of the... with a...
... that... came to... and... from that a...
young... brought an... that three...
... and... by the English, and that some...
... with them... He then with a...
... offered to... against them...
... that... of the...
I Bell.

To William Received... Major... the following... of

Document n° 5

- Date :** 25 septembre 1763
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 7, p. 559-562.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de William Johnson aux lords du Board of Trade.
- Résumé :** Des députés de Kahnawake étaient présents à la rencontre tenue à German Flats. Ils se sont chaleureusement exprimés en faveur des Britanniques. Johnson leur a donné une hache de guerre pour punir les Indiens qui se sont soulevés contre les Britanniques. Bien que les Iroquois des Six-Nations et les Indiens du Canada soient dans des dispositions pacifiques, ils n'en sont pas moins insatisfaits de certains empiètements faits sur leurs terres, surtout les Mohawks.

people who held the same, should be enabled to defend yourselves, and act agreeable to your engagements, in concert with your Brethren the English against all who have violated the said agreement.

I now therefore deliver you a good English Axe, made of the best stuff, which I desire you will give to the Warriors of all your Nations, with directions to use the same against these Covenant breakers, by cutting off the bad links which have sullied the chain of friendship, in which they will not fail being supported by their Brethren the English.

A large Black Belt.

Brethren, I am heartily sorry to find that a set of People who pretended solely the care of your salvation, should thirst after Worldly possessions. You find on your application concerning the former tract in dispute, that the Governor of Montreal gave you immediate redress, which you would have met with in this, but that the case is different, as these lands were given by the King of France to the Jesuits, Solely. But I shall, notwithstanding, lay the matter before the persons in power, who will certainly do you all the Justice which your case shall appear to deserve.

A Belt.

Sir William Johnson to the Lords of Trade.

[Pittsford General Papers, B., 18, No. 18.]

Johnson Hall Sept' 25. 1763.

My Lords,

Since I had the honour of writing to your Lord^{ships} the first of July last, I met the Indians at the German Flatts, as I mentioned in my letter, I should then shortly do.

At that conference all the Nations attended except the Senecas, who together with some Onasas and others took *Priquet-Isle la Boie* and *Venango* about that time, the rest of the Indians renewed the Covenant, and expressed themselves in the most friendly manner, and as a proof of their inclination for peace, agreed to send the Chief Men of each Nation Deputys to bring the Senecas to reason, which was done accordingly, and about the beginning of this month, the Five Nations arrived here to the amount of 320 in order to acquaint me with the result of their negotiations, in which they informed me that they had had success, having brought to friendship and peace the two first Seneca Castles, as a proof of which they were accompanied by 6 Seneca Indians.—At the same time 270 Indians of several Tribes living along the Banks of the Susquahana and its Branches arrived here, to renew the Covenant Chain, and acquaint me, that all the Indians inhabiting that quarter, so far down as *Oswego* were our Friends, & determined to remain so.

Deputys from *Cogswagey* in Canada were also present at the meeting and expressed themselves in a most friendly manner towards the English in a spirited speech to the rest, and after intimating to me their desire of being concerned in punishing our Enemies, I gave them the War Hatchet according to custom, which they received with great pleasure, and I do assure your Lord^{ships} that I have great reason to expect the Indians in Canada, who consist of eight Confederate Nations will give us good proof of their inclination towards Us, ever since we received them into our alliance or the reduction of Canada—and from the private

conferences ettc, which I have had with the rest, I flatter myself that not only the majority of the Five Nations, but many others will be readily induced to act offensively against our Enemies, provided they meet with proper encouragement, and a due Regard be had to their respective Services, which I am well convinced, will be far from being Inconsiderable, if they engage heartily in the cause, of which I can have no doubt from the many particular offers which have been made me, which I shall accept of, so soon as I am properly authorized so to do, as a few Indians, will do more mischief and create more uneasiness amongst our Enemies than many hundred of our own people can ever do; but I greatly fear that Indians have been in General considered as too inconsiderable for some time past, and I most heartily wish we may have no occasion to attribute any future hostilities to such a way of thinking, which must produce neglect and disregard on our sides, and discontent and Revenge on theirs, the consequence of which will be, a recommencement of hostilities.—I have always offered my sentiments with a freedom and candour becoming a faithful servant of the Crown, and as such I flatter myself they will always meet with your Lord^m indulgence.—At the expence of my health, Ease and neglect of my private fortune I have during 25 years experience acquired some knowledge of the power and abilities of the Indians, and the principles on which they Act; and I have the satisfaction of finding that my sentiments have generally met with a favourable reception from your Lord^m.

This great encouragement emboldens me to offer some further remarks, without which I could not acquit myself in my own opinion as a faithful servant to His Maj^{ty} and a very obliged friend to your Lord^m, whose office entitles you to my sentiments, and whose experience enables you to make such an use thereof as your wisdom shall suggest.

If we had no occasion for frontier posts, back settlements and an Indian trade, we might rest tolerably secure in our present possessions, without being at any expence in cultivating the Friendship and affection of the Indians; but as these things are essential to the prosperity of the Provinces, and the increase of his Majesty's Revenue, we must, I humbly apprehend, endeavour to possess them [by] such means, as shall be most conducive to the welfare of the one, and the extention of the other. Now as the Indians, who possess these Countries, are by numbers, considerable, by inclination Warlike, and by disposition Covetuous, (which last has been increased from the Customs in which the French have bred them) I find on all hands, that they will never be content, without possessing the frontiers, unless we settle limits with them, and make it worth their while, and without which, should they make peace to morrow, they would break the same the first opportunity. Your Lord^m well know that the several out-posts, must consist of but few Men and that they are environed with numbers of Savages at too great a distance to receive succours from Us. as also the great expence, and difficultys attending their being supplied with provisions Ammunition and other necessaries, and which can not even be effected if the Indians are our Enemies, but by keeping a very large Regular Force at a monstrous expence to the Nation, and that without being necessitated to have recourse to their ancient weapons, the Indians will never fail of supplies from the French, who will thereby, be enabled to engross a great part of the furr trade, as there are so many fine communications to the Missisipi, the distance of which will never be regarded by Indians.—These Indians conscious of their own strength and scituation, will, unless kept in the best temper by us, be easily persuaded to commit depredations on the Traders, whose goods are a temptation to the Savages; thus once embarked, they will not stop till they have spread havock, over all our frontiers, an instance of which is now before your Lord^m in their having taken

and destroyed no less than eight Forts, murdered great part of the Garrisons, killed great numbers of Her Majesty's subjects on the Frontiers, and destroyed their settlements, and that in about the compass of a month.—Many people in America, have been too apt to despise the Indian strength, till fatal necessity has convinced them of their abilities, thus by entertaining a contempt for them merely, because they are not civilized, and that they have never experienced what a few Indians (engaged in what they look upon, their own cause) are able to accomplish; they neglect the necessary precautions to be taken against the most contemptible people.

The Indians, I do assure your Lordship are no wise inferior to us in sagacity and stratagem, qualities most essentially necessary in this Country; their ideas of courage are different from ours, and they are only deficient in that courage which the nature and situation of their country renders less necessary amongst them, as they attack by surprise, and on failure of success (of which they never neglect taking advantage) are able to repeat their attacks, at the next advantageous place they meet with, killing many of our people in each encounter, with a very small loss on their side, this, the most partial accounts, which are generally made of our actions with them will sufficiently evince.—During the times in which the French possessed garrisons in their several countries, many of their Traders were plundered & killed, but the expence which the French were at to conciliate the affections of the Savages, alone prevented any overt Act.—I know, that many mistakes arise here from erroneous accounts formerly made of Indians; they have been represented as calling themselves subjects, altho, the very word would have startled them, had it been ever pronounced by any Interpreter; they desire to be considered as Allies and Friends, and such we may make them at a reasonable expence, and thereby occupy our outposts, and carry on a Trade in safety, until in a few years we shall become so formidable throughout the country, as to be able to protect ourselves, and abate of that charge; but until such measures be adopted, I am well convinced, there can be no reliance on a peace with them, and that as interest is the grand tie which will bind them to us, so their desire of plunder, will induce them to commit hostilities whenever we neglect them.

My Lords, I consider it as a duty indispensable on me to make you this faithful representation of Indian Affairs, which I could represent still clearer, but that in so doing, I should much exceed the bounds of a letter; what I have humbly offered at this time, as well as in my former letters, will, I hope, be considered by Your Lordship as the faithful report of a servant of the Crown, who has the honour of his Majesty, and the welfare of America strongly at heart, and that as from the nature of my department, I have no right to conceal my sentiments on this subject; Your Lordship will therefore pardon the plainness and freedom with which they are offered.

There are still some Nations who are averse to hostilities, and, the behaviours of the *Sakis* and of the *Ottowas* of *Abré Croche* near Michilimacinae, who, tho' in the midst of our Enemies, not only rescued and protected several of our officers, with their garrisons, but brought them down under a large escort, together with a considerable quantity of Traders goods to montreal, will, undoubtedly appear praiseworthy to your Lordship, and entitle them to our thanks and a public reward, these people, with others are to come down the Country in the spring and I am of opinion, a good use may be made of them against our Enemies, in order to bring them to punishment if properly encouraged.—Notwithstanding the present pacific disposition of the Five Nations, the Indians in Canada, and many others, yet they are much discontented, particularly the former on account of Land disputes and encroachments, wherein I am sorry to say, the Mohawks have chiefly suffered by the unconscionable grant called *Kayudarussas* alias

Queensborough of above half a million of acres, which I several times laid before your Lord^{sh} the Claim of the Corporation of Albany on their dwelling place at Fort Hunter, and also, that of Mess^{rs} Livingston and others on their planting grounds at Canajohare or the upper Mohawk Castle, in none of which cases the common Law can give them redress; these and many other affairs, have occasioned the Five Nations to express themselves desirous of sending Deputys to lay their complaints before His Majesty. I shall in my next give your Lord^{sh} a more full account of the particulars, of their respective complaints, and in the mean time I must beg leave to request the honour of your Lord^{sh} sentiments and Instructions on any occurring subjects, for my better Govern^t, that my measures may be entirely correspondent with your Lord^{sh} intentions, which has always been the sole aim of my proceedings.

I am with the most profound respect

My Lords,

Your Lord^{sh} most obedient
and most humble servant.

W^m JOHNSON.

P. S. This moment I have received an express, informing me that an Officer and 24 Men, who were escorting several waggons and Ox Teams over the carrying place at Niagra, had been attacked and entirely defeated, together with two Companies of Coll: Willmot's Reg^t who marched to sustain them. Our loss on this occasion consists of Lieut^{ts} Campbell, Frazier and Rosco of the Regulars, Capt^t Johnson and Lieut^t Deayton of the Provincials, and 60 private^s killed, with about 8 or nine wounded; the Enemy who are supposed to be Senecas of *Chawario*, scalped all the dead, took all their cloaths, arms and amunition, and threw several of their bodies down a precipice. I am greatly apprehensive of the fate of the Detroit, they being in much want I fear of that Garrison, and as all our Cattle etc which were at Niagra are either killed or taken, it will be impossible to get any necessaries transported over the carrying place for the remainder of this season. I shall immediately send Belts to all the friendly nations, and use every effectual measure for preventing the destruction of our settlements from the Enemy Indians, who are but too much encouraged from their repeated successes.

W. J.

Lieutenant-Governor Colden to the Lords of Trade.

[New-York Gazette, Oct., p. 104.]

New York, Sept^r 26. 1763

My Lords

Since General Monckton left this Government, I have seen the Copy of a representation made to him by five Gentlemen of the Council relating to the Boundaries of this His Majesty's Province, which in my humble opinion, were it to take effect, would be injurious to His Majesty's rights & revenue; and therefor as the affairs of the Colonies may probably at this time come under the consideration of His Majesty's Ministers, & this representation may be

Document n° 6

- Date :** 25 novembre 1763
- Référence :** *Sir Frederick Haldimand : Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-84.. Add. Mss. 21669, f. 32.*
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Haldimand à Burton, de Trois-Rivières.
- Résumé :** Un Indien de Saint-François est venu demander à Haldimand un missionnaire. Il lui a assuré que les Indiens de son village n'avaient aucun contact avec ceux des Pays-d'en-Haut et qu'ils n'avaient aucune mauvaise intention. Ils sont présentement à la chasse sur la rivière Saint-François et en Acadie. Haldimand ne leur fait pas confiance.

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 32r.]

Trois-Rivières le 25 9^{re} 1763

Monsieur

Je reçois dans ce moment la lettre du C^t Amherst que vous preniés la peine de m'envoyer ; Les 3. Compagnies du 27^e Régim^t. Venant de Québec Pr se rendre dans Votre Gouvernement on passé icy ; la premiere en est partie le 23^e & les Deux Autre, le matin ; j'espère qu'elles se rendront heureusem^t. Ches Vous le quatrième jours ; il est etonnant la quantité de Bagages qu'elles trainent Aprés Elle ; les deux dernieres Compagnies ont laissé icy une partie de Celui dont Elles peuvent se passer, & il sera facile de la leur faire parvenir des que la rivière Sera prise ;

Côme les trois Compagnies n'ont chacune qu'un Subalterne, j'ay permis au Col. Mansett de nômer le Cap^t. Campbell pour en avoir la direction, & il partira imédiatement pour se rendre sous Vos Ordres ; je fais passer [f. 32v.] à Maskinongé une partie de la Compagnie & ne laisse à St. François qu'un officier & 25. hômes ; Mais Côme ils doivent tous [lagir?] dans l'intérieur du Stocade, (& au plus) la Maison la plus Voisine), Ce détachement Sera à labry de toute Surprise ; & quand la Compagnie de Maskinongé marchera. je pouray également entretenir la Communication.

Joseph Louys, qui Vint hier de St. François pour me demander le Père LaBrosse Côme Missionnaire, S'est Contenté de bonne parolles, & na point insisté ; il M'asseure positivement que les Indiens de St. François n'ont aucune Correspondance avec Ceux des Pays d'en haut, & qu'il est persuadé qu'ils n'ont Aucune Mauvaise intention ; ils sont tous en Chasse dans la rivière St. François ou du Cotté de Lacadie, ou la plus part passeront l'hiver.

[en marge] Cependant je ne me fieray point trop à eux ; il est toujours bon de prendre les precautions contre des Gens qui sont reconnus pour avoir le Coeur mauvais.

J'ay lhonneur d'être Monsieur Votre tres humble & tres obeiss^t. Serviteur

F. Haldimand

a M. Col. Burton

a Maskinonge une partie de la compagnie
& ne laisse à St. Francois qu'un officier & -
25. homes. Mais comme ils doivent tous loger
dans l'intérieur du Parcades, & au plus la
Maison la plus voisine, le détachement
sera à l'abri de toute surprise, & quand
la compagnie de Maskinonge marchera
sans aucun besoin de la compagnie de

Maskinonge je pourrai également
entretenir la communication.
Joseph Lorys qui vient vers de St. Francois
pour me demander le Père La Brosse -
comme Missionnaire, est content de bonne
opinion, & ne joint insister, il m'a assuré
positivement que les Indiens de St. Francois
n'ont aucune correspondance avec ceux
des Pays d'en haut, & qu'il est persuadé
qu'ils n'ont aucune mauvaise intention.
Ils sont tous en chasse dans la rivière
St. Francois ou du côté de Lacadie, ou la
plus part passeront l'hiver. **

Avec l'honneur de l'Etat

* Cependant je ne serai point trop à l'aise, il faut toujours s'attendre à ce que
bon de prendre les précautions contre les Indiens
des Pays qui sont reconnus pour avoir des intentions
le plus mauvais
à M. L. B. Baston
St. Francois
1722

27
Troisivières le 25^e j^uin 1763

52.

Monsieur

Je recois dans ce moment la lettre
de G. F. Lambert qui vous prie de la peine de
Monsieur les B. Compagnies du 27^e j^uin
devenue de Dubois G. se rendre dans
Vos Gouvernements en papier, la première
en est partie le 23^e j^uin et les deux autres ce
matin, j'espère qu'elles se rendront heureusement
à vos lieux le quatrième jour, il est attendu
la quantité de Bagages qu'elles traquent -
après elles, les deux dernières Compagnies ont
l'espérance une partie de celui dont elles jouissent
de papier, & il sera facile de le leur faire
parvenir des que la rivière sera prise.

Pour les trois Compagnies sont - chacune
après l'autre, j'ay passé au Fort Manille
de Monsieur le Capitaine Campbell pour en avoir
la direction, & il partira incessamment pour
se rendre dans vos Ordres, je fais papier

Document n° 7

- Date :** février 1764
- Référence :** *Sir Frederick Haldimand : Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-84. Add. Mss. 21662, f. 114-115.*
- Nature du document :** Pétition de Joseph Louis au nom des Abénaquis de Saint-François, à Haldimand.
- Résumé :** Les Indiens étaient sur le point de partir pour la chasse lorsque Haldimand a publié un «placard», sans aucun doute le texte de la Proclamation royale de 1763, maintenant les Indiens dans la jouissance de leurs biens. Les Abénaquis vont venir le remercier et lui donner leurs hommages à leur retour. Des habitants chassent sur les terres des Abénaquis, ce qui leur nuit beaucoup, car ils n'ont que la chasse pour vivre, alors que les Canadiens peuvent cultiver la terre. Les Abénaquis demandent à Haldimand de fixer des amendes pour les habitants qui chasseront dans les limites des terres indiennes et que l'argent de ces amendes leur reviennent.

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 114r.]

A Son Excellence Monsieur Le Gouverneur de la ville en Gouvernement
des trois Rivières

Supplie humblement Joseph Loüis au nom et comme fondé du pouvoir de tous les sauvages abnakis du village de S^t francois a lhonneur de Représenter tres Respectueusement a votre Excellence, que comme Il a plû a Sa Majesté Britanique nôtre Souverain monarque de Maintenir les Sauvages dans la Jouissance de Leurs Biens, & Lors de La publication du placard Les sauvages [f. 114v.] Estoiènt pour lors sur leur depart pour La chasse des Bois, ce qui a causé quils nont pas accompli Le Zele quils auroient désiré avec le plus grand Empressement, qui Est, de temoigner a vôtre Excellence, combien Ils sont Sensibles aux graces Infinies qui a plû a Sa Majesté Leurs accorder, pour Les quels Bienfaits & faveurs, Ils se promettent tous d'en conserver un Eternel Ressouvenir, Ce quils auront lhonneur de reiterer eux-même personnellement au Retour de Leurs chasse si dieu Les Conserve.

En Second Lieu Monseigneur, comme La chasse des Bois Est une chose qui fait a ces gens la toute Leurs Subsistence, & que [f. 115r.] plusieurs françois Indifferendment chassent & parconsequens detruisent Les animaux des Bois de toutes Sortes despeces, Ce qui cause un tord notable au pauvres sauvages, qui nont point dautres Ressources que La chasse pour les faire Subsister Eux & Leurs familles au Lieu que les habitants ont Leurs terres quils nont qua cultiver ; & par ce moyen Sont En Estat de vivre avec Leurs familles & se peuvent passer de La chasse des Bois ; a toutes Rigueur Ils pourroient faire quelques petites chasse Sur le terrain Seul qui peut Leurs appartenir, Ce qui oblige Le suppliant d'implorer vôtre clemence Monseigneur, pour quil plaise a [f. 115v.] vôtre Excellence de rendre vôtre ordonnance par laquelle Il Sois deffendû a tout habitant quel quil puisse Estre de chasser a lavenir dans aucune Limite des sauvages Sous telles peines & amandes quil vous plaira fixer Les d^{es}. amandes appliques au profit des d^{ts}. Sauvages,

Comme aussi de Les troubler dans La Jouissance des autres terrains qui peuvent Leur apporter quelques Revenus, Comme des quantites de pierres que plusieurs habitants Enterent dans des rapides sur le terrain des dits Sauvages par autorité privé ; Le d^t. Suppliant, ôse se flatter de Lattention de vôtre Excellence a ces humbles Representations vû En outre que plusieurs habitants de Maska Sont Sur le point de partir pour La chasse Leur appareil Estans tout fais a cet Effet, Le suppliant Est d'ailleurs tres tres respectueusement Soumis a vos ordres

Joseph Louis quille

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En toute Excellence & Honneur
Le Gouverneur de la ville &
Gouvernement des trois Rivières

Supplie humblement Joseph Loisin
au nom de la Commune fondée du pouvoir de tous
les sauvages abnaquis du village de St
François à l'honneur de se présenter très
respectueusement à votre Excellence;
que comme Majesté à Sa Majesté
Britannique notre Souverain monarque,
de maintenir les sauvages dans la
jouissance de leurs biens, le lors de la
publication du statut des sauvages

Les Indiens françois Indifferemment
 chassent le par consequent detruisent
 Les animaux des Bois de toutes cotes
 desces, ce qui cause un lord notable
 au pauvre sauvage, qui nont point
 d'autres Resources que la chasse pour
 se faire subsister eux & leurs familles
 au lieu que les habitants ont leurs terres
 qu'ils vont qu'a cultiver; & par ce moyen
 sont en estat de vivre avec leurs familles
 & se peuvent passer de la chasse des
 Bois, a toutes dignes Ils pourroient faire
 quelques petites chasses sur le terrain seul
 qui leur appartient, ce qui oblige
 Le Suppliant d'implorer votre demour
 & Monseigneur; pour qu'il y en ait a

Votre Excellence de rendre votre ordonnance
par laquelle il soit défendu à tout habitant
petit qu'il puisse être de chasser à l'avenir
dans aucune limite des sauvages sous
telles peines & amandes qu'il vous verra
fixer. Les d^{es} amandes appliquées au
profit des d^{es} sauvages, comme aussi de
les troubler dans la jouissance des autres
terrains qui peuvent leur apporter
quelques revenus, comme des
quantités de pierres que plusieurs habitants
enterrent dans des stapes sur le terrain
des dits sauvages par aultorité, rivé,
Le d^{es} Supplieur, ose se flatter de l'attention
de votre Excellence aux humbles representations
vu en outre que plusieurs habitants de
maska sont sur le point de partir pour
la chasse leur appareil estant tout fait
à cet effet, Le Supplieur en d'ailleurs très
très respectueusement soumis à vos ordres
Joysk Louis quille

ESTOIENT pour lors sur leur départ, pour
la chasse des Bois; ce qui a causé qu'ils n'ont
pas accompli le vœu qu'ils auroient désiré
avec le plus grand Impressement, & qui est,
de témoigner à votre Excellence, combien
Ils sont sensibles aux graces Infinites qu'il
a plu à sa Majesté. Leur accorder, pour
les quels Bienfaits & faveurs, Ils se promettent
tous d'en conserver un éternel souvenir;
ce qu'ils auront l'honneur de citer en
même personnellement au retour de
Leurs chasses si Dieu Les conduit

Le Second Sieur & Monseigneur, comme la
chasse des Bois est une chose qui fait à
eux toute leur Subsistance, le que

Document n° 8

- Date :** 27 février 1764
- Référence :** *Sir Frederick Haldimand : Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-84. Add. Mss. 21662, f. 118-119.*
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Haldimand à Gage, de Trois-Rivières.
- Résumé :** Haldimand joint une copie d'une requête des Abénaquis de Saint-François. En invoquant la Proclamation royale de 1763, ils veulent s'arroger des droits qu'ils n'ont jamais eu dans cet endroit. Ils sont sans doute conseillé par des Français. Haldimand veut aller sur place au printemps voir ce qui en est, sans donner de réponse positive aux Abénaquis.

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 118r.]

Trois Rivieres le 27^e fev^r. 64

Monsieur

J'ay lhonneur de vous envoyer icy le retour du mois des Troupes en quartier dans ce Gouvernement ou tout est fort tranquille ; Jy joins Aussi la Copie d'une Requette que j'ay reçu avec un Collier de la part des Abenakis de S^t françois ; il paroît que les gens voudroient (à la faveur de la proclamation) Sarroger des Droits quils nont jamais possédé dans cette partie du Canada ; Mais au stille de la requette, il paroît quils Sont Conseillés par quelques françois ; je Conte daller à S^t françois avant la fin de lhiver & tacheray de découvrir ces gens la, Sans faire de reponse positive aux Indiens.

Mons^r. Murray me fit parvenir il y a quelques temps la Copie d'une Lettre de Mylord [f. 118v.] Hallifax au sujet de l'argent de Papier du Canada Côme Vous Aurés Sansdoutte reçu la même Lettre je pense Mons. quen vous en faisant raport je puis évitter décrire directement à Mylord.

Par toutes les recherches que jay pû faire dans ce Gouvernement je ny découvre personne qui aye fais le Métier de rassemblée cet espece de papier, & sil y a de telles gens dans le Pays il faut quils se trouvent a Quebec ou M^tReal, & surtout dans le premier endroit, ou les marchands coueurs de Cotte séquippent ordinairement, & raportent le produit de leurs marchandises ; qu'ils vendoient quelque fois pour du Papier, lorsqu'ils pouvoient l'avoir à un fort grand déconte. Cependant je n'apprens pas quil en sois sorti beaucoup de ce Gouvernement ; Je joins icy une Notte de Ce qui sy trouvoit en Juillet dernier, & jay envoyé la même notte à Mr. Murray en lui donnant avis du même que Mons. Burton, de ce que j'avois appris icy au Sujet de ce papier [f. 119r.] & jay Cru devoir publier une Ordonnance en mon Nom, pour avertir les habi-

tants de ne point se deffaire du Papier du Canada à Vil Prix, & d'en attendre plus tot la desision.

Je mimpatiente toujours de Voir arriver les Arrangem^t. déffinitifs pour ce Pays, & pourvu quon me dédomage des fraix que jay essayé icy ; je rentreray avec bien du plaisir dans un train de vie plus Uny ; & infiniment plus agreable.

Les deux Mr. McKay passerent hier icy allant a Quebec avec une de leurs Dames (sans doute quils ont quelques nouveaux projects) ils me dirent que le second Paquet de 9^{te} devoit etre arrivé, mais nous navons point encorre de lettres.

Trois Rivieres le 27^e fev. 1764

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Monsieur

J'ay l'honneur de vous envoyer icy
le retour du Mois des Truippes en quarte
dans la Gouvernment. Ou tout est fort
tranquille; J'y joins aussi la copie d'une Requette
que j'ay recue avec un Collier de la part des
Abenakis de St. Francois; il paroit que ces
gens voudroient (à la faveur de la proclamation)
l'arragier des Droits qu'ils n'ont jamais possede
dans cette partie du Canada; Mais au stile
de la requette, il paroit qu'ils sont conseille
par quelques Francois; je pense d'aller à
St. Francois avant la fin de l'iver, & tâcheray
de découvrir ces gens là; sans faire de réponse
positive aux Indiens.

Mons^r Murray me fit parvenir il y a
quelques temps la copie d'une lettre de M^r de

Hallifax au sujet de l'argent de Papier de Canada
Comme Vous aurés sans doute reçu la même Lettre
je pense Mon^{seigneur} qu'en Vous en faisant rapport
je puis éviter d'écrire directement à Mylord.
Par toutes les recherches que j'ay pu faire
dans le Gouvernement je n'y découvre personne
qui aye fait le métier de rassembler et espeu
de papier, & s'il y a de telles gens dans le Pays
il faut qu'ils se trouvent à Quebec ou M^{onsieur} Beaulieu
& surtout dans le premier endroit où les Marchands
Europeens de cette Région s'ordinairement, &
transportent le produit de leurs Marchandises, qu'ils
viendroient quelques fois payer du Papier, lors qu'ils
pourroient l'avoir à un fort grand décont.
Cependant je n'apprens pas qu'il en soit sorti
beaucoup de le Gouvernement. Je joins icy une
Lettre de la qui se trouve en Juillet dernier
j'ay envoyé la même Lettre à M^{onsieur} Murray
en lui demandant avis de même que Mon^{seigneur}
Admiral de ce que j'avois appris au sujet de ce papier

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 & j'ay cru devoir publier une Ordonnance en
 Mon nom, pour avertir les habitants de ce
 point de la diffaine du Papier du Canada à
 vil prix, & de n'attendre plus la décision.

Et m'impatiente toujours de voir arriver
 les arrangements définitifs pour le Pays, &
 pourvu qu'on me dédomage des frais que
 j'ay dépensés icy; je rentreray avec bien du
 plaisir dans un train de vie plus clair, &
 infiniment plus agréable;

Les deux M^{rs} McKay yaseront hier icy
 allant à Québec avec une de leurs Dames
 (sans doute qu'ils ont quelques nouveaux
 projets) ils me disent que le second
 Paquet de g^{te} doit être arrivé, mais
 nous n'avons point encore de lettres.

Je offre mes respects à Mad^e Gage & sa
 famille & ay l'honneur d'être,

Document n° 9

- Date :** 9 mai 1764
- Référence :** *Sir Frederick Haldimand : Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-84. Add. Mss. 21669, f. 98.*
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Burton à Haldimand, de Montréal.
- Résumé :** Burton a tenu un congrès à Kahnawake le 5 mai 1764 ; tout s'est bien déroulé. Les Indiens ont accepté la ceinture de guerre (c'est-à-dire qu'ils ont accepté de combattre les Indiens des Grands Lacs qui se sont soulevés contre les Britanniques). Un groupe partira bientôt, le 15, pour aller voir William Johnson. Le message de Johnson a été transmis aux Abénaquis par deux chefs présents à Kahnawake.

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 98r.]

Montreal, May 9th 1764

Sir,

I was this day favored with your letter of the 8th Inst. I do not [imagine] Gouv^r. Murray has yet sent the account of those, who [asked] to return to France to my Lord Halifax, I shall send him my Last, as soon as the time, limited by me is expired, which will be the 18th Instant.

Maj. [Reghill] and his Corps were to be about to Oswegatchie the 6th inst. The Congress we had at Cachnawaga the 5th Inst. turned out as well as we expected, [?] the different Tribes accepted of the War Belt, and Capt^t. Claus tells [?we were ? heart?], I hope [f. 98v.] they will contrive so. if they do it will have good effect. a large Body of them are to set off for Sr. W^m. Johnson by the way of [? ?] the 15th inst. Capt. Claus tells me that Sr. W^m. Johnson Message is ratified to the Abenaquis, through two Chiefs that were at Cacknawaga.

Capt^t. Byard and Lt. [Cath?] [?] this [?] at day break. I look daily for the March paquet. M^{rs}. Burton and the little Capt^{ns}. beg their Compliments to you.

and I am Sir your most humble most obedient servant
Burton

To Col. Haldimand

Montreal, Aug 9th 17th 68

Dear Mr. [unclear] I received your letter of the 8th inst. Do not be surprised if Mr. [unclear] has not yet got the account of those who asked to return to France to my Lord Highness, I shall send him my list as soon as the two, limited by an express, shall arrive on the 18th instant.

Myrt [unclear] and his family are to leave for [unclear] the 6th inst. The papers on his estate [unclear] the 5th inst. and it is well as we expected, except the different [unclear] accepted of the [unclear] and [unclear] class [unclear] as [unclear] [unclear].

116-15:41

The oil contains so, if they do not
oil has a good effect. a large
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substance of paper is applied to the
changes, through the steps
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the substance and the substance
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and the substance
as it is called the
substance.

To the Honorable Mr. Justice
1822

Document n° 10

- Date :** 8 juin 1764
- Référence :** Carter, Clarence E., éd., *The Correspondence of General Thomas Gage with the Secretaries of State, 1763-1775*, Archon, 1969, vol. 1, p. 30-31.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Gage à Halifax, de New York
- Résumé :** Le gouverneur Burton a rendu visite aux Indiens de Kahnawake et a exprimé une grande satisfaction vis-à-vis la réception qui lui a été réservée [allusion à la rencontre du 5 mai 1764 ; voir document précédent]. Les Indiens ont accepté sans hésitation la ceinture de guerre. Un certain nombre d'entre eux sont partis vers Johnson Hall pour se joindre aux forces dirigées contre les Indiens des Grands Lacs qui se sont soulevés contre les Britanniques.

saws, who I am informed are ready to embrace our Quarrell; and by their Help may be able, if forced, to it, to chastize some of the most obstinate Tribes, without bringing on a general War; which He will take every Precaution to avoid. But it is to be hoped, that by Working properly upon their Interest; and their Fears, that we may gain our Point, without further Trouble. When Major Farmar shall have taken the Measures previously Necessary, He will immediately endeavor to push up a Detachment of the 34th Reg^t to the Natchez, a Post of Consequence to prevent the French from having an Intercourse with the Numerous Nations on the East Side of the Mississippi, and to give us a Footing on that River which We now want, to become acquainted with Tribes to whom we are unknown, and be enabled to conciliate their Affections, and remove the Prejudices they have conceived against us. I have likewise given Directions for the clearing of the Ibberville, which work, I should hope was already began, and that we may soon have another Communication with the Mississippi, without the Obligation of passing New-Orleans. Some Parts of that River have been visited, and it is Judged that it may be cleared with much less Labour than was at first imagined. In the Mean Time, Supplys will be provided here for the 22^d Reg^t who Must have nearly consumed their Stores; and Such Recruits as can be raised Shall be Sent Them, to replace the Men they have lost by Death and Desertion. I have the Honor to be with the greatest Regard, Respect, and Esteem, My Lord, Your Lordship's, Most Obedient and most humble Servant

THO^s GAGERIGHT HON^{BLE} EARL OF HALIFAX

[Endorsed] New York, May 21st 1764. Major General Gage. R. July 2^d Informing of the Difficulties in taking Possession of the Illinois. Measures to be taken with the Indians. The Ibberville to be cleared. with an Inclosure Bundle B N^o 4.

TO HALIFAX

[P.R.O., C.O. 5:83. A.L.S.]

NEW YORK June 8th 1764.

MY LORD,

I have received a Duplicate of your Lordship's Letter of the 10th of March by the April Mail, which arrived here on the 5th Ins^t. I had the Honor to acknowledge the Receipt of that Letter, in mine of the 12th of May.

The Assembly of Pennsylvania has met, agreeable to their last Adjournment, and have at length passed a Vote for a Supply Bill in Such a Shape, as to obtain the Governor's Assent.⁸ That Province will now furnish one Thousand Men for the Publick Service. The Money is to be first Struck for the Payment of the Men, who are to be then raised, armed and Cloathed. They will be late in the Field and a considerable deal of Time has been wasted, which might have been employed to more advantage for the Service.

Governor Burton has paid a Visit to the Indians of Caghmawaga in the Government of Montreal, and expresses great Satisfaction at the Reception He met with: He tells me in bis Letters,⁹ that they took the War Belt without Hesitation, and that a Number of them had Marched for Sir William Johnson's to join our Forces against the Enemy.

I am sorry to acquaint your Lordship, that the Vessel which was dispatched

⁸ *Min. Prov. Council Pa.*, IX, 184.⁹ May 4 and 9, 1764, Gage MSS.

from hence with Supplies for the Forts in Florida, has been wrecked on the Barr of St Augustine.⁷ The Subsistence Money for the Reg^{ts} was saved, but very few of the Stores. These Losses shall be repaired as soon as possible.

The Savages Still infest the Province of Pennsylvania, they have very lately committed Murders at Fort Bedford, and upon the Heads of the Swetara. They are Supposed to be committed by the Shawnese and Delawares, who are retired far down the Ohio, and have received some Assistance from the French Settlements at the Illinois. Deputys from those Nations were certainly at the Illinois in the Winter, and tho' refused Ammunition by the French Officer Commanding at Fort Chartres, they procured a Supply lower down the River, at another Settlement called Kaskies: And it is Suggested, that the French agreed to furnish them, very amply in the Spring, by the way of the Ohio. It is likewise said, that they had engaged the Indians of that District to join against us, and with other Nations on the Ouabache and the Miamis Rivers, to oppose our taking Possession of the Illinois. We shall soon be able to form some Judgement of the Supplys they have all received, and whether they have entered into such a Combination. The French at New-Orleans will be glad no Doubt, of such an Extension of Trade as the Supplying those Savages would create, and may endeavor privately to support them in their Project; for without the Assistance of the French, No League of this Nature can exist long.

The Memorial which I have the Honor to send herewith, has been forwarded to me, to be transmitted to your Lordship, by Lieu^t Nordbergh;⁸ a reduced Lieu^t of the late 4th Battalion of the Royal American Reg^t; who came over into this Country, with very strong Recommendations from the late Earl of Granville. Your Lordship will be best acquainted with the Share of Merit this Gentleman is entitled to, from his Political Services to Great Britain, in Sweden and Russia, I can only testify, that his Behavior as an Officer has merited Favor and Protection; and that his distressed Situation, makes Him an Object of Compassion.

I have the Honor to be, with the greatest Respect, Regard, and Esteem, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most obedient and most humble Servant

THO^s GAGERIGHT HON^{BLE} THE EARL OF HALIFAX.

[Endorsed] New York. June 8th 1764. Major Gen^l Gage. R. July 20th Informing that the Assembly of Pennsylvania had voted a Supply Bill & agreed to raise Men for the Service—Indian Affairs—with an Inclosure Bundle B N^o 5.

TO HALIFAX

[P.R.O., C.O. 5:83. A.L.S.]

NEW YORK July 13th 1764.

MY LORD,

I have the Honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lordship's Letter of the 12th of May, together with a Copy of your Letter of the same Date to Governor Johnstone, a Letter and Copy of the same to M^r Steuart, and a Copy of the Additional Instructions, to Governors Johnstone and Grant.⁹

Your Lordship's Letter to M^r Steuart shall be forwarded by the first Opportunity for Florida where I expect He now is; having received a Letter from

⁷ From Major Ogilvie (St. Augustine), May 13, 1764, *ibid*.⁸ Copy in Gage MSS.⁹ All in Gage MSS.

Document n° 11

- Date :** 27 juin 1764
- Référence :** *Sir Frederick Haldimand : Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-84. Add. Mss. 21662, f. 151-152.*
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Frederick Haldimand à Thomas Gage, de Trois-Rivières.
- Résumé :** Le père Gonon, missionnaire chez les Abénaquis de Bécancour s'est noyé. Les Indiens sont immédiatement venus voir Haldimand pour qu'un autre prêtre soit désigné pour le remplacer. Haldimand ne leur a donné que quelques «bonnes paroles» et... du rhum. Les Abénaquis de Saint-François ont planté du maïs à l'intérieur des terres et semblent prêts à déménager leur village là-bas, ce qui serait une bonne chose pour eux et pour les habitants, qui commencent à être serrés.

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 151r.]

Trois Rivieres le 27 juin 1764

Monsieur

Les Lettres que Vôtre Excellence ma fait lhonneur de Mécrite du 13 & 27 may avec Celle du 6^{me} Juin Me sont parvenues ; Je suis Charmé de Voir que la Compagnie des Volontaires reponde de Vos Vues, On continue a Men faire un rapport favorable, & je me flatte Mons^r. qu'Elle Merittera Votre Approbation pendant le Cours de la Campagne.

LEnregistrement des Papiers du Cannada fut finy ici le 14^{me} de ce Mois, & il sy en trouve pour £1.561.330.18.11 argent de france. Mons^r. Burton Croyant que l'ordre d'enregistrer les Papiers ayant été adressé particulièrement à Mons^r. Murray C'était aussi à lui quil falois les envoyer pour les faire parvenir en Angleterre. Je me suis rendu à son Avis, & ay envoyé à Mons. Murray dans une Boete ; les Bordereaux & declarations qui ont été prises à ce Sujet.

Je suis faché d'apprendre les difficultés que le Major Laflus a rencontrées dans sa route aux Illinois ; des Presents nauroient jamais pu être Mieux employés qua ouvrir son Chemin Aussi difficile ; & [?] les Français Après tant de guerre quil ont eues avec les Sauvages Se sont veu [f. 151v.] obligés de suivre cette Methode ; il y a bien l'apparance qu'ils l'ont trouvée indispensable ; & en General leur Politique Vis a Vis ces Indiens s'est formée par Une longue experience ; & le raport des Missionnaires qui Connoissoient Mieux que personne le jenie de ces Peuples ; est quelque fois bonne à suivre ; Si quelques Renegats des Indiens Avec les quels on fera la paix Cette Année vont se jeter du Cotté du Micissipy, ils pourraient impunement Nous y faire une guerre [?] fort désagréable ; & fort Couteuse.

Le Père Gonon Jesuite Missionnaire de Becancourt, eût le Malheur de se Noyé dernièrement avec un de ses guides ; Son Canot fut renversé par un Coup de Vent en travers le fleuve, & ce ne fut qu'avec beau-

coup de peine qu'un des Conducteur se Sauva. deslors les Abenakis de la Mission sont venus en Corp pour me demander Un Nouveau Missionnaire Mais ils se sont contentes de bonnes parolles, & d'un peu de Rhum. On Ma donné Avis que ceux de S^t françois Avoient planté beaucoup de bled d'Inde dans l'Interieur des Terres, & quils paroissoient disposés a y vouloir transporter leur village ; ce qui seroit Un bien pour eux & pour les habitants de S^t françois, qui se trouvent trop resserrés pour leur Voisinage.

Jay fait lever le Plan de la Rivière Maska, jusques à une 12^{me} de lieu de son Ambouchure [f. 152r.] & celui de la Rivière S^t françois jusques Aux premiers rapides, Mais le peu d'eau qu'il y a dans cette saison, & la quantité de Mouche N'ont pas permis d'aller plus loin ; Si j'avois Crû de rester aussi longtemps icy, J'aurois envoyé des les petit Printens pour Chercher une Communication avec nos Collonies ; Mais dans l'Etat d'Incertitude dans le quel Nous Sômes On ne peut rien entreprendre ; Côme J'ay été obligé de donner quelque peu de Provisions aux partis que j'ay envoyé, ne puis je pas les laisser sur le Conte du Roy, puisque cest pour son Service ; J'ay assés d'autres depenses inévitables.

J'ay lhonneur Mon^s. de Vous envoyer les retours du Mois ; & celui du 4^{me} Batt. dans le temps de la reforme ; Les dattes des Commissions de quelques officiers ne se trouvant point marquées dans le livre du Regim^t. que le Major Ma remis, J'ay Chargé le Lt. Metral qui est allé faire Un tour à Montréal de taché de les decouvrir & de les faire parvenir à Mons. Campbell.

Les officiers au Batt : à la demy paye nont point encorre demandé leur terrain icy, il paroît qu'ils preferent d'acheter des Terres deja defrichées, & Ceux qui n'ont pas d'argent attendent que le Reglement de la Paye Soyent Connus.

Je regrette toujours que le Projet du Otter Crick [f. 152v.] n'aye pas eu lieu, & aye été Communiqué à tant de Monde, Cest toujours le plus [?] & le plus favorable qui paye [?] dans Ce Pays, pour les Etablissem^t.

Je présente Mes Respects à Madame Gage et Jay l'honneur d'etre Avec un parfait devouement

Monsieur

de Votre Excellence

Le tres humble et obeissant serviteur

Fred. Haldimand

Je prens la liberte Mons. de Vous adressé une Lettre pour Mylord Halifax, & je Vous prie de [?] la laissé Ouverte, Afin que Vous puissiez en prendre la lecture, & Si vous le juges à propos lui donner ou la supprimer.

Monsieur

Les lettres que V^{re} Excellence m'a fait
l'honneur de M'écrire du 13^e & 14^e May, avec celle
du 17^e Juin me sont parvenues, je suis charmé de
voir que les Compagnies des Habitans soient
satisfaites, de leur venir à l'honneur d'un support
favorable, & je me flatte d'avoir fait les Mérites
de ces Habitans pendant le cours de la Campagne.

À l'égard de Monsieur de la Cour du Canada qui
s'ingéra le 14^e de ce Mois, & il s'y en trouva pour
150150. 16. 11. d'argent de France, Monsieur de la Cour, signa
qu'il se souvenait de ces d'argent, & ont été acceptés
particulièrement à Monsieur Murray, & ont été
à lui qu'il faisait les envoies pour les faire passer
en Angleterre. Je me suis vu de Monsieur de la Cour, & ay
envoyé à Monsieur Murray sans l'avis de V^{re} Excellence les
Brevets & déclarations, qui ont été prises
à ce sujet.

Je suis fâché de voir les difficultés que le
Monsieur de la Cour a rencontrées dans le Voyage aux
Habitans; des Présents n'auraient jamais pu être
plus employés que d'avoir son chemin aussi
difficile; & les Français après tant de guerres
qu'il ont eues avec les Habitans, se sont vu

de l'année de l'année de l'année, il y a bien
quelques années, qu'ils sont tous indispensables,
leur Politique Vis à Vis ces Indiens,
par leurs longues expériences, & le
des Missionnaires qui connoissent mieux que
personne le jargon de ces Peuples, & quelques
hommes à l'épée; si quelques Mandats ces
Indiens avec les quels on fera la paix cette
année, s'agissant du Collé du Michipicou, il y aura
inévitablement nous y faire une guerre, & elle
sera désagréable, & fort coûteuse.
Le Père Genon Jésuite, & le Missionnaire de
Oudencourt, ont le Malheur de se voir
dérangés avec une de ses guerres, & son Canot
fut renversé par un coup de vent en travers
le fleuve, & le ne fut qu'avec beaucoup de peine
qu'il fut conduit au Port de l'Oratoire, & les
Missionnaires de la Mission, sont venus en Canot
pour me demander un Nouveau Missionnaire
Mais ils se sont contentés de l'ancien, & de
Dumpan de St. Jean, On me donne avis
de ceux de St. François, Avocat pour le Commerce
de bled d'Inde dans l'Intérieur de ces Terres, & y
paroissoient disposés à y aller bien tranquillement
leurs Villages, ce qui seroit très bien pour eux
& pour les habitants de St. François, qui se
trouvent trop repoussés par les Indiens.
On a fait lever le Plan de la Rivière
de St. Jean, jusques à une lieue de son embouchure.

de celui de la Rivière St. Jean, jusques aux premi-
res rivières, mais le peu d'eau qu'il y a dans cette
saison, & la quantité de Mouche, n'ont pas permis
d'aller plus loin; si j'avois cru de Boston, aussi
longtemps icy, j'aurois envoyé des ~~les~~ -
~~Printemps~~ pour chercher une Compagnie de
avec nos Colonies; Mais dans l'Etat d'Incertitude
dans le quel nous sommes en ce point de vue -
entreprendre, Com. Jay a été obligé de donner
quelque peu de Provision, au parti que j'ay
envoyé, ne m'ayant pas de l'argent sur le Comte
du Roy, puisqu'il n'y a pas son service; Jay a été
d'autre dépenses inévitables;

J'ay l'honneur Monsieur de Vous envoyer les
deux du Mois, & celui du 4^{me} Bataillon dans le
Comis de la reforme; Les dattes de Comptes
de quelques Officiers ne se trouvant point
marquées dans le Livre du Regiment que le
Major Ma. Davis, Jay chargé le d. Metrel
qui est allé faire un tour à Montréal -
de tâche de les découvrir & de les faire parvenir
à Monsieur Camball;

Les Officiers du Bataillon à la demy paye
nous ont encore demandé des Terres
icy, il parait qu'ils préfèrent d'acheter
des Terres de la Nouvelle France, & ceux qui sont
sans argent attendant que les Règlement
de la Cour soient connus;

Je regrette toujours que le Projet de l'Etat
Crick

... et de tout ce qui a été communiqué à
Monsieur Comte toujours le plus vol
... la plus favorable qui jaye en
... le Pays pour les Etabliss.
Je présente Mes Respect à Madame &
Ay l'honneur d'être avec un parfait

Monsieur

de Volonté & de l'Esprit

Le Roi, Monsieur
Chambre de l'Esprit
... ..

Et après la lecture de Monsieur de l'Esprit
Après Monsieur de l'Esprit, & je l'Esprit de l'Esprit
Après l'Esprit de l'Esprit, & je l'Esprit de l'Esprit
Lecteur de l'Esprit de l'Esprit, & je l'Esprit de l'Esprit
Après l'Esprit de l'Esprit, & je l'Esprit de l'Esprit

Document n° 12

- Date :** 26 décembre 1764
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 7, p. 685-689.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de William Johnson aux lords du Board of Trade.
- Résumé :** Concerne l'expédition du colonel Bradstreet. Ce dernier a choisi 300 Indiens pour l'accompagner dont 100 de Kahnawake ou d'autres nations indiennes du Canada. La présence de ceux-ci était jugée nécessaire. Leur bon comportement depuis la conquête du Canada montre que leur fidélité est certaine. Johnson ne connaît pas d'autres Indiens qui aient exprimé un aussi grand désir d'aller combattre les Delawares et les Shawnees. Il espérait qu'ils reviendraient «prejudiced in favour of the English conduct & satisfied with the treatment they would receive», mais ils sont revenus, de même que les officiers et les troupes, très déçus du traitement qu'on leur a réservé et des résultats de la campagne de Bradstreet.

which I received from him. These things make the stronger impression as they had found means before that time to make me understand that my Administration may be very short, that I must remain in this Province, that I have a numerous family in it, and that I and they must expect to feel the resentment (& perhaps the Malice) of a powerful body of men.

As I have not one single person of knowledge in the Law to assist me I may have err'd in judgment but I am confident it will appear that I have acted on Principles of Equity & Justice, and with a sense of my Duty as Trustee for the King in this Province, in preserving, to the utmost of my power, the Kings Prerogative & just authority and likewise in securing the Properties of his Subjects in this Province by all the Legal means which the Crown has established. With these Sentiments I rest secure in the King's protection at all times, against any Malice or Resentment how great soever.

Notwithstanding of the present opposition to appeals I am fully perswaded that with judges of integrity and ability, free from all Family or interested connections and the officers of the Crown doing their Duty appeals will be submitted to & the people become pleased with them. But it may be requisite that any ambiguity in the Instruction be removed, directions for the method of Proceeding be given, and that it be extended particularly to all Cases in which the title or right to Lands are in question, or the Prerogative or Rights of the Crown are affected. If the aid of Parliament should be thought necessary it appears a matter of such importance to require it.

Allow me, My Lord, to observe in the last place that a Delay in determining this matter will in this place be interpreted as a tacit withdrawing of the Instruction.

Yesterday the Council met, at which time the judges William Smith and Robert Livingston gave their reasons why they refused to admit an appeal. The other judge David Jones by his letter to me answered that he was not in court at the time, and had no part in the refusing or admitting.

The Council directed an order to him to give his opinion on the legality of appeals and then adjourned this matter for 14 days to receive his opinion.

I have now endeavoured to inform Your Lordship to the best of my ability & it is done with the utmost submission by, My Lord,

Right Hon^{ble} Earl Halifax.

Your most ebedient & faithfull Servant

CADWALLADER COLDEN.

Sir William Johnson to the Lords of Trade.

[*Plaintiffs General, XIV., K 2.*]

Johnson Hall, Dec^r 26th 1764

My Lords,

Since my letter of the 8th of October, at which time I transmitted my sentiments on the Plan for Indian affairs &c^e I have had the honour of writing to your Lordships on the 3^d Ult^o concerning the iniquitous grant in this Province called *Kayadarusseras*, & transmitted some papers necessary for illustrating the fraud thereof, but there being at present, fresh matter for your Lordships information by the return of the two armies who marched against the Enemy,

I cannot avoid laying the same before you, as I would rather acquire y^r character of a most constant correspondent, than at any time neglect laying before your Lordships w^h it is my duty to communicate.

There is doubtless an Acc^t transmitted to His Majesty's Ministers of the Proceedings of both the Expeditions which, it is not my business to enlarge upon, or explain, I shall therefore chiefly confine myself to the effects they will have upon the Several Indian Nations within my Department.

Your Lordships will perceive from the procedure of Coll. Bradstreet's Army, that at first setting out of the Troops from Niagra, they were met at *Lance aux Feuilles* on Lake Erie by Ten Indians, with whom he too readily treated (contrary to y^r advice and inclinations of our Indians) whereby they imposed on our Troops and prevented their Action, for altho they agreed to deliver up within a certain time all prisoners &c^a at Sandosky, as well as to stop all Hostilities, yet, they never observed to perform either. Coll. Bradstreet next endeavoured to send a party to the Illinoia, whom the Twightwees would not suffer to pass thro their country, & were about to put the officer to death. On the arrival of the Army at y^r Detroit the Commanding Officer entered into a solemn treaty of peace with some Ottawaes, and Chippewaes several of whom had before treated with me at Niagra. In this last treaty these Indians are said to acknowledge subjection, dominion &c^a but Pondiac is not included.— On the Coll^{'s} return to Sandosky he proposed proceeding against the Shawanese & Delawares, but it is reported that it was found impracticable, & that the Indians appeared averse to it, but the fact is, that the Indians who were prevented from knocking the Impostors on the Head at *Lance aux feuilles*, & greatly concerned at y^r commanding Officer's manner of treating with them, had resolved not to interest themselves any farther (so warmly) in the issue of the Campaign, and therefore declared at Sandosky that they would readily march with the Army, but would not of themselves go in partys against an Enemy whom the Coll. had treated with, and was not disposed to attack w^h his Troops. The result of this Expedition is, that after loosing near one half of the great boats, the Troops are returned in a most shattered scituation, many have perished in the Woods, and above forty are now daily fed by the Senecas, 'till they become able to march, neither are all my Officers or Indians yet come in, having been turned a drift without any provision on Lake Erie, together with several hundred of the troops. These are a few general Heads which can all be enlarged upon, & fully proved by the best Authority.

On the other hand Coll. Bouquet under all the disadvantages of a tedious & hazardous land march, with an Army little more than half that of the other has penetrated into the heart of the Country of the Delawares & Shawanese, obtained above 200 English Captives from amongst them, with 14 hostages for their coming here, and entering into a peace before me in due form &c^a & I daily expect their chiefs for that purpose.

Haveing just run over some of the most material circumstances of the Expeditions, it remains that I should lay before your Lordships the state of the Indians at present, & the effect these occurrences will have upon them.— For although an Account of the Campaign has been sent to England it is my duty to describe the scituation of affairs as they really are, & as they regard my Department.

In the first place give me leave to observe to your Lordships how our late Military operations are considered by the Freind Indians, & what effect they will have upon our Enemies.

As to the first Coll. Bradstreet made choice of 300 Indians out of the number I brought to Niagra, in these were comprised near 100 Caghawagaes & other Canada Indians, whose

presence was judged highly necessary and of whose fidelity I can have no doubt from the very good behaviour of these People since the reduction of Canada, I therefore earnestly wished that they might return home prejudiced in favour of the English Conduct & satisfied with the treatment they would receive, as it was y^e first time, they ever had an opportunity of joining His Majesty's Troops, and I can affirm no men of any Denomination expressed a greater desire to go against the Shawanese & Delawares in particular, which were the Nations I had in an especial manner pointed out as our most inveterate Enemy's, but to my infinite mortification, I find that not only these Cagnawages but all the rest of the Indians, My own officers, & all those of the Troops whom I have since conversed with, are returned in y^e utmost-chagrin at their own treatment, & the transactions of y^e campaign, what they all report may be in some degree foreign to the affairs of my Department, and as I was never inclined to do any person an ill office, I willingly suppress them, but I am convinced I cannot do so with regard to what relates to the Indian Interest, without being guilty of a notorious neglect, & being accessory to any troubles which may hereafter proceed from the misconduct of one of the Armys, therefore I cannot avoid expressing the great uneasiness of all our Indians at the late Transactions, they say that those Impostors who met the army at L'Ance Aux Feuilles only desired to know of the Commanding Officer whether he was coming upon Peace or War to their Country, that the latter was every whit as agreeable as the former, To which he answer'd that he was glad they were so peaceably disposed, as he was himself of that Disposition, & then contrary to the inclination of our Indians whom he never consulted made a treaty with them telling them after all was over in general terms that the Shawanese & Delawares were become his Friends. — That this was the real proceeding at that place can be proved by all the Indians who were present, as well as Ind^e Officers who understood the language of these Impostors, and the Inconsistency thereof occasioned our Indians to resolve not to take upon themselves any thing for the rest of the campaign, as these were the People they flattered themselves they should have marched against, that having appointed a certain day for the Enemy to bring in their Prisoners &c^e to Sandosky he proceeded to Detroit & on his return from thence some time after he ascended Sandosky River where he encamped waiting their arrival, but suddenly on the report of an Enemy's approach decamped & retired with the utmost precipitation to y^e Lake leaving the Indians behind who having waited till long after the appointed time, retired, & joined the Army greatly disgusted that he had slipped so good an opportunity of marching to the plains which were not four days march for an Indian, nor above six for the Troops.

That afterwards the Commanding Officer asked them to proceed against the Enemy, to which they answered, that it was very extraordinary for him to require them to proceed alone against a people that he had treated with contrary to their advice & was afraid to go ag^t himself, but that they would readily accompany him, & the Army & then do every thing he desired, but that he laid aside the attempt, Altho had he only gone two days march it would have thrown the Enemy into the utmost confusion & greatly favoured Coll. Boquet as well, as relieved the Frontiers, who daily suffered from the Enemy's Scalping Partys notwithstanding the Treaty. That all this has been misrepresented, and put on another footing can be fully proved by those who understood the words which really passed between the Coll. & the Indians. — That a Treaty was huddled up with some of the Nations at Detroit, on which occasion not a syllable was mentioned concerning Subjection or Dominion. — That the Commanding Officer pardoned Minny Chein & Godfroy the two notorious villains so often represented by Major Gladwiu, as Principals in the late War, & solely confided in them &

some other Frenchmen, by one of whose means the boats were cast away, as by his advice the Army halted at an open beach when there was a fine river within two miles of them, that the whole of the Transactions being in French were never explained to our Indians, neither did they know any thing that past from time to time, except of those languages with which they happened to be acquainted, that the Commanding Officer has likewise taken upon him to grant several Tracts of Land about Detroit & Lake Erie, as well to some of the Officers, as to some French Inhabitants, & lastly that they the Indians with their Officers were set to shift for themselves on Lake Erie without an ounce of provisions & destitute of every thing, neither was any order left at Niagra for supplying them & the Commanding Officer did it there for y^e good of the service at his own risque by the desire of my Officers.— These are a few of their general subjects of Complaint, on which the six Nations have sent me Messengers to acquaint me that they are all coming here, and I leave your Lordships to judge, after what has passed whether we can readily expect their assistance on any future occasion, for besides that our errors (to give them no worse name) have made us look less in the Indians eyes than ever, they are greatly disgusted at the ill treatment of their own people, alarmed at the specious words of Subjection & Dominion, & astonished at the granting of lands within their rights, which is really an unaccountable transaction. In a word it is evidently necessary that these matters be cleared up to their satisfaction; and notwithstanding the success of Coll. Bouquet will be much noticed by the Indians of Ohio, & have a good effect upon them, yet the conduct of affairs in the other Quarter will require y^e application of an immediate remedy. Matters thus circumstanced with regard to our Friends, it remains to show, how affairs stand between us and the Nations who have been at War with us, which I shall introduce with the following remarks.

Your Lordships will please to observe that for many months before the March of Coll. Bradstreet's Army, severall of the Western Nations had expressed a Desire for Peace, & had ceased to commit hostilities, that even Pondiac inclined that way but did not chuse to venture his person by coming in to any of the Posts, this was the state affairs when I treated with the Indians at Niagra, in which Number were 1500 of the Western Nations, a Number infinitely more considerable than those who were treated with since at Detroit, many of whom were the same people, particularly y^e *Hurons & Chippawacs*, In the mean time it now appears from the verry best authority, and can be proved by the oath of several reputable persons Prisoners at the Illinois & amongst the Indians, as also from the Acc^{ts} of the Indians themselves, that not only many French Traders but also French Officers came amongst the Indians as they said fully authorised to assure them that the French King was determined to support them to the utmost, & not only invited them to the Illinois where they were plentifully supplied with ammunition, & other necessarys but also sent canoes at different times up the Illinois River to the Miamis, & others as well as up the Ohio to the Shawanese and Delawares, as by Major Smalmaus Acc^{ts} & several others (then Prisoners) transmitted me by Coll. Bouquet, & one of my officers who accompanied him will appear. That in no especial manner the French promoted the interest of Pondiac, whose influence is now become so considerable as Gen^l Gage observes in a late letter to me that it extends even to the Mouth of the Mississippi, & has been ye principal occasion of our not as yet gaining possession of the Illinois, which the French as well as Indians are interested in preventing.— This Pondiac is not included in the late Treaty at Detroit, & is at the Head of a great number of Indians privately supported by the French; an officer of whom, was about three months ago in the Miamis Castle, at the Sioto Plains, Muskingum & several other places.— The Western Indians who it seems ridicule

the whole Expedition, as they must before this have heard of the Grants of the Lands in that Country, and the assertion that they acknowledged themselves to be subjects &c. to all intents & purposes, their jealousy will be inflamed to such a pitch by the Interested French on the one side, & the Influence of Pondiac on the other, that we have great reason to apprehend a renewal of hostilities, or at least that they & the Twightwees will strenuously oppose our possessing the Illinois, which can never be accomplished without their consent, & indeed it is not to be wondered that they should be concerned at our occupying that Country, when we consider that the French (be their motive what it will) loaded them with favours, and continue to do so, accompanied with all outward marks of esteem, & an address peculiarly adapted to their manners, which infallibly gains upon all Indians, who judge by externals only, & in all their acquaintance with us upon the Frontiers have never found any thing like it, but on the contrary, harsh treatment, angry words, and in short every thing which can be thought of to inspire them with a dislike for our manners, & a jealousy of our views, I have seen so much of these matters, and I am so well convinced of the utter aversion our people have for them in general, & of the imprudence with which they constantly express it, that I absolutely despair of ever seeing tranquillity established until your Lordships plan is fully settled, so as I may have proper persons to reside at y^e Posts, whose business it shall be to remove their prejudices, and whose interest it becomes to obtain their esteem & friendship.

The importance of speedily possessing the Illinois and thereby securing a considerable branch of Trade, as well as cutting off the channel by which our enemys have been & will always be supplied, is a matter I have very much at heart, and what I think may be effected this Winter by land by M^r Croghan in case matters can be so far settled with the Shawanese, Twightwees & Pondiac as to engage the latter with some chiefs of the before mentioned Nations to accompany him with a garrison, the expence attending this will be large, but the end to be obtained is too considerable to be neglected, I have accordingly recommended it to the consideration of Gen^l Gage, & shall on the arrival of the Shawanese, Delawares &c. here, do all in my power to pave the way for effecting it, I shall also make such a peace with them as will be most for the credit and advantage of the Crown, & the security of the Trade & Frontiers, & tie them down to such conditions, as Indians will most probably observe.

The Expences I have been at by acting as a Military Officer without any allowance on that Head, the losses I have sustained by the neglect of my own concerns, as well with regard to business, as to the several Tracts which I have paid large sums for, but never possessed, & the inconceivable trouble & Expence I am involved in by my Department have induced me at last to think of addressing a Memorial to His Majesty, and I flatter myself if your Lordships are satisfied with the zeal I have shewn in my office, that you will be pleased to honour me with your interest on this occasion, which shall always be considered with the utmost gratitude, by

My Lords

Your Lordships most Devoted &
Most Obedient Humble Servant

The Right Hon^{ble} the Lords of Trade

W^m JOHNSON

Document n° 13

- Date :** 18 avril 1766
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG11, C.O. 42, vol. 26, f. 20-21.
- Nature du document :** Compte rendu d'une rencontre entre les chefs et guerriers des « sept nations domiciliées » avec le major général Burton et le colonel Massé, à Montréal.
- Résumé :** Les Indiens déplorent le départ de Burton pour l'Angleterre. Ils le prient de représenter au Roi leur bon comportement afin qu'il leur accorde sa protection.

Transcription préliminaire

Montreal le 18^e Avril 1766

Les chefs & Guerriers du Sault St Louis & lac des Deux Montagnes, Népissingues algonkins Abenakis Huron & Nontaguais de la presentation, s'étant assemblée au nombre de cent sept [?] de Vaudreuil [Portons?] les Parolles suivantes aux Sieur Pertuis & Pellée en l'absence du Cap^{ne} Claus pour être rendue a son Excellence le Major General Burton.

Un de leur orateur s'étant levé, nommé Pierre [Senonchesse?] en presence de son Excellence le Major General Burton & Monsieur le Colonel Massé & pour les officiers de la Garnison, Parla [ainsy?]

Mon frère

Nous sommes icy assemblés au nombre de sept nations domiciliées pour te faire notre compliment de condolléance & par cette branche de porcelaine nous eloignons le chagrin que tu peux avoir de la [peine?] considerable que tu a fait & t'essuions les larmes pour que tu puisses nous voir Paisiblement, Par cette autre branche nous te débouchons les oreilles pour que tu nous entendent plus facilement **[20 v.]** Par la troisième nous te nettoyons le coeur es te débouchons le Gausier afin que tu nous parle avec plus de facilité.

Par un Collier de Deux mille grains

Mon frère

Nous avons appris avec peine que tu etois appeller par notre Grand Roy, nous sommes [venus?] au nombre de cent sept personnes Malgré les mauvaises [Glaces?] & chemin Perilleux qui a arrêté le reste de nos Villages qui n'avoient pas moins d'empressement que nous a venir te témoigner la peine que nous ressentons de la perte que nous allons faire. Dans l'esperance que nous avons que ton successeur voudra bien nous être aussi doux & patient que Toy, nous espérons vivre dans le même [?] mais néanmoins nous te donnons ce Collier ou tu vois représenter deux hommes qui ce tienne par la main qui signifie par conse-

quen que quoy que tu fasse de l'autre côté du grand lac, nous
[n'entendons?] pas Estre separé [Eternité?], nous nous flattons que tu
voudras bien toujours tenir ce Collier [?] que nous sommes representé ;
Pour nous il **[21]** ni a que Dieu seul qui peut nous faire lacher prise

Nous te prions de faire part a notre Grand Roy de la facon avec laquel
nous nous sommes comportées sous tes ordres & le prier de vouloir
bien nous accorder sa protection.

L. Perthuis interpreter

Montreal le 14. Avril 1766

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Les Chefs & Guerriers des Sautes Louis & Lac des Deux
Montagnes, Neprisiquis algonquins & Abenakis Hurons
& Montagnais de la prairie, et aussi un nombre
d'un nombre de Censeurs, a trois de ces derniers
Sont les Parolles suivantes au sieur Certain
& d'elle en l'absence du Capitaine Claus pour être
envoyé a son Excellence le Major General Buxton
Le M. de l'Etat et son l'ore, nommé
Pierre Senonchese imprimé de son
Excellence le Major General Buxton &
Messieurs le Colonel Massé & tous les
officiers de la Garrison, Parla au Roy

Montreal

Nous sommes jery a des malles au nombre de sept nations
Domiciliés pour ce faire notre Compliment de Condoléance
& par cette occasion d'explorer nous choisissons le
chagrin que les peux avoir de la prairie pour de ce que tu
as fait & de voir la haine pour que l'usage nous soit
Paisiblement, Par cette autre promesse pour ce d'ébouche
Les oracles pour que tu nous est un plus excellent

C. 0412, 16X.26, #4MCO 2801A

05
Par la Croisière pour Comté de la Cour de la dévotion
Le Gouvier afin que Tu nous parle avec plus de facilité

Par un Collier de deux mille Gram
Monsieur

Nous avons appris avec plaisir que Tu es appelé
par notre Grand Roy, Nous sommes venus, avec nombre
de Comtesse nous sommes Malgré les mauvais temps Glace
de chemin Perilleux qui a arrêté le reste de nos Village
qui n'avoient pas en ont d'empêchement que nous arrivés Ce
Temoignés la joie que nous est d'attendre de la part que nous
allons faire. Dans l'esperance que nous avons que
Tu seras avec nous à bien nous être aussi d'empêchement
que Roy, nous espérons vivre d'avec le même vision
Mais néanmoins nous est d'attendre ce Collier ou Tu
vois représenter deux hommes qui se tiennent par
L'attache qui signifie par Conséquent que quoy que
Tu passe de l'autre côté de la mer nous n'aurons
pas été séparés pour une Croisière, nous nous flattons
que Tu voudra bien envoyer venir ce Collier et
que nous sommes représentés, Pour nous il

ni a que Dieu seul qui peut nous faire laiter plus
Notre Esprit est clair par ce que Grand Roy
de la façon avec lequel nous nous sommes Comptes
sans les autres & le plus de vouloir bien nous
accorder la protection. S. Vertueux Intermeter

1766

- Date :** 8 septembre 1766
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG11, C.O. 42, vol. 26, f. 276-280.
- Nature du document :** Discours des Indiens de Missisquoi au gouverneur de Québec, au lac Champlain ; discours des Sept-Nations au gouverneur de New York et au gouverneur de Québec, au lac Champlain.
- Résumé :** Les Abénaquis de Missisquoi déclarent avoir habité cette partie du lac Champlain (*North End*) depuis des temps immémoriaux sans jamais avoir été dérangés. Il y a dix-huit ans, le gouverneur Vaudreuil est venu demander l'approbation des Abénaquis pour y bâtir un moulin à scie. Ils ont consenti, marquant un emplacement d'une demi-lieue carrée pour le moulin ; ils ont demandé de pouvoir obtenir des planches gratuitement. Cependant, le moulin a été abandonné au début de la dernière guerre. Peu après la paix, des Anglais sont venus rebâtir le moulin et ont demandé un terrain de trois lieues par six, ce qui empiète sur le village et les champs des Abénaquis. Ils souhaitent qu'on leur rende justice. Ils demandent aussi que les marchands ne puissent plus apporter d'alcool parmi eux. Le gouverneur répond qu'il va enquêter sur cette affaire. Leur bon com-

portement leur assure la faveur des Britanniques.

Rencontre entre les Sept-Nations et les gouverneurs de Québec et de New York. Puisque les deux gouverneurs tentent de fixer les limites entre leurs gouvernements respectifs, les Sept-Nations demandent que leurs territoires de chasse soient protégés et ils invoquent la Proclamation royale de 1763. Pendant le Régime français, les Indiens pouvaient chasser et pêcher sans problème. Le «Dominion» du lac et des terres avoisinantes était réservé au Roi de France, mais les animaux et les poissons étaient à la disposition des Indiens, ce dont ils ont joui dans les derniers quatre-vingts ans. Ils se plaignent des nouveaux «settlements» et des colons qui leur disent qu'ils n'ont pas le droit de chasser. Les propriétaires originaux de cette région sont incontestablement les Six-Nations et les utilisateurs principaux en étaient les Mohawks, dont les Sept-Nations sont les descendants. Les gouverneurs répondent qu'ils vont décourager toute tentative de les déranger dans leurs droits et privilèges. Ils leur demandent de distinguer les actes du gouvernement et les agissements d'individus.

Transcription préliminaire

Copy

The Speech of the Misiskoui Indians to the Governor of Quebec in the North End of Lake Champlain 8th Sep^r 1766.

Brother

We the Misiskoui Indians of the S^t Francis or Abenaki Tribe have inhabited that part of Lake Champlain known by the Name of Misiskoui Time unknown to any of us here present, without being Molested or any one's claiming Right to it, to our knowledge, except about eighteen years ago the french Governor M^r Vaudreuil and Intendant came there, and view'd a Spot convenient for a Saw-Mill to facilitate the building of Vessels & Batteaux at S^t Johns, as well as for the use of the Navy at Quebec ; and on the occasion convened our People to ask his approbation, when they Consented, & marked out a spot large enough for that Purpose, as well as for the cutting of the Saw Timber, about half a league Square, with the Condition to have what Boards they wanted for their use gratis. But at the Commencement of the last War, said Mill was deserted, and the Iron Work buried ; after which we expected every thing of the kind would subside ; but soon after peace was made, some English people came here to rebuild the Mill, and now claim three Leagues in Breadth [277] & Six in Depth, which takes in our Village and Plantations by far.

We therefore request of you, Brother, ton enquire into this affair, that we obtain Justice as it is of great Concern to us.

We also beg you will not allow any Traders to come & bring spirituous Liquors among us, being near enough to bring Peltries & Skins to Montreal Market.

A Belt and Strings

Answer

Brothers of the Misiskoui Indians, I will enquire into the particulars of your Request in the mean while you may rest assured of Justice and Protection ; your continuance in the same Dutifull Conduct you have observed, since under the British Government, will procure you Marks of Favor. [278]

Copy

At a Meeting of a Deputation from the Seven Confederate Indian Nations in the Province of Quebec with their Excellencies the Governors of New York & Quebec in the North End of Lake Champlain the 8th September 1766.

The following Speech was consulted upon.

Brothers the Governors of New York and Quebec, the Seven Confederate Nations of the Province of Quebec having heard of your coming to these parts, thought it their Duty to send a Deputation to wait upon & address you on your Arrival.

We their Deputies therefore thank the Being above for having been pleased to let us meet you in good health, & for having guarded you on your Journey from any accident ; and likewise for having protected our new Governor on his Voyage over the Great Lake to arrive safe in his Government ; and we most heartily bid him welcome, and with him perfect Health and Happiness to govern the same ; recommending the Indian Nations in his Government to his Favor and Protections ; this we confirm with these Strings of Wampum.

Brothers ;

Having at the same time heard, that you were to ascertain and fix the Boundaries between your Respective Provinces, we saw it a very proper and Convenient opportunity to return the x x great King of England our Father our most humble thanks through you for having most graciously taken Notice of all Indian Nations, their Lands, & Trade in

America in his Royal Proclamation of October 1763 ; which our friend & brother Sir William Johnson had then published to us by his Deputy Captⁿ Claus, & we most heartily Request of you to Support and Protect us in the same, as our hunting grounds, lay chiefly in your two Governments.

A large Belt of black Wampum.

Brothers,

Since we lived under the French Government we enjoyed our Hunting & Fishing about this Lake without interruption or molestation, & [279] were assured by the French Governor to continue so to do, as long as we lived hereabouts. As to the Dominion of the Lake and the Lands thereupon, it is true he reserved that to the French King ; but as to the Wild Beasts in the Wood and the Fish in the Waters thereof, he said were for the use and disposal of the Indian Nations living about it without Exception, & which accordingly we have Enjoyed above these Eighty years past. But now, Brothers, since this Lake & Country is in your Possessions, we find there have several Settlements been made their upon, which, altho' it was not the Case in the French time, yet we make no objection to it. All that surprizes & alarms us is, that some of these new settlers have told to some of our People, that they should not hunt within their Right. Should this be the Case, & they have it in their power to do so, it would at once frustrate our present Hopes of His Majesty's good Will towards us, & deprive us of our Principal Substance and Livelihood ; and we beg by this Belt of Wampum, that you will be pleased to support us in what His Majesty was graciously pleased to reserve to us, and be glad of your opinion and answer upon what we have now laid before you.

A long Belt of Wampum.

Brothers,

What we have been speaking to you concerning the Lank and Lands in Question was only since the Time the Europeans have come amongst us ; as to the Original Owners thereof, it is well known to have been the undisputed Right of the Six-Nations, and was chiefly occupied in the Hunting Seasons by the Antient Mohawks, whose descendants we are,

and our Forefathers going to hunt chiefly in this Neighborhood was one of the principal reasons for our setting upon the River S^t Lawrence near Montreal, as whenever they killed any Game nearest that Market, they carried it there, & being well received and flatter'd by the French, & on the contrary slighted & neglected by the Dutch, who then possessed the Province of New-York ; Families after Families **[280]** Settled and remained in Canada, which occasioned the Establishment of what to this Day is called the French Mohawks, and where we now live.

As to the first building ever made upon Lake Champlain is known to be Crown Point which our middle aged men all well remember ; and the Six-Nations hearing of it immediately remonstrated against it to the French Governor, who, telling them it was only to guard against a sudden attack from the English, prevailed upon them with difficulty to let him finish it, which at last they consented to, with this Condition that no other Settlement should be made upon the Lake hereafter, which he readily engaged in, & promised to observe.

Brothers,

This last part of our Speech we have only made you by way of Information, & therefore give no Wampum upon it.

Answer.

Brothers,

We return you our sincere thanks for your Compliments of Congratulation on our Arrival here, and are extremely happy on having the earliest opportunity of giving you the strongest Assurances of our Good Will towards you.

Brothers,

As we are persuaded, that you will not be wanting on your Parts to merit that Protections which has been granted to you by the British Crown, we shall always discourage every attempt made in our respective Provinces of New York and Quebec to disturb you in those Right and Privileges, which have been confirmed to you, & shall endeavour, by

every means, to promote a mutual Confidence and good understanding in the Seven Confederate Indian Nations ; recommending it at the same time, on this as well as any future Occasion, to make a proper distinction between Acts of Government & the Proceedings of Individuals, nor to suppose, from the Rash & Unjustifiable actions of particular Persons, that any Public Countenance will be given to Violence and oppression.

The Speech of the Misiskou Indians
to the Governor of Quebec in the
North End of Lake Champlain ^{the} 8th Sep^r 1766

Brother
We the Misiskou Indians of the St. Francis or
Abenaki Tribe have inhabited that part of Lake
Champlain known by the Name of Misiskou
Time unknown to any of us here present, without
being Molested or any one's claiming Right to it, to
our knowledge, except about eighteen years ago
the French Governor, M^r. Vandreuil and Intendant
came there, and view'd a Spot convenient for a Saw-
Mill to facilitate the building of Vessels & Batteries
at St. Johns, as well as for the use of the Navy at
Quebec; and on the occasion conversed our People
to ask this approbation, when they Consented, &
marked out a Spot large enough for that Purpose,
as well as for the cutting ^{of} the Saw Timber, about
half a league Square, with the Condition to have
what Boards they Wanted for their use gratis.
But at the Commencement of last War, said Mill
was deserted, and the Iron Work buried; after
which we expected every thing of the kind would
subside; but soon after peace was made, some
English people came there to rebuild the Mill,

¹⁷⁷⁰
We the Missikou Indians of the St. Francis or
Abenaki Tribe have inhabited that part of Lake
Champlain known by the Name of Missikou
Time unknown to any of us here present, without
being Molested or any one's claiming Right to it, to
our knowledge, except about eighteen years ago
the French Governor M^r. Vandreuil and Intendant
came there, and view'd a Spot convenient for a Saw-
Mill to facilitate the building of Vessels & Battering
at St. Johns, as well as for the use of the Navy at
Quebec; and on the occasion convinced our People
to ask this approbation, when they consented, &
marked out a Spot large enough for that Purpose,
as well as for the cutting of the Saw-Timber, about
half a League Square, with the Condition to have
what Boards they Wanted for their use gratis.
But at the Commencement of last War, said Mill
was deserted, and the Iron Work buried; after
which we Expected every thing of the kind would
subside; but soon after peace was made, some
English people came there to rebuild the Mill,
and now claim three Leagues in Breadth,

54
Six in Depth, which takes in our Village
and Plantations by far.

We therefore Request of you,
Brother, to enquire into this affair,
that we obtain Justice, ^{as} it is of great Concern
to us.

We also beg you will not
allow any Traders to come & bring
Spirituous Liquors among us, being
near enough to bring Pettries & Skins
to Montreal Market.

A Belt and Strings.

Answer.

Brothers of the Mississoui
Indians, I will enquire into the
particulars of your Request: in the
mean while you may rest assured
of Justice and Protection; your
continuance in the same Dutifull
Conduct you have observed, since
under the British Government, will
procure you Marks of Favor.

At a Meeting of a Deputation from
the Seven Confederate Indian Nations
in the Province of Quebec with their
Excellencies the Governors of New York &
Quebec in the North End of Lake Champlain
the 8th September 1766.

The following Speech was consulted upon.

Brothers, the Governors of New York and Quebec,
the Seven Confederate Nations of the Province of Quebec
having heard of your coming to these parts, thought
it their Duty to send a Deputation to wait upon,
& address you on your Arrival.

We their Deputies therefore thank
the Being above for having been pleased to let us
meet you in good health, & for having guarded
you on your Journey from any Accident; and
likewise for having protected our new Governour
on his Voyage over the Great Lake to arrive safe
in his Government; and we most heartily bid
him welcome, and wish him perfect Health and
Happiness to govern the same, recommending
the Indian Nations in his Government to his
Favour and Protection; this we confirm with

...the Governor of New York
Quebec in the North End of Lake Champlain
the 8th September 1766.

The following speech was consulted upon.

Brothers, the Governors of New York and Quebec,
the seven Confederate Nations of the Province of Quebec
having heard of your coming to these parts, thought
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likewise for having protected our new Governor
on his Voyage over the Great Lake to arrive safe
in his Government, and we most heartily bid
him welcome, and wish him perfect Health and
Happiness to govern the same, recommending
the Indian Nations in his Government to his
Favor and Protection; this we confirm with
these

Strings of Wampum.

Brothers,

Brothers;

Having at the same time heard, that you were to ascertain and fix the Boundaries between your respective Provinces, we saw it a very proper and convenient opportunity to return them to our great King of England our Father our most humble Thanks through you for having most graciously taken Notice of all Indian Nations, their Lands, & Trade in America in his Royal Proclamation of October 1763; which our friend & brother Sir William Johnson had then published to us by his Deputy Capt. Claus, & we most heartily request of you to support and protect us in the same, as our hunting grounds lay chiefly in your two Governments.

A Large Belt of Black Wampum.

Brothers,

Since we lived under the French Government we enjoyed our Hunting & Fishing about this Lake without interruption or Molestation, &

were assured by the French Governor to continue
 so to do, as long as we lived hereabouts. — As to
 the Dominion of the Lake and the Lands —
 thereupon, it is true he reserved that to the
 French King, but as to the Wild Beasts in the
 Woods and the Fish in the Waters thereof, he said
 were for the use and disposal of the Indian Nations
 living about it without Exception, which —
 accordingly we have enjoyed above these eighty
 years past. — But now, Brothers, since this
 Lake & Country is in your Possession, we find
 there have several Settlements been made —
 thereupon, which, altho' it was not the Case
 in the French time, yet we make no objection
 to it. — All that surprizes & alarms us is, that
 some of these new Settlers have told to some of
 our People, that they should not hunt within
 their Right, should this be the Case, & they
 have it in their power so to do, it would at
 once frustrate our present Hopes of His Majesty's
 good Will towards us, & deprive us of our Principal
 Substance and Livelihood, and we beg by this
 Belt of Wampum, that you will be pleased
 to support us in what His Majesty was

graciously pleased to reserve to us, and
be glad of your opinion and Answer upon
what we have now said before you.

A long Belt of Wampum.

Brothers,

What we have been
speaking to you concerning the Lake
and Lands in Question was only since
the Time the Europeans have come
amongst us; as to the Original Owners
thereof, it is well known to have been
the undisputed Right of the Six Nations,
and was chiefly occupied in the Hunting
Seasons by the Ancient Mohawks, whose
descendants we are; and our Forefathers
going to hunt chiefly in this Neighborhood
was one of the principal Reasons for
our settling upon the River St. Lawrence
near Montreal, as whenever they killed
any Game nearest that Market, they
carried it there, & being well received
and flattered by the French, & on the
contrary slighted & neglected by the
Dutch, who then possessed the Province

settled and remain'd in Canada, which Occasion'd
the Establishment of what to this Day is call'd
the French Mohawks, and wheres we now
live.

As to the first building ever made
upon Lake Champlain is known to be
Crown Point, which our middle aged men all
well remember, and the six Nations hearing of
it immediately remonstrated against it to the
French Governor, who, telling them it was only
to guard against a sudden attack from the
English, prevailed upon them with difficulty
to let him finish it, which at last they
consented to, with this Condition that no
other Settlement should be made upon the
Lake hereafter, which he readily engaged
in & promised to observe.

Brothers,

This last part of our speech we
have only made you by way of Information,
therefore give me Wampum upon it.

Answer:

Brothers,

five—

As to the first building ever made upon Lake Champlain is known to be Crown Point, which our middle aged men will well remember, and the six Nations hearing of it immediately remonstrated against it to the French Governor, who, telling them it was only to guard against a sudden attack from the English, prevailed upon them with difficulty to let him finish it, which at last they consented to, with this Condition that no other Settlement should be made upon the Lake hereafter, which he readily engaged in & promised to observe.

Brothers,

This last part of our speech we have only made you by way of Information, & therefore give no Wainjium upon it.

Answer:

Brothers,

We return you our sincere thanks for your Compliments of Congratulation on

our arrival here, and are extremely
happy on having the earliest opportunity
of giving you the strongest Assurances
of our good Will towards you.

Brothers,

As we are persuaded;
that you will not be wanting on your
Parts to merit that Protection which has
been granted to you by the British Crown;
we shall always discourage every attempt
made in our respective Provinces of New
York and Quebec to disturb you in these
Rights and Privileges, which have been
confirmed to you; I shall endeavor, by
every means, to promote a Mutual
Confidence and good Understanding in
the Seven Confederate Indian Nations;
recommending it at the same time, on
this as well as any future Occasion, to
make a proper distinction between
Acts of Government & the Proceedings
of Individuals, nor to suppose, from
the Rash & Unjustifiable Actions of
particular Persons, that any Public
Countenance will be given to Violence and

Brothers,

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Acts of Government & the Proceedings
of Individuals, nor to suppose, from
the Rash & Unjustifiable Actions of
particular Persons, that any Public
Courtenance will be given to Violence and
Oppression.

1767

Document n° 15

- Date :** Vers 1767
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 7, p. 953-978.
- Nature du document :** Revue du commerce et des affaires indiennes dans le district septentrional, par William Johnson.
- Résumé :** Résumé depuis 1744 de l'état du commerce, de la politique et des transactions avec les Indiens. Comparaison avec le système français. Depuis la conquête du Canada, les Anglais ont dû se familiariser avec les nations d'Indiens vivant autour du fleuve Saint-Laurent (p. 957). Les Six-Nations sont grandement affectées par l'alcool tout comme certaines des Huit Nations du Canada. Les Indiens du Canada sont tenus en grande estime par les Indiens de l'Ouest. Ils sont pour la plupart des émigrants des Mohawks et autres Iroquois des Cinq-Nations. Ils ont un grand respect pour les Six-Nations et, malgré quelques divergences, ils renouent toujours leurs engagements mutuels (p. 958).

Review of the Trade and Affairs of the Indians in the Northern District of America.

[Plantation General (S. P. O.), No. 22.]

a Review of the progressive State of the Trade, Politics and proceedings of the Indians in the Northern District with some hints humbly offered towards Establishing such regulations as may be enforced for the preventing abuses, and securing tranquility of the Colonies. [By Sir William Johnson, Bart.]

Before the war commenced in 1744, and until that which ended in the reduction of State of the Trade before 1744. Causda etc. the Trade of the Northern District tho' limited and under many disadvantages was not inconsiderable. Indeed the circumstances of situation and other disadvantages prevented more than two of the Colonies within that district from enjoining much of it. These two Colonies were New York and Pennsylvania; if Virginia is admitted into the Northern District it must likewise be admitted to have had a large share of Trade, particularly in Deer skins etc; but excepting it out of this Review, we shall consider the Trade as principally possessed by the two before mentioned Colonies, and of these, two, New York had the greatest advantage from its occupying a post on Lake Ontario, to which there was a good Water communication with very little interruption, which enabled them to get the most valuable Furs.

The Traders of Pennsylvania penetrated to sundry places on the Ohio, and many of them to the Country of the *Twightwees* etc, but their purchases being chiefly in Deers Leather, transported by Pack Horses, and having Tedious journeys to make, their returns could not be equally beneficial. Character of the Traders in general. The Traders in both Colonies were Chiefly composed of the frontier Inhabitants who having some acquaintance with the Indian languages, and being necessitous were the easier induced to such undertakings in a Country where Credit was easily had for goods. New York, had the fairest for being the principal if not the only *Barcadier* for the most valuable part of the Furr Trade, and certainly enjoyed a good deal of it, but to improve its advantages, other measures and other Men should have been made use of than the ordinary Traders.

of those Trading to the west. Those who traded to *Onsergo* were for the most part Inhabitants of *Albany*, *Schenectady* and the *Mohawk River*, the posterity of the Low Dutch who being very ignorant, and accustomed to the strictest parsimony in diet, clothing and all other expences, had no idea of extending the Trade or bringing large cargoes but contented themselves with a certain profit arising from a small quantity of goods, which they took care to trade off within the compass of 3 or 4. months, the issues of which maintained them in idleness for the remainder of the year.

of the Indians before that period. Formerly, the Indians in our alliance were not alienated from our interests, tho' wronged and imposed upon, from the beginning we had a majority disposed towards us, for it required many years dealings with us to enable them to form any judgement of Lands, of their own peltry, or of our weights and measures; add to this, that the French, (tho' few in number) convinced them by their actions, that they were a more Military enterprizing people, and although they loaded all those Nations who were in their alliance with favours, yet, that enterprizing disposition alarm'd the Indians with regard to themselves,

their political ideas and probably induced them to look with pleasure on any checks they might receive, for from us they dreaded nothing at that period, having considered us as a selfish trading people, whose only pursuit was gain, and who were unwilling and incapable of doing them any material injury, and indeed our conduct but too much justified the greatest part of their sentiments.

Gradual extinction
of the French influence.

During all this period the French had been gradually extending their interests by Posts, begun under the name of Trading houses, and supported at an immense expence of presents, as the only way to prevent a general Confederacy against them. At these posts, resided Men of zeal and abilities for acquiring the Esteem of the Indians who together with the Jesuits, availed themselves of every occasion of magnifying their Nation and depreciating the English, a task, which our misconduct daily rendered less difficult. The French did not alarm them much on the score of Lands (the occupancy of the Forts only excepted) and these they were well paid for, and as to any frauds committed by them in Trade, if complained of, the Trader was with (at least of appearance of) great resentment put in irons and sent away (as they were told) to suffer death, however care was taken that such offender no more appeared amongst them, and satisfaction was made to the Indians.

State of Canada.

Canada might still be said to be only in its infancy and its returns were very inconsiderable; a few Men made fortunes, and some embezzled the public money, but all being interested in gratifying the Indians, the latter were well pleased, and altho' the Revenues might suffer, the French interest increased.

Advantages, and
disadvantages attending
their
Trade.

Altho' the French had acquired an extensive alliance to the Westward, and amongst those Nations who have the greatest quantity of Furs, yet their principal advantage arose from the cheapness of labour, their Batteauxmen being engaged at the lowest prices, and their provisions only some Bears grease and Corn Strowds and Wampum were articles of great estimation amongst the Indians, and these could only be had from us, our shipping distressed them beyond measure during each war, and but for the goods they bought from us their trade and interest with the Indians would have met with one and the same fate, of this they were truly sensible, it became an object of public concern. Their Govern^r did not trust to Traders to support it but exerted themselves to effect supplies in which they met with sufficient assistance from the avarice of many amongst us, some of whom were then actually Commissioners of Indian Affairs.

Our neglects admitted
by the Crown.

It will be needless here to enlarge upon the great neglect of our Govern^r, and the misconduct of many in office, as the same will appear on inspecting the several Reports transmitted from time to time to the Plantation Office etc. and the different orders received in consequence thereof by the American Govern^r will abundantly shew the sense of Govern^r thereon. It will be here sufficient to shew how this misconduct descended to the lowest of the people, with their final consequences on Indian affairs.

Their cause.

The Govern^r Councils etc. were from the remoteness of their situation, and the latter from their avocations of a different nature, total strangers to these matters, and for several reasons that could easily be given unable to apply a Remedy, had they been acquainted with one; when a scurvy pittance was applied for on the most urgent occasions, a session was spent in debating about the hands to whom it should be intrusted, which if at length granted was too often committed to Men who made a job of it, and had interest enough in the Colony to protect them and support their conduct.

considered under
the several heads.

The French made inroads; none were to be had either to penetrate into their Country, or oppose their invasions; few, or none of the last Rank or Capacity would venture Westward of Albany, their intelligences were generally received from the most low and ignorant of the Traders or resident Blacksmiths, who to their profession joined that of Trading in the Indian Country; these persons often themselves imposed on, did much oftener impose on the Govern^{rs} here, as it suited best with their interest. The cries of injured Indians against the lesser Traders could not reach the Capitals the abuses and misconduct of the rest could neither be prevented or punished from their provincial interest; whenever disturbances arose they were at their wits end, but could neither prevent or oppose them; oaths of exculpation were administered in vain to the Commissioners, a curious equivocation having been invented to elude them.— The Commiss^{rs} held annual meetings with such Indians as happened to be in Albany, and were sure to have a feast on the occasion, which put an end to the allowance and expences of the year. The English Strowds etc. were publicly bought by the French Agents, and frequently from the Commissioners at a considerable price, for all which the Ind^s publicly upbraided us in vain as the Indian Records will shew.

The Effects upon
the Traders.

The Frontier Traders sensible they had little to apprehend from their conduct went still greater and more dangerous lengths than their Superiors; from a variety of unheard of frauds, I shall select a very few instances which will tend to shew to what lengths some of that character will go when subject to no Controul, and because two of these instances were the occasion of our losing the Trade and affections of some powerful Tribes of the Ottawaes who were persuaded to come the length of Oswego to Trade with us, and the last instances caused the defection of the most powerful Tribes of the Senecas.

Exemplified in sev-
eral instances.

Several of the Ottawaes having Traded for a considerable time at Oswego where they got some articles, which they could not procure from the French, an Ottawa Chief of great influence with his family brought his packs to a Trader there, in order to try the market; the Trader after the usual practice of deceiving him in the weight hurried the peltry into a private Room telling the Indian that all Merchandize was very dear, owing to the severity of dutys (a stale, but dangerous artifice still practised) desired him to choose out what goods he wanted; the Indian having made a choice, was astonished to find that his skins produced not one third of what he had been accustomed to receive for the like quantity (for the Trader had besides his extortion on the goods reckoned the peltry at only one third of its real weight) went away discontented, but returning said, he was ashamed to go back with such small returns, begged for a small keg of Rum, which the Trader gave him as he said, as a high favour, but on opening the keg soon after his departure it proved to be Water. Another Trader for some valuable Furra, which he received from an Ottawa Chief of great influence, who came likewise to try the Market, and desired to have his returns in Rum for a general feast, gave the Indian 30 small kegs with directions, not to open them by the way, otherwise, the Trader, would be punished for letting them have so much, but the Indian before his return to Niagam, being desirous of some Liquor, opened them and found them all water. This has been often acknowledged by these Traders, and on its coming to the knowledge of the French, they made so good a use of it, that these people and all their friends were ever after our most implacable Enemies.— The next instance is that of a Seneca Warrior, whose influence and abilities were so well known, that I found it a very hard task to bring them over, which however I at length effected in 1756. when he came to me with a large party of Warriors, who were to set out on public service in a few days, but having some

Furs to dispose of, I gave them at their desire a passport to Schenectady, wherein I recommended it to a Merchant and Trader there, to use them very kindly, and to do them the strictest justice, notwithstanding which, this Enemy to the Interests of his Country, imposed upon them in the grossest manner; it appearing from their account, & his own confession since, that as they were strangers, he had doubled the prices of his goods and allowed them but half the weight of their peltry; this was resented accordingly, the Indians took another rout back, and the Chief sent me a Belt of Wampum with a Message informing me of the imposition (the particulars of each article being marked on the handle of an Axe) and assuring me, that he should always continue to have a personal regard for me, but not the least for the English who had served him so often, but that the last instance was of such a nature, that he had accepted of an invitation from the French who knew how to treat them, and their services—he made his words good; in a few days, cut off a large settlement and continued our most violent Enemy ever since, particularly at Niagara in 1759, whilst it was not in my power to have the unworthy author punished.—To this I must subjoin an instance in the case of the Chief of all the Senecas, a Warrior, whose influence and capacity were, & are well known here, whom I had steadily preserved in the British interest, when, we were almost totally abandoned, this Man at the eve of the late War, was thro' the means of Liquor seduced by some Agents at Albany to subscribe his name to an Indian Deed for a Tract within the Bounds of Pennsylvania, but claimed by the Connecticut people, in virtue of their obsolete Charter which extended their Western limits to the South seas: This being a most iniquitous proceeding highly resented by the Six Nations; the few who subscribed to it became obnoxious to the rest, particularly the Chief before mentioned, so that he was obliged to fly to the French for protection, who so far won upon him, that he with a powerful party who followed his fortunes took up arms shortly after, attacked a body of Provincials at Lake George, whom they totally defeated and killed 45. Since which he was concerned in the most important services against us, cut off some of our settlements, and occasioned the deaths of more than 400 of our people. These it is presumed will suffice to shew the effects of the resentment of a few Indian individuals.

Thus whilst the Traders on the Frontiers were disgusting and defrauding the Indians, the Inhabitants were overreaching them and availing themselves of their ignorance & passion for Liquors, daily stealing away their Land as the Indians emphatically express it; so that at the breaking out of the War in 1755. it was not at all surprizing that we should have so few of them our Friends, or that the continuance of that friendship should be attended with much expence to the Crown, when to the powerful temptations they had for becoming our Enemys was joined, all that artifice could suggest or favours purchase on the part of the French. The affairs of the War, the conduct and services of the Indians employed by us, what they might further have done in our behalf or what that number might have performed against us, are subjects foreign to this; if they are not fully known, they can soon be made to appear at large. From the commencement of this War, I had the Royal appointment, before, I had been occasionally appointed by the province of New York in times of extremity when their Commiss^{rs} and every body else failed them to which, I have been earnestly solicited, on that account as will appear from the minutes of Council, votes of Assembly &c; and as I had experienced that their funds were inadequate to the smallest services, and found, I could not meet with sufficient countenance to support my own character, or do the public actual service, I constantly resigned my office, so soon as I had effected such

Reverts thereof upon
the Indians in 1756

measures, as freed them from their present apprehensions; for these services the province still remains in my debt a considerable sum advanced out of my private fortune.

New system of Politicks contrived by the reduction of Canada. The War with France *here*, having terminated by the reduction of Canada etc in 1760, a new system of Politicks was adopted by the Indians, & a new system evidently pointed itself out for our addition, on which I then took the Liberty to offer my sentiments.—An extensive alliance with Nations to whom we were almost strangers now presented to our view, and as our first steps must have a great and lasting effect upon Indian Affairs in general it may not be amiss here to shew the State of our Indian Affairs and that of the several Indian Nations at that Period.

State of our connections to that period. The Indians with whom we had any intercourse or Trade previous to the War, were principally the *Six Nations, Shawanese, Delawares, Twightwees* and *Indians of Ohio and Susquehanna*, the latter Emigrants from some of the rest. I take no notice of those of *New England*, or of any small domesticated Tribes; as being of little importance in War or Trade at that period, neither do I take any notice of the *Missisaga* alliance, which existed only on the Books of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs from a few of them having in the year 1723, been at a Treaty of alliance at Albany, which was never afterwards regarded, or cultivated by either party. 'Tis true, several of them and of the *Ottawacs* etc had been accustomed to Trade with us at *Onwego*, but this was chiefly for such articles as they could not get from the French, and although it might have been made beneficial, and these people thereby lead into our interest, yet this had been totally neglected, and the misconduct already mentioned had effectually alienated them from us, as well as prejudiced all the distant nations ag^t us, which received no small addition from the character given us by the French, and the neglects of the repeated, and (as it afterwards appeared) just advices, and requests of assistance of the rest who were more nearly connected with us, had produced almost the same effects with the majority of them; but from the Reduction of Canada we were to become acquainted not only with the several Tribes of Indians living about the River St^l Lawrence & the environs of their Capitals, but also with the powerful Western confederacys consisting of several Nations of which the *Chipeweighs* alone amount to several thousands; by a prudent management with whom, we might have corrected their prejudices and jealousies, diverted their attention to hunting and Trade and thereby secured our Frontiers and outposts, and enjoyed the whole of that valuable branch of Commerce which always depends on their pacific disposition.

Our connections greatly extended. This leads me to shew the State and sentiments of these Nations at that period as they will best account for what has happened since.

State of the several Indian Nations at that time, & their interests. To begin with the *Six Nations*, altho' they suffered but little in the different parts they took in the War, (the *Mohaws* excepted, whose fidelity to us had cost them above 100 Men since 1755) yet from their more immediate connections with us and the French, they were a good deal reduced by liquor and deceases, as were the *Shawanese* and *Delawares*, and some of the *Eight Nations* of Canada, but these latter met with several Recruits from the *Six Nations*.

The *Six Nations* who had subdued all their neighbours, still maintained their ascendancy over them, which was the sole fruits of their conquests, as their War was chiefly carried on to bring them to a submission and acknowledgement of being vanquished, which obtained, they confirmed their possessions to them, and had lived with them for many years in terms of strict alliance, which their rencounters, from the different parts they took in our War with France did not dissolve.

The Western Indians were very sensible of their present superiority in numbers over their Conquerors; but they could not divest themselves of some awe before them, and considered them as people of superior skill; there were other motives sufficient to promote and secure the union between them; The *Hurons* who were the most polished and sensible people to the Westward, who had much influence over the rest, were closely connected with the Mohawks and their languages are nearly the same; the Indian Nations of Canada. i. e. the *Coghswagacs*, *Canighsadagacs* etc living near Montreal, were greatly esteemed for their abilities by the Western Indians, and these were chiefly Emigrants from the Mohocks and the other Five Nations, for whom they always manifested a sincere respect, except when they met in the field in the quarrel between England and France, and the whole Western Indians considered the 6 Nations, as the Door, (as they call it) to their Country, and the channel by which they might receive the surest intelligence concerning the designs of the White people, so that in short, however severely they treated one another, as I know they did sometimes during the War, yet, no sooner was it ended, than they mutually renewed their engagements, and carefully buried (according to custom all past objects of grievance.

This was their State at the reduction of Canada, a circumstance of such importance to the Indians that it contributed to strengthen their mutual Compacts and alliances, for they are in general not bad politicians, they early saw with concern the active enterprising spirit of the French, who pursued the maxim Divide et Impera. Some of the Nations gave them several ^{Their politics} severe checks, and had very nigh annihilated the Colony, without any assistance from us, they afterwards fell into their interest, through our neglects, but they did not appear to have wished that the one power should swallow up the other, they were desirous to preserve a kind of equilibrium between us, and inclined occasionally to throw their weight into the lightest scale, but the hurry with which the French pushed on their projected schemes and the steps that were taken to bring over many leading Men to our interests, probably defeated the purposes of their politicians & decided the quarrel much sooner, than it could have happened under different circumstances. Some were, I am persuaded hearty in each cause, but the majority and the most judicious amongst them certainly held these sentiments, neither can they be blamed for a way of thinking so exactly correspondent with that of the most Civilized Nations, for, (as they often declared) they say, that the White people were for reducing them to nothing, that the views of both Nations tended to one and the same object; they called themselves a free people who had an independent Lands, which were their ^{breathless with regard to property} ancient possessions, that the French by ceding Canada, according to the words of the Treaty, granted what was not in their power to give; their out posts & distant possessions being only held of them, not by conquest, but by favour, that if they admitted our right to the Posts, we conquered, the Country was still theirs, and in fact it is most certain that the French never spoke to them in any other stile, as sensible I presume of the consequences it might have with regard to their interests, so that whatever words, are usually made ^{and depredations} use of respecting their expressing submission etc: are only to be understood as in compliance with form and custom, the latter having no just idea of such expressions, and calling themselves no more than our friends and Allies. The Treaties, Submissions, Cessions etc. literally implying no more, and whoever should undertake to go further on the subject with them, must have a good army at his back, to protect him from their resentment. The offers of protection so often mentioned to them, are thought little on, they answering constantly, that they are not in want of it, that they had nothing to fear but from ourselves, and altho' they

may on some occasions be brought to temporize, or use more respectful terms, they are seldom sincere in such declarations. All this I have experienced, and I think, I can say with great certainty, that I have never yet met with any Man, who has said more to them than myself, perhaps none have gone so far, or said so much.

The best and only apology to be made for laying the rude thoughts of an uncivilized people before the Crown, is, that they must necessarily be well understood to form a just estimate of the principles by which they are influenced in order to account for their conduct, arising therefrom, and thereby discover the true means of managing their affairs so as in time to render them peaceable, and useful members of Society.—Having before stated their real sentiments, on the foregoing heads with candour and truth, to the utmost of my knowledge and experience, I proceed to shew the State of the Trade and other affairs at the last mentioned period and since.

The short interval between the conclusion of the former War, and the renewal of hostilities here in 1764, afforded little time to breathe to the Colonies concerned. The Traders had scarcely established themselves, and the surviving Inhabitants had not recovered from the ruin of their settlements, when they were again involved in worse distresses, which continued till the reduction of Canada. This last War fell severely on both, Traders and Inhabitants; numbers of the former were murdered, their families ruined, several fine settlements totally destroyed, many of the people carried into captivity amongst distant Nations, a still greater number killed, and of the few survivors, several were discouraged, unable to prosecute their business, and therefore retired to places of greater security.—Of the old Traders, few had survived, and some of these Survivors had fallen into other business.—A great number of the best Indian Hunters having (thro' their different engagements in the Wars) long disused hunting, *Review of the Trade* returned to it with reluctance, and their success was less than formerly; but a much more material reason may be given why they did not return to it in such numbers as before; they were alarmed about power, assured by all the French, particularly the partizans and Men of influence still among them, that we had formed a plan to destroy them, and some circumstances in our conduct then, and since, confirmed them in their belief. A detachment was ordered to proceed to and take possession of Detroit in consequence of the Capitulation for Canada, on which I dispatched expresses to my Deputy to prepare the Indians to receive them as friends, and to explain the matter to them, without which I am confident, and can prove to a demonstration they would not have succeeded, it however had the desired effect, and *Mont Belletre* gave up the garrison tho' with great reluctance.

But some errors in judgement with regard to grants and privileges soon alarmed the Indians, people eagerly applied for grants of *carrying places* etc. etc. and this fell severely upon those Nations who had been in our alliance, with whom we had not been at War, and from whom we had conquered nothing; *public Advertisements* appeared in all the papers concerning a Colony of several degrees of longitude along the *Ohio*, which was to be formed immediately, and the settlers to march thither in two Divisions; this was publicly talked of throughout the whole Country, and soon circulated amongst the Indians; 'tis true, that on my representations the Commander in Chief judiciously put a stop to them, but the remedy was applied too late, & the Indians attributed it to our fears; it appeared more difficult to prevent some acts of indiscretions at the posts arising from our Troops etc, being strangers to the Indians, and not making some allowances for their idle conduct, especially when in liquor; upon these occasions

Unreasonable grants
and impolitic pro-
posals for large
Tracts.

Indiscretions at the
posts.

it is usual for the Indians to utter many absurdities, they will tell the persons they most esteem, *that they are Cowards, that they will put them to death, that they are Lords of the ground they live upon. etc.* this should have been disregarded with contempt, but too often, they were not only treated but answered with severity, told, that they should soon be extirpated etc. all which they propagated amongst one another, and it easily obtained credit. I have often been witness to, and prevented the effects of such imprudence.—One instance of which happened in the expedition in 1760.—A gentleman imprudently Cursed an Indian who was passing by his Tent, saying that on our return from Canada we should soon extirpate all of their colour—the Indian (who understood English) soon communicated it, to the rest, in consequence of which they loaded their arms to the amount of 700, and prepared to leave us, letting me know, that they did not think, they should have been insulted for accompanying us, and that they found it was high time to provide for their families security. In short, I found it a very difficult task to satisfy them, & notwithstanding all my endeavours above 100 returned back on that occasion; the gentlemen of the army expressed much concern at it, and justice must be done to their prudence, caution, and zeal, in proportion as they become acquainted with the importance of being on good terms with the Indians.

Proceedings of the Traders. Traders from all quarters now begun to push to the outposts with goods, the majority of whom for reasons I have given, were as great strangers to the Indians, as they were to the nature of the Trade they engaged in, tho' they soon discovered & improved on the modes of imposition. Their passes were limited to the Posts, at which did not murmur. It was likewise earnestly desired by the Indians, who justly observed to me, that their bringing goods into Indian villages exposed them to the insults of their young Men, particularly when inflamed with liquor, that several of our people, would doubtless act imprudently, that theirs would do the same, and might be led to seize goods when they were in their power, and sold very dear; all which they could not prevent having no laws or power to act in such cases.—Spirituos liquors were likewise prohibited by their desire, as its pernicious effects were well known, and the prohibition deprived them of a material excuse for irregularities; but notwithstanding this was done by desire of the Indians approved of by the Traders of best character and never admitted by the French beyond Niagara, yet so great is the profit resulting from that article, and such opportunities were thereby furnished for imposition, that a great number of the Traders used every artifice to induce the Indians to apply for a toleration of that article, on which head I often reproached them for their fickleness, but they constantly answered "that tho' they still held to their first opinion yet their young Men were variable and thoughtless, and had been urged so much on that score that they did it to please them.

Danger of a quarrel then removed by the Congress at Detroit. In 1761. some dangerous Belts & messages having been sent to the Indians, about Detroit, I went to that place, and for that time had the happiness to prevent their effects and to calm the minds of the Indians.—I then settled a Tariff for Trade. Tariff for Trade. Trade at the posts proportioned to their distance, and the expence attending the transportation of Cargoes, which was done on such principles as rendered it agreeable to the Traders, and satisfactory to the Indians, whilst adhered to; but there was as yet no establishment made for officers to inspect the Trade and affairs of the Indians, and whilst I must do justice to the characters of sundry persons in Trade, I am Wast of Officers for the Department obliged to declare, that the majority absolutely required Inspectors, vested with necessity for them proper authority; for the profits made by a few, induced such numbers to embark in it,

amongst whom were the very dregs of the people, such as discharged provincial Soldiers, Batteauxmen etc, who all in this country easily obtained credit for goods at an advanced price, that regularity, honesty, or discretion could not with propriety be expected from them, especially as it clashed with their private interests. About the same time, sundry persons from His Majesty's European dominions, induced by favorable accounts, and agreeable prospects of advantage came to *Quebec* and *Montreal*, and engaged in the Indian Trade, which I believe the majority have experienced, fell far short of their expectations. Unacquainted with the difficulties and the knowledge requisite to conduct it, the French had greatly the advantage, and the English were compelled to make use of low, selfish agents, French or English as Factors, who at the expence of honesty and sound policy, took care of themselves whatever became of their employers. Belts of Wampum etc were sent by Traders to Indian Villages inviting the Indians in the name of Govern^t to come to particular Traders, and that all others were cheats. This doctrine was and is preached by each against his neighbour, insomuch, that the Indians are at a loss to determine who were honest, believed them all to be Rogues, and conceived a worse opinion of us than ever before.

Additional Traders arrive from Europe.

Advantage of the French over the English Traders.

Ill conduct of Factors.

Proceedings of the Inhabitants concerning Lands.

Uneasiness amongst the Indian Nations.

artificers of the French.

their endeavours to excite Indians to a War.

Whilst the Indian Trade was in this State at the Posts and Frontiers, the Inhabitants were not idle; the reduction of Canada raised the value of Lands, and those who thought, they had not enough (who may be presumed to amount to a very large number), now took every step & employed every low Agent, who understood a little of the Indian language to obtain Tracts for them;—on this head I need not be particular, having so often explained their conduct and pointed out its consequences; however their avidity in pursuit of grants, and these in the most alarming places, the irregular steps which they took to obtain them, the removal of dormant titles, and the several greater strides, which were taken as herein before is mentioned, concerned the Indians so nearly; that a general uneasiness took place and spread itself throughout them all. The French agents and several of their old partizans men of much influence, were still amongst the Indians, were mostly engaged in Trade, and had resided with them for several years; these, to a Man, excited them to take arms, representing our design in the most alarming manner to these lovers of Liberty, and giving them the strongest assurances of French Fleets and Armies coming to their Assistance, They were related to, and connected with the Inhabitants of Montreal etc, & some of the principal people in that City and its environs were rendered more than suspected, from apparent good intelligence received by Lt Col: Gladwin, & transmitted to the Commander in Chief and to myself, and which nearly corresponded with those I had received from other hands.—Whilst the Inhabitants of Detroit etc, many of whom have intermarried with the Indians, were not idle on their parts. In the mean time, large Cargoes were daily going to the frontiers, and Traders murdered. two Traders returning through the Country of the Upper Senecas were Robbed

¹ HENRY GLADWIN became a Lieutenant in the 48th Regiment of Foot, on 28 August, 1753, and was wounded in the expedition under Braddock in 1755; was promoted to a Company in the 80th or Light Armed Foot, on 25 December, 1757; commissioned Major of that regiment 20 June, 1759, in which year he served in the expedition under Amherst; was appointed a Major in the Army 13 December, 1760; was next Deputy Adjutant-General in America, (which post he filled until 1766) and served with great distinction during the war. His gallant defence of Detroit, against Pontiac, is familiar to all, and is eloquently sketched by Parkman. He became Lieutenant-Colonel 17 September, 1763; Colonel 29 August, 1777, and Major-General 29 September, 1782. *Army Lists*. He died at his seat at Stubbing, near Chesterfield, county of Derby, England, on the 22d of June, 1791. *Gentleman's Magazine*.—Ed.

and murdered at Kanestio,¹ a Village made up of several Nations, the murderers retired to the Ohio, and the Indians declared they could not find them. My Deputy went to Onondaga upon Satisfaction urged that occasion, the Indians of which place as well as all the rest of the six Nations (a part of the Senecas excepted) expressed much concern at it, and even the Upper Seneca themselves declared it to be a private Act of individuals, much against the inclination and without the privity of the Nation. The threats made then in case the murderers were not delivered up, were by the Kanestios, altered to threats against the whole Confederacy and so circulated amongst them. The Shawanese and Delawares with the rest near the Ohio held meetings with the Western Indians etc., of all which I gave notice, and of my sentiments thereon; whilst these matters were in agitation the Connecticut people, under pretence of their obsolete charter as beforementioned were frequently with me, and notwithstanding all my advice to the contrary very busy with the Indians to get a fresh Deed to strengthen their rights on the Susquebana River, to which several of them removed, declaring they would maintain the possession of it; the Indians civilly warned them to remove, and in the beginning of 1763, I again remonstrated against their settling, & acquainted the Commander in Chief with my expectation of a speedy Rupture.

In the spring of 1763 Deputys from the Six Nations were sent to me to request my assistance on the subject of these settlements, who with one of my Deputys, went of Hartford, where they met with the Gov^r of Connecticut in Assembly; the Gov^r having just received orders from the Court, to stop such proceedings, dismissed the Indians with assurances that he would do all in his power (by proclamation etc) to bring back the settlers and prevent the like again; but these misguided ignorant people, for the most part disregarded all such proclamations, and 27 of them staid there till in the beginning of the War they were put to the sword. And now the War broke out in earnest. The Ohio Indians begun on the Frontiers of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Communications to the Posts; three of which: Presqu' isle, Venango and Le Boeuf they look immediately, whilst the Western Confederacy attacked Detroit, and soon made themselves masters of Sandousky, Miamis, Wawiaghtonon, la Baye and Michilimackinac.— They defeated a body of Regular Troops with some slaughter near Detroit and killed Capt^d Dalyell their Commanding Officer; a party, sent to recruit the Garrison shared the same fate, and they totally destroyed a Body of Regulars and Provincials of about 100 Men on the carrying place of Niagara, but 2. escaping. On the side of Ohio after laying waste all the Frontiers they invested Fort Pitt, and reduced the garrison to much danger; Coll: Boquet with 600 Men and large convoy marching to its relief was attacked by only 95 of them (for I have the best authorities of White Men then with the Indians and of several different Indians who all agree that that was the true number) who killed ab^t 60 of his people and greatly obstructed his March. In short, to pursue them thro' their different successful expeditions and depredations, would be entering into a tedious Detail of facts well known and still sensibly felt here, and therefore foreign to my present subject.—It is sufficient to observe that our most valuable frontiers were depopulated, our outposts with most of their garrisons destroyed and the Trade ruined; all the Traders at the posts, and the much greater part of those who were on their way with cargoes were plundered; and many of them murdered, by which the Indians acquired a considerable Booty and supplied themselves with materials for the War before the supplys

Congresses amongst
the Indians.

Attempts made by
Connecticut to settle
settlements on the
Susquebana.

Indian Deputys
sent thereon.

settlers continue.

War breaks out.

Progress and suc-
cess of the Indians.

¹ See note, *supra*, p. 814. — Ed.

conduct of the
Major's new acquire-
ment subjects. brought them from the Mississippi could reach the distant Nations; but the conduct of our New Subjects, the French is well worth observing on that occasion. The principal of them at the Detroit assumed himself the Command of the Place, and was saluted as such by the Indians; he presided at their Councils, and with several others, after passing their faith for the security of Capt^e Campbell, impudently Catechised him, and the rest, and advised that they should be put to death as was distinctly heard by some Traders, well versed in the Indian language, who were then prisoners but made their escape thereupon; and from their and other intelligence, and the accounts transmitted by L^{ieut} Col: Gladwin it appears that above 40 of the French were not only advising, but actually aiding and assisting to the Indians in their attempts upon the Fort and Vessels, & taught them to prepare Rafts for burning the their treatment of
the Traders. latter, and that they likewise were aiding and assisting in plundering several of the Traders, and not only received their goods, but took from them their watches Cloathes and some notes of hand, which they had formerly given these Traders for debts due to them, the much greater part of which, cannot yet be recovered. Whilst this was transacting at and about the ~~Post~~ Detroit, their Countrymen at the Miamis and in other quarters were as busy; many of them were not only privy to, but aiding and forming the plans for the attack of the other Posts; & some of them actually inveigled Traders to come on shore to them for protection, which they no sooner did, than they were seized, some of them killed, and all their goods confiscated. Yet several of these Men, tho' well known, have hitherto escaped punishment, & many more might be convicted by intercepted letters, (some of them in my hands) which fully shew the good understanding, and politics of a great part of that Nation at that time throughout the whole Continent.—Such was the conduct of our new acquired subjects, and these were the first proofs they gave of their allegiance; indeed many of them in the Capitals, were doubtless sensible of the folly of such a conduct, and many more could not from circumstances, of situation, etc. join in it; but the greater part of those who had the opportunity, did not let it slip, to their great emolument, and were themselves foolishly sanguine in the hopes of a Revolution of Govern^t as their letters and assurances to many of the prisoners will fully shew.

Steps taken by Sir
Wm. Johnson What steps I took to secure the majority of the Six Nations and many others to our interest, and in prevailing on large parties to go against the Enemy, with the successes attending it, are I hope known, as well as that it contributed a good deal their effects to put an end to the War in the following year, when the Indians divided amongst themselves, and alarmed at the apprehensions of quarrels between each; several having withdrawn, their assistance previous to the movement of the Two Armies, the remainder were brought to terms of submission and peace; by which another opportunity was offered to us for continuing them in that state; but now a new War brought to a
conclusion system began to be adopted by both Inhabitants, Traders, and Indians. The former whose knowledge of these affairs are chiefly drawn from the public prints, were induced to think from the appearance which the Treaties made, that the Indians might never more give them any trouble, depressed on the slightest occasions, they are as

New system of la-
balastic, Traders
and Indians.

* DONALD CAMPBELL was appointed Lieutenant in the 60th or Royal Americans on the 4th January, 1756, in which corps he obtained a Company in 1759. In 1760, he commanded the detachment of his regiment that accompanied Major Rogers from Fort Pitt, to take possession of Detroit, and became commandant of that post in December following. He was succeeded in the command a few years afterwards by Major Gladwin, (*supra*, p. 961.) and having been enticed during the siege of Detroit, by Pontiac into his power, was cruelly put to death by the Indians in the summer of 1763. *Lawson's Michigan*, 88, 111, *Parkman's Pontiac*, 261.—Ed.

easily and causelessly elated, and inconsiderately reassumed their old conduct with regard to Lands.—Sundry grants were projected and applied for in places most alarming to, and tenderly affecting the Indian's Rights: the very steps taken in viewing these lands caused the utmost uneasiness; the great patent of Kayaderoseros was about being surveyed, and divided, which sensibly affected the Mohawks, and in them the whole Six Nations, who publicly applied to me that justice might be done them. Low Agents made use of to defraud the Indians of Lands. Low Agents made use of to obtain Grants from the Six Nations; took upon them to call the meetings of Indians, and tho' forbade by the Royal Proclamation, and by the express interposition of Govern' here from intermeddling therein, continued, and still continue to foment divisions in their Villages, and to keep them in a state of continued drunkenness, to the great annoyance of the Inhabitants, until they had effected their purposes; and numbers of the frontier Inhabitants of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia etc, animated with ill conduct of the frontier Inhabitants. a spirit of Frenzy under pretext of revenge for past injuries, tho' in manifest violation of British faith and the strength of the late Treaties; attacked, robbed and murdered sundry Indians of good character and still continue to do so, vowing vengeance against all that come in their way; whilst others forcibly established themselves beyond even the limits of their own Govern^{ts}, in the Indian Country, threatening vengeance against all opposers disregarding the orders of their Governments, or the steps taken by the Commander in Chief, and still withhold their illegal and unjust possessions, all which produce complaints on complaints, the latter still fraught with warmer expressions than the former, Complaints made thereon. and the event appears obvious.

Present state of the Trade. Let us now take a view of the present State of Trade and we shall soon find the instability of the present system. So soon as a Civil Govern' was established for Canada, under the Denomination of the Province of Quebec, the European settlers for some time established in the Country, some of whom had acquired judiciary powers, began to complain of some Colony affairs, wh^{ch} is not my business to speak upon; they afterwards found some fault that their Agents were not permitted to go into any part of the Indian Country, and being associated with the French, several of them jointly desired the indulgence formerly allowed to the Traders of that Nation, and the latter left no stone unturned to persuade the Indians to desire it; this they affected with many of them, who nevertheless on being spoke to on the subject acknowledged the inconveniencies attending it, and the more peaceable Indians are much alarmed at what they apprehend may prove the effects of such indulgence. & indulgence so contrary to the Plan, which was drawn under the sanction and with the approbation of Govern', which was effectually calculated to correct these and all other abuses, and which had it been enforced in the beginning would have prevented all this clamour about privileges, which are now taken by force, and all bonds etc disregarded, neither is there any means of preventing it although the Commander in Chief and every person of capacity and disinterestedness is persuaded of its necessity. The Authority of Commissaries is nothing, and both, the Commanding Officers of Garrisons, & they, are liable to a Civil prosecution for detaining a Trader on any pretence, and should their crime be sent to the next capital, there is no law to punish them. In short, the mixed multitude of persons trading at the Posts and in the Indian Country, many of whom have survived their credit, and dare not come down the Country, act such a part by endeavouring to draw the Trade from one another, by selling some articles below the first cost, and extorting upon others, that the

Traders violate the Regulations.

and going into the Indian villages.

Wider authority of the Commissaries the occasion of it.

Wider credit of many Traders.

Merchants who supply the goods must suffer, numbers of the Traders be ruined, and the Indians universally discontented. The little artifices usually practiced by low people in dealings with one another, are much more general and attended with infinitely greater circumstances of fraud in dealings with the Indians. The low character of the people their necessity and the extravagance in which many of them live, set them on the practice of every

Their trade artifices and the slanders they cast upon each other.

fraud to support themselves, & get credit for fresh supplies of goods from the Merchants to whom the majority of Traders are so much in debt, that the former have no other hopes of being ever paid but by continuing to supply them with goods, and the latter not only endeavour to force a Trade by slandering each other, publishing and enlarging on the frauds committed by their neighbours, but forge stories dangerous to the public to account for their prices, the badness of goods, or any other purposes of gain, whilst some sell

Cargoes sold to the French.

their whole cargoes at a good price to Agents from the Mississippi, or to French Traders in connection with them, which, if permitted to encrease as it probably will, must give the Spaniards or their Agents the French an opportunity of engrossing great part of the Trade with our Manufactories, as their own cannot be afforded so cheap after bringing them up the Mississippi above the Illinois.

Conduct of them & the Spaniards dangerous Belts and Messages sent by them amongst the Indians.

The French and Spaniards are now trading on both sides of the Mississippi and in the very Towns of our Indians, where they bring frequently considerable presents, which with Belts & Messages, desiring them "to be upon their guard against the English, and to hold themselves in readiness to fall upon them within a little time" they deliver in the names of the French & Spanish Monarchs; some of these persons are personally known and have great interest with the Indians, they have, likewise, been seen and known by many of our Traders; others appear in the dress, and Character of

As the Agents made use of

Officers, on the same errand, but they are chiefly those persons, who have been formerly partizans or employed in Indian affairs by the French and have lived for several years in the Indian Country, or at New Orleans; they are all Men of Ability & influence; some of them I have known by name and Character these 20 years past, and some

Compared to the practices before the last War.

of their Belts and intercepted letters are now in my hands. These practices exactly correspond with those of the French before the breaking out of the late War, and whither they are publicly authorised for so doing, or not, must it not appear evident

Measures which induce them to such practices.

that the prospects of Gain, and of monopolizing the whole trade during a rupture between us and the Indians will in itself prove always a most powerful incentive to them to strengthen, and encrease the Indians' dislike towards us, and to foment quarrels; What then can be expected but loss of Trade, Robbery, Murder of Traders and frequent general Ruptures, whilst the only British Traders with whom these distant Nations are acquainted, are

Slender abilities etc of our Traders to counteract them.

for the most part Men of no Zeal or Capacity; Men who often sacrifice the credit of the Nation to the basest purposes; or can it otherwise happen but that the Indians prejudices must daily encrease and tend to the worst purposes, when they are on the one side seduced by Men of abilities, influence and address, and on the other see such low specimens of British abilities honor and honesty.

The last consideration on this subject is the state of the Indians at this time, which tho' it may be deduced from the foregoing circumstances, will still admit of some farther elucidation.

State of the Indians at present considered severally.

The Nations contained under the several Confederacys, have ever since the conclusion of the Indian War in 1674., endeavoured to draw together their scattered Tribes and to reduce themselves to a little more order, which they do doubtless with

an eye of their future security, tho' in some instances it may be advantageous to the public, as these scattered Tribes are guilty of much more irregularities, than the settled Nations. To this end the Senecas have been endeavouring to draw in their people settled about the Ohio etc. The Onondagas have brought away several of theirs from Oswegatchy, the Tuscaroras who were admitted into the Confederacy with the Original Five Nations in the Reign of Queen Anne, having expressed a desire to bring the remainder of their people from North Carolina, sent Deputys for that purpose who are returned with 160 of their people from thence, and as they had few fire Arms, were Robbed and had very nigh been Murdered by the frontier Inhabitants, notwithstanding they were furnished with ample passes from the Govern^r for their safe conduct. These people are settled about the heads of Susquehana, with the Rest of their nation. Of the Mohawks several have thro' disgust retired to the Hurons, on account of the Tricks & practices concerning Lands. The Shawanese & Delawares tho' decreased in Numbers, are increased in interest and much more respected by the rest than formerly, their conduct during the late Wars, having restored them to the rank of Men, and their influence is become very extensive. The Illinois Confederacy consisting of the *Piankashaws*, *Kickapoos*, *Kuskeiskees* etc are on good terms with the rest having made up the breach with them concerning the attack made by a party of one French exiles the Indians in attack Mr. Croghan and the killing some of the Shawanese etc, who accompanied him; but the French are seducing so many of these people to remove to the opposite side of the Mississipi, and practising so many artifices to obstruct our interest in that Country, that it is likely to become a very expensive and troublesome affair. The Western Indians have more intercourse with the rest than ever. *Pondiac* still maintains an extensive influence, he has been (since the Treaty with me at Ontario last year) much practised upon by the French Traders & others, to disregard his engagements, they assuring him that the English are not at all sincere, and that I have only deceived the Indians to lull them into a state of security and inattention to our designs; this is a fact which can be incontestably proved.

A peace has been lately patched up between the *Chipewights* and the *Sioux* who are the only Nation capable of checking the insolence of the former, and who (in consequence of Belts I had sent thro' all the Nations to acquaint them with the cause of the late Indian War) sent pipes to me with a Message, that if it was agreeable, they would march 5000 Men, against the Western Confederacy.

I cannot think it is good policy in us to interest ourselves much in the quarrels of distant Nations which do not affect our Forts, Settlements or Communications. It may indeed be interesting to a dozen, or perhaps 20 Traders who in defiance of all orders and regulations, go to the Indians Towns, where they cannot be in security during such quarrels, but as these Wars take off and engage some of the most dangerous and violent of the Indians, who would otherwise be at variance with us, I think the interests of a few such Traders cannot be placed in competition with that of the public in general.

The sentiments of all these Nations with regard to us are nearly the same. They entertain a very slender opinion of our faith and sincerity, they are to the last degree jealous of our designs. Those last connected with us, who had been early taught to entertain a strong dislike for us, are further confirmed in it, as well thro' the

representations of our secret Enemies, as from our own misconduct, whilst those long in our alliance, and from their vicinity more liable to labour under many grievances and impositions, grows more and more discontented thro' the want of redress, and alarm the rest in the most sensible manner. This produces private Congresses, the effects of which I wish may turn out different from my expectations.

Having in the course of the foregoing sheets given an exact a state of the several matters therein contained, as time would allow, from all which I flatter myself that a better judgement may be made of the affairs of the Indian Department. I am now to proceed to a consideration of this subject under the following general heads.

1st The Advantages to be derived from a fixed Establishment, supported by authority, for the speedy redress of grievances, the improvement and due regulation of Trade, and the promoting the Interests of true Religion with their happy effects.

2nd The impracticability of effecting this on any former system, from the want of powers, the different interests and other circumstances attending his Majesty's Colonies, and the Civil Govern^t in America.

3^{dly} and lastly — The intentions of Govern^t in establishing the Department with humble proposals for rendering it more capable of promoting and answering these important ends.

From a due consideration of the facts contained in this Review, it must naturally appear that the Indians, have some reasons for thinking themselves aggrieved in several instances, and that they are from apparent circumstances, capable of being dangerous enemies to the growth and Trade of the Colonies, or of becoming strong friends and great promoters of both, and useful members of Society.

The first step to effect this is the redress of those grievances with regard to lands, which most materially affect the Indians — this they have been oft times promised, they expect it with eagerness and impatience, proportioned to the satisfaction they will receive from it which will diffuse itself thro' all the nations, tend to remove one of the principal causes of their disquiet, and spread abroad a favourable character of our uprightness and integrity, which it is certainly for the interest and credit of the nation to render universal. For altho' (as yet) the circumstances of fraud respecting lands are only felt immediately by those Nations that are our neighbours, yet the effect of their complaint greatly alarms the whole, and has induced them to expect the like treatment in a few years, whilst, in the mean time they are by custom obliged to make a provision for those who are deprived of, or straitned in their hunting grounds. I know every argum^t that is, or can be made against this, the sum of which are, that the Laws can not affect patents, that they are old rights, and must hurt the present claimants, that it is a dangerous precedent, and may make the Indians farther troublesome on that score etc, but surely a defect in the Laws owing to the times in which they were made, when provision could not be made for unforeseen concerns, cannot be produced as of sufficient weight against reason, and moral equity, nor can the abuse of his Majesty's name be justly produced to cover a fraudulent grant. Their long standing is very little in their favour, it is rather a reason for vacating them; for tho' they still subsist, they have been complained of from the time they were first known, to the present, and the injury done to the present possessors, must be proportioned to the Quit Rents they have paid, with the improvements and expences they have been at, but where it shall appear that such Quit rents, are next to nothing, the

improvements and expences, none, what then will become of the argument, any more than that of the danger of the precedent, which is literally this:

That we should not give them a precedent of our justice, least they should be induced to expect that from us, which we do not intend to afford them.—And what should make all impartial men still easier on this score, is, that their complaints are only against two or three notorious impositions, which affect their very existence, and that they will not raise any title against any other old grants whatsoever. So that I think, where two or three instances shall appear of fraudulent grants, under the foregoing circumstances, which may have lain for many years, without occupancy, subject to little or no Quit rent, and where late intruders have forcibly possessed themselves of lands without so much as the appearance of any title whatsoever, that, in these cases justice and policy should conspire to point out the necessity

*Necessity for proper
establishment and
powers for the more
beneficial Government
of Trade.*

for a speedy and seasonable relief. The establishment of Trade on principles of the strictest equity is another object of the greatest importance; the Indians have been long accustomed to frauds, of which they daily become more perceptible; the Traders are the only British subjects, with whom the Indians are acquainted (the Garrison excepted, and with them they had not much intercourse as they cannot understand each other) the Traders then become in a great measure the only people by whom they can form a judgement of the English, and indeed the only white People seen by the Nations most distant; it is therefore certainly our interest that those people through whom alone they can form any conception of our abilities or integrity, and who are consequently capable of giving them, favorable, or disadvantageous impressions of the whole Nation, should either be men of strict probity and worth, or, if that cannot be expected, that they should be kept within such bounds, and under such regulations as will prevent them at least from prejudicing us, in the eyes of these people at the very commencement of our intercourse with them; unless this is done, can we possibly expect to improve our Trade, Settlements, or enjoy a peace of any duration.

It may be supposed, and has been doubtless artfully suggested, that the Laws will afford relief against offenders in these cases, but experience has shewn the contrary.—

*Indians unable to
seek Justice from
the Traders
own account.*

Is it possible to suppose that the Indians, to whom (according to the account of the Traders) it is not at all convenient to come even to the outposts to Trade, should be able to go at least 5 or 600 miles, still farther to the capitals for Justice; and admitting that some of them should know of this method, and do so, how are they to obtain Justice?—The Courts of Law, cannot admit of their evidence, nor is there any reason to

*The Laws likewise
defective.*

expect it from many Jurys, the prejudices against Indians being too strong, and their regard for their friends too powerful, if these insurmountable bars did not exist.

In short the Well Govern'd of the Trade on the Frontiers must ever have so great an influence on the minds and conduct of the Indians, that it is an object of the most serious attention, & cannot be too speedily entered upon, so as they may have Men amongst them, furnished with powers to hear and redress them.—This they have been promised, and this they expect, and wish for more than they do for Traders in their Villages, and whensoever they discover such an attention on our parts to prevent impositions, they will not fail to apply themselves with more assiduity, and industry to their hunting, and their jealousy will in one essential point abate, the advantages whereof will daily become more visible, and a saving will be created to the Govern't, at present put to an immense charge, which as it passes thro' the Channel of the

Indian accounts greatly inflames them tho' it has no connection with Indian Affairs. Thus the expences incurred within a few months at Michilimackinac contrary to orders, amounts to several 1000 pounds, under pretext of preventing a War between the Chippeweighs and the Sioux, as before mentioned, but apparently to serve the interests of a few Traders in the manner already described, by purchasing a very uncertain peace, at a greater expence to the Crown, than the profits will amount to of those who are thereby enabled to violate the most prudent and politic regulations, and the Indians seeing it their interest will take advantage of the precedent whenever they see occasion, and being of late accustomed to receive the largest presents there on every slight pretence, will at last challenge them as their due, and probably quarrel for them, whenever a more prudent management shall take place.—From this necessary digression, I proceed to another object of the highest importance, the effects of which may be easily conceived, and which it is our duty to promote to the utmost, namely: that of Religion. I believe I need not add here, that it has been hitherto greatly neglected, and as yet makes little or no progress. The Missionaries who are all established at, or near the sea coast, can only take care of the small flocks, the remains of a few Tribes who are daily dwindling away, and who have little or no intercourse with or influence over the other Nations; on the contrary, their example is rather discouraging to them, for when ever they happen to meet, they generally appear so poor, so unlike the character which is only estimable by the rest, and make so many complaints about the loss of their lands, that the rest despise them, hate us, as the cause of their misfortunes, and not being capable of perceiving that they have made any material acquisition to compensate for what they have lost, entertain a prejudice against Religion itself.

The best channel by which we can convey Instruction to the numerous Nations of the *North* and *West*, is thro' the Six Nations, but amongst them we have as yet, no *Missionary*.—The Mission established between Albany and the Low Mohawk's Village on account of the residence of the Missionary being laterly entirely at Albany, occasions their receiving only a few sermons annually, from which they can derive little benefit, and had not many of them been able to read, and furnished by me with some Books in their language they might be now, almost strangers to the Christian Religion. The Societys formed by the Dissenters have taken some pains to send a few young persons; some of them in orders, to the *Oneydas* to *Onoghquagry* and one of them to the *Senecas*. Some still remain at *Onoghquagry*, the people of which Village, are much accustomed to the White inhabitants, but the rest for the most part soon grew tired, or being alarmed at every rumor of War, or threat of a drunken Indian, abandoned them, and indeed, few of these young people were esteemed, or calculated to gain the esteem of the Indians, wanting spirit to go thro' their undertaking, & abilities to guide them into the true method of obtaining a reputation and interest amongst them. The distinctions made in Religion surprised & abated the ardour of those who had been formerly instructed in the principles of the Church of England; arguments which savor more of Zeal than prudence defeat themselves in their object; a few such have been used, and some have been more than suspected of land schemes by the Indians or of diverting them from hunting, which is an alarming doctrine, but the majority generally fail thro' the want of those abilities, by which the French Missionarys made so many proselytes, as well to their Govern' as to their Religion. The Indians are fond of pomp & ceremonies and that religion in which they most abound is most likely to succeed amongst them, but the French to that advantage gained a still more material one in the choice they generally made of Men of spirit, abilities and a knowledge of the

World, who lived amongst them, became Masters of their language, acquired a thorough knowledge of their manners and disposition, and at length obtained a vast influence which they improved to such advantage (without attempting to alter established forms of no ill consequence, or to wean them from Hunting, in which they are usefully employed for the public) as to convince us from a view of some Tribes under their particular care, that the duties of Religion are not incompatible with those of a Warrior or Hunter, and that they need not cease to be the latter in order to become to all appearance better Christians, than numbers of their White neighbours. Whilst the steps taken by many probably well meaning but gloomy people amongst us, to abolish at once their most innocent customs, Dances, and rejoicings at marriages etc. & their premature proposals for bringing families amongst them to instruct them in agriculture etc as well as their arguments against hunting alarm all Indians who hear of them with the apprehension, that it is done with design to wean them from their way of living, purely, that they may be the readier induced to part with their lands to the White people, which they expect will reduce them to the distresses, poverty and Rags, that are the constant attendants on almost all the domesticated Tribes of whom they have the least knowledge. A hint of such a nature to many Indians, concerning their lands which we cannot be in the least want of, and which have been expressly secured to them by solemn treaties, would effectually destroy our hopes of gradually establishing christianity amongst them, and might occasion us more domestic trouble, than we are aware of; so that too great caution cannot be used in the choice of those Gentlemen, who are sent amongst the Indians, as well as in that of good interpreters, till the Missionaries become themselves well versed in the Indian language, thro' the want of which many mistakes have been, and may be made; a specimen of which, I cannot help giving, having been present on the occasion.

A Gentleman newly sent from some of the Societys of Boston, having expressed a desire to preach to the Indians then assembled, delivered as his text "for God is no Respector of persons"—and desired it to be explained to them, the interpreter, (tho the best in that Country) told the Indians, that "God had no love for such people as them" on which I immediately stopped him, and explained the text, as I did, the rest of his discourse to prevent farther mistakes; had I not been present the error must have passed and many more might have been committed in the course of the Sermon.

The Venerable Society for propagating the Gospel (of which I have the honor of being a Member, are desirous to make some establishments for the advancement of Christianity amongst the Indians, on which occasion they must stand in great need of the support of the Crown, which I am persuaded they will meet with from the importance of the Cause. I should not have enlarged so much upon it, but from a persuasion that if duly attended to and properly conducted it will be productive of the most salutary Effects, whether considered in a political or Religious light.

I come now to what I proposed on the second head on which I mean to be as brief as possible.

It is I believe generally admitted to be the interest of the American Colonies to live in peace and friendship with several Indian Nations, but this opinion is either adopted or discarded in proportion as particular Colonies and principal Men of Interest, are affected by it, or as pride, prejudice or party may dictate. All the Colonies may more or less feel the effects of a War. Yet all are not in the same proportion persuaded of the benefits of peace, or inclined to cooperate for that end.

Errors committed
by the present Mis-
sionaries.

Designs of the So-
ciety humbly re-
commended.

Former inability of
the Colonies to pro-
mote the Indian
interest.

The causes consid-
ered severally.

It has been generally charged upon them by most authors, and several Reports, that they neglect to cultivate a good understanding with the Indians, and a gentleman whose very long residence here and acquaintance with these affairs rendered him a pretty good Judge, after attributing the French success in a great measure to their committing the particular care of Indian Affairs to principal Officers of the greatest *knowledge & authority* says: "Whereas those affairs in *New York* are chiefly left to the management of *a few Traders, with the Indians*, who have no care for, or skill in public affairs, "and only mind their private interest." Indeed it could not well be otherwise, for no proper people could be found, and the situation of Governors, their want of leisure, personal influence, and knowledge, rendered them unfit for the purpose. There are likewise many other particular causes to which it must be attributed, and which I fear are likely long to exist. As first, to the ignorance of all those of any consequence with regard to the interior Country and to the genius and power of it's inhabitants. 2^d to the ideas they had of their own numbers & power, which made them despise and neglect the Indians. 3^d to the impolitic parsimony and ill timed disputes in the houses of Assembly, who were unwilling to raise money for such purposes and being distrustful about the application of it, either granted an incompetent sum, or nothing at all. 4th to the particular interests of Individuals concerned in Lands, trade &c whose situations were too distant to be affected by an Indian War. 5th to the total want of Men of Spirit, capacity and interest on the frontiers, or in the Indian Country, capable of doing any material service, of gaining any influence or of obtaining any just or necessary information, these were particular circumstances, under which, most of the Colonies severally laboured, whilst their very different forms of Govern^t, interests, politics, disputes between the branches of Legislature etc: defeated the hopes of a cordial Union, and rendered all hopes derived from scattered numbers very precarious, if not totally abortive, whilst a single party of Indians, can in one Night cut off a large settlement, which never fails to spread such a panic, as at once gives courage and opportunity to the Enemy. This has been the sense of the wisest, and most disinterested persons, and cannot be better explained than in the words of a Gentleman of experience and capacity, who speaking on this subject, says: that: "Several of these Governments pretending to, or enjoying some extraordinary priviledges which the favour of the Crown has formerly granted them, exclusive of others, "if their assistance is demanded or implor'd by any of their distressed neighbours, attacked "by Enemies, perhaps in the very heart of their settlements; they either by affected *delays* "insisting on *punctilios* and *nicetys*, starting unreasonable *objections* & making extravagant "demands, or frivolous *pretences*, purposely elude their just & reasonable *expectations*; and by "an inactive *stupidity* or *indolence*, seem insensible of their particular and most deplorable "circumstances, as well as regardless of the *General* or *common danger* because they feel not the "immediate effects of it." This has of Course produced different opinions, whereby affairs have been misrepresented, to the Crown, which prevented its early attaining, the true, necessary knowledge for applying effectual remedies, or establishing a proper plan for the general good of the whole, add to this, that for many years past, but particularly of late, most persons who go from hence to Europe to gratify pride, serve themselves, or promote the interests of party, affects to be well acquainted with Indian affairs, some of whom are guilty of gross misrepresentations and under the sanction of an occasional residence on the frontiers, tho' the greater part have not even that to boast of, are nevertheless desirous of being thought to know, what can only be acquired by a long residence, a sole attention, and the most sedulous

application, supported by no small degree of patience and a sacrifice of every other pursuit, as well as that of ease and satisfaction.

Nature and cause of the defects in the Laws for redress of Indians Another material defect, from which Indian affairs have met with great obstruction, arrives from the Laws, which tho' happily devised for our use are of little or none to the Indians, and many cases prove a bar to their getting justice.

These Laws were most of them existing before the discovery of America, and since, there have been none made which are either effectual or salutary for the purpose. Admitting their case to have all the appearance of equity, yet the difficulties in which proceedings are involved, the particular proofs required, their sole want of written, and incapacity to give verbal evidence, and above all the not admitting any thing to affect the Title of a patent, prove insuperable bars; without taking notice of the long duration, and great expences of a suit, and their want of knowledge, with many other wants, which prove as so many advantages to their adversaries, so that they have nothing left when aggrieved but to complain, and when their complaints prove ineffectual, they are driven to redress themselves. There are likewise some different interpretations given of the British Laws, as well as different practices of Courts and usages of the different Colonies, which are often felt by more than the Indians.

Opinions of members of the Law in proof thereof

On this subject I have had my opinion often strengthened, by the corresponding sentiments of several Men of the first reputation in the Laws; one instance of which I shall select in the words of the *Attorney General* of this province, who in the close of a late letter wherein he expresses his readiness to take every step in his power to do the Indians justice whenever they are injured, adds: "As I fear they too often are, and I sincerely wish some method of Redressing them was established more suited to the relation between them and us, than the rules of our Law at present admits of, which not being founded with a view to such a connection will very often be defective". I flatter myself that these sentiments do not require much further enlargement, & therefore I shall conclude my observations upon this head by remarking that the present state of the Colonies interests, and their ideas, are in many cases less favorable than ever to Indian affairs, and less calculated to promote the general interest with them.

The Colonies less calculated than ever to effect the desired ends.

In the first place, our ignorance of them, their powers and advantage still remain. 2^d Our ideas of our own power here, are greatly enlarged, and the conduct towards the Indians proportionably disregarded. 3^d Strict parsimony, doubts, disputes etc, amongst the legislature cannot by any means be said to be at an end. 4th The conduct of Individuals respecting lands, and the schemes of Trade are daily increasing. 5th The provinces are as deficient as formerly in Men possessed of any influence, capable of conducting affairs, or obtaining necessary information, and such must always be wanting until an adequate provision is made, to encourage Men of Worth and promote interests of general utility; so that if the friendship of the Indians is worth cultivating, or at all essential to the Trade and settlements, it can only be promoted by the vigorous efforts and support of the Crown, which will have for its object the general good of the whole, and being influenced by prejudices or party views is alone able to effect this important end, under whose friendly auspices, the Indians will be reduged to a better way of thinking, and no longer viewing us in the light of Invaders, will afford us an opportunity of improving our Trade, and extending our settlements with a small expence, and less risque to the subject, and with a great saving to the Crown.

Review of the cause
of the Establishment
of the Department
for Indian affairs.

After what has been already observed I have only to say as an introduction to this head, that the Govern^r from a just sense of the importance of Indian affairs, under a due management, and from a thorough conviction of the neglects attending a provincial direction, which it was not possible to correct, established a Department for Indian Affairs, under a Superintendant, who being an Officer of, and acting solely by the Direction of the Crown was judged best calculated for executing those of Govern^r on a more enlarged plan for the general interests and advantage of all His Maj^{ty}'s subjects, within the limits of his influence. The effects of which wise establishment will best appear, from the low Ebb to which our Indian interest was reduced at that time, the different appearance it shortly after made, and the services which were afterwards performed, before we had sufficient force, or success, to which we might attribute the change, as well as in preventing sundry quarrels since, and supporting an interest with many Nations.

We have seen (and the opinion of government is in support of it) that the Colonies cannot in this case contribute to the general & laudable purposes of the Crown.

That where the motives for deception & fraud are great, and the difficulties small, those who have views on lands, or concerns in Trade, will not sacrifice their present interests to the publick.

That the Laws cannot afford redress in any of these cases.

That the consequences have been, and may be the cause of ruin to the frontiers, outposts and Trade, and a considerable charge to the Crown, in support of its rights to bring things to order.

That the peace *then* cannot long subsist without removing the causes of the War, the Indians being capable of doing us infinite damage, whilst for the same reasons we can distress them very little.

That the powers of the Department of Indian affairs, tho' calculated with the best intention, prove ineffectual to answer the purposes which may be expected from it.

That regulations have been drawn under the sanction, of, and approved by the Crown, for providing a Remedy, but that they are not enforced, and that the delay attending the same has produced gradual Demands of *Wantom* and *dangerous privileges*, which however allowable in dealings with one another, or with Nations Governed by Laws, are not in their present latitude and extent, from the nature of the causes and the reasons before given, by any means admissible, without the utmost danger to His Maj^{ty}'s subjects, and American interests, a danger which the Crown, only can, and is bound to prevent

It therefore only remains for me in pursuance of my original design, with all humility to offer a few hints towards such present regulations, as whilst they are consistent with our ideas of Rational Liberty, may in a great measure check the present abuses, and prevent those in future.

Certain posts want-
ing.

In the first place, I shall observe that our not having reestablished all the Posts which were intended, by the plan sent to me by the Board of Trade, may have contributed to occasion the wants of the dangerous indulgences in the Indian Country aforementioned. Eleven posts were intended, throughout the Northern District, viz: *La Baye* west of *Lake Michigan*, *Michilimackinac*, *Detroit*, *Illinois*, *Wauwingtonon*, *Miamis*, *Niagara*, *Orwego*, *Chicoutimi*, *Fort Frederick*, and *Fort Halifax*, these last in *Novu Scotia*, do not materially relate, to the matter at present in dispute, and *Chicoutimi* being a considerable way up the *Saguenay*

River, which empties into the S^t Lawrence above 100 miles below Quebec, may likewise be expected in the present, few Traders going that way, altho' it is a post of some consequence.— But on the other side we have now no post beyond *Detroit* except *Michilimackinac*, which tho' a place of much Trade and advantageously situated, is far from answering the conveniencies of the Indians to the Westward. The Post at *La Baye* on the West side of *Lake Michigan*, the Indians have desired to be reestablished, and it is so well situated by reason of the Water communication, with very little interruption to the *Mississipi*, and so well calculated for all the Indians West of the *Lake Michigan*, that it deserves to be taken much notice of. At present affairs there are likely to be very troublesome on account of a claim laid to that post and a considerable district around it by a Gentleman of the name of *Grant* in virtue of a purchase said to be made of *M^r Rigaud de Vadreville* whose title, if any he had, was of little weight, and the whole of the transaction as laid before me by the Merchants of Canada appears to have been a piece of artifice huddled up about the time of the surrender of Canada, (or rather much later,) as the Commander in Chief is of opinion) some steps were ordered to be taken to render the Claim invalid, and unless it is soon done, it will greatly affect the Indian Affairs and trade of that quarter.

Before the late Indian War, a post had been established at the falls of *S^t Mary's* which was much more convenient for the Indians on the Southern parts of *Lake Superior* than *Michilimackinac* (this post was however, not mentioned in the plan). *Sandousky* which has not been reestablished is not a place of much consequence of Trade, it was chiefly a post at which several Pennsylvania Traders embarked for *Detroit*.— *S^t Joseph's* and the *Miami* have neither of them been yet reestablished, the former is of less consequence for Trade than the latter, which is a place of some importance. *Wawiahtonon* is conveniently situated in the neighbourhood of several Tribes, but has not been reestablished. *Fort Chartres* at the *Illinois*, is indeed occupied, but a post at, or near, the mouth of the *Illinois* River, would possess many more advantages, and prove a much greater Check upon the Spaniards, or their busy Agents the French. The objections to the reestablishing of these posts, appear to me to be chiefly, their remoteness from succours in case of a Rupture, and the Charge of keeping them up at such a distance, both of which I think, may be easily removed, for as to the first, if (as I presume) it is deemed necessary to cultivate the esteem of the Indians by justice and good management, and if these posts, are composed of only a few Soldiers, for the maintenance of the Police (as was the French custom) there will be little to apprehend from the Indians, and this will in a great measure answer the other objection with regard to the charge of transporting provisions etc, for the Indians would readily allow of the cultivation of grain for the use of the garrison, and in the Countrys I speak of, from the plenty of Venison, Fish, and fowl, would on moderate terms supply a much larger garrison, than there is any occasion for.

At the distance, I write it is impossible to foresee all the objections, that may be started against this, or any other proposal; the only material one I can see at present, is, that these Garrisons are thereby left at the discretion of the Indians for supplies. I grant it, and I am in no wise apprehensive they will fail them; if affairs are conducted properly, & the Indians are once satisfied of our integrity, & disinterested intentions; upon this the peace of the whole interior Country and Trade depends, and without it I am persuaded that we can neither enjoy the one or the other for any length of time without sustaining the most severe shocks from an Enemy whom we have never yet been able to injure materially, unless in public

prints, and interested relations. If things are once placed on a proper footing the Indians will cherish these Garrisons, and consider them as their protectors against frauds and oppression in a Country where no justice can be had. But all these garrisons will not be alike exposed to that dependance; La Baye the most important of any I have mentioned can receive all its supplies in the King's ships which go to *Michilimackinac* without additional expence or risque, and at the *Miamis* there may be always a sufficiency of provisions from its vicinity to *Lake Erie*, and its easiness of access by the River of that name at the proper season, to protect which, the Fort, there can at a small expence be rendered tenable agst any Coup du mains.

Proposals for a system of Regulations.

If these places I have mentioned were reestablished on the principles which I have taken the liberty to propose, it would greatly contribute to overcome the present excuse, which draws the Traders to rove at will, and thereby exposes us to the utmost danger.

The next expedient, I would humbly offer is founded on the inefficacy of the Laws in general in the case of Indians and the total want and impossibility of establishing Civil authority at the places of Trade, as well, as on a presumption that His Maj^{ty} has an undoubted and indisputable authority in a Country not comprized within the bounds of any Colony, to make such a provision, for the due administration of Justice, as the nature and circumstances of our connection with Indian Nations appears to require, and the safety and protection of His Maj^{ty}'s subjects renders absolutely necessary; in which if I shall appear to err in any point, it is certainly with the best and most disinterested Intention.

Powers ascertained of the Superintendant.

Under these (to me) reasonable suppositions I would humbly propose, that some explanation be given of the powers intended by the Commission as Superintendant, and that such farther powers be given, as may be deemed necessary to the due execution of his Office, as well as that the several Colony Laws respecting Ind^{ns} be repealed.

Deputies.

That the Deputy Agents, who have each of them at present a division of the district may have the powers of a justice of the peace in Ind^{ns} matters throughout the Division allotted them, at least within those parts which lye beyond the limits of a Colony Jurisdiction, that the Establishment for the augmentation of their salaries for the reasons formerly mentioned be made and their Office so ascertained by Royal Commission or otherwise as to remove their present precarious situation.

Commissionaries.

That the Commissaries at the several posts be furnished with the like powers within the limits of Trade allotted around the posts of their residence, to enable them to hear & determine causes within a certain sum, and to summon Jurys for that purpose etc; that they be enabled to permit certain Traders under certain restrictions to leave the Established posts, on the terms herein after mentioned; that their powers be fully ascertained to prevent all interfering with those necessarily appertaining to the commanding Officers, and to prevent the latter from obstructing their jurisdiction and Authority in Indian Affairs, and that the Commanding Officer be directed to give them assistance, in support of their authority, that orders be transmitted respecting the Establishment of the boundary line.

Orders necessary to be sent to the Gov^{ts} &c.

That the Gov^{ts} of the several Colonies be more particularly directed, to give public notice annually of the time when the passes shall be issued, & that such passes, be given only to such persons, as shall enter into a recognizance in a sum, not less than the whole, or one half of their Cargoe for the due observance of the words of their passes; in which passes they shall be directed to proceed directly, and without breaking

bulk to some certain post to be therein expressly mentioned, there to have their goods viewed by the Commissary in the presence of the Traders, and compared with the Invoice which is to be inserted in some convenient place on their pass for the prevention of breaking bulk and thereby injuring the fair Trader.

And in as much, as the desire to go into the Indian Country is only pretended to arise from the wants of certain Nations to the Northward who are so circumstanced, by reason of the depth of the snow as absolutely to require Traders amongst them during the Winter, under which pretext numbers go whither they please, and often proceed to the Mississippi, and far to the Southward, where they sell their peltry and often their European goods to the Spaniards or French, and thereby, not only injure the fair Trader, but furnish the people beforementioned with the means of alienating the Indians from our Interest and Trade. That therefore the Commissary be enabled, whenever Traders shall be deemed necessary to carry goods to the Northward of the *Ottawa River* or *Lake Superior* at the request of the Indians in public meeting, to summon, such Traders as are sole proprietors of goods (but not Factors or servants to persons in Trade) and to cause such Traders to ballot in public for the persons, who are to go according to the number which shall from the nature of the Country and state of the Indians be deemed necessary by the Commissary and the majority of the Traders; and that such Traders so permitted shall give such security to the Commissary in a sum not less than half of their cargo for their good conduct during the time of their stay amongst the Indians, which shall be limited in a pass to be then delivered them for that purpose.— That the Indians be then assured that in case of any violence offered to the persons, or property of any such Traders, there shall be a stop put to such indulgence until they shall have made adequate satisfaction, and that any Trader offending contrary to the engagements he shall enter into, shall over and besides the forfeiture of his recognizance, be prohibited from ever Trading again with any Indians of that Nation whom he has injured.—

Under what restrictions Traders may be permitted to go to the Northward etc.

Terms on which certain Indians may be admitted as evidences.

That such Indians as have embraced the Christian faith, and are known, and reputed followers of that Religion under any Denomination, be admitted as evidences in all Civil actions whatsoever, relative to them throughout the Colonies; that the evidences of such Indians be likewise taken in all criminal cases to which their testimony shall appear necessary, submitting the same nevertheless to the breasts of Members of General Courts Martial, or Jurys, whether they will admit such as full evidence or not.

That all Indians, who are not known and professed Christians, as aforesaid, be admitted in civil actions in lieu of testimony to have their information taken in writing, and read in aid to the Courts Martial, or Jurys, who shall be at liberty to judge of them as they shall think proper from the circumstances of the case.

That where Indians are proposed as Jurors, and are not known to be Christians by the President or any of the Members of Genl Courts Martial, or by any Members of a Jury; in such case the Certificate of a Missionary (where such reside) in favour of such Indians, or the testimony of any reputable person, be the test by which they are to be admitted.

Governors immediately to cause recognizances to be forfeited.

That any crime or misdemeanour committed by any Trader, not cognizable before the Commissary, or any of his superiors in the Departm^t of Indian Affairs, be forthwith reported to the Gov^t who issued his pass, that he may be proceeded against as the case shall require; that all evidences be sent down the Country at the expence

of the Crown, and that in all cases which are bailable, such Trader, be permitted to depart from the Post, or place at which he Traded on giving Bond to the Commissary in the sum of £ ; that he will return home forthwith, and not go to any Indian Town or Hunting Village, but wait the award of the Court where the cause is to be tried.—That all persons not duly authorized who shall be convicted of having held meetings with, or sent Belts, or strings of Wampum with Messages to any Indians, or endeavour to seduce or treat with them for any Tract of Land, dwelling place etc. or for any privilege, immunity or advantage, whatsoever, be committed to the next goal (to be tried for the offence) by warrant from the Superintendent or any of his Deputys or Commissaries, having Justiciary powers; and that the Gov^r of each Colony be severally ordered to direct His Maj^{ty} Att: Gen^l forthwith to proceed against all Criminal Offenders by the shortest and most efficacious course of Justice, and that such Gov^r shall also cause process to be issued forthwith in all Civil actions, arising from any of the cases aforementioned for the forfeiture of the recognizances or any other purposes herein contained; which fines, forfeitures etc. to be at the disposal of the Crown. Lastly—that Missionaries be established as intended.

The Attorney General
to proceed immediately
against the
Offenders.

These are a few heads upon the subject wh^{ch} if approved may be methodized, and so established, as in a great measure to remove the principal cause of the Indians just complaints and to check the increase of those abuses which if permitted, must in a short time throw every thing into confusion.

The expedients herein proposed with regard to the Trade in the Indian Country are such, as no honest Man can justly have any exception to, altho' founded on necessity, it is calculated with that tender regard for the liberties of the subject which can possibly be wished for under the circumstances of the case, and therefore we have just cause to suspect the integrity, as well as veracity, of those who would wish for more on a consideration of the foregoing subject.

To satisfy all people, particularly those of a profession, where gain is the sole object, is a thing impossible; and if we duly consider the Low character of so many persons concerned in this Trade, with their selfish views, and their consequences, we need not to be surprised should they endeavour through misrepresentations to interest respectable bodies of Merchants therein, who being themselves abused, many attempt to abuse others, and obstruct the most judicious, and wisest regulations, and it is not impossible that Men, otherwise, of fair character viewing a supposed interest in the Countenance of the present irregularities, may endeavour warmly to protect it; of this there have been instances enough to justify my apprehensions, one in particular which happened here in 1724 under the Administration of Gov^r Burnet, a Gentleman of universal good character, knowledge and abilities, who from a thorough conviction of its importance, by a salutary law he obtained here, for a time severely checked the abuses in Trade, and put it on a much more respectable footing than he found it. But such is the spirit of Opposition to all measures of that nature, that a memorial was addressed to the King in Council wherein they did not scruple to abuse the ears of Majesty, with a train of falsties almost incredible, as was afterwards fully and circumstancially proved; the particulars whereof doubtless remain in the Office for Trade and Plantations.—I flatter myself that the present case will not admit of any thing of that nature, being calculated according to the very sentiments of sundry eminent Traders and must be approved of and wished for by all those who are capable of looking farther than present gain. Whilst the powers proposed to the Officers of the Department are much less than were intended by the plan which received the sanction of the Royal approbation and no more than has been

of late given to common Traders, who exercise at Detroit etc a judicial authority in affairs amongst themselves.

I know not how far it may be deemed my duty, to have drawn up so tedious a detail or offered such proposals; but sensible of the purity and disinterestedness of my own intentions, if I have in any place erred, it is not with design; the apparent necessity which I am thoroughly convinced there is for falling immediately upon some expedient for relief in these cases, being my sole motive; and whilst it can be made to appear that I have not, neither can I have, the least view, advantage, or concern in these proposals, but for His Majesty's interests, and those of the public. My integrity, I hope will appear unimpeachable, and these sheets meet with the reception due to the honesty of my intentions.

The hurry in which I have been, since the receipt of your Lord's letter, may expose this piece to the disadvantage of want of method & correctness, errors which would be very excusable if the circumstances under which I write were generally known as my principal design was to state facts, and make a faithful representation of matters, which the urgency of affairs immediately required, I considered method much less, than I did truth, whatever disadvantages it may appear with: this is the only sanction under which it is now most humbly, and with all imaginable duty submitted to consideration.

Governor Moore to the Earl of Shelburne.

[New-York Papers (S. P. O.), CLIX, 51.]

Fort, George New York 1st Oct' 1767.

My Lord

The continual obstructions & repeated difficulties which have been thrown in my way, to render ineffectual the Plan I had laid down for reforming the internal Police of this Province, puts me under a necessity of making an application to your Lordship, which I could willingly have avoided, being cautious of trespassing too much on your Lordship's time, but I hope that my duty in the Post which I have the honor to fill at present will make it appear that this Representation is not only proper but absolutely necessary. On my arrival here it was with great concern that I found the hands of Government so weak and determined as soon as it was in my power to begin a Reformation in many articles & made no doubt but that I should have all the assistance which the better sort of people here could give me in the execution of my Plan which at the time that it would give strength to the Government would likewise add security to the possessions of the wealthy, but in this I have been mistaken for the same apprehensions which prevented the due exertion of Power during the late commotions here, seem still to prevail and the fear of giving offence to particular persons so far influences all proceedings here that tired with the expectation of being assisted and duly supported I find that I must at last act by myself or appear culpable to the eyes of His Majesty's ministers for continuing in a state of Inactivity when the state of the Province requires more vigorous measures. The low mean and despicable state in which I found the Magistracy on entering on this Governm^t could not fail of drawing my earliest attention that way, and I have without success been

Document n° 16

- Date :** 28 février 1767
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1483, vol. 21, pt. 2, p. 54-55.
- Nature du document :** Message de Guy Carleton aux Six-Nations, de Québec.
- Résumé :** Les Abénaquis de Saint-François, de même que toutes les nations de la province de Québec sont sous la protection de la Proclamation du 7 octobre 1763, qui les assure d'être maintenus dans leurs droits. Ceux qui oseront les molester seront traduits en justice. Ce message est un avertissement.

Transcription préliminaire

To tell [?] 6 Nats. [?] [?] [?]

Les Sauv^s. Abenaq^s. de St. Franc^s. aussi bien que tous les autres Nations & Tribus depd^{es}. [?] la Prov^e. de Quebec etant sous la protectⁿ. de sa Maj^é. ainsi qu'il l'a bien voulu declarer par sa Proclamⁿ. du 7^e. Oct^e. 1763 peuvent etre assurés qu'on les maintiendra dans tous leur justes Droits et que le Gouvernm^t. fera traduire en Justice, et poursuivra a la Rigueur, tous ceux qui oseront les molester, de quelque maniere que ce puisse etre. La Presente on espere sera un Avertissement pour tous ceux qui pourroit en avoir l'Intention, et previndra les facheuses consequences qui en pourroit resulter.

[?] fait a Quebec le 28^e Fevr^r 1767.

[signé] Guy Carleton

Document n° 17

- Date :** 8 et 16 mai 1767
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG11, C.O. 42, vol. 27, f. 186v.-188.
- Nature du document :** Compte rendu d'une session de la chambre du Conseil au Château Saint-Louis, à Québec. Plaintes des Indiens de Kahnawake contre René Cartier et Madame de La Noüe. Plaintes des Indiens de Saint-François contre les seigneurs de Saint-François et M. Beaubassin. Plaintes des Indiens du Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes contre des marchands leur fournissant de l'alcool. Pétition de Hugh Finlay, Restigouche.
- Résumé :**
- Kahnawake : le Conseil ordonne que les deux partis respectent la décision de la Cour des « Common pleas » de juillet 1766 et que Cartier et La Noüe envoient leurs titres de propriété. Un arpenteur devra effectuer un relevé des terres en dispute.
- Saint-François : le Conseil ordonne que les seigneurs de Saint-François et Beaubassin envoient leurs titres de propriété.
- Deux-Montagnes : le Conseil ordonne que l'on s'informe si tous ces marchands ont des permis et que le shériff (« Justice of the Peace ») applique l'ordonnance interdisant la vente d'alcool aux Indiens.

Restigouche : le Conseil est d'avis que l'on ne peut accorder de concessions aux Acadiens dans cette région tant que les droits des Indiens de l'endroit n'ont pas été clarifiés. Il faut encourager les Acadiens à venir s'installer plus à l'intérieur dans la Province.

Transcription préliminaire

At the Council Chamber on the Castle of Saint Louis in the city of Quebec on Friday the Eight day of May 1767

Present

The Honble Guy Carleton Lieu^t Governor
William Hey P.C.
Thomas Mills
Francis Monnies
Hector Theo^s Cramahé
Thomas Dunn
Benjamin Price
Esq^s.

Several Complaints of the Indians at Cacknawaga or the Iroquois addressed to the Honble Guy Carleton Lieutenant Governor against Mons^r René Cartier and Madame La Noüe for Encroachments made by them upon the Lands granted these Indians were by His Honours laid before this Board.

ORDERED that all partys observe the Decision of the Court of Common pleas in July 1766 [?] the matters in dispute can be perfectly settled and that Mons^r Cartier and Madame La Noüe send upon their several Titles to their Seigniories and other Lands in their possession to the Clerk of the Board in order to be laid before the same.

In the mean time It is ordered that the **[187]** Deputy Surveyor General make a survey of the Lands in dispute and report the same to this Board.

The Indians settled at Saint Francis called Abinaquis have also preferred complaints against the Seigneurs of Saint Francis and Mons^r Beaubassin

setting forth that they have encroached upon the Lands the property of the said Indians.

ORDERED that the Seigneurs of Saint Francois, and Mons^r Beaubassin send their Tiles to their Lands that Border with the Indians Lands of Saint Francis to the Clerk of this Board for their consideration

The Indians of the two Mountains have likewise preferred a complaint to the Lieutenant Governor setting forth that several of the Traders who resort to them immediately after their return from hunting furnish them with quantities of Brandy and requesting that a Stop may be put to the Practice by His Excellency and that none but one named by themselves should be permitted to retail liquors to them.

ORDERED that the Clerk of this Board write to the Justice of the peace at Montreal to know whether they have taken Licenses from all persons residing upon or near their Lands who sell Liquors to the Indians agreeable to the order of the Lieu^t Governor to them when at Montreal and to recommend to the Justice to put the Ordinance in force against those who retail spirits to the Savages.

[...]

Quebec 16th May 1767

Present

The Honble William Hey P.C.

James [Goldsrap?]

Hector Theo^s Cramahé

Francis Monnies

Esq^{rs}.

A Committe appointed to take into their consideration the Petition **[n.p.]** of Hugh Finley in behalf of certain accadians for a grant of a Tract of Land upon or near the River Ristigouche in the Bay of Chaleur

The Committee are of opinion that the Lands mentioned in the Petition are Lands claimed by the Indians whose Right have not yet been ascertained till it is no grant should [?] that may prejudice their claim.

The Committee recommend the Lieut. Governor to encourage these People to come and settle in the interior parts of the Province by giving them a passage and furnishing them with provision till they can provide for themselves.

(signed) W^m Hey P.C.

Resolved that encouragement be given to the accadians to settle on the interior parts of the province in terms of the above Report and Ordered the Clerk of this Board to inform them of the same by Letters.

(signed) Guy Carleton

signed Guy Carleton

At The Council Chamber in the Castle
of Saint Louis in the city of Quebec on
Friday the eighth day of May 1767

Present

The Honble ^t Guy Carleton Lieut ^t Governor	
William Key Esq	Rector Theo. Brametie
Thomas Mills	Thomas Dunn
Francis Hornier	Benjamin Price

189.15

Several Complaints of the Indians at Capouanga
or the Inyquois addressed to The Honble^t Guy Carleton
Lieutenant Governor against Mons^r Pierre Cartier
and Madame La Voie for Encroachments made
by them upon the Lands granted these Indians
were by His Honours Law before this Board

Ordered that all parties observe the Decision
of the Court of Common Pleas in July 1766 till
the matters in dispute can be perfectly settled and
that Mons^r Cartier and Madame La Voie send
up their several Titles to their Seigniories and
other Lands in their possession to the Clerk of this
Board in order to be laid before the same

In the mean time It is ordered that the

Deputy

FA 1052 2004 # 47-00 (217-0-0)

That they have encroached upon the Lands the property of the
said Indians



Ordered that the Lieutenant Colonel Francis de
Mons. Beauharnois send their Titles to their Lands that
Border with the Indians Lands of Saint Francis to the
Clerk of this Board for their consideration

The Indians of the two Mountains have likewise
preferred a complaint to the Lieutenant Governor telling
both that several of the Traders who resort to them immedi-
ately after their Return from hunting furnish them with
quantities of Brandy and other spiritous liquors in exchange
for their Peltries and requesting that a Stop may be put
to that Practice by His Excellency and that none but
one named by themselves should be permitted to retail
liquors to them

Ordered that the Clerk of this Board write to the
Justices of the peace at Montreal to know whether they
have taken the Licences from all persons residing upon
or near their Lands who sell liquors to the Indians
agreeable to the order of the said Governor who then
at Montreal and if they have not that they will do so
immediately and to recommend to the Justices to put
the Ordinance in force against those who retail Liquors
to the Savages

Ordered

Deputy Surveyor general make a survey of the Lands in dispute and report the same to this Board

The Indians settled at Saint Francis called Sibinaquis have also preferred complaints against the Seigneur of Saint Francis and Mons^r Beaulieu setting forth that they have encroached upon the Lands the property of the said Indians



Ordered that the Seignours of Saint Francis and Mons^r Beaulieu send their Titles to their Lands that border with the Indians Lands of Saint Francis to the Clerk of this Board for their consideration

The Indians of the two Mountains have likewise preferred a complaint to the Lieutenant Governor setting forth that several of the Traders who resort to them immediately after their Return from hunting furnish them with quantities of Brandy and other spiritous liquors in exchange for their Peltries and requesting that a Stop may be put to the Practice by His Excellency and that none but one named by themselves should be permitted to retail liquors to them

Ordered that the Clerk of this Board write to the Justices of the peace at Montreal to know whether they have taken the Licenses down as usual

...scarcely been settling for the
that they have encroached upon the Lands the property of the
said Indians



Ordered that the Licenses of Saint Francis and
Mons. Beauharnois send their Titles to their Lands that
Border with the Indians Lands of Saint Francis to the
Clerk of this Board for their consideration

The Indians of the two Provinces have likewise
preferred a complaint to the Lieutenant Governor telling
that several of the Traders who resort to them immedi-
ately after their Return from hunting furnish them with
quantities of Brandy and other spiritous liquors in exchange
for their Peltries and requesting that a Stop may be put
to that Practice by His Excellency and that none but
one named by themselves should be permitted to retail
liquors to them

Ordered that the Clerk of this Board write to the
Justices of the peace at Montreal to know whether they
have taken the Licenses from all persons residing upon
or near their Lands who sell Liquors to the Indians
agreeable to the order of the Lieut. Governor at them when
at Montreal and if they have not that they will do it
immediately and be recommended to the Justice to put
the Ordinance in force against those who retail Liquors
to the Savages

Ordered

Ordered that the Deputy Surveyor General survey and mark out for his Majesty the public Road reserved by the French King in his original grant to the Siegneur of Duchambault and report the same to this Board

Read the Deputy Surveyors Report of a Survey of seven hundred acres of Land at Gaspey for Mr Edward Manwaring

Ordered that a Warrant be directed to the Attorney General to make a Draft of Letters patent under the Broad Seal of this province for a grant to Mr Manwaring his Heirs &c of and seven hundred acres of Land under the usual Restrictions

Presented an account of La. Thiers a Blacksmith for the Reparation of the Chateau Saint Louis amounting as altered by the Tradesmen who visited the Work to Four hundred and eighty eight livres thirteen sols

Ordered that a Warrant be given to the Receiver General to pay the same

Resolved that Messrs George Allouffe and George Gregoire Pichon be substituted in the place of Mr Michel Pajus original Petitioner for a grant of a Spot of ground near the Kings Wharf their having mutually said that Mr Pajus

came to this Board

Read the Deputy Surveyors Report of a Survey
of seven hundred acres of Land at Gaspey for
Mr Edward Mannering

Ordered that a Warrant be directed to the
Receiver general to make a Draft of Letters patent
under the Broad Seal of this province for a grant
to Mr Mannering his Heirs &c of said seven
hundred acres of Land under the usual Restrictions

Presented an account of La. Mea a Blacksmith
for the Reparation of the Chateau Saint Louis a-
mounting as attested by the Tradesmen who
visited the Work to Four hundred and eighty
eight livres thirteen sols

Ordered that a Warrant be given to the
Receiver general to pay the same

Resolved that Messrs George Alloupe and
George Gregoire Deblon be substituted in the place
of Mr Philip Paynes original Petition for a
grant of a Spot of ground near the Kings Wharf
they having purchased said Spot of Mr Paynes
Creditors for a valuable Consideration

Signed / Guy Carleton

It

William Hey Esq	Rector Theod Gramache
James Goldfrap	Thomas Mills
Francis Monnier Esq	Benjamin Price

The Draft of the Lease of the Forge at St Lawrence was read and approved by this Board and ordered to be engrossed agreeable to said Draft

Signed Guy Carleton

At The Council Chamber in the castle of Saint Louis in the city of Quebec on Monday the eighteenth of May 1767

Present

The Honble Guy Carleton Lieut Governor	
William Hey Esq	Rector Theod Gramache
James Goldfrap	Thomas Mills
Francis Monnier Esq	Benjamin Price

Read a Report of the Committee of the 16th of May

This Board approve of the Report & order it to be entered in the Book

Quebec 16th May 1767

Present

The Honble William Hey Esq	Rector Theod Gramache
James Goldfrap Esq	Francis Monnier

A Committee appointed to take into their Consideration the petition

Petition of Messrs Pinlay in behalf of certain
Acadians for a grant of a Tract of Land upon
or near the River Richibouche in the Bay of
Chaleur

The Committee are of opinion that the lands
mentioned in the Petition are lands claimed by the
Indians whose Right has not yet been ascertained
till it is no grant should be given that may prejudice
their claim

The Committee recommend to His Excellency Governor
to encourage these people to come and settle in the
interior parts of the Province by giving them a
passage and furnishing them with provisions till
they can provide for themselves

Signed / W^m Hey P. C

Resolved that encouragement be given to
the Acadians to settle in the interior parts of the
Province in terms of the above Report and ordered
the Clerk of this Board to inform them of the same
by letter

Signed / Grey Castle

At the Council Chamber in the Castle of
Saint Louis in the city of Quebec on Tuesday
the Twenty Sixth Day of May 1765
Present

ordered that Mr. Gridley be furnished with a copy of the Complaint that he may knowes the same like Mr. & Francis Mills Junr, Morris, and Price Committee of this Council who are appointed to inquire into the Complaints against Mr. Gridley and report their Opinion to this Board.

Read a Report of the Deputy Surveyor general of a Road he has marked out for the public upon the Seignurie of Deschambault agreeable to the order of the Eighth of May 1767

ordered the Report to be filed

(Signed) Guy Cartleton

This and the thirteen preceding pages contain a true copy of the Minutes of Council for the province of Quebec from the first day of May to the Thirtieth day of June 1767 inclusive examined with the original upon Record in my office

James Ogle

Document n° 18

- Date :** 9 janvier 1768
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1, p. 115-117
- Nature du document :** Lettre de [Daniel Claus?] à [William Johnson?], 9 janvier 1768
- Résumé :** Informations concernant le père Germain et les Indiens de Saint-François. Au printemps 1761 et plusieurs fois par la suite, les Indiens ont demandé un missionnaire, chaque fois sans succès. Plus tard, le seigneur a fait «application» pour la moitié de la terre accordée par aux Indiens à condition qu'ils soient sous la supervision un missionnaire. Comme il n'y a plus de prêtre parmi eux, le seigneur considère que la concession qui leur a été faite est dorénavant nulle. Claus est d'avis que le véritable motif de la concession était d'avoir un corps d'Indiens prêt en cas d'urgence. Claus a répondu au seigneur que l'affaire devait aller en cour de justice. Les Abénaquis se sont plaints de cette situation à quelques reprises. Il semble que l'évêque de Québec, Mgr Briand, se range du côté du seigneur de Saint-François.
- Informations concernant un McKay et les Indiens de Sault Saint-Louis. Le procès

devrait être tenu à Montréal pour que les «principal men» puissent être présents.

Les Indiens du Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes tiennent leurs terres du clergé de Saint-Sulpice qui en est le véritable propriétaire, ayant des titres de possession des autorités françaises. Les Sulpiciens ont encouragé leur établissement à la Montagne, car ces Indiens pouvaient servir d'éclaireurs, mais par la suite, les trouvant trop «troublesome», ils ont obtenu une concession au Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes pour y transférer les Indiens.

Will^{ms}.burg 9th. Jan^{ry}. 1768

Sir

I am to acknowledge your Excell^{ys}. favour of 22^d. Oct^r. Ult^o. w^{ch}. I rece^d. some time after my Arrival here, since w^{ch}. I suppose you have heard that the Commd^r. in chief has ordered [?] Maj^r. Rogers in the Commd. of [?] & ordered him to New York to [?] into Disputes betweⁿ. him & the [?] [?] [?]

your Excell^{ys} proposing me a Commissr. of the [?] your Gov^{ty}. is an honours to me & I shall accept it with great pleasure as being very compatible with the Office I at present hold in Canada not only in over [awing ?] the selling of Rum among the Ind^{ns}. but in many other [?] regard [over ?] Whites & Ind^{ns}.

Pere Germain's returning so suddenly from S^t. Francis with Report he made your Excell^{ty}. occasions all most a suspicion with me not only of some under head dealings between the Clergy & the [?] [?] [?] but [?] & piece of policy to support the [?] [?] [?] Bishop at Quebec wth. the Ind^{ns}. The S^t. Francis Ind^s. in spring [1761 ?] made application for a Missionary to the S^t. Gen^l. Gage and Sr W^m. Johnson & afterwards to Gen^{ls}. Murray & Burton partly & if not entirely thro the Instigation of the Jesuits, they latter having frequently represented to me the pity full condition of the S^t. Francis Ind^{ns}. being deprived of a Missionary, but all these applications proving [ineffectuall ?] & the Jesuits saying their views whatever they were frustrated [?] they [stop sollicitation ?] [?] [?] [?] Ind^{ns}. and soon after [?] [?] [?] came to me at Montreal in form claiming the half [length ?] of Land his predecessors granted those Ind^{ns}. on Condition they keeping up a Missionary and alledging that their being without one these several years & not likely [?] [together ?] he looked upon that grant of the predecessors forfeited & void & therefore intended to [render ?] & take possession of s^t. Lands, showing me the Deed [?] sometime [?] wherein sure enought said Reserivation was is made but I believe the real [?] of it was to have the Indians allways in a Body to be ready for [?] upon Emergencies I gave the Seigneur for Answer that as the Affair must [?] regular Trial before a Court of Justice I could not say any thing decisive ab^t. it neither could be take any further Steps in a [?] untill then at the [?] while I hope he should not [?] [?] [?] possession of s^t. Lands w^{ch}. he promised to do [2 lignes illisibles] change, and when your Excell^{ty}. came to the Governm^t. I delivered you at Montreal an Estimate of the Number

of Ind^{ns}. in fighting able to bear Arms together wth. a memorandum of their respective complaints, [?] which [?] [nat. ?] of the [Abenakis ?], and the spring foll^g. they renewed their Complaints to your Excell^{ty}. in person, and repeated it on my passing their village in my way to Quebec last summer. But it seems that M^r. Bryand the Bishop of Quebec favours M^r. S^t. Francois by [?] [?] the poor Abenakis from the Benefit of [2 lignes illisibles] by Letters [?] the Caghnawageys w^{ch}. depriving [?] [?] missionaries as he did the Abenakis & Michili*. Ind^{ns}. who continued their debauched drunken Life & could not listen to a Reformation, whereby it plainly appears [?] [fond ?]. These people are of maintaining their former Power and consequence w^{ch}. the Ind^{ns}. under the cloak of Religion, however I undeceived the Caghnaw^v. by telling them that those Nations would have had Missionarys long ago had the [2 lignes illisibles] was for fear of [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] Pere la Brosse was sent on purpose out of the ways [?] officiated [?] and understands the Abenakis Language. And pere Germain's station was among the Micmacks & down the River. The S^t. Francis Ind^{ns}. assured me last summer that the Seigneur told them they would never have missionary & of consequence must loose their Land.

I could wish the [?] Dispute [?] M^r. M^cKay [?] Sault S^t. Louis Ind^{ns}. if not allready [?] could be tried at Montreal that some of their principal men could be present at the Trial & see the Event themselves as [?] as every [sanguine ?] about it.

The Indians of the Lake of the 2 Mount. hold their Lands under the clergy of S^t. Sulpice who are the real proprietaries of that Seigneurie having grant from the french [?] [?] [?] Ind^{ns}. having allways be under the immediate Care [?] [?] [?] subordination of those Priests. they were [mots manquants] Canada where [mots manquants] Clergy encouraged their Settlement at [?] Country [mots manquants] on the side of the Mountain and [build ?] that place by way of an out post & made use of those Ind^{ns}. in Scouting reconnoitering the Designs of the Enemy Ind^{ns}. and after said Wars bring over the Priests finding the Ind^{ns}. too troublesome so near them obtained a Grant for the Seigneurie at the Lake of the 2 Mountains & transferred s^d. Ind^{ns}. thither & established s^t. Settlement [mots manquants] to themselves [le reste de la lettre est manquant]

Wilmington 9th Jan 1864 115

Dear Sir, I have the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 27th inst. in relation to the above named person. I have the honor to inform you that the same person has been admitted to the office of the Board of Commissioners of the County of New Castle, Delaware, and is now acting as such.

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Dear Sir
I have the honor to receive
your letter of the 21st inst
in relation to the
land claims of the
State of Georgia
and in answer to inform
you that the same
have been referred to
the proper authorities
for their consideration
and I have the honor to
inform you that the
same are being
expeditiously
attended to
and I am
dear Sir
Yours
John P. Walker

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your letter of the 21st inst
in relation to the
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State of Georgia
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- Date :** mars 1768
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 8, p. 38-53.
- Nature du document :** Compte rendu du congrès général des Six-Nations, des Sept-Nations, de députés cherokees et de William Johnson, à Johnson Hall.
- Résumé :**
- 4 mars. William Johnson ouvre le congrès. Il déplore les actes commis en Pennsylvanie. Il leur présente John Johnson. Celui-ci leur annonce que la frontière sera bientôt fixée entre les Blancs et les Indiens afin de protéger les terres de chasse de ces derniers. William Johnson reprend la parole pour leur dire que les affaires pour lesquelles ils sont venus seront traitées le lendemain. Un orateur oneida s'adresse ensuite à Johnson. Il le remercie de son accueil et la séance est ajournée. Pendant la soirée, Johnson rencontre en privé quelques chefs. Les Indiens confèrent ensuite entre eux.
- 5 mars. Conférences privées, festins et danses.
- 6 mars. Johnson présente les députés cherokees qui désirent négocier une paix et

qui sont sous la protection des Britanniques. Un orateur cherokee prend ensuite la parole. Il présente une ceinture aux Onondagas. Il en présente une autre à ceux de Kahnawake « whose belt we have carefully preserved in our Town these 20 years past ». Il en présente aussi aux Senecas, Cayugas, Mohawks, Tuscaroras et à William Johnson.

7 mars. Un orateur iroquois prend la parole. Il accepte les ceintures des Cherokees et promet de demeurer en paix. « You say that you have had a Belt of the Coghnowageys in your Village these 20 years past on the Subject of Peace. We are well pleased that you have taken such good care of our Words delivered to you at that time... ». Un orateur de Kahnawake lui succède et parle au nom des Sept-Nations du Canada. Il recommande aux Six-Nations d'adhérer aux engagements pris avec les Cherokees.

8 mars. Cérémonie de condoléance puis William Johnson s'adresse aux chefs des « Six-Nations & ca ». Il leur recommande de demeurer tranquilles malgré les difficultés sur la frontière. Conférence privée des Indiens et réponse dans l'après-midi. Ils se plaignent de mauvais traitements dans les postes et sur la frontière, ce qui est contraire aux promesses faites lors de la dernière guerre. Ils se plaignent de meurtres commis par les colons de la Virginie et de la Pennsylvanie. Ils veulent qu'une frontière soit établie, mais aussi qu'elle soit respectée et qu'elle ne les

empêche pas de bouger, comme cela est arrivé aux Cherokees. Johnson reporte sa réponse au lendemain.

9 mars. Johnson s'adresse aux différentes nations. Maintenant que la paix avec les Cherokees est conclue, Johnson peut se consacrer aux problèmes des Six-Nations. Le gouverneur de Pennsylvanie a offert 200 livres pour la capture du meurtrier. La Pennsylvanie leur donne également 1 200 livres pour réparer la faute commise sur son territoire.

Par la suite, on lit et explique le traité de paix entre les Six-Nations, les Sept-Nations et les Cherokees.

11 mars. Un orateur parle au nom des Six-Nations. La paix faite avec les Cherokees est sincère. Ils espèrent voir la justice faite pour ce qui est des troubles sur la frontière en Pennsylvanie. Ils vont demeurer tranquilles.

depend relying on the Countenance & Support of Government for enabling me to discharge those duty's which without such aids must prove impracticable.

The encouragement I have hitherto received from his Majesty's Royal approbation has enabled me to support fatigues, troubles & hazards of which very few can have a reasonable conception permit me, My Lord to hope for the continuance of it and to assure your Lordship that I am with the greatest truth

Your Lordship's

Most obliged & most

faithful humble Servant,

W. JOHNSON

The R^h Hon^{ble}
The Earl of Shelburne

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Indians.

(Plantations General (S. P. O.) OCLIV.)

Proceedings of a General Congress of the Six Nations & The Chiefs of Coghnowagey and of the Seven Confederate Nations of Canada and the Deputy's sent from the Cherokee Nation to treat of Peace with the former before Sir William Johnson Baronet at Johnson Hall in March 1768.

The Cherokee Deputy's arrived the 29 Dec^r 1767, on which Sir William sent Belts and Messages to the Six Nations & who did not arrive until the 2^d of March by reason of the Inclemency of the Weather and other Impediments.

At a Congress with the above Mentioned Nations at Johnson Hall March 4. 1768

PRESENT —

Sir William Johnson Baronet
Sir John Johnson Knight
Daniel Claus } Esq^r Dep^y Ag^t for Ind^a Affairs.
Guy Johnson }
Lieut^t Frazier
Mr Michaell Byr[n]e Commiss^r of Ind^a Affairs
Mr Robert Adams
Mr Daniell Denniston
John Butler Esq^r } Interpreters for the Six Nations
Mr Perthies } & Canada Ind^a
Mr John Walls Cherokee Interpreter

Being all Seated Sir William open'd the Congress as follows —

Bretheren of the Six Nations & Canada Confederacy

I give you all a most Cordial Welcome to this place where I wish our Mutual Proceedings may be conducted with the strictest Candour and Sincerity.

It is with no small concern that I am to condole with you on account of the late Act of Cruelty exercised on some of your friends within the Province of Pensilvania Whatever

might have been the provocation given to that Bad man who was the Author of the Deaths of Ten of your Confederacy You may rest assured that all his Majesties Subjects hold that Act in the Greatest Abhorrence, and that he will certainly be punished with the death he so justly deserves whenever he is apprehended. On this disagreeable Subject I am particularly authorised to speak to you by the Governor and People of the Province where that Act was perpetrated which you shall hear in due time, At present I am on the part of his Majesty and all his Subjects to assure you that he and they are much concerned at it, That it is hoped you are all satisfied of its being the private Act of a profligate Individual and his accomplice without the knowledge or consent of any others, and that every possible means is making use of for apprehending him in order to bring him to the punishment which the Crime deserves. I do therefore on the part of his Majesty and all his Subjects with this 3 Strings of Wampum Wipe away and dry up the Tears which you have shed upon this occasion Clearing your sight that you may be enabled to look cheerfully upon us, — With this string I clear the Passage of your throats that you may Speak to us freely and without any difficulty, and with this, I Wipe away the Blood of the Slain from about your habitations that the same may appear no more to offend your Eyes.

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Brothers

With this Belt I take the Hatchet out of your Heads, with which you were struck by that Villain who was regardless of the friendship subsisting between us, and I request you to remember that he and his accomplice only were Guilty in that point and that notwithstanding the Order of our Government, and the goodness of our Laws we must expect to have some bad men amongst us, whose conduct and inclinations may differ widely from that of the rest of the People.

Gave a large Black Belt

Brothers

With this Belt I pull up the Largest Pine Tree by the roots, under which I bury the Axe that gave you the blow placing the Tree over it in its former position So that the Axe may no more be found

Gave a large White Belt with Black figures

Brothers

This is the first opportunity My Son (Sir John) has had for shaking you by the hand since his arrival from England, where he was not unmindful of your Affairs, he will now say something to you upon the occasion.

Then Sir John (after shaking hands with the Chiefs) said.

Brothers

I am happy at finding you all here in health at this time and sincerely wish that your proceedings may be conducted to the Public satisfaction.

It is with pleasure I can inform you that I have had an opportunity of hearing his Majesty's favourable opinion of all Good Indians, and his steady resolution to redress your Grievances, and do you strict Justice, to this end your Affairs are now under consideration and the Boundary line between the White Inhabitants and you which is considered so necessary for the preservation of your hunting Grounds will Speedily be settled.

Brothers

I heartily thank you for your frequent enquiry's after me during my absence in England and I shall be at all times Glad to convince you of my sincerity and good wishes for your several Confederacies.

Gave a White Belt with Black figures

Sir William then address'd them in the following manner

Brothers

I have now gone through the Business of Condolance with you, and hope it will prove agreeable, and ease your Minds. Tomorrow I shall proceed to the business for which you are now assembled.

So soon as Sir William had ended, each of the Nations present gave the Yo-huh, or shout of approbation, after which they received Pipes, Tobacco and a dram each, And after a short Consultation Amongst the Chiefs Conoghquiesor Chief of Oneida arose, and having repeated according to Custom; All that had been said with the several Strings and belts to the Six Nations &c he addressed Sir William on their behalf as follows

Brother Gorah Warraghiyagey

- We give thanks to the great Spirit for enableing us to meet this day after so many accidents as have befallen us, and We thank you for what you have said to us, which we have hearkened to with great attention. We feel ourselves something easier since you spoke to us, and according to the manner of our Fore fathers removed those objects from before our Eyes which have given us pain—Brother We and our dependants have been for some time like Giddy People not knowing what to do, wherever we turned about we saw our Blood, and when our Young men wanted to go a hunting the Wild Beasts in our Country they found it covered with fences, so that they were weary crossing them, neither can they get Venison to Eat, or Bark to make huts for the Beasts are run away and the Trees cut down.—The France told us this would come to pass, and when our Young men sit down hungry in hot weather and find no Trees to shelter them it makes them soon get Drunk—Brother we have got a great deal to say about these things but as you have remembered our old Ceremony's taken the Hatchet out of our Heads and given us such good words, we will do in like manner by you. Then went thro the Ceremony of Condolance with Strings and Belts, and buried the axe, but did not as usual take it out of the Heads of the English After which the Speaker said Brother,

We return the Great Spirit our best thanks for giving us the pleasure of seeing your Son safe returned and of hearing Good friendly Words he spoke to us; We have had our neck stretched out this long time endeavouring to see him. We now congratulate you on his Safe arrival over the dangerous Lake, and we heartily thank him for his love for us and for the good things he has said to us, which makes us all Easier in our minds. Then the Chiefs all arose and Shaking Sir John by the hand welcomed him to America. After which adjourned till next morning.

At night Sir William had some private Conferences with several of the Chiefs, to whom he spoke on the subject of their neglecting to take the Axe out of the Heads of the English, which indicated resentment his discourse had a good deal of effect upon them and they withdrew to have a Conference amongst themselves.

At a Congress held with the before mentioned Nations March 6th 1768 .

PRESENT— as before

The Cherokees refusing to open their Embassy from a Superstitious Notion that as it was Noon the day was too far advanced for a Work of peace according to the Opinion of the Southern Nations. The Six Nations having been late Assembling, at Length addressed Sir William by their Speaker, who made an apology for their Omission of the preceding day, and then in a speech for that purpose took the Hatchet out of the Hands of the English, and buried it giving a Belt of Wampum, Then agreeing to meet earlier next morning Adjourned. After which the day was spent in private Conferences with Sir William, and at night they had a feast and dance.

At a General Congress with the before mentioned Nations March 6th At 10 A. M.

PRESENT— as before

Sir William on entering the Council room introduced the Cherokee deputies to the rest of the Indians and then addressed the Six Nations &^m as follows

Brothers

I am now to speak on the Subject for which you have been here Assembled, and I desire you will pay due regard and attention to my Words.

You see now before you several Chiefs of the Cherokee Nation¹ sent hither as Deputy's and fully Authorised to treat with you about a peace, for which they have long expressed a desire, and to which end I have repeatedly spoken to you, particularly last May at the Congress at the German Flatts, when you agreed to meet and Treat with them for this purpose they are now come here; and as they are under the Protection of his Britannic Majesty, and in peace and friendship with the English, the King expects that you will lay aside all Animosities and agree unanimously with a peace with these People who have come so far, and are so very desirous of it, and who would have met you for that purpose long ago, but that they had no certain assurances of Safety to their persons, or of a favourable reception until the receipt of my last letter. As I have so often recommended this matter to you and said so much upon it, I need not now farther to point out the reasonableness of their desire or how much it is for your interest to come into Terms of peace with them, and as it is his Majesty's desire, and that of his people in America I think you cannot hesitate about it. I believe you all know my regard for your interests, and that I would not advise you to any thing prejudicial thereto, for which reason I rely on your giving a favourable answer, and that you will do it from your hearts.

Gave a Large White Belt

Sir William then told the Cherokee Chiefs they might begin, When Ouconastota² stood up, Ranged all his Belts, Calumets of Peace &^m in order, and then spoke as follows.

¹ The name of this Nation is derived from the word *Cherra*, fire, which is their reputed Lower heaven, and hence they call their magi *Cherra-takpe*, men possessed of the Divine fire. The Natives make two divisions of their Country, which they term *Ayrats* and *Ottara*, signifying *low* and *mountainous*. The former is on the branches of the beautiful Savannah, and the latter in those of the Easternmost river of the Great Mississippi, *Adair*, quoted in *Ramsey's Annals of Tennessee*, 81. — Ed.

² "The distinguished Chief who visited England in the days of George II. His seat of Government was one of the Overhill towns, Echota, more properly, Etawaty on the Tellico river." *Ramsey's Annals of Tennessee*, 89, 119, 121.

Brothers

Hearken to me and give Attention to what I have to say, We come from Chotte¹ where the Wise House, the House of Peace is erected to Charlotown and from thence by Water to New York In our way to this place, it being recommended to us by M^r Stuart our Superintendent to go by Water lest we should meet with opposition, or to be attacked if we travelled by Land thro' the Woods and M^r Stewart told us that our Father Sir William Johnson would assist us in sending for our Brothers the Northern Indians to meet about Peace

Gave 3 Strings

Brothers

It is a long time since the Sachem of Chotte made peace with the Onondagas, but that Sachem is now dead, however we remember the Talk yet. The Sachem that now lives at Chotte has sent this Belt and desires and hopes that the Onondagas will take fast hold of it after the manner of your Ancestors and never let it slip.

Gave a Belt

Brothers

Here is a Belt which I have brought from the Sachem of Chotte with a Good Talk to the Coghawageys, whose belt we have carefully preserved in our Town these 20 years past, altho this Talk proceeds out of our Mouths, yet you may depend upon it, that it comes from our hearts, and that what we say is the truth

Gave a Belt

Brothers

Here is a Belt from the Sachem of Chotte to the Senecas, and he requests that all both young and Old will listen to it, and hold it fast, for our Father the Great Spirit above knows that it comes from our hearts. We buried the Hatchet once but it arose again We now by this Belt bury it so deep that it can never arise to hurt us, for our heads our Flesh and Blood being alike it were a pity we should kill one another. The Creeks made peace with us and always observe it.

A Belt

Brothers

This is a Belt from the Sachem of Chotte to the Sachems of Cayuga to request them to desire their Young Men to live at peace and that we may love one another for the time to come, Here is the Belt and he requests that they will take it and hold it fast

A Belt

Brothers

Here is a Belt and a Calumet with an Eagles tail which the Sachem of Chotte hath sent to Sir William Johnson to our Father, that he may always keep it so that any of our friends resorting hither may smook out of the Pipe, and See that we have been about Peace Our Father M^r Stuart told us that we should have Peace when we applied to our father Sir William Johnson which we find to be true and therefore we shall always mind whatever he says to us.

Gave a Belt, Calumet & Eagles tail

Brothers

Here is a Belt from the Sachem of Chotte for the Mohawks whose residence is around their Father whose talk is always good in their Father's Tongue, and whose Thoughts and

¹ Chotta was five miles above the ruins of Fort Loudon (*Ramsey's Annals of Tennessee*, 85), at the junction of the Tellico and Little Tennessee rivers, Monroe county, on the Southwest frontier of the State of Tennessee. — Ed.

Actions are right, Therefore if any other People should be unmindfull of peace and offer to go against us, We beg that our Father Sir William and our Brothers the Mohocks will sett all to rights
A Belt

Brothers

This is a Belt to the Tuscaroras, we request that they will take it and hold it fast, nor ever let it slip and we beg that they will make their Young Men to remember all this

A Belt

Brothers

We now present n Belt from our Women to yours, and we know that they will hear us for it is they who undergo the pains of Childbirth and produce Men, Surely therefore they must feel Mothers pains for those killed in War, and be desirous to prevent it.

A Belt

Brothers

Here is a Belt from our Boys to you, who are now but small and therefore their Speech must be Childish, untill they arive at Manhood, all they desire is that they may be once more enabled to venture out to hunt Birds and Rabbits without the risk of being carried away or killed, and therefore all they beg is peace

A, Small Belt

Brothers

With this Belt we clear and open the road removing all things out of it that may hurt us, It was not us that stopped it but our Elder Brothers the English and French who in their dispute felled a great Tree across it in the Path, but as the Tree is now rotten the Path is now open.

A Belt

Sachems and Chiefs, you have heard what we had to say we beg you to agree to it, and that you will send some of your people with us to open the Path between your Towns and Chotte, that all our doors may once more be opened, so that we may be at pence and that our Young People may pass and repass as their occasions require without being in danger of being scratched or wounded by the Briars along the road

A Belt

March 7th

The Sachems being all met in the Council Room Thomas King was sent by the Warriors to let the Sachems know it was their desire that the Congress might be held out of Doors in the Court, so that what was said by them to the Cherokees might be heard by them all. they asked Sir William liberty to hold the meeting out, to which he agreed, then they all took their places in the Court where seats were prepared for them

Ganaghquiesa Speaker rose up and spoke.

Brother Gorah Warranghiyaga

With this Belt you yesterday reminded us of what you said at our last Meeting at the German Flatts in May concerning the Cherokees, you then told us as well as now, that it would be agreeable to the great King that a peace was concluded between us and the Cherokees, that it was also desired by his Subjects here, you further recommended to us to be candid and sincere in our transactions with them. I do assure you we shall follow your advice therein, but we must also desire that you will speak and write to the several Governors

especially of Virginia to keep his people in better order &ca otherwise the Path will Close up and not be safe to travel. A Belt

Brother

We of the Six Nations and Coghnowagey Confederacy, with these things open your Ears that you may hear what we are now going to say to the Cherokees 3 Strings

Younger Brothers

On hearing by Express of your Arrival We immediately made ready to come down to meet you after the manner of our Ancestors, whose Kettle was always ready with their Pucks and Seven Men allotted to each Cannoe and with a good Stick in their hands ready to chastise evil doers, even so have we set out to meet you here

Younger Brothers

You have sollicitted the friendship and Aid of Sir William Johnson our Superintendant whose knowledge is universal and whose influence extends over our whole Country, and you may be assured that he has, and will assist you with pleasure and that wherever you shall commit an error he will take pains to correct and amend it A Belt

Younger Brothers

You have told us that you have opened the doors to your Country, that we may pass and repass in Safety, we agree to the same and do the like on our parts so that you may come to us, and open the road in such a manner as to enable us to see each others habitations, But as we are your Elder Brothers and consequently have more understanding than you, We must tell you that you have not done your part thereon as you ought. You have not clear'd the Road of rubbish according to the form you ought to have observed, neither have you taken the Axe out of our heads, we now take it and put it on one side A Belt

Younger Brothers

You have reminded us of the fire which was kindled by our Ancestors and you recommend it to us to follow their example. Be assured that we shall do so, and that we will in all things do our utmost to imitate them. A Belt

Younger Brothers

You have recommended it to us to make this Treaty Publick thro' all our Towns, We agree cheerfully to do so throughout all the Nations, to the end that none may be ignorant of it, but that it may be always held in our Memories, and we desire by this belt that you will on your parts communicate the same to all your people A Belt

Younger Brothers

You say that you have had a Belt of the Coghnowageys in your Village these 20 years past on the Subject of Peace. We are well pleased that you have taken such good care of our Words delivered to you at that time, and as they are Religious Indians they will by no means Exasperate the Great Spirit and Master of Life by speaking otherwise than from their hearts, and we hope that you speak with the same Sincerity

Younger Brothers

You have requested that we should send some of our People to accompany you home and Assist in clearing the Road, We answer you that we would gladly agree to it if it was safe

or practicable at this time, but we think it is not, and therefore we cannot give our consent to it.

A Belt

Younger Brothers

You expressed a desire amongst the rest that these transactions should be made publick throughout all the Tuscarora Towns, We think it right and we make no doubt that the Tuscaroras who were themselves formerly reduced to the utmost distress till saved and protected by our generosity will have a proper feeling for you in the like Circumstances

A Belt

Then the Coghnowageys in behalf of the 7 Nations of Canada addressed the Nations, as follows

Brothers

We are well pleased with all the Transactions between you and our Younger Brothers the Cherokees in the presence of Sir William and Capⁿ Claus who take so much Care to support the tranquility of all our Towns. We recommend it to you to adhere firmly to the sentiments which you have now Expressed and not to expose yourselves to the punishment of the Almighty for a Breach of these your solemn Engagements.

A Large White Belt

Adjourned till the next day

Tuesday March 6th

In the morning the Indians all Assembled, the Six Nations Coghnowageys &c^a being desirous to Condole with the Mohawks for the Loss of Onaharrissa one of their Chiefs lately deceased—being met Conoghquieson of Oneida on behalf of the three younger Branches of the Confederacy namely the Oneidas, Tuscaroras and Cayugas went thro' the whole Ceremony of Condolance with the Elder Branches namely the Mohawk, Onondaga and Senecas which done the latter, by the Speaker of Onondaga in a set speech gave them thanks for their Condolence, and for their adherence to the Customs of their forefathers

Sir William then called together to Chiefs of the Six Nations &c^a, & addressed them as follows

Brothers

I think it extremely necessary at this time to speak to you on the Subject of several Reports I have lately received and I desire you will give full attention to what I shall say, and that you will answer me ingeniously, and honestly from your hearts.

Brothers

We are not ignorant of some private Conferences you have held, and of others which are intended shortly, we have heard of the loss of some of our own People and of the threats of yours. We acknowledge that some of the English have lately injured you, but these whenever apprehended, will meet with Just punishment of this I have already spoke and shall say much more to you tomorrow, and as I hope Quiet your minds thereon—At the same time let me observe to you that it is the duty of all those who are bound by the same Chain in the Bond of friendship to communicate their Grievances without taking any private resolutions of their own, this I hope you will do ingeniously and I believe I partly know all

that you can say, and at the same time be assured that the Great King and his people are sincerely disposed to promote your Welfare and not Suffer you to be injured and that your several Grievances are now before the King who has fallen upon Measures for your redress and for the future Security of your persons and property's, but the misconduct of many of your people and the Nature of your Complaints have made it a Work of time before such steps could be taken as would effectually Guard us both from injury. In proof of the truth of what I now say to you and on which you may firmly rely, here is a letter which I have just received from the Earl of Shelburne, one of the Kings first Ministers wherein he assures me of it, and likewise desires that you may have Notice to attend early in the Spring in Order to settle the Boundary line as a farther security to your property's.

Here shewed and Explained the Necessary parts of Lord Shelburnes Letter then proceeded
Brothers

You see that you are not forgotten, but that every thing is intended that can be possibly done for your interest and I make no doubt you will soon feel its effect, and express your sincere thanks for these tokens of friendship and justice 'till when I desire you to do Justice to the Good intentions of the English by a pacific conduct, and to cast away from this Moment any sparks of resentment which may remain in your hearts together with all misgrounded Jealousys or Suspicious of our integrity
Gave a Large Belt

P. M. The Indians having had a private Conference amongst themselves Assembled and by their Speaker answered the Speech of this Morning as follows

Brother

We thank the Great Spirit above for the present Meeting and we shall honestly answer You on the Subject of Your Speech, and declare the Causes of our uneasyness which we confess to have arrived at a great Pitch—and we beg in our turn You Open Your Ears and hearken to what we have to say, and endeavour to obtain that redress for us which is the only sure way of securing the place

Brother

We have often put you in Mind of the many promises which were made to us at the begining of the late War by the Generals, Governors, and by yourself, from all which we had the strongest reason to expect that the event of your Success would have proved greatly to our benefit, That we should be favored and noticed, That we should not be wronged of our Lands or of our Peltry, that every encroachment should be removed and we should live in peace and travel about without Molestation or hindrance at the same time the French told us that what was said was not true, nor from your hearts and that the day you got the letter of them would be the first day of our Misfortunes—You persuaded us not to beleive them, but we have found it since too true, We soon found ourselves used ill at the Posts, on the Frontiers, and by the Traders. The people who had formerly wronged us and who did not choose to Venture before to take possession of our Rights then rose up to crush us, The Rum Bottles hung at every door to Steal our Lands, and instead of the English protecting us as we thought they would do they employed their Superior Cunning to wrong us, they murdered our people in Pensilvania, Virginia and all over the Country, and the Traders began more and more to deceive, and now neither regard their own Character, or the Officer sent to take care of the Trade, so that if we are wronged who is to help us We cant ramble over the Country for Justice and if we did, we

begin now to grow Old, and wise we see that your Wise Men in the Towns will be always against. Your people came from the Sun rising up our Rivers to the West, and now they begin to come upon us from the South, they have got already almost to Fort Pitt but nothing is done to drive them away You cant say that we have not often complained of this, and if you are not able or willing to do it we can, and must do so soon or they will eat us up, for your people want to chuse all the best of our Lands tho' there is enough within your part with your own mark upon it without any Inhabitants, Brother this is very hard upon us, but it is not all, for the Road thro' the Country is no longer safe, the Pensilvanians and Virginians murder all those of our people they can meet, without any reason, and instead of leaving off as you told us they would, they have Murdered ten the othere day, two of which are our own people, the rest are our Younger Brothers and Nephews that depend upon us yet you wont take the Murderer or do any thing to him. You are wise You have a Government and Laws, but you dont prevent this, you often tell us we dont restrain our people and that you do so with yours, but Brother your words differ more from your Actions than ours do, We have large Wide Ears and we can hear that you are going to Settle great numbers in the heart of our Country, and our Necks are stretched out, and our faces set to the Sea Shore to watch their motions. Brother you that are wise and have Laws and say you can make your people do what they are desired should prevent all this and if they wont let us alone you should shake them by the head. we beleive that you are wise and that you can do all this, but we begin to think you have no mind to hinder them; If you will say you cant we will do it for you, our Legs are long, and our sight so good that we can see a great way thro' the Woods, we can see the Blood you have spilled and the fences you have made, and surely it is but right that we should punish those who have done all this Mischief. Brother this is the truth, it comes from our hearts. Why should we hide it from you. If you wont do justice to our Fathers the Moliawks who are going to Lose the Lund at their very doors, If you wont keep the people away from the Rivers near Ohio, and keep the Road open making Pensylvania and Virginia quiet we must get tired of looking to you, and turn our faces another way.

Gave a Large Belt

Brother

We heartily thank the Great King for his intentions and for what he is going to do about the Boundary Line, but Brother we hear bad News the Cherokees have told us that the line was run in their Country last year, and that it has surrounded them so that they cannot Stir; We beg that you will think of this for our heads will be Quite turned if that is to be our Case, We therefore think that the line we talked of last should not go beyond Fort Augusta'

Sir William answered them

Brothers

I have heard what you said, and I am sorry to find you enlarge so much upon these Subjects after all I have said to you as well in public as in private. The redress of your Grievances is an object of much more attention both to the King and his people than you imagine and you will have no reason to doubt of the sincerity of the English as soon as the Salutory Measure now under consideration can be put in practice. As I have a good deal to say to you tomorrow I shall defer adding any thing farther at this time, than to desire you to remove these unjust Suspicions from your breasts, as they make you unhappy in a great measure without

reason, and give pain to your Brothers the English who are just now studying your Welfare and happiness

then Adjourned till Morning.

At a Congress with the before mentioned Nations March 9th

PRESENT— as before

Sir William Johnson Addressed them as follows

Brothers

When I condoled your late losses on the part of his Majesty and his Subjects in general, I then told You that I would after the Treaty with the Cherokees was over, Speak to you more particularly on the Subject of your Losses in the Name of the Governor and Inhabitants of Pensilvnnia, and acquaint you with his resolutions and that of his Assembly thereon— As the peace is now so happily concluded between you and the Cherokees which I have had long at heart, and expect that you will all pay due regard to, I shall now speak farther to you on the Subject of your Losses, and the steps taken by Pensilvania in consequence thereof, and I exhort you all to hearken to what I say upon it.

3 Strings

Brothers

The late unhnppy Affair seems to have been occasioned by Rum, that fatal liquor to so many of your people, I do not say this to palliate the Murders but to shew you the pernicious effects of drunkenness. — The 6 first Indians who were Murdered by a Man called Frederick Stump at Middle Creek in Pensilvania: are said to have been at his house drinking, and were greatly disguised and as is too often the Case very troublesome, instigated therefore by the Evil spirit who delights in blood he killed them namely one Seneca, and three other Men said to be Monecon Indians and 2 Women, and afterwards went to a place at some Miles distance from his house, where he killed one Woman 2 Girls and one Child In all ten persons, after which he made off but some good Men who heard of it pursued, and apprehended him and brought him to Goal from whence some bad people found means to free him, Whereupon the Magistrates and others took every step possible to find him out and bring him to punishment this is the truth (so that you were misinformed by the Report that the White people did not chuse to take him) The Governor when he heard of it, was greatly exasperated, and the Assembly who were then met, and passing some good laws for your benefit were ready to do any thing for apprehending the Murderer, the Governor thereupon issued a Proclamation, for his being taken for which he offered a Reward of £200 as a proof of which here is the Proclamation which was sent that you might see the good intentions of that Province.

Here Shewed them the Proclamation which was afterwards read and explained. Then proceeded

Brothers

Besides the Sum mention'd in the Proclamation a larger Sum is provided for rewarding those who take the Murderer, and as so many are in Quest of him there is great reason to expect that he will be apprehended and for your farther Security that Province has passed good laws for punishing in the most severe manner all those who shall attempt to use you ill or Settle upon your Lands, and are determined to remove every grievance in their power as

quick as possible. At the same time they desire you to consider that they Expect you will be as readily disposed to make them retaliation whenever your people Act amiss towards them, and that you should remember that they have had 10 Men murdered going down the Ohio, by some Indians and also one in a Shawanese Village and one near Fort Pitt since the late peace, and that no peace can be lasting unless mutual satisfaction be made for such Acts of Cruelty. As a proof of the sincerity of the Intentions of Pensilvania, and to convince you that this late Affair was the Act of only one, and that it gives great concern to the people, they have now Voted besides the money they will give for the Murderer the Sum of £2500, £1300 of which I have now to give You as a present, in testimony of their love to remove your grief, and the remainder being £1200, will be given by My Deputy Mr Croghan, at Fort Pitt for the same purpose to the Tribes, in that Country and the relations of those People who were murdered— These things I have been empowered to inform you by the Governor, Assembly and People of Pensilvania, and I give you this Belt to confirm it

Gave a Belt

Brothers

I have already gone thro' the usual forms of Condolence with you for such losses you have met with by the English and taken the Axe out of your heads and by this Belt I do now the same on behalf of the Governor and People of that Province and in particular burying the Axe under the Roots of the Tree Clearing your sight and your hearing, and removing all Cause of uneasyness from your heart as well as on Account of those lately Murdered, as of those unhappy People who were murdered these 5 years ago concerning whom I hope You will be no farther uneasy after what I now say to You, and what I have formerly said and done thereupon and I now carefully gather the bones of all those who have been Murdered in that Province, and I bury them in a deep pit, which I cover over with so much care that it shall not be found out to offend your Eyes, and over all I lay this present from that Province to be divided Amongst you in memory of their friendship for you, which is so warm and invigorating that when you take up this present you will find the Grass and Herbage already large and green over the Graves of your People, so that you will never more be able to discern them. This is what your Brothers of Pensilvania have to say to you, I expect you will remember it, and regard them for it, and that putting away all malice and Evil thoughts, you will for ever hereafter live with them on terms of Strict friendship and affection and by your pacific conduct and readiness to do them equal Justice intitle yourselves to a continuance of their regard, always remembering that they are your Father the Great Kings Subjects, and your friends and Well Wishers.

Gave a Belt

Brothers

I have heard and committed to writing all that has passed during the present Congress and I have said enough to Convince any reasonable people of the purity of our intentions, as you may all justly conclude that a Nation so great and powerful as the English would take very different measures if they design'd to dispose of Your Liberty. I have shewn you what his Majesty intends forthwith to do for your future Security. And I have likewise shewn you the steps taken by Pensilvania for your satisfaction and redress. Let all this make a deep impression on your minds and waite the Issue of these measures with a Confidence in our Justice

A Belt

Brothers

Before we part I have only a few things farther to say to you, First to put away all Guile from your hearts, and never to think of any bad things which are past but to expect the good which is near at hand, and I Exhort as you to value your own happiness to harbour no farther resentment against his Majesty's Subjects in general or any one Province in particular, for they are all members of the same body, and therefore you should send agreeable news to all your People acquainting them with the good work now concluded, and if after all any prove discontented or about to disturb the Public tranquility You should take them by the head as you recommended us to do with ours, The next thing which I have to desire is that you will make the Treaty of peace you have entered into with the Cherokees as public as possible As far as your Influence extends cautioning them Nations against doing any thing in Violation of it as they regard their own Peace, That you will repeat all this often to your Young Men and to your Children and that some of you will Accompany the Cherokees Deputys and make the road wide, and safe for traveling, and also as a farther Testimonial of what you have agreed to, that you subscribe to the same on these Parchments one of which together with the Cherokees Belt, and Eagles tail will remain here, and the other be sent to Mr Stuart in Carolina to be seen by all Nations. Then read and Explained the Treaty A Belt

TREATY OF PEACE, FRIENDSHIP AND ALLIANCE

Entered into between the Six United Nations and Seven Confederate Nations of Canada, and the Cherokees Deputys sent from their Nation to enter into the same.

In the name of the Great Spirit above, We the Sachems and Chief of the Six Nations and Canada Confederacy, finding that War is disagreeable to the Great King of England thro' the Mediation of Sir William Johnson Baronet Superintendant of our Affairs, and at the earnest Solicitation of the Cherokee Nation, Do agree to give peace to that Nation from this time and we do admit them into the Bond or Chain of friendship which tyes us fast together having buried the Axe, and opened the Road to our respective Countrys, and received and given mutual proofs of our Pacific Sentiments according to the form and usages of Indians at the Treaty held at this place on the 5th and 6th of this present Month. And We the Cherokees on our Parts having buried the Axe and opened the Road hither by our Journey to desire this peace to engage for our whole Nation to abide by the same, and thankfully lay hold of the Covenant Chain which we will keep fast and perform every thing on our parts as friends and Allies, And all of us now here Assembled Do on behalf of ourselves and the Nations whom we represent engage and declare that this Treaty is and shall be considered as a good and firm peace to all intents and purposes according to all the forms of Compact and Alliance in use or subsisting amongst the several Nations of Indians.

Given at Johnson Hall the 9 day of March 1768. In the presence of Sir William Johnson Baronet and each of us who on behalf of ourselves and Our respective Nations Subscribe to these presents.

This Treaty being Subscribed to Sir William addressed the Six Nations &c

Brothers

I hope all is finished between us for the present; there only remains for you to receive this portion of his Majesty's bounty to keep you warm, as you travel in Cold Weather.

Shewed the Present on behalf of the Crown and on the other side that from Pensilvania and proceeded

Here is also the present on behalf of Pensilvania sent to the friends of those who are dead to remove their Grief and prove the Testimony of their Love for you all, which I expect will cover all that's past, You that are of the same blood shall take it to wipe away the tears that were shed and so let all be forgotten.

Delivered the presents and told them he had finished the business of the Meeting.

Thereupon the Spenser for the Indians arose and said

Brother

We have heard all you said to us, which we shall take into due Consideration, and Judge it necessary to give you an Answer thereupon tomorrow; We at present Express our thanks to the Great King, and to our Brothers of Pensilvania for their Sense of our wants, by giving us Such a present at this time to dry up our Tears.

Friday 11th P. M.

The Six Nations, Coghawagey Confederacy and the Cherokee Deputys Assembled in the Council Room.

PRESENT—	besides those the day before	
	Lieut ^s Pfister ¹	M ^r Hannah ²
	Hamilton ³	M ^r Davis
	Capt: Jelles Funda	Thomas King Speaker

Brother Gorah Warraghiyagey

You yesterday approved of the peace we have now made with the Cherokees, and recommended it to us to keep it inviolably, as it would be for our and their interest You likewise told us it would be agreeable to his Majesty to have peace established and continued throughout this Continent

Brother

You may depend upon it that the peace we have now made with the Cherokees is Sincere and we request that the Great Spirit may direct and enable us to keep it inviolable, for we look upon them now as the same flesh, blood and head and hope we shall ever remain so, lastly we are to assure you that what we have now done being agreeable to you affords us the greatest Satisfaction.

A-Belt

¹ FRANCIS PFISTER became Lieutenant in the 60th of Royal Americans 18th September, 1760. The battalion to which he was attached, having been reduced in 1763, he went on half-pay. He rejoined his regiment in October, 1767, and continued with it until 1772, after which his name is transferred to the half-pay list of Capt. Joseph Hopkins' Independent Company, where it continued until 1786. *Army List*.

² ANDREW HAMILTON, of the 16th Foot, entered the Army as Ensign in 1759, became a Lieutenant in 1762, and continued, in the *Army List* until 1771.

³ The first Presbyterian Clergyman of Albany. A biographical notice of him is to be found in *Documentary History of New-York*, IV. — Ed.

After repeating what was said yesterday concerning the Murders committed in Pensylvania the Speaker said.

Brother Gorah Warraghiygey

We heard with the utmost Attention what you said to us yesterday and we thank you for reminding us of our own Old Customs that whenever any of us were aggrieved we should not immediately take revenge but endeavour first to obtain Justice from those who had been guilty of the injury

Brother

We are disposed from what you have said so to do, and we will put it from our minds but we tell you Sincerely that we expect Justice and redress of our Grievances when we are injured and if we do not receive it our minds must get disturbed and lead us to do Wild things which we have not yet done, the People who were killed to the Southward and on Ohio having fallen by the hands of the Indians of Lake Huron as you know these Indians confess, this is the truth it comes from our Hearts.

Gave 3 Strings

Brother

We thank you for having recommended it to us to send some of our People with the Cherokees who go by Land to their Country, to open the Road and to protect them by the Way on which subject you shall hear more of our minds directly from the Warriors.

Gave 3 Strings

Brother

We agree with you in making public to all Nations the Treaty made with the Cherokees, and of our having Joined in burying the Axe Since the late Murders in Pensylvania and to that end we deliver this your Belt over to the Coghawageys that they may communicate it to all their friends and Allies whilst we think it highly necessary that you[r] Deputy at Fort Pitt should assist in doing the like to the Southward.

Gave over the Belt to the Coghawageys

Then Thomas King Stood up and Said

Brother Gorah Warraghiygey, and Broth^o of the Six Nations and Canada Confederacy hearken to what our Warriors have to say

Whereupon Tagawarra a Chief Warrior of Oneida rose up and Said

Brothers

We the Warriors think it necessary to remedy a Mistake or Omission of which our Sachems were guilty when we treated with the Cherokees,—they then left the Axe Sticking so that the handle of it would Strike against the Bushes as they travelled we now take it quite out and bury it as it ought to be healing up the Wound so as it shall not be seen on their Arrival in their own Country.

A Belt

Brothers

We have farther considered that Several of the Bones both of the Cherokees and of our People lye Strewed along the Path leading to the South which might as the Road is now open turn the heads of our People as they travelled along the Path. We now therefore collect the Bones of both People and after the Manner of our Ancestors We interr them in a deep pit, So that the Water, shall carry them away, for ever from our Sight.

A Belt

Brothers

Our Sachems in answer to your desire that Some of us should accompany you home by Land, Expressed their disapprobation thereat least some accidents might happen thro' means of bad People who may now be abroad, and are ignorant of this Treaty. Tho' they meant this for the best we differ from them, and have agreed that some of every Nation shall take you by the hand, and least it might be at first dangerous to go thro' the Towns and War paths, till the good News is spread, We will conduct those who go by Land by a Rout one the one Side where they may travell Secure and arrive in Safety at their own homes.

A Belt

Brothers

Our Chiefs did not inform you that there was a small Hatchet out Still against some of your People. We tell you now of it that you may not hereafter Accuse us of deceit, and should any mischief be done thereby we desire you not to consider it as a public Act, these persons being ignorant as yet of this Treaty, and therefore untill they are informed of it, let not any Action of theirs be considered as a Breach of this Treaty but let it be forgotten.

3 Strings

Sir William then addressed them as follows

Brothers

I thank you all for the unanimity you have shewn at this Congress, and for the desire you seem to express for peace, I hope it will penetrate your hearts, and that you will pay due regard to what is past, I have only to add that you should be in readiness to meet me in about two months to ratify your Agreement concerning the Boundary Line which his Majesty in his Wisdom has agreed to for your future Security
then dissolved

Saturday 12th 70 of the Indians of Susquehanna arrived some of whom were closely connected with those lately Murdered in Pensilvania, after a Conference Sir William brought them into the Sentiments of the Rest, and gave them a present as a Condolence for their loss.
So ended.

Sir William Johnson to the Lords of Trade.

[Plantations General, XXVI. T. 60.]

My Lords

My last to your Lordships was of the 20th of October last concerning the disagreeable aspect of Indian affairs at that time, which has since rather augmented than diminished, and now lately has met with an addition by the murder of ten Indians by an inhabitant of Pensilvania Six of which Indians were drinking liquor he murdered them, and accompanied by a servant the next day proceeded to an Indian House at 14 Miles distance, where he surprized and murdered 4 more whose bodies together with the house he burned and after being taken & Committed to the County jail, some of the riotous frontier inhabitants assembled forced the doors & carried him to some place of obscurity, for notwithstanding the Proclamations

Document n° 20

- Date :** 14 mars 1768
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 8, p. 53-54.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de William Johnson au Earl of Hillsborough, de Johnson Hall.
- Résumé :** Afin de faire une paix entre les Six-Nations et les Cherokees, Johnson vient de tenir un congrès avec les Six-Nations et les Sept-Nations du Canada, qui étaient au nombre de 760.

Brothers

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& other steps taken by the Lieutenant Governor he has not yet been discovered, this disagreeable News reached the Six Nations on their way to this place where I have for several days past held a congress with them & the seven Nations of Canada to the amount of 760, in consequence of a letter from Lord Shelbourne to me recommend^d the bringing about a Peace between them and the Cherokees at the earnest desire of the latter & of the Southern Colonies, to which end Deputys from the Cherokees Nation have been here since the 29th Dec^r last & I have at length effected a Peace between them a copy of my transactions on which occasion now transmitted to the Earl of Shelburne, and therefore I need not to enlarge upon that subject & to observe that notwithstanding the Province of Pennsylvania voted a sum of money part of which I was impow^{er}ed to give them on the part of that Province to condole with them for the late losses, yet the repeated acts of cruelty committed in the different Provinces hitherto unpunished, the intrusions upon their Lands & bad claims together with the rest of their greivances all which are still unredressed, have operated so strongly on their suspicious minds, as I have plainly discovered from their speeches but much more from private conferences & Intelligence that I very much doubt their sincerity have had the strongest reasons to beleive that the Majority were waiting to redress themselves. Should they not speedily find it from us, at the same time, I have as much reason to beleive that my public transactions now, of which a copy is transmitted together with my private conferences with the cheifs and principal Warriors has put a stop to it for the present, and that they will not disturb us provided they soon find that intrusions & murders are put a stop to & their greivances redressed by some short and effectual process nor can all their ideas of our power deter them from doing what is in their own as the Trade & Frontiers must lye in a great measure at their mercy for many succeeding years, as our offensive operations can do them very little hurt for reasons I have often repeated, whilst a Peace with them is eagerly coveted by the Colonists &ca for the security of the infant settlements and for the purposes of a commerce which solely depends upon it—I have agreeable to Lord Shelbournes letter desired them to be in readiness to attend the settlement of a Boundary early in the Spring, this will be agreeable to them if we do not desire to come too near them, and if they are well recompens^d for such Cession of Lands as they shall make, such boundary being duly observ^d will prove likewise a means of preventing future Land disputes. And the Hints I took the liberty of transmitt^d in October last as they were purely calculated for the public security can not in my humble opinion be liable to such exceptions as to prevent them or something similar thereto from being established by proper authority to answer the important purposes for which they were intended

I persuade myself that your Ldps will be fully satisfied of the utmost exertion of my power & influence for the continuing the Indians faithfull to their engagements and I rely on your Lordships countenance & support to enable me to acquit myself with success in the discharge of those difficult duties

I am my Lords

Your Lordships

Johnson Hall Mar 14. 1768.

To the Right Honble

The Lords of Trade &c &c

most obedient & most

faithfull humble Servant

W JOHNSON

Document n° 21

- Date :** 24 avril 1768
- Référence :** Carter, Clarence E., éd., *The Correspondence of General Thomas Gage with the Secretaries of State, 1763-1775*, Archon, 1969, vol. 1, p. 167-171.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Gage à Shelburne, de New York
- Résumé :** Les Indiens des Six-Nations ainsi que les chefs de toutes les nations du Canada, totalisant 760 personnes, se sont rassemblés chez William Johnson. Au début, ils se sont montrés mécontents et insatisfaits. Ils ont finalement accepté une paix avec les Cherokees.

Business of their own, which does not concern the English, but the Secrecy with which they have endeavored to transact this Affair of a general Meeting, and the Injuries they have so often received without obtaining Redress, give too much Reason to Suspect, that their Congress presages Mischief.

In this uncertainty, tho' I would incur as little Expence as possible, it is proper to Secure Some of the principal Posts, particularly those of Niagara and Fort-Pitt which are much decayed, by putting them in a State to resist any Attack from Indians; and to provide Fort-Pitt Sufficiently with Provisions, that we may not be under the Necessity to risk an Action, merely to victual the Garrison. An Engineer is gone to this Fort,⁹ and a Second will move with Some Artificers to Niagara as soon as the Rivers open. The Commanders of all the Posts upon the Lakes will receive Orders to get the Vessels afloat the Moment it is practicable, that they may be secured against all Attempts to destroy them.¹⁰ And Supplys of Provision are ordered to be sent from Montreal immediately after the River St Lawrence is free of Ice.¹¹

I have judged the above Precautions to be Necessary whatever may happen; but considering the Presents which have been liberally bestowed upon the Indians, and the knowledge they must have, of the Pains that have been taken to do them Justice, we ought to have Influence enough over their Councils to delay a Determination of an immediate Rupture with us, till the Effects of our Endeavors to redress them shall appear. And tho' some Nations, from being the most aggrieved, might Act with greater violence than the rest, we should be able by conciliating the Minds of others, to divide their Resolves and distract their Councils in such Manner, as to prevent a general Confederacy of all the Nations. If they are convinced that they will be Supported by the French or Spaniards, there is Reason to apprehend, that the Nations in general would unite against Us; for their Jealousy of our increasing Strength, and their former Experience, when the French possessed Canada, have taught the Savages the Policy of a Ballance of Power. They had two Nations to Court them and make them Presents, and when disgusted with the one, they found the other glad to accept their offers of Friendship. Many Letters have given Advice, that Belts have been frequently sent amongst the several Nations, to assure them of Assistance from the French at a proper opportunity, and to desire them to be in readiness to strike the English. This may be done at all times by any designing Persons who have Knowledge of Indians and their Customs without Danger of Discovery, either with Authority or without it; but the Savages have been so often deceived in these kind of Assurances, that unless they are hurried away by Jealousy and Resentment, it is Natural to imagine that they would not Act in Consequence of them, till they Saw a Force ready to Support them.

The Detachment of the 21st Regiment Sent in the Autumn down the Ohio and Mississippi to join their Corps in West Florida, and Who escorted the Provisions and Stores for the use of the Troops at the Illinois, arrived at Fort Chartres on the third of December. Colonel Reed proposed leaving that Fort for Fort Pitt, agreeable to his Orders, the End of February; with all the Officers and Men of the 34th Regiment above the Complement of four compleat Companies, which Number he was directed to leave, to garrison Fort-Chartres.

The Spaniards have got up to the Illinois Country from New-Orleans, and have ascended the River Missouri, where they propose to erect two Forts; but

⁹ Ensign Hutchins. Gage to Edmonstone, Feb. 7, 1768, Gage MSS.

¹⁰ To Capts. Brown (Niagara) and Turnbull (Detroit), Feb. 22, 1768, *ibid*.

¹¹ To Lt. Col. Maxwell, Feb. 14, 1768, *ibid*.

are disappointed in their Expectations that the French Troops stationed in those parts would enlist in their Service; on which Account they refuse to take Possession of the Country, and the Troops are to continue Some time longer, and in the French Service.

My Dispatches from the Illinois contain little more Intelligence, except some vague Accounts about the Trade of the Country, and Proposals of new Forts and Numbers of Troops, more costly to support, than the whole Profits of the Trade, would enable us to defray. There are Complaints also of our Neighbours, that they excite the Savages against us, and trade up the Ohio and the Ouabache. It is to be expected, that we should have an Influence amongst those Indians, as well as the French, else our Management of them must be bad, and our Presents ill bestowed. The Indian Expences at the Illinois Since in our Possession are intolerable, insomuch that I refused Payment of some Bills drawn by the Indian Agent and certified by the Commander of the Troops. Your Lordship will See from the inclosed Extracts from Colonel Reed's Letters to me, what Reasons are given for such great Expences.¹²

I have the honor to be with the greatest Regard, Respect, and Esteem, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most Obedient, and most humble Servant,

THO^s GAGE

RIGHT HON^{BLE} EARL OF SHELBURNE

one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

[Endorsed] New York March 12th 1768. Major Genl Gage (N^o 24) R. 15 April. A. 7.

TO SHELBURNE

[P.R.O., C.O. 5:86. A.L.S.]

NEW YORK, April 24th 1768.

(N^o 25)

MY LORD,

I have the honor to inclose your Lordship a Copy of a Letter, translated from the Spanish, from Don Antonio de Ulloa,¹³ and a Copy of a Letter from Mons^r Aubry to the Officer Commanding His Majesty's Fort of the Natchés on the Mississippi; together with Extracts of two Letters from the Commander of said Fort to Brigadier General Haldimand at Pensacola.¹⁴ This Correspondence has been occasioned by a Spanish Commissary and some Soldiers of the same Nation, who mutinied against their Commander, at a new Post which the Spaniards are erecting near the Junction of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers;¹⁵ and carried away a sort of Sloop laden with Provisions and other Effects, and took Refuge at the Natchés. It is difficult to ascertain by the stile of the above Letters of Don Ulloa and Mons^r Aubry, whether the Province of Louisiana belongs to Spain or France; the Don Ulloa only has wrote to me upon this Business, to desire my Determination thereon; and before he knew what Resolution Lieutenant Lovell would take upon his and Mons^r Aubry's joint Requisition to deliver up the People Boat, &c^a to the Commander of the Post of St Louis, which is a

¹² July 21, Oct. 5 and 28, Dec. 20 and 21, 1767, Gage MSS.

¹³ Feb. 19, 1768, *ibid*.

¹⁴ Inclosed in Haldimand to Gage, Feb. 26, 1768, *ibid*. This correspondence is also found in B.M., Add. MSS, 21,663, calendared in Can. Archs., B, 3, p. 216 and B, 68, pp. 239, 271.

¹⁵ St. Louis.

few Leagues below the Natchés. Your Lordship will perceive by Lieutenant Lovell's Letter to Brigadier General Haldimand of the 29th of January, that he had complied with the Requisition without waiting for Orders; So that I could say little in my Answer to Don Ulloa,¹⁶ but have followed the Example of the Brigadier, who tells me, that he had judged it best, considering all Circumstances, to make a Merit of what Lieutenant Lovell had done. I have however taken this Opportunity, to make Complaint of the Settlers and Traders from the Spanish Side of the Mississippi, who go up the Rivers Illinois, Ohio and Ouabache, to trade with the Indians, in His Majesty's Territorys, and to hunt upon their Lands; And who use all means to raise Jealousys amongst the Several Nations, of bad Desigus in the English, destructive of their Lives and Properties; and in order to encourage them the more to Mischief, they desire them to keep their Hatchets ready to strike, and promise them upon the Faith of Belts that they shall receive Assistance from both French and Spaniards at a proper Opportunity. After representing to Don Ulloa the Necessity of our Mutual Endeavors to preserve Peace and Tranquility throughout the Indian Country, and the hurt that both Nations must equally receive by raising Comotions amongst the Indian Tribes; I have desired he will be pleased to send his Orders to the Commander on the West Side of the Mississippi, to prohibit the Inhabitants, Traders or others by public Notice, from going up the before-mentioned Rivers; and to acquaint them, if any shall be found raising Disturbances, they must expect to receive the Treatment which the Laws of Nations permit in Such Cases. And I have sent Directions to the Officer Commanding at Fort-Chartres, to Scour the aforesaid Rivers with armed Boats, and to make Prisoners of all People whom he shall find acting contrary to these Orders, and to convey them to Fort-Pitt.¹⁷

Since the Mutineers with the Effects they carried off have been delivered up, Mess^{rs} Ulloa and Aubry, have permitted General Haldimand to publish a Proclamation at New-Orleans to bring in the Deserters from His Majesty's Regiments, who are Scattered over Louisiana, to which they both signed their Approbation; and sent the Proclamation into all Parts of the Colony. Thirty Deserters have surrendered already, and the Brigadier hopes to recover above one hundred. I sent him Orders Some Months ago, to forward them all to Grenada, to be incorporated in the Regiments in the ceded Islands;¹⁸ His Majesty's Regiments in North America being at that time compleat, and not thinking it right that such a Number of Soldiers should be entirely lost to the Service. I wrote at the same time to Governor Melville upon the Subject,¹⁹ but I have not yet received his Answer.

The Garrison of Tombecbé has got down to Mobile without any Accident,²⁰ And Brigadier Haldimand thinks himself happy, that the mutual Complaints of the Creeks and Chactaws, that the Garrison had supplied their Enemies with Ammunition, had furnished him with so good a Pretence to get these Hostages out of both their Hands. The Detachment of Recruits for the 21st Regiment, which went by the way of the Ohio and Mississippi to join their Corps at Mobile, is arrived, but the Officer found it impracticable to go down the Iberville agreeable to his Orders; therefore proceeded to New-Orleans where he hired a Vessel to transport his Detachment to West Florida.²¹

Captain Hodgson of the 31st Regiment, who with a Detachment of Volunteers

¹⁶ Apr. 26, 1768, Gage MSS.

¹⁸ Sept. 8, 1767, *ibid.*

¹⁹ From Haldimand, Feb. 28, 1768, *ibid.*

²¹ From Haldimand, Feb. 27, 1768, *ibid.*

¹⁷ Apr. 2, 1768, *ibid.*

¹⁹ Sept. 20, 1767, *ibid.*

from this Port for Pensacola, was wrecked on an Island called the Grand Commander, is at length safe arrived, thro' the assistance given him by Admiral Parry, who detached the Adventure Frigate from Jamaica to receive the Detachment on Board, and to transport them to the Place of their Destination.²² The above Detachment, with the Recruits who went down the Mississippi, and others from England, will be more than sufficient to compleat the three Regiments in East and West-Florida to their full Establishment, and Brigadier Haldimand proposed, if any Supernumerarys remained, after discharging some bad Men, to send them with the Deserters from Louisiana to the ceded Islands. The Regiments in West-Florida being so much increased by the Junction of these Recruits, occasioned Difficultys in providing Sufficient Quarters. The Brigadier has been obliged to encamp some, and lodge others in the Hospital, till he should be able to erect some Building for their Reception. The Recruits from England had a Disorder amongst them, which made it prudent to encamp them at a Distance from the rest, least some contagious Disorder should Spread through the whole.

The frequent Depredations of the Chactaw Indians of the Six Villages, who hunt upon the Borders of the Lakes Ponchartrain and Maurepas, where they plunder the Inhabitants, kill their Cattle, and introduce the French Traders into that part of the Country; has required that some Person of Authority and Confidence, should be sent amongst them, to put a stop to those Disorders Brigadier General Haldimand and Mr Steuart the Indian Agent, have pitched upon a Mons^r La Gauterais, who some time ago abandoned Louisiana to Settle in West Florida, after refusing to enter into the Spanish Service, as the properest Person for this Duty. The Proximity of that part of West-Florida to New Orleans, and the antient Connections, not yet wore out between the French and the above Indians, are circumstances which require a Person of Resolution, as well as Knowledge of the Indians and of the Country, to be employed on this Occasion. Mr La Gauterais was employed in the service on former occasions, by Mr Steuart the Superintendent, and behaved to his Satisfaction, and is by this time set out to execute his new Commission, with Orders to warn all the French Traders immediately to quit the Country, and to demand satisfaction of the Savages for having lately pillaged two Familys settled at the Bay of Biloxy, and killed their Cattle. The Brigadier has also once more desired Mons^r Aubry to give publick Notice at New-Orleans, that all French Traders found on the English Side of the above Lakes would be sent Prisoners to Pensacola.²³

Five or Six Spanish Schooners have been lately at Pensacola laden with Cotton and Dye-woods, but brought very little Bullion. This has however raised the Hopes of our Merchants who have complained of the great Scarcity of Silver at New-Orleans.²⁴

The Indians of the Six Nations with the Chiefs of all the Tribes from Canada, amounting to above 760, have been assembled at Sir William Johnson's.²⁵ On the Opening of the Congress they appeared sullen, and gave publick Marks of Discontent and Dissatisfaction. They have been brought to agree to a Peace with the Cherokees, whose Deputys are returning home very much pleased with their Success.²⁶ Part of them have been embarked here for South Carolina, the rest were to be escorted by Partys of the Six Nations to Fort-Pitt, in order to conclude a Peace at that Place with the Shawnese and Delawares.

²² *Ibid.*

²³ From Haldimand, Feb. 25, 1768, *ibid.* ²⁴ Mar. 17, 1768, *ibid.*

²⁵ From Johnson, Apr. 8, 1768, *Sir William Johnson Papers*, VI, 184-187.

²⁶ *Docs. Rel. Col. Hist. N.Y.*, VIII, 38-53.

Some of the Relations of the Indians lately murdered in Pennsylvania were present at the Congress; and the usual Ceremonies of Condolence on like Occasions on behalf of the Publick in general, and of Pennsylvania in particular were observed. Sir William having informed them of the Laws passed in Pennsylvania for removing the People settled upon their Lands, and of the other Steps taking to redress their Grievances, they appeared better reconciled to us. Sir William thinks upon the whole, that he has given a Check to their Measures for the present, but that they are not fully satisfied in their Minds; and that their future behavior will entirely depend upon the Redress of Grievances, removing Encroachments and putting a Stop to Murders. If this is done, he will be answerable for them.

By Desire of Governor Penn, a Detachment of Troops consisting of one Officer and 30 Men have marched from Philadelphia to escort M^r Croghan, a Deputy of Sir William Johnson's to Pittsburgh, in order to protect him from the Frontier People who have treated his Life, and to plunder the Indian Presents he was carrying with him.²⁷ An Express from Fort-Pitt Meeting him on the way, with the news that the Savages were retiring privately from the Fort, and holding Conferences in the Woods; he left his Escort and is gone forward in haste. He has been followed by two Gentlemen²⁸ appointed Commissioners by the Province of Pennsylvania to condole with the Indians in the Neighborhood of Fort Pitt, and to make them Presents on Account of the Murders that have been committed upon some of their Tribes. It is hoped that by these Means the Savages will be Softened every where, and their Designs at least protracted; which will afford time to fall upon Measures to restore a perfect tranquility.

I have received Letters from M^r Steuart His Majesty's Superintendent of the Southern District, to the 30th of March.²⁹ Indian Affairs were peaceable with respect to us, but a new war was breaking out between the Creeks and the Chikessaws. A skirmish had happened, in which the Creeks had 21 Men killed or wounded: The Party of Creeks who went to the Havanna some months ago, upon an Invitation they had received from the Spaniards, are returned to their Country, with rich Presents. It is reported, that they had offered the Spaniards a Tract of Land upon the River Apalachicola, and that most part of the Nation was desired, that the Spaniards should live near them.

Very few Accounts have been received from the Forts and Posts in the Indian Country, since the Beginning of winter: a Letter only from Fort-Ontario to give Information that the Magazine had fallen, and that it was expected a part of the Fort would tumble on the breaking of the Frost. The Engineer³⁰ who is gone up with some Artificers to repair the Fort of Niagara, has been directed to secure some Place in Ontario for the depositing about thirty Barrells of Powder, and the remainder is ordered into the Magazines in Canada. The Forts are all in a ruinous Condition, but I am unwilling to make Repairs, till I receive His Majesty's Commands on the Disposition of his Forces in this Country: and that I am informed, what Posts His Majesty Judges proper to maintain: In the mean time, I only endeavor to secure the Garrisons in some of the principal Forts from the Danger of Indian Attacks, at as little Expence as it can be done.

The Hutts and Houses in which the Troops have been quartered at S^t

²⁷ From Lt. Col. Wilkins, Mar. 25, 1768, Gage MSS.

²⁸ John Allen and Joseph Shippen, Jr., *Min. Prov. Council Pa.*, IX, 492-495.

²⁹ Feb. 19 and Mar. 30, 1768, Gage MSS.

³⁰ To Capt. Sowers, June 21, 1768, *ibid.*

Augustine, being private Property and bought over the Soldiers Heads, are entirely rotted and tumbling to Pieces; Colonel Tayler of the 9th Regiment has represented, that he was obliged to fit up and make Additions to the old Church of S^t Francis, which Governor Grant had given some time ago for the Purpose of quartering the King's Troops.³¹

I have the honor to be with the greatest Regard, Respect, and Esteem, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most Obedient, and most humble Servant,

THO^s GAGE.

RIGHT HON^{ble} EARL OF SHELBURNE,
one of his Maj^{ty's} Principal Secretaries of State &c^e &c^e &c^e
[Endorsed:] New York April 24th 1768. Major Gen^l Gage. (N^o 25) R. 1st
June. A. 10.

TO SHELBURNE

[P.R.O., C.O. 5:86. A.L.S.]

NEW YORK April 25th 1768.

(N^o 26)

MY LORD,

I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your Lordship's Letter of the 5th of January,³² together with a Copy of a Report of the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations to your Lordship, on the Subject of completing a Boundary Line, between several of His Majesty's Provinces in the Northern District, and the Indian Country.

Your Lordship's Letter for Sir William Johnson which came under my Cover,³³ was immediately forwarded by Express, and will probably get to him before all the Indians, who attended the late Congress with the Cherokees, shall have returned home. He had before acquainted them, upon Receipt of your Lordship's Letter by the December Mail, that they might Expect to have the Boundary Settled immediately, and gave them Notice to meet him for that end in about two Months.³⁴ The Money and Presents they are to receive, for the large Tracts of Land which they are to yield by this Bargain, will certainly keep them in temper as long as they last, and for a while, make them forget all Grievances. I have not been yet informed what Sum is to be paid them, but conclude Sir William Johnson has already Settled that Point.

The Governors who are concerned shall be immediately acquainted, with the King's Intentions in this Affair, in the manner your Lordship is pleased to direct.³⁵ I apprehend that almost the whole of the Tract to be ceded, will fall to Pennsylvania and Virginia, Maryland may possibly come in for a small Portion. Such of the Provinces as are entitled, or think themselves so, to any share in the Division of the Lands, will not fail to put in their Claims; And there is may be Disputes about the Boundaries of the respective Provinces, but this is a Matter which can only be determined by His Majesty's further Directions.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Regard, Respect, and Esteem, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most Obedient, and most humble Servant,

THO^s GAGE

P:S: Since writing I have received Letters from Missilimakinak, to inform me,

³¹ From Col. Taylor, Mar. 4, 1768, *ibid.* ³² With inclosures, *ibid.*

³³ Jan. 5, 1768, *Docs. Rel. Col. Hist. N.Y.*, VIII, 2.

³⁴ From Johnson, Apr. 23, 1768, Gage MSS.

³⁵ Circular letter to the Governors, Apr. 27, 1768, *ibid.*

Document n° 22

- Date :** 24 octobre 1768
- Référence :** *Sir Frederick Haldimand ; Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-84. Add. Mss. 21670, f. 17-32.*
- Nature du document :** Traité de Fort Stanwix.
- Résumé :** Présence de 29 représentants de Kahnawake. Johnson leur adresse spécifiquement un message : il leur recommande de ne pas écouter les messages de guerre et de respecter leurs engagements.

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 17v.]

At a Treaty of the Six-Nations Shawanese & Delaware, Senecas of Ohio and Dependancies held at Fort Stanwix on Monday the 24 day of October 1768.

Present The Honorable Sir William Johnson Bar^t. Superintend.
His Excellency William Franklin Esq^r. Govern^r. New Jersey
Thomas Walker Esq^r. Commissⁿ. from colony Virginia
Richard Peters & James Filghman Esq^s. Commissioners
from the province of Pennsylvania.
George Croghan Daniel Claus-Esq^s. Dep^t. Agents Indian
Affairs
Guy Johnson Esq^r. Dep^t. Agent as Secretary
with sundry other Gentlemen from different Colonies
John Butler Esq^r. and M. Andrew Montour and Phillip Philips
Interpreters

[...]

[f. 17v.] Cagnawageys Tot 29 Total of Indians 3,102.

[...]

[f. 32r.] [Discours de W. Johnson, 4 novembre 1768]

Brothers the Indians of Canada

With this Belt I recommend it to you to remember what has been done at this, and all former Treaty's, and to make the same publick amongst all your people, on your return to Canada, recommending it to them to continue to promote peace, & to discountenance all Evil reports, and idle stories which maybe propagated by ignorant, or bad men, and to communicate all usefull intelligence to me, from time, to time, as a proof of your regard for your engagements, and as means of recommending yourselves to the esteem of the King and people of England.

Brothers

The speech which you particularly address'd to his Majesty shall be faithfully transmitted to him with the rest of your proceedings, I have attended to the whole of it, and I persuade myself that every reasonable article will be taken proper notices of, and that he will take such measures as to him shall seem best, for your benefit, and for the rendering you Justice. I likewise consider your good intentions toward the Traders who Sustained the Losses, and your desire to fulfil all other engagements, as instances of your integrity, I wish that you may on your parts, carefully remember and faithfully Observe the Engagements which you have now, as well as formerly, entered into with the English, and that you may every day grow more sensible how much it is your Interest to do so. And I once more exhort you all to be Strong and steadfast, to keep firm hold of the Covenant Chain, and never to give attention, or Credit, to people who under the mark of friendship should come amongst you with Stories which may tend to weaken your attachment to us, but to keep your eyes steadfastly on those whose business and inclination it is to tell you truth, and make your minds easy [...].

A Treaty with the Six Nations
 Shawanux & Delaware, Senecas of Ohio and Susquehannicks
 Held at Fort Stanwix on Monday the 24th day of October 1760

Present The Honorable Sir William Johnson Bart. Lieutenant
 His Excellency William Franklin Esq. Governor of New Jersey
 Thomas Walker Esq. (Commiss^r from Colony Virginia
 Richard Peters & James Tilghman Esq. Commissioners
 from the Province of Pennsylvania.

George Croghan Esq. ^{1st} Dept. Agents Indian Affairs
 Daniel Claus Esq. ^{2^d} Dept. Agents Indian Affairs
 Guy Johnson Esq. ^{3^d} Dept. Agent as Secretary
 with several other Gentlemen from different Colonies
 John Butler Esq. Surgeon Major Andrew Montour
 and Philip Philips Interpreters

Indian Chiefs present

<p>Orontotokes Argaban Anadogwa Hendrick Mognindocha Tobemharon Onontario with 232 others <u>Oneidas</u> Onaghtawison Nicholarera Tenughsis Onyoneka Sagawaron Jayhase Hadson with 188 others</p>	<p>Wiondagan The Bunt Teyawarichet Duqwarda Sawastughtie Aouiskharouan Depitacione with 320 others <u>Cayugas</u> Tapania Shanarady Hrawauna Kainaseraragarat Onuiniensanlea with 111 others</p>	<p>Senecas Gaurtar Odongot Sayenquaraghta Turquisarawe Cisouida Manugissa with 470 others <u>Tuscaroras</u> Saquarekka Kanicot Tyanawehi with 350 others</p>
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The Shawant	Powhatan	Killbuck & Tutchee
with 16 others	with 411 others	with 21 others
Nanticoke	Oughwagoes	Caroys - Tutchee
Jimmy Nanticoke	Osam & Peter	Last night 30
with 138 others	with 278 others	with 9 others
Chugomuts	Minisink Indians	Carrawagoy's
Harundungas	- Tot 90	Tot 29
with 65 others		Total of Indians 3102

The whole of them being under the power of Mr Walker delivered his power as Commissioner from Virginia to Sir William Johnson which was in the words following

John Blair Esq President of His Majesty's Council
 Commissioner in Chief from the Colony and Dominion of Virginia
 To Thomas Walker Esq

By virtue of the power and authority is me committed as President to His Majesty's Council & Commissioner in Chief in, & over the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, I do hereby appoint you the said Thomas Walker to be Commissioner of Virginia's settlements Boundaries between this Colony, and the Colonies of New Jersey and New York and the several Nations of Indians concerned, & as an occasion to attend at the Congress to be held for that purpose under the direction of Sir William Johnson agreeable to His Majesty's Instructions, when you are to pay due regard to the Interest of His Majesty, and such Instructions as you shall receive from me.



Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Colony at Williamsburgh this 11th day of June 1708
 in the Eight year of His Majesty's Reign Anno Domini 1708

signed John Blair

1764
 These are people who have been lately deceiving some of you
 by stories of Revolutions in American affairs, and of French
 Fleets and Armies, with which you have been so often deceived, that
 I wonder any of your people should credit them. Be a just
 Brothers, that those who were able to conquer Canada and drive their
 Enemies out of this Country, will always have it in their power to
 Defeat their future projects. Should they be weak enough to
 make any future attempts to regain what they have lost.

I do therefore exhort you by this Belt, to pay no regard to such
 Deceivers for the future, but to continue to live peacefully, and let
 me know who they be, and from whence who attempt to impose on
 you. I likewise desire you to remember all your Engage-
 ments with the English, to observe the Treaty of peace with
 the Cherokee, to avoid any irregularities on the Frontiers,
 pay due regard to the Boundary Line now made, and to make all
 your people acquainted with it, and to keep the road, and Waters
 open, and free, whereby you will enjoy the benefits of Peace, and
 Commerce, the Esteem of the King of Great Britain, and the
 Friendship of all his Subjects. And I desire that you will
 remember, and often repeat my words

A Belt

Brothers, the Indians of Canada

With this Belt I recommend it to you to remember
 what has been done at this, and all former Treaty's, and to make the
 same publick amongst all your people, on your return to Canada,
 recommending it to them to continue to promote peace, & to dis-
 countenance all Evil reports, and idle stories which may be
 propagated by ignorant, or bad men, and to communicate all
 usefull intelligence to me, from time to time, as a proof of your
 regard to your engagements, and as means of recommending
 yourselves to the esteem of the King, and people of England.

transmit to him a Copy of our transactions at this place and
I may venture to assure you that they will meet with all possible
regard from some of his Clemency and Justice, and I now give
you this Act to strengthen, Ratify and confirm the Boundary
and all transactions concerning the same. C. Webb.

Brothers
The speech, which you particularly address'd
to his Majesty shall be faithfully transmitted to him with
the rest of your proceedings, I have attended to the whole of it,
(and I persuade myself that every reasonable article, will be taken
proper notice of, and that he will take such measures as to him
shall seem best, for your benefit, and for the rendering you
Justice. I likewise consider your good intentions towards
the traders who sustained the Taxes, and your desire to fulfill
all other engagements, as instances of your integrity, I
wish that you may on your parts, carefully remember and
faithfully observe the Engagements which you have now, as
well as formerly, enter'd into with the English, and that you
may every day grow more sensible how much it is your Interest
to observe. And I once more exhort you all to be strong and
steadfast, to keep firm hold of the Covenant Chain, and never
to give attention, or Credit, to people who under the mask of
friendship should come amongst you with Stories which may
tend to weaken your attachment to us, but to keep your
eyes steadily on those whose business and inclination it
is to tell you truth, and make your minds easy.

Brothers, the Shawanese, & Delawares
C. Webb.

I now particularly address you, as you live far to the
Southward, and may at sometimes be disturbed by bad men,
who take advantage of your distance from us, the heads of,

- Date :** octobre-novembre 1768
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 8, p. 111-134.
- Nature du document :** Compte rendu de la rencontre entre William Johnson et les Six-Nations iroquoises, les Shawnees, les Delawares, les Senecas de l'Ohio et autres, à Fort Stanwix pour établir une frontière entre les colonies et les Indiens. [Des représentants des Sept-Nations du Canada participent à cette rencontre ; Johnson leur adresse un message]
- Résumé :** Plus de 2 200 Indiens présents.
- 24 octobre. Traité avec les Six-Nations, Shawnees, Delawares, Senecas de l'Ohio et autres. Johnson ouvre la conférence. Cérémonies de condoléances et d'accueil.
- 25 octobre. Un orateur iroquois répond à Johnson. Cérémonies de condoléances et d'accueil.
- 26 octobre. Johnson désire renouveler et confirmer le «Covenant». Ensuite, il énonce les raisons pour établir une frontière entre les Indiens et les colonies. Cela évitera des empiètements et des troubles. Le roi d'Angleterre a ordonné que soit fixée une

ligne de séparation entre ses sujets et les Indiens. Un orateur mohawk répond que les Indiens vont se consulter pour répondre aux paroles de Johnson. Arrangement avec les Nanticokes du Maryland et Johnson.

27 octobre. Arrivée des Onondagas.

28 octobre. Un orateur indien prend la parole. Les Indiens considèrent que la frontière proposée par le roi serait à leur avantage. Ils doutent toutefois que les Blancs la respectent une fois qu'elle sera établie, mais ils veulent bien malgré tout faire confiance à Johnson. Ils souhaitent discuter de l'établissement de la frontière vers le nord, entre les pays de Virginie et de Pennsylvanie et Owegy. Johnson répond qu'il a préparé une carte qu'il entend montrer aux chefs de chaque nation. Les Indiens veulent que la ligne au nord aille de la rivière Delaware jusqu'au lac George, mais Johnson déclare vouloir avoir accès au lac Ontario.

29 octobre. Les Indiens demandent un délai pour pouvoir discuter entre eux de la frontière. Par la suite, en privé, plusieurs chefs vont voir Johnson ; ils s'inquiètent des troubles au sud et à l'ouest, où plusieurs nations parlent de se révolter contre les Anglais.

30 octobre. Nouvelle proposition des Indiens pour le nord de la frontière ; Johnson rejette cette proposition car elle entrave des concessions faites dans l'État de New York il y a plus de soixante ans. Nouvelles délibérations entre les Indiens.

31 octobre. Délibérations.

1^{er} novembre. Proposition finale des Indiens. Ils se sont entendus sur une ligne-frontière qui prévaudra sur toute entente précédente. Elle partira au sud de la rivière Ohio à l'embouchure du Tennessee en ligne directe jusqu'à la branche ouest de la rivière Susquehanna, puis d'un autre point de la branche est de la Susquehanna jusqu'à la rivière Delaware, puis au nord jusqu'à l'embouchure du Canada Creek. Ils demandent d'avoir le droit de chasser sur tout le territoire.

2 novembre. Johnson prépare les papiers de cession. La portion nord de la frontière n'est pas établie de manière définitive, mais laissée à la considération du Roi.

3 novembre. Des Indiens d'« Aghquessaine » [Akwesasne] rencontrent Johnson pour qu'il règle le différend qui règne dans leur village et qui menace leur prêtre et plusieurs des leurs. Johnson avait chargé Claus de faire enquête et ce dernier a réglé le problème.

4 novembre. Johnson est satisfait que l'on soit finalement parvenu à s'entendre sur une ligne frontalière. Elle sera permanente et si des modifications doivent y être apportées, des négociations seront entreprises avec les Autochtones.

Johnson s'adresse ensuite à des nations en particulier. Aux Indiens du Canada, il dit : « Brothers the Indians of Canada. With this Belt I recommend it to you to remember

what has been done at this & all former Treaties and to make the same public among all your people on your return to Canada recommending it to them to continue to promote peace and to discountenance all evil reports & Idle Stories which may be propagated by ignorant or bad men & to communicate all usefull intelligence to me from time to time as a proof of your regard for your engagements & a means of recommending yourselves to the esteem of the King and people of England. A Belt».

5 novembre. Réponse des Indiens aux paroles de Johnson. Ils vont tenir leurs promesses et espèrent que les colonies en feront autant.

6 novembre. Départ des Indiens et de Johnson.

elapsed since the Boundary was first spoken of, can only be known by those who were Eye Witnesses of it, As the greatest part of the business transacted at private Meetings with the Chiefs of every Nation, where the principal Affairs are resolved upon & adjusted could not be committed to writing or comprissed in any moderate bounds. I have staked my reputation with the Indians that the Several Articles they have made shall be observed, without which, the Charges attending the Assembling them at this time & all other endeavours would have been ineffectual; they have at length relied on my Assurances and I am confident that the regard paid to them will be the only security for the observance of the line, The Indians likewise rely chiefly on his Majesty's Power and Inclination for the performance of these Matters and for their future happiness and Security, they have many apprehensions concerning the Colonies, which I have endeavoured to remove, but I find it a difficult task, for as they have experienced how far private Interests operate here, Are not ignorant that the Colonies are governed by different Maxims and Politicks, and having been often disapointed in Matters where they apprehend they deserved redress, are not apt to repose a confidence a second time, when it has been once abused.

The provisions and other incidental Expences Attending this Treaty were unavoidable from the number of Indians, & the length of time it took up, the amount of the goods, and Cash given on the part of the Crown was the most moderate that could have been offered for so Valuable & Extensive a Cession, Upon the whole I flatter myself that this transaction will be honored with his Majesty's approbation, from a consideration of the difficulties that attended it, And the important advantages to be derived from it if strictly adhered to.

As I am now busyed in giving some necessary Belts & Messages to the Shawanese Delawares & some others from Ohio, who have [taken]¹ this Rout back to their Country, and at the same times desirous to Communicate by the earliest oportunity an event of such importance, I must for the present defer saying any thing farther on their Subject, and with a perfect reliance on your Lordships favourable reception of this paquet, Beg leave to subscribe my-self with all possible Respect,

The Right Hon^{ble}

The Earl of Hillsborough.

My Lord Your Lordships Most Obliged & most

faithfull Humble Servant

W. JOHNSON

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Indians at Fort Stanwix to settle a Boundary Line.

[Plantations General, XIX., Bundle V. 7.]

Proceedings at a Treaty held by Sir William Johnson Baronet with the Six Nations, Shawanese, Delawares, Senecas of Ohio and other dependant Tribes, at Fort Stanwix in the months of October & November 1768, for the settlement of a Boundary Line between the Colonies and Indians, pursuant to His Majesty's orders

The Time appointed for the Indians to meet at Fort Stanwix being the 20th of Sept^r S^r W^m Johnson arrived there on the 19th accompanied by the Governor of New Jersey and several

¹The words within brackets are supplied from the Despatch in Johnson's MSS, XVI — Ed.

other Gentlemen, with 20 Boats loaded with the Goods intended for the Present to be made by the Cession of Lands to the King. The Commissioners from Virginia were already there, and on the 21st arrived Lieut' Gov' Penn with Comm^{rs} from Pensylvania & several other gentlemen, The same day Mess^{rs} Wharton & Trent of Pensylvania delivered in an account of the Traders losses in 1763, together with their Powers of Attorney for obtaining a retribution in Lands, pursuant to an article of the Treaty of Peace in 1766.

Several Indians came in & informed Sir W^m Johnson that those of Susquehanna were near at hand, and gave him sundry intelligences

On the 29th some Delawares arrived from Muskingham who left the Shawnees at Fort Pitt on their way to Fort Stanwix

30th The Bounds between the Mohawks and Stockbridge Indians were adjusted to mutual Satisfaction, and the latter returned home

At the beginning of October, there were 800 Indians assembled & continued coming in daily till after the Treaty was opened. The upper Nations still remaining behind thro' evil Reports, and Belts sent amongst them. Sir William dispatched Messengers to hasten them and held several Congresses with those on the spot, antecedent to the Treaty, for adjusting differences and preparing them to enter heartily upon business on the arrival of the rest.

On the 15th of Oct' Gov' Penn urged by the Affairs of his Province set off for Philadelphia leaving behind him as Commissioners Mess^{rs} Peters & Tilghman.

By the 22^d there were 2200 Indians collected and several large Parties coming in the next day, amongst whom were all the chiefs of the upper Nations, Sir William prepared to open the Congress on the 24th

At a Treaty with the 6 Nations Shawanese Delawares, Senecas of Ohio & Dependants &c. opened at Fort Stanwix on Monday the 24 Oct. 1768.

PRESENT—Hon^{ble} Sir W^m Johnson Bart Superint^{nt}

His Excell^{cy} W^m Franklin Esq^{re} Gov' of New Jersey

Thomas Walker Esq^{re} Comm^r from Virginia

Hon^{ble} Fred. Smith^l Ch. Justice of New Jersey.

Rich^d Peters & James Tilghman Comm^{rs} from the Province of Pensylvania.

Deputy Agents of Indian affairs

George Croghan Esq^{re} Daniel Claus Esq^{re}

Guy Johnson Esq^{re} Dep: Agent as Secretary.

With sundry Gents: from different Colonies

Interpreters John Butler Esq^{re} M^r Andrew Montour Philip Philips

¹ FREDERICK SMITH, the last Chief Justice of the Colony of New Jersey, succeeded Chief Justice Read on the bench on the 17th October, 1764, and continued in office until the adoption of the Constitution. In 1772 he was appointed one of the Commissioners to examine into the affairs of the burning of the British schooner Gaspe by the Whigs of Rhode Island. When the Revolution broke out he removed to Philadelphia, where he died. His reputation as a Judge was highly respectable, and throughout his career he preserved the character of a firm and consistent Loyalist. *Mads's Provincial Courts of New Jersey.* — Ed.

Indian Chiefs Present

	MOHAWES	
Abraham	Aroghiadecka	Onohario
Kanadagaya	Kayenqueregoa	&c &c &c.
Kendrick	Tobarihoga	
	ONONDAGAS	
The Bunt	Diaquanda	Tawawshughti
Tewawmit		&c. &c.
	SENecas	
Guastrax	Odongot	&c &c &c.
	ONEIDAS	
Ganaghquieson	Senughsis	Tagawaron
Nicholasera	Cajuheta	&c &c &c.
	CAJUGAS	
Tagaia	Atrawawnda	&c &c &c
Skarady		
	TUGOROGAS	
Saquarcesera	Kanigot	Tyagawehe
		&c &c &c
	MUSCOG of Ohio	
	SHAWANES	
	Benevissica	
	DELAWARES	
Killbuck	Turtleheart	

The whole being seated Mr Walker¹ delivered his Power, as Comm^r from Virginia to Sir William Johnson which was in the words following

"John Blair Esq^r President of His Majesty's Council & Commander in Chief of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, To Thomas Walker Esq^r"

"By virtue of the Power & Authority to me committed as President of His Majesty's Council & Commander in Chief in and over this Colony & Dominion of Virginia, I do hereby appoint you the said Thomas Walker to be Commissioner of Virginia to settle a Boundary Line between this Colony, & the Colonies of Pennsylvania and Maryland & the several Nations of Indians concerned. You are required to attend at a Congress to be held for that purpose under the direction of Sir William Johnson agreeable to His Majesty's Instructions when you are to pay due regard to the Interest of His Majesty & such Instructions as you shall receive

¹ Doctor THOMAS WALKER was an early explorer of the Indian country of Western Virginia. In 1748 he crossed Powell's valley and gave the name of "Cumberland" to the lofty range of mountains to the west, and passed a remarkable depression in the chain, which he called the "Cumberland gap," and next named the Shawanee the Cumberland river, all in honor of the Duke of Cumberland. *Monette's Mississippi*, L. 314. In 1760 he again passed the Clinch and Powell rivers into what is now Kentucky, on which occasion, it is supposed, he was accompanied by the celebrated Daniel Boone. *Ramsey's Tennessee*, 65, 66. These circumstances account for his appointment as Commissioner at the present Treaty. — Ed.

from me. Given under my hand & Seal of the Colony of Williamsburgh this 17th day of June in the eighth year of His Majesty's Reign. A. D. 1768."

JOHN BLAIR."

Mess^r Peters & Tilghman being likewise admitted as Comm^r for Pensilvania, Sir William, then by Abraham Cheif of the Mohawks, addressed the Indians

Bretheren

I take you by the hand and heartily-bid you all wellcome to this place where I have kindled a Council Fire for affairs of importance. The Gov^r of New Jersey and the Comm^r of Virginia & Pensilvania do likewise welcome you here. Lieut^t Gov^r Penn came hither to meet you & waited a considerable time, but was at length by business obliged to return home, leaving these Gentlemen as Comm^r on behalf of Pensylvania

Both the Gov^r & Gentlemen Comm^r as well as myself, having waited here a month to no purpose began to be impatient never the less you see that their desire to meet you prevailed over every other consideration and induced them to stay. I hope therefore that you are now come fully prepared and with Hearts well inclined to the great business for which we are convened, and in order to prepare you the better for these purposes, I do now, agreeable to the antient custom establish^d by our Forefathers, proceed to the ceremony of Condolence usual on these occasions

And first: With this String of Wamp: I do, on behalf of His Majesty & all His subjects wipe away the Tears from your eyes which you are constantly shedding for your late deceased Cheifs, and I clear your sight that so you may look cheerfully at your Bretheren, who are come from Several of the Provinces to attend this General Congress ordered by His Majesty to be held by me; in order to settle some necessary points between him & you

With this String I clear the Passage to your Hearts that you may speak cheerfully and candidly on the several subjects which, during this Congress, will be treated of, as well as to remove all sorrow & uneasiness from you

With this last string I wipe away the blood of your friends from off your Births, that you may on your return rest with Peace and comfort on them

Gave the 3 Strings

Brethren

I am greatly concerned for the many losses you have sustained in your several Nations since our last meeting & sincerely condole with you for them all

1. A Belt.

Brethren

With this Belt I light up, anew your several Council Fires, that the Cheifs still remaining may upon all occasions sit comfortably by them and consult on the several matters, which may come before them.

2. A Belt

Brethren

As I have by the former Belt kindled up your several Council Fires, I do now by this Belt desire, that you the Councillors will duly assemble, when the affairs of your nations require it, & then jealously apply yourselves to every measure which may tend to your Peace and Interest.

A Belt

Brethren.

With this Belt I dispel the darkness which for some time past hath overspread your several Countries, by reason of your many & great Losses, and now heartily wish you may enjoy a

serene clear sky, so that you may be able to see your Brethren from the Sun rising to the Sun setting—

4 A. Belt

Brethren,

As I would deal with all people in their own way, and that your Ancestors have from the earliest time directed and recommended the observation of a Sett of Rules which they laid down for you to follow, I do now, agreeable to that custom, take of the clearest water and therewith cleanse your inside from all Filth and every thing which has given you concern.

5 A Belt

Brethren

I must desire that you Sachems & Councillors will as occasions may require consult with the Cheifstains of your young men, as they are in general men of sense and experience; and you cheifstains and Warriors to pay a due regard to your Sachems and Councillors whose sage advice will seldom or never be amiss

6 A Belt

Brethren

In performing these ceremonies I can not omit this necessary part, which is, that as there are but two Council Fires for your confederacy, the one at my house and the other at Onondaga, I must desire that you will always be ready to attend either of them, when called upon, by which means business will I hope, always be attended & properly carried on for our mutual Interest, and this I earnestly recommend to you all

7 A Belt

Brethren

I must also advise you to be unanimous amongst yourselves & reside in your respective Countries, and not think of scattering or settling amongst other Nations, as has been too much the Practice for some years past, to the great weakening of your confederacy.

8 A Belt

Brethren

I give you a Touch with a String of Wampum in it, which you are to make use of when you here of the loss of any of the Confederacy, and rise up on such occasions without delay in order to condole for the same, and remove the concern thereby occasioned

3 Strings of Wampum

Brethren

I now supply you with a torch or candle which you are to travel with by night upon any extraordinary emergency, such as the approach of an enemy, in order to communicate the News with the utmost despatch.

3 Strings

The Nations gave the Yo-hah at the proper places, and the ceremony of Condolence. Adjourned till next day.

At a Congress with the several Nations on Tuesday 25th Oct^r

PRESENT — as before.

Canaghquieson, Chief of Oneida, stood up & addressing all present, observ^d that the several American Governors had Indian Names, by which they were known to the Indians, the Governor of New Jersey excepted; that he therefore thought it necessary to compliment him with a name, which he did by bestowing his own name upon him, on which his Excellency

Gov^r Franklin shook him by the Hand & returned him thanks. Then Canaghquieson proceeded to answer the ceremony of Condolence as follows

Brother

We congratulate you, the Gov^r and the rest of the Gentlemen on your safe arrival at this Place, where we are heartily glad to meet you. Then after repeating what Sir William had said on the first strings, yesterday, he said, they did on their parts wipe away the Tears which their Brothers the English were shedding for their losses as also the blood of their friends from their seats, cleansing their hearts that they may be able to attend the important affairs which were to be transacted

Gave 3 Strings

Then repeated all that Sir William had said on the Black Belts given at the Condolence for all which he returned thanks and said

Brother

We are much concerned at the losses you have met with since our last Congress, and we sincerely condole with you upon the occasion for them all.

A Belt of 9 Rows

Brother

We thank you for rekindling our several Council Fires, whereby we are enabled to proceed to business as formerly, and we shall endeavour to render our Meetings useful to the Public.

A Belt.

Brother

We thank you for the advice you give us, to assemble duly when the publick affairs require it, and we assure you that we will direct our thoughts, to the maintenance of Peace and good order.

A Belt

Brother

We are much obliged to you for dispelling the darkness that surround^d our several Nations on account of our many losses. This we take very kindly of you, as we were in great heaviness for some time past, and all our Nations join in thanking you and performing the same on their parts.

A Belt.

Brother

We all express our thanks to you for the remembrance of our antient ceremonies. We consider them as the cement, of our union, and as you have cleansed us with water, we do in like manner take of the clearest running stream & wash your inside thoroughly therewith cleansing you from all impurities

A Belt

Brother

We esteem the advice you have given our chiefs to consult the young men as occasion may require, and your directions that they should on their parts, pay due regard to us, and we shall observe whatever you have recommended to us

A Belt

Brother

We are sensible that we have but two great Council Fires, the one at your house, the other at Onondaga, We shall always be ready to attend at either for the public Good, and we hope that you will continue to be ready to meet us often as the general Peace requires it

A Belt

Brother,

We give you thanks for recommending unanimity to us. We know that our living together is necessary to our happiness and that it gives us strength. We will follow your advice, and we recommend it to the English to be unanimous in all good works. A Belt.

Brother

We are happy to find you so observant of our ancient Customs, that you give us a string in a Pouch to make use of when we have occasion to communicate our losses and condole for them. We request you will be equally observant of these matters, that so our Grief may be timely and properly removed. A Belt.

Brother

We also give you many thanks for supplying us with a Torch to travel with on emergencies. We assure that we shall make proper use of it, & communicate every necessary intelligence to you. All the six Nations, with the Shawanese, Delawares, & all their dependants as far as to the great Plains of Sioto, give you thanks for your good words which were a cordial to them, and they all request that you will continue in the same good sentiments. 3 Strings

The Ceremony of condolence being ended Sir William gave them a short exhortatⁿ after which the Cheifs arose and shook hand with Gov^r Franklin & Canaghquieson addressing him said, that as he had given him his own name, he hoped that he would endeavour to acquire as much reputation with it amongst the People as he had done. The Governor returned them many thanks.

Then adjourned till the day following.

At a Congress Wednesday Oct. 26.

PRESENT — as before

Conoghquieson stood up and said that the Six Nations not being satisfied with his having given his own name to Govern^r Franklin had met upon it, and in testimony of their sense of his, and his Peoples justice in causing the murderers of some Indians to be put to death within his Government did now confer upon him the name of Sagorighweyoghata,¹ or the Great Arbitrator or Doer of Justice, wishing that he and the people of his Government might continue to act with the same Justice they had hitherto done. Whereupon Gov^r Franklin returned them thanks for the favor and assured them both himself and the people of his Government would upon all occasions manifest their esteem for the Indians and their inclination to do them justice.

Then Sir William addressed them

Brethren

We have now mutually performed the Ceremony of Condolence as a proof of the regard we have for the Customs of our Ancestors & of the concern we feel for each others losses, I think

¹ From the verb *OariAxateriston*, to do, or render justice; which is compounded of *OariAx*, a thing, and, *xajeri*, just. By inserting *io*, great, in the middle of the verb, we have *OariAxiojiston*, to do great justice; then prefixing *Sa*, Thou, and putting the verb in the present tense, we have, what is above intended for a noun, *SagariAxioghata*, with the strong Mohawk guttural added, signifying, literally, Thou doest great justice, or Thou art a great Doer of Justice. *Brnyal Iroquois Vocabulary and Grammar*. — Ed.

it highly necessary in the next place that we farther strengthen the Union between us and with that view I do therefore by this Belt in the name of your Father the great King of England, in behalf of all his American Subjects renew & confirm the Covenant Chain subsisting between us, strengthening it, and rubbing off any rust which it may have contracted that it may appear bright to all Nations as a proof of our love and Friendship, & I hope that all of you, sensible of the advantages of this union, will after the example of the English have it always before you, & keep it fast that it may remain firm and unshaken, so long as Grass shall grow or waters run
Belt of the Cov^t Chain 15 Rows with human figures at each end.

Bretheren

I persuade myself that you are all sensible of the Benefits which result from our strict Union, & that hav^t it always before your eyes, you will be careful in preserving it. This will protect you from all dangers, & secure to you the blessings of Peace, and the advantages of Commerce with a people able to supply all your wants. And as this is a consideratⁿ of much importance, which depends on the friendship subsisting between us & a free open and safe Communication for all our people to you, I do now by this Belt clear the Rivers & Paths throughout our respective countries, of all obstructions removing Trees out of our Creeks & Logs Briars & Rubbish out of our Roads, that our Canoes may pass along without danger and that our people may travel freely & securely by night or by day without any risk or impediment whatsoever — And I recommend it to you all to contribute to this good work, & to assist in keeping it free and open to the latest Posterity
A Large Belt.

Brethren

Hearken to me who have good words to speak to you, such as are for the benefit of your whole confederacy and of your children yet unborn.

You all remember that three years ago I signified to you His Matys desire to establish a Boundary Line between his people and yours and that we then agreed together how some part of that Line should run, whenever, the same came to be settled

You all, I am hopefull, recollect the Reasons I then gave you for making such a Boundary never the less I shall again repeat them. You know Brethren that the encroachments upon your Lands have been always one of your principal subjects of complaint, and that so far as it could be done endeavors have not been wanting for your obtaining Redress. But it was a difficult Task, and generally unsuccessfull — for altho' the Provinces have bounds between each other, there are no certain Bounds between them & you, And thereby not only several of our people ignorant in Indian Affairs have advanced too far into your country, but also many of your own people through the want of such a Line have been deceived in the Sales they have made or in the limits they have set to our respective claims This, Brethren, is a sad Case, which has frequently given us much trouble, and turned many of your heads; but it is likely to continue so untill some Bounds are agreed to, fixed upon and made public between us. The Great the good King of England my master, whose friendship and tender regard for your Interests I wish you may ever hold in remembrance has amongst other Instances of his Goodness after long deliberation on some means for your relief, and for preventing future disputes concerning Lands, at length resolved upon fixing a general Boundary Line between his subjects and you, and that in such a manner as shall be most agreeable to you, in consequence of which I have received his Royal commands to call you together for the establishment thereof, and after conferring with the Governments interested hereupon, you

now see before you the Gov^r of the Jerseys, the Commissioners on behalf of Aseregoa,¹ Gov^r of Virginia & Commissioners from Pennsylvania in order to give you the strongest assurances on behalf of the respective Governments of their Resolutions to pay due regard to what shall be now entered into, the presence of so many great men will give a sanction to the transaction and cause the same to be known as far as the English Name extends— His Majesty has directed me to give you a handsome proof of his Generosity proportion^d to the nature and extent of what Lands shall fall to him— Upon the whole I hope that your deliberations will be unanimous & your Resolutions such as His Maty may consider as proofs of your gratitude for all his favors—

A fine New Belt.

The Importance of this affair now before us requires the most serious attention. I will not burthen you with any other subject untill this is generally settled, and therefore we shall adjourn, that you may have time to think of it and come fully prepared to give an agreeable answer

Then Abraham Cheif of the Mohawks after repeating what Sir William had said addressed him

Brother

We give you thanks for what you have said to us at this time, it is a weighty affair, and we shall agreeable to your desire take it into our most serious consideration

We are glad that so many great men are assembled to bear witness of the transaction and we are now resolved to retire and consult on a proper answer to be given to all you have said, & so soon as we have agreed upon it, we shall give you notice, that we may again assemble, and make it known to you and we are all much obliged to you that you have directed us to attend to this great affair alone at this time that our minds might not be burthened or diverted from it by attending to anything else.

Then Conoghquieson addressed the whole and desired that the several Nations might look towards the Onondagas who would appoint him a time and place for taking the matter into consideration

After which adjourned

P M. Sir William met the Nanticokes with Captain Ogden and explained to them the affair of the Sale of their Lands of which they approved, as well as of the price which [is] 666 Dollars & two thirds— Mr Ogden then delivered an account of his expences which amounted to £ 100.9.9 Cur^{cy} so that a balance of 415 Dollars or £ 166.2.3 Currency remains due by said Ogden which he is to pay to the cheif of the Nanticokes as soon as may be and then they are to empower him to dispose of the remainder of their Land in Maryland.

Thursday the 27th Deinquande Cheifstain of the Onondagas with 86 arrived and came immediately to Sir Williams Quarters to pay him the usual compliments which having returned he ordered them paint, Pipes, Tobacco & a dram around and dismissed them

Friday the 28th—The weather being cold Sir William clothed the old cheifs of every Nation for which they returned many thanks & told them that he now enabled them to meet and consider of the Great affair before them with pleasure, and assured him that they would endeavour to do every thing for the best, and that with the utmost expedition—They told Sir William that they were yesterday employed in hearing news brought them by the Shawanese

¹ See note 3, IX, 706. — Ed.

and receiving the Belts, that this day they would take into consideration the Boundary Line, and seriously deliberate thereon as they were determined to make it binding

At a Congress with the several Nations on Friday the 28th day of October 1768

PRESENT — as before

The Indians continued in private Council till 4 P. M. when they sent to let Sir William know, that they would be glad to speak with him: being all seated the Speaker addressed Sir William

Brother

We have been for some time deliberating on what you said concerning a Line between the English and us, & we are sensible it would be for our mutual advantage if it were not transgressed, but dayly experience teaches us that we cannot have any great dependance on the white People, and that they will forget their agreements for the sake of our Lands— However you have said so much to us upon it that we are willing to beleive more favorably in this case.

Brother

You remember when we spoke last concerning this Boundary, that we did not agree about the way it should run from Oswegy!— This is a point that must now be settled for to what purpose could it be to draw a Line between us & the country of Virginia & Pennsylvania whilst the way to our Towns lay open We would therefore know what you intend to propose as a Boundary to the Northward that we take it into consideration and we shall be glad that you explain it fully to us, that no mistake may be made on either side.

To which Sir William answered,

Brothers

I have attended to what you say and do admit that it is reasonable the Line should be closed, & I persuade myself that His Maty will approve of it All these things I had in consideration before, & I recommended the Line to you generally at first according to your own practice as an Introduction to the rest and in order to render the whole clear & plain to you, I have prepared a Map on which the Country is drawn large & plain which will enable us both to judge better of these matters. I would therefore recommend it to you to send the chiefs of each Nation to my Quarters where I shall lay the Map before them & confer with them upon it

The Speaker then thanked Sir William for what he had said which they all greatly approved of, in consequence of which the Chiefs of each Nation came soon after to his Quarters when Sir William laid a Map on the Table & after explaining to them the nature of his orders & the desires of Government he spoke as follows

Brothers

Here is the Map of which I spoke to you, where all that Country which is the subject of our meeting is faithfully laid down. The Line here described between the Kanhawa River & Oswegy! was what we spoke about— The King has not fixed upon any particular place to

continue it to. It therefore remains for me to obtain a continuation of that Line which will be secure to you and advantageous to us on which subject we now meet—I have likewise to observe to you that the piece of Land in the Forks of Susquehanna is very much desired by the Commissioners from Pennsylvania and would be more advantageous to them than to you, besides as it is or will be soon partly surrounded by Settlements it will be a very difficult matter to get any people to go far to the Northward, & leave such Land as it were behind them—I would therefore propose, the Bounds from Fort Pitt be continued up to the Ohio to Moghulbughilum Creek,¹ Thence up that Creek & along the eight mile Carrying Place² to the West Branch of Susquehanna thence along that River to the Allegany Ridge. Thence along that Ridge of Mountains to the Cayuga Branch & down the same to the Great East Branch of Susquehanna, from thence up that East Branch to Oswegy,³ from whence it can be run Eastward to the Delaware River, which is very near it at that Place and for that part of this additional Cession which will fall to M^r Penn, you will receive a large & handsome consideration over and besides His Matys Royal Bounty And as to the continuation of that Line from the Delaware so as to close it, I must desire to hear what yourselves think & I expect that your Resolutions will be advantageous to us, & that you will make proper allowance for the increase of our People whereby you will recommend yourselves to the King, and become so pleasing to his subjects that it will greatly contribute to the due observance of the Boundary Line.

To which the Speaker made the following answer

Brother

We have hearkened to all that you have said and we thank you for your advice which we believe is well intended—But this is a great Cession of Land which will require much thought and attention and therefore we shall defer the consideration of it till tomorrow

Brother

Before we answer you about the continuation of the Line we must say something to you concerning the extent of it to the Southward which we find is no further than Kanhawa River. Now Brother, you, who know all our affairs, must be sensible that our Rights go much farther to the Southward and that we have a very good & clear Title to the Lands as far as the Cherokee River which we can not allow to be right of any other Indians without doing wrong to our Posterity and acting unworthy those Warriors who fought & conquered it. We therefore expect this our Right will be considered.

Brother

We are now to speak about continuing the Line as you said from Delaware so as to close it, and you recommend it to us to give you plenty for the people

We were formerly generous & gave the white people in many places Lands when they were too poor to buy them. We have often had bad Returns. Nevertheless we would still act generously and mean to do as much as we can without ruining our Children

¹ Moghulbuctitum. *Scull's Map of Pennsylvania*. 'Tis a corruption of the Indian name, Mochulbuctison or Mocholpakison, meaning, "where boats are abandoned" (that is, the head of navigation); from *Amokkol*, the Delaware word for Boat. *Bulletin of Pennsylvania Historical Society*, 128. It falls into the Allegany river in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, and seems to be called, in modern maps, the Mahoning. — Ed.

² This carrying place is in the present county of Indiana, Pennsylvania.

³ *Sic*. Oswegy.

Brother.

You know that the country from Oswego¹ quite to Oswego is full of our Towns & Villages and that it is very dear to us so that we cannot be expected to part with what lies at our Doors, besides your people are come already too close to us. We therefore think that the Line should run up the Delaware to the Swamp & from that run across to the Governors (Coshys Land) and then go away to Lake George which we can not but think a fair offer

To which Sir W^m answered

Brothers

We have heard what you said and shall answer it. In the first place I acknowledge to have heard of your claim to the Southward before this time. The King does not deny your claims He is not thoroughly acquainted with the exact extent of them and finding that they may be liable to some dispute with the Southern Indians, he being an enemy to strife directed the Line to be run in the manner he thought least liable to it. But of this I shall take further notice to you having no[w] to speak to you in answer to the course you have proposed for continuing the Line from Delaware

Brothers

I know very well how you are situated and it is not His Majestys inclination to disturb you therein, at the same time you should consider what is reasonable on your parts and that the Lands are even patented further than you propose the Line, and that the more people are confined the more readily will the transgress the bounds so that I must desire you to think the better of it and speak more favorably at our next meeting, till when I shall propose nothing further, as I could not consistently propose any other Line than such as would bring us to or near Lake Ontario.

They then withdrew taking with them a Map in order to consider the affair in private.

At night Sir William had a private conference with the Chiefs of the most Influence with whom he made use of every argument to bring matters to an agreeable issue

Saturday Oct 29th

The Indians continued in Council all the forenoon the Chiefs having given the Belts to the Warriors for their opinion concerning the Boundary; several of the Indians particularly the Oneidas gave great obstruction to the business, and Sir William heard that a clergyman sent by M^r Wheelock from New England who had delivered him a memorial on the 14th instant "praying that the Line might not be extended far North or West but the Lands reserved for "the purposes of Religion" was very busy amongst the Indians for that purpose.² Information was likewise given to Sir William this morning that this Clergyman had in conversations with Coll Fitch M^r Peters junior and others told them that he had done what he could to oppose the Cession of Territory, and would continue to obstruct it to the utmost of his Power, and that he had shewed the Indians the folly of giving up their Lands & cautioned them against it before he left Oneida

Sir William this day clothed several of the Chiefs with whom he had several conferences the Majority of them continued in Council together to consider farther on the speeches made

¹ See Oswego

² See New-York Documentary History, 8vo., IV., 358-369, for papers illustrative of the matters here referred to — Ed.

to them in the afternoon the Onondaga & Mohock Chiefs with several others waited on Sir William with a Message from the whole, importing that as it was a very weighty & interesting affair it required some further consideration they therefore requested that he and the Gentlemen with him would wait with patience till monday morning when they hoped to be able to give an answer.

Sir William told them that he was really become very impatient through the delays which was given to business, that the security of their Lands depended upon their despatch and the freedom of the Cession—That he would however wait till Monday, when he hoped to hear from them some thing that might make up for their delays.

At night several of the Chiefs came to Sir Williams Quarters to let him know the purport of Intelligence and Belts received from the Shawanese, which was that according to the old agreement subsisting between the several Indian Nations, they were all to unite and attack the English as soon as the latter became formidable to them. That several of the Nations to the South and West greatly alarmed at the Power and increase of the English and irritated at the ill treatment they had met with had expressed a desire to meet the rest to deliberate on what was to be done. That the Spaniards & French had for a long time urged them to take up arms and given them repeated assurances of a powerfull assistance. That they had now called them to a meeting at the Mississippi near the mouth of the Ohio for that purpose. That they had sent many Belts among the Indians, a great part of whom were just ready to set out when Sir Williams message came to them, and that they waited the event of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix before they would come to any further resolution with a variety of other particulars all tending to corroborate the former Intelligence received by Sir William Johnson. In the morning the Indians again met in Council, when the Warriors came and laid before their Sachems the result of their deliberations yesterday concerning the Northern part of the Line who directed four of their Sachems viz Tyaruruante, Ganaquieson, Tyeransera, and Tagawaron to wait on Sir William and communicate the same which was, that the Line should run from Oriscany to Tianderhah, and down that River to the Susquehanna, thence in a straight Line to the Hills, and so to the Delaware Branch & down the same to Oswegy, thence down the Susquehanna to Shamokin, and so along the West Branch of that River to Kittanning, declaring they would not part with any Lands to the Westward of Oriscany or down towards Wioming or the Great Island, as they reserved that part of the Country for their Dependants.

But Sir William finding that some busy persons had been alarming those Nations most immediately affected by the Line, and that many others could be induced to settle it more advantageously he in a long and warm speech to the Chiefs shewed them that the Line was not proposed to injure them, but that for a handsome consideration it was intended to obtain a Cession of as much Land as would give the people Room on the Frontiers ascertain^d the Boundary at the same time between them—that with the help of proper Laws it would not be liable to intrusion—that the Line proposed at Oriscany interfered with a patent granted above sixty years ago now in possession of some Gentlemen at New York the Indian Deed for which, he had before shewn them. That these Gentlemen and all others concerned would have reason to blame him for agreeing to lines so injurious to their Rights, and that the continuance of a line from thence in the manner that they proposed would in many places approach so near to our settlements, as to render its duration very uncertain from the great increase of our

people, whereas by giving them more room the Boundary would be so well known, and secured by Laws before there would be occasion to invade it, that people would act with extreme caution and rather go to other unsettled parts than attempt to transgress an agreement so well defended—That it had been long in agitation and was now according to their own desires ordered by His Majesty to be settled, as the surest means of putting an end to Land Disputes, and that if they rejected this opportunity now offered them and drew the Line so as to interfere with Grants, or approach almost to our settlements, he could not see that any thing more effectual could thereafter be proposed for preventing encroachments, and the Crown after being already at a very heavy expence on this occasion must find its good intentions and reasonable proposals totally defeated. He therefore recommended it to them to consider this point farther, and as his Majestys Bounty, or that of the Colonys would be proportioned to the extent of their Cession, a rule which he should observe upon this occasion—That he hoped for a more favorable Answer as it would be more to their immediate advantage and would tend to the better observance of the Line hereafter. After these and many other arguments, & farther explaining the several courses laid down on the draft, they agreed to take the Map back to their Council Hutt for farther consideration, promising to use their Interest with the rest for a more favorable Line then withdrew Sir William assuring them at parting that they should be particularly rewarded for their services or endeavours to shew the Indians the reasonableness of the requisition.

At night Tagawaron returned with the Map to Sir William, informed him that they were then debating on the subject but much divided in opinion, and added that he thought his Nation disagreeably circumstanced the rest having thrown so much of the transaction to the Northward on their hands, nevertheless he would do all he could to obtain a more favorable settlement

After which Sir William had many other private conferences which occupied a great part of the night—In particular Six Cheifs of the Oneidas, came to him at nine of the clock at night and they very much doubted the validity of the purchase above Orisca—But through Sir Williams solicitations and to shew their good disposition towards completing the work in hand, they would agree that the Line should run from the Susquehanna North across at Fort Newport near Fort Stanwix where the Boats are launched, and from thence to the Northwest corner of the late purchase for Lord Holland & others—Sir William thanked them for the Amendments but told them that he could not think it would answer, that it did not even include the carrying place, and therefore desired them again to consider the matter and that as they could extend it much farther to the westward without any sensible inconvenience, he expected they would do so, for which their Nation, over and besides the rest should have five hundred Dollars & a handsome present for each of the cheifs.—They promised to use their best endeavours for that purpose & withdrew

Monday, Oct 31st

At 10 A M. The Oneidas returned to Sir Williams Quarters, and told him that their people positively refused to agree to any other Line than they had proposed the last night, & that as Game began to grow scarce in their neighbourhood, they had come to a Resolution to keep the carrying Place to the Canada Creek in their hands, as by Keeping Horses and Carriages there as they proposed to do for the future to carry over the Traders Goods, they might earn

somewhat for the support of their families. Sir William answered that he thought it somewhat extraordinary that they should enter into such a Resolution on the sudden having totally neglected carrying goods for so many years—That if they gave it up they might still reap benefits from a high road open to all provided they had horses & Carriages as reasonable as other people, but that their keeping it to themselves would occasion many disputes between them and the white people, which His Maty was so very desirous of preventing and had fallen upon the Boundary as the means of doing so. That they should not stop at what was but a Trifle to them, tho' so advantageous & necessary to the English and that he wished they would so act as to shew their love and respect for the King & friendship for his Subjects—That the Governor and People of New York had reason to expect much more from them and that they had left it to him to urge these matters to them as thinking Commissioners unnecessary when he was to conduct the Congress. He hoped that this would be a farther consideration and desired them to act a part proper on the Occasion

They thereupon withdrew to consult further upon it. They shortly after returned and said that Sir William had been so desirous to have the Bounds further extended the last and only thing they could say was, that provided they were allowed an equal use of the carrying Place with the English and to be paid Six Hundred Dollars to the Tribes over and besides the several Fees which were given in private, they should extend the Line to Canada Creek Sir William finding it best not to urge this matter farther told them that he acquiesced for the present leaving it to be confirmed or rejected by His Majesty. They answered that they considered and unanimously resolved that whatever Boundary Line was now agreed to should be for ever binding & conclusive on both sides—That no province should on any pretence invade the Line and that whatever transaction might thereafter be necessary should be with the King or those by him directed to treat with them.

A Messenger then arrived to call them to attend the consultation about the rest of the line. At night Canaquieson came to inform Sir William that they had further considered the general subject of the Line & would send a chief & Warrior from each Nation with their final resolves which they would deliver in public the next day—They accordingly came to Sir Williams Quarters, when Sir William told them, he hoped they were now come with such an answer as would be pleasing to all Parties. The Map being then laid before them, they said, that what they had to say was the final resolves of all the Nations, then said at the same time, tracing it on the Map that they would agreeable to their just Claims begin the Line at the mouth of the Cherokee River, then go along to the South East side of the Ohio to Kittanning, from thence to the Head of the West Branch of Susquehanna thence down the same to Bald Eagle Creek thence across the River at Tiadaghta Creek below the great Island, thence by a straight Line to Burnett's Hills and along the same to the mouth of *Aranda* Creek on the West Side of the East Branch of Susquehanna, thence up the stream thereof to Oswegy, thence Eastward to the Delaware River, thence up the stream thereof till they come opposite to the mouth of Tinnaderah Creek emptying into Susquehanna, thence up the West side of Tinnaderrah to the head of its Westerly Branch, and from thence to the mouth of Canada Creek on Wood Creek.

This they delivered as their final determinations subject to several conditions for the security of their possessions and engagements entered into, and for that part which would fall

within M^r Penns Gov^t they insisted on having 10,000 Dollars Sir William told them he would take the matter into consideration and would assemble them all tomorrow and after parting conferred with the Commissioners of Pensilvania concerning the same who approv^d it, and agreed to the consideration on behalf of the Proprietors.

At a General Congress with the several Nations at Fort Stanwix Tuesday Nov 1st 1768

PRESENT — as at the former Meetings

Being all seated they desired to know whether Sir William was prepared to hear them, and on being answered in the affirmative, the speaker stood up and spoke as follows

Brother

We are hopeful that you will not take it amiss that we have delayed till now our public answer on the subject you recommended to us, This was a great and weighty matter requiring long deliberation, and should not be undertaken lightly—We have accordingly considered it, and are now come to give you our final resolutions thereon, to which we beg your attention

Brother

We remember that on our first Meeting with you, when you came with your ship we kindly received you, entertained you, entered into an alliance with you, though we were then great & numerous and your people inconsiderable and weak and we know that we entered into a Covenant Chain with you and fastened your ship therewith, but being apprehensive the Bark would break and your ship be lost we made one of Iron, and held it fast that it should not slip from us, but perceiving the former chain was liable to rust; We made a silver chain to guard against it Then, Brother, you arose, renewed that chain which began to look dull, and have for many years taken care of our affairs by the command of the Great King, & you by your labors have polished that chain so that it has looked bright and is become known to all Nations, for all which we shall ever regard you and we are thankful to you in that you have taken such care of these great affairs of which we are always mindfull, and we do now on our parts renew and strengthen the Covenant Chain by which we will abide so long as you shall preserve it strong & bright on your part.

A Belt.

Brother

We are glad that you have opened the River and cleared the Roads as it is so necessary to us both. We were promis^d that when the war was over, we should have Trade in plenty, Goods cheap and honest men to deal with us and that we should have proper persons to manage all this. We hope that these promises will never be forgot but that they will be fully performed that we shall feel the benefits of an intercourse between us—that the Roads and waters may be free and open to us all to go to the Southward, or for our friends from thence with whom we are now at peace to visit us, that we may have proper persons in our Countrys to manage affairs and smiths to mend our arms and implements—and in the expectation of this, we do, now on our parts open the Roads and waters, and promise to assist in keeping them so.

A Belt.

Then after repeating all that had been said concerning the Line proceeded

Brother

We have long considered this proposal for a Boundary between us, and we think it will be of good consequence if you on your parts pay due regard to it, and we in consequence thereof have had sundry Meetings amongst ourselves and with you and from all that you have said to us thereon, we have at length come to a final resolution concerning it, and we hope that what is now agreed upon shall be inviolably observed on your parts as we are determined it shall be on ours and that no further attempts shall be made on our Lands but that this Line, be considered as final and we do now agree to the Line we have marked upon your Map, now before you on certain conditions on which we have spoken and shall say more and we desire that one Article of this our agreement be, that none of the Provinces or their People shall attempt to invade it under color of any old Deeds, or other pretences what soever for in many of these things we have been imposed on, and therefore we disclaim them all, which Bounds now agreed to we begin on the Ohio at the mouth of the Cherokee River¹ which is now our just right, and from thence we give up on the South side of Ohio to Kittanning above Fort Pitt, from thence a direct Line to the nearest Fork of the West Branch of Susquehanna thence through the Allegany Mountains along the south side of the said West Branch till we come opposite to the mouth of the Creek called Tiadaghton thence across the West Branch & along the East side of that Creek and along the ridge of Burnets Hills to a Creek called Awandae thence down the same to the East Branch of the Susquehanna, and across the same and up the East side of that River to Oswego, from thence Eastward to Delaware River, and up that River to opposite where Trinaderha falls into Susquehanna, thence to Trinaderha and up the West side thereof and its West Branches to the Head thereof thence by a straight Line to the mouth of Canada Creek where it emptys itself into Wood Creek at the end of the long carrying place beyond Fort Stanwix, and this we declare to be our final Resolves and we expect that the conditions of this our Grant will be observed

A Belt.

Brother

Now as we have made so large a Cession to the King of such a valuable and Extensive Country, We do expect it as the Terms of our Agreement that strict regard be paid to all our reasonable desires—We do now on this on behalf and in the name of all our Warriors of every Nation, condition that all our Warriors shall have the liberty of hunting throughout the Country, as they have no other means of subsistence and as your people have not the same occasions or inclinations—That the White people be restricted from hunting on our side of the Line to prevent contentions between us

A Belt.

Brother

By this Belt we address ourselves to the Great King of England through You our superintendant in the Name and in behalf of all the Six Nations Shawanese, Delawares and all other our Friends, Allies, & Dependants, We now tell the King that we have given to him a great and valuable Country, and we know that what we shall now get for it must be far short of its value—We make it a condition of this our Agreement concerning the Line that His Majesty will not forget or neglect to shew us His favor or suffer the Chain to contract Rust, but that he will direct those who have the management of our affairs to be punctual in renewing our antient agreements. That as the Mohocks are now within the Line which we give to the

¹ Now called the Tennessee River.

King, and that these people are the true old Heads of the whole confederacy their several villages and all the Land they occupy unpatented, about them as also the Residences of any others in our confederacy affected by this Cession shall be considered as their sole property and at their disposal both now, and so long as the sun shines, and that all grants or engagements they have now or lately entered into, shall be considered as independant of this Boundary so that they who have so little left may not lose the benefit of the sale of it, but that the people, with whom they have agreed, may have the Land—We likewise further condition on behalf of all the Six Nations and of all our allies, friends & Nephews our Dependants that as we have experienced how difficult it is to get justice or to make our complaints known and that it is not in the power of our Superintendant to take care of our affairs in different Places without the Kings help that His Majesty will give him help & strength to do us justice and to manage our affairs in a proper manner. We all know the want of this, and we make it a point of great consequence which this our present Agreement is to depend and without which Affairs will go wrong and our heads may be turned.

Brother

We likewise desire that as we have now given up a great deal of Lands within the Bounds that M^r Penn claimed a right of buying that he may in consequence of the agreement now entered into between us, enjoy what we have given within them Limits. And as we know that Lydius of Albany did in the name of several persons lay claim to Lands in Pennsylvania, which we know to be unjust, and that the Deeds he pretends a right to were invalid, We expect that no regard will be paid to them or any such claims now or hereafter, as we have fairly sold them to the proprietors of Pennsylvania to whom alone we shall sell Lands within that Province, and we shall now give them a Deed for that & other Lands there. And in order to shew that we love justice, we expect the Traders who suffered by some of our dependants in the wars five years ago, may have a grant for the Lands we now give them down Ohio, as a satisfaction for their losses, and as our friend M^r Croghan¹ long ago got a Deed for Lands from us, which may now be taken into M^r Penns Lands, should it so happen, we request that it may be considered and get as much from the King somewhere else, as he fairly bought it.— And as we have given enough to shew our Love for the King and make his people easy, in the next place we expect that no old claims which we disavow or new encroachments may be allowed of

Brother,

We have now gone through this matter and we have shewn ourselves ready to give the King whatever we could reasonably spare. We on our parts express our regard for him and we hope for His favor in return.—Our words are strong and our resolutions firm & we expect that our request will be complied with in so much as we have so generously complied with all that has been desired as far as was consistent with our Existence A Belt.

Sir William then thanked them for what they had said, and assured them that it should all be considered, and that he would meet them to-morrow on these and other subjects. Then adjourned

¹ See note, VII, 962, — Ea.

Wednesday November the 2^d

The day being very rainy the Indians did not meet in Council.

Sir William clothed a number of chiefs and Cheistains of several Nations and was this day busy in preparing the necessary Papers for the Next Meeting

P. M. Sir William met the Mohocks and other chiefs and endeavoured to persuade them to extend the Line more favorably to the West of New York observ^t that they could not agree to extend it further down the Wood Creek on the South side that he expected they would let it run below the Canada Creek, on the North side of Wood Creek, but finding them determined and that they were for closing it at the point of the last purchase near the Mohock River, he told them he would stop at the Mouth of Canada Creek & refer the remainder to His Matys consideration

Sir William then acquainted the Chiefs that his Excellency the Commander in chief purposed to evacuate Fort Ontario, or to put it on the same footing with Fort Stanwix, as a measure that would be agreeable to them, and that as for any Forts, which it was necessary still to keep up, they could be no inconvenience to them They answered that they had nothing to complain of against the keeping up Ontario, on the footing it was for some time past nor would they make any difficulty about the others whilst they were civilly treated at them, and no encroachments made on their Lands which Sir William promis^d should be duly attended to.

Thursday November the 3^d

This day was partly employ^d in prepar^t the several Speeches & the Deed of Cession

P. M. A Deputation from the Aghquessalne Indians came to Sir Williams Quarters accompanied by the Oneida chiefs whose interposition with him had been requested in order to accommodate the unhappy difference which had gone such lengths in their village that their Priest and many of their people would likely be murdered

A Belt.

Sir William answered them that he had been extremely concerned to hear of that difference amongst themselves that in consequence thereof he had directed Coll Claus the Deputy Agent for that Quarter to enquire into the particulars & to put a stop to it, and that he now had the pleasure to acquaint them that agreeable to His orders the whole was happily determined before Coll Claus left Montreal which account gave them all great satisfaction

A Belt.

At a Congress with the several Nations Friday November 4th

PRESENT— as at the last Meeting

The Onondaga Speaker performed the Ceremony of Condolence, for a loss sustained by the Oneidas after which Sir William addressed the several Nations

Brothers

After having duly considered your speech and the Agreement you have at length come into, I am pleased to find that you have so far dispatched business Notwithstanding the severity of the approach^t season, and the distance which many of us are from our dwellings. I gave you all the time necessary for bringing this weighty affair to a deliberate conclusion

Brother

I am glad to find that you remember your old agreements so particularly and I wish you may always observe them, and with that view I should have been glad to have heard you confine your answer to my Belt for keeping the Roads open, to that subject alone, as a free and safe intercourse between us is so necessary to you

The promises formerly made you of the happy change which would be produced by the Reduction of Canada you have in many respects experienced as far as it was in the power of His Majestys Servants you likewise have had a considerable number of Traders amongst you which has so far lowered the Prices of Goods that several of them are become Bankrupts and at many of the Posts they are to be bought at as low rates as at our Towns Notwithstanding the distance and expence of Transportation. I am to inform you that it has been judged adviseable by the Government to commit that part of business regarding the management of the Indian Trade to the care & charge of the several Colonies who I make no doubt will endeavour to do every thing they can for your Interest

A Belt.

You have of late made several complaints on account of the ill behaviour of some people on the Frontiers; those that regarded Pennsylvania, I have reason to think I finally settled and gave a handsome portion of their bounty upon the occasion, and in consequence of the information I gave the Governor of Virginia thereon, his Assembly passed several Votes in your favour, which are now before me, whilst the Governor sent this assurance of their good faith and friendship for you and of their intentions to prevent you from being ill treated

Here shewed and explained the Resolves of the House of Burgesses likewise a paper under the Great Seal of the Province of Virginia authorizing Sir William to give to them those favorable assurances. and proceeds

Brothers

I hope all this will convince you that they are your friends and as further proof of it the Gentlemen Comm^{rs} from those Provinces will at their return take proper measures for your future good treatment & for the due observance of the Boundary Line by proper Laws for these purposes, according his Matys desires which I shall recommend to their remembrance

A Belt.

Brothers

I am glad the Boundary is at length agreed upon, & as I have great reason to think it will be duly observed by the English. I recommend it to you to preserve it carefully in remembrance to explain it fully to those that are absent and to teach it to your children. This Boundary is intended to be lasting but should it be found necessary by His Majesty or yourselves to make any future additions or alterations he will treat with you by those who have the management of your affairs. And never permit any private application this I have received in command to tell you

As to the several reservations you make in your Cession to the King and the other points you recommend you may be assured that His Maty shall be made acquainted with them, as I shall transmit to him a copy of our transactions at this place & I may venture to assure you that they will meet with all possible regard from a Prince of His clemency & Justice & I now give you this Belt to strengthen ratify and confirm the Boundary to all transactions necessary thereof.

A Belt.

Brothers

The speech which you addressed particularly to His Majesty shall be faithfully transmitted to him with the rest of your proceedings. I have attended to the whole of it & I persuade myself that every reasonable article will be taken proper notice of & that he will take such measures as to him shall seem best for your benefit and for the rendering you justice—I likewise consider your good intentions towards the Traders who sustained the losses & your desire to fulfill all your other engagements as instances of your integrity. I wish that you may on your parts carefully remember & faithfully observe the Engagements you have now as well as formerly entered into with the English, and that you may every day grow more sensible how much it is your Interest to do so And I once more exhort you all to be strong and stedfast to keep firm hold of the Covenant Chain & never to give attention or credit to People who under the Masque of friendship should come amongst you with stories which may tend to weaken your attachment to us, but to keep your eyes stedfastly on those whose business & inclination it is to tell you truth & make your minds easy

A Belt.

Brothers the Shawanese & Delawares

I now particularly address you, in that you live far to the Southward, & may at some times be disturbed by bad men who taking advantage of your distance from us & the Heads of the Confederacy may by Belts Messages or Stories invented to create mischief impose on many of your people & through their means mislead other Nations I am not ignorant that this has happened & I have good intelligence that there are people who have been lately deceiving some of you with stories of Revolutions in American affairs & of French Fleets & armies, with which you have been so often deceived that I wonder any of your people should credit them—Be assured, Brothers, that those who were able to conquer Canada, & drive their enemies out of their country, will always have it in their power to defeat their future projects should they be weak enough to make any future attempts to regain what they lost. I do therefore exhort you by this Belt to pay no regard to such deceivers for the future, but continue to live peaceably & let me know who they are, & from whence that attempt to impose upon you. I likewise desire you to remember all your engagements with the English to observe the treaty of Peace with the Cherokees, to avoid any irregularities on the Frontiers & pay due regard to the Boundary Line now made, & to make all your People acquainted with it, & to keep the Roads & Waters open and free whereby you will enjoy the benefits of Peace & Commerce, the esteem of the King of Great Britain & the friendship of all his subjects & I desire you will remember & often repeat my words

A Belt.

Brothers the Indians of Canada

With this Belt I recommend it to you to remember what has been done at this & all former Treaties and to make the same public among all your people on your return to Canada recommending it to them to continue to promote peace and to discountenance all evil reports & idle Stories which may be propagated by ignorant or bad men & to communicate all usefull intelligence to me from time to time as a proof of your regard for your engagements & a means of recommending yourselves to the esteem of the King and people of England.

A Belt.

Brothers of the sev^l Nations here Assembled

The Gov^r of New Jersey being called hence by some urgent business has desired me to inform you that he can not think of taking leave of His Brethren the Six Nations without once more

expressing the Happiness he has received from finding that they entertain such right sentiments of his justice, & that of the good people under his Government He has himself the highest sense of the value & importance of the name conferred on him & doubts not but that future Governors & the chief men & inhabitants of New Jersey will be ever carefull to deserve so distinguished a Title among the Indian Nations as that of Sagorrihwhioughatha.¹ Doer of Justice

The Governor has likewise requested me to remind you that at a Treaty held at Easton in the year 1763 the Delawares and other Indians who had any pretensions to Land in New Jersey, did for a valuable consideration give a general release for all the Lands in that Province except such parts as were reserved by Law for the use of those Indians who chose to live under the protection of that Governm^t. This was done in public Council in the presence of many of the Six Nations and the Governor would therefore be glad, that at this Congress (where are present an many chiefs of the different Nations belonging to the Confederacy & when a general Boundary Line between the subjects of His Brittannic Majesty in America & their Bretheren the Indians is to be settled) you would do the Province of New Jersey the justice to confirm the said Release by acknowledging in public that that Province is entirely free from all Indian Claims, except as before ment^d. His Reason for this request is that this matter may be held in remembrance by all the nations present & by that means be more surely handed down to their Posterity

A Belt.

Brothers

In consequence of a Belt I have just received from the Senecas which I formerly gave them to bind them together I do now think it highly necessary with this Belt to bind you all together recommend^e it to you all to avoid wandering and to continue at your several villages after the manner of your ancestors, I do this principally for your own advantage, convinced that you will be weakened by rambling and that your Councils and opinions will be thereby disunited — Take therefore my advice and do not suffer yourselves to be lead away with any inaginary prospects of advantage by scattering, but continue by this Belt in your several places of abode following your commerce and all peaceable pursuits

A Large Black Belt

Brothers

The business of the Treaty being so far happily brought to a conclusion it only remains that you execute a deed of Cession to His Majesty & whatever else is necessary on this occasion, after which I shall deliver over to your People the large Present, together with the Sum of Money the amount and value of which I have already explained to you — The Gov^r and Gentlemen Comm^r from the sev^l Governm^t are sensible of your good conduct during the Treaty, and I shall recommend what is necessary to them in your presence for its further security & on the part of New York I take upon myself to promise you that every thing necessary thereto shall be recommended and I make no doubt agreed to by the Legislature of this Province, heartily wishing that the same may on your parts be as carefully observed & that no disputes may hereafter arise concerning any part of the Cession you have made or the engagements you have entered into at this time.

Then Sir William addressed the Gov^r of New Jersey & the Commissioners

¹ See note, *supra*, p. 117. — Ed.

Gentlemen

Agreeable to His Matys intentions signified to me by the secretary of State and for the satisfaction of the several Nations here assembled I take the liberty to recommend it strongly to your several Provinces to enact the most effectual Laws for the due observance of this Line & the preventing all future intrusions, as the expectations thereof and the reliance the Indians have on your Justice from the Assurances I gave them on that head have proved great inducements to the settlement of the Line now established between the Colonies and them

To this the Governors & Commissioners answered that nothing should be wanting on their parts to the obtaining such security for the Boundary as was deemed necessary on their return to their respective Colonies

Then Sir William at the desire of the Gentlemen Commissioners from Pensylvania acquainted the Indians, that they the Commissioners had a present ready to the amount of 600 Dollars to give in full satisfaction of the Conostoga Lands, which by the death of that People became vested in the Proprietaries—That they freely gave this sum as a farther Proof of the regard of that Province for them and of their concern for the unhappy fate of the Conostogas. Then Sir William told the Indians, that as the proprietaries did not know whether they would chuse money or Goods for the addition of Land to Pensylvania they were then unprovided, but that Sir William Johnson would be answerable for the speedy payment of the purchase, & would propose to them either to receive it in money to be sent on the Com^{rs} return or in goods speedy as possible or to wait till the next spring by which time they could have goods better & more for the same money from England which was submitted to their determination

As it grew late Sir William dismissed the Indians till the next day when they were to subscribe to the Deed of Cession & receive the consideration

At night the chiefs came to Sir William told him that they had considered the proposals made by the Commissioners of Pensylvania, & preferred the receiving the purchase in Cash, as the speediest payment which was agreed to & security given that the same should be paid in Six Weeks

Nov^r 5th

The Present being placed in public view around the Buildings within the Fort early this morning the whole assembled in the Area, to subscribe to the Deed & receive the consideration

At a Congress with the several Nations Saturday Nov 6

PRESENT — as before.

The Speaker after repeating what Sir had said to them on the first Belt at the last Congress said

Brother

We thank you for what you have said & we are hopeful that you will observe your engagements as we mean to do on our parts; but as this will in a great measure depend upon the Colonies, We now desire their Representatives here present to do every thing for preserving those engagem^{ts} and keeping their people in good order

A Belt.

Then repeating what was said on the second Belt, said
Brother

We thank you for the advice you have given us not to listen to evil reports or lies.

Brother

We approve of your caution and shall observe it, and we shall from time to time give us the earliest intelligence of any such Reports & from whence they come A Belt.

Then in answer to Gov' Francklin's Speech

Brother

We are glad to see that Governor Francklin is so well pleased with our having bestowed one of our own names upon him & are well pleased [to] hear you promise that he will always be ready to do us justice. We hope that all future Governors will act the same part. We acknowledge that several of our Nations now present were witnesses to the transaction at Easton & therefore acquit that Province of any demand and we have only to desire of him to follow your example in his future Conduct towards us, which will sufficiently recommend him and his people to our esteem A Belt.

Brother. The advice you gave us yesterday to continue firm and united and to live together as formerly we think it very salutary and intended for our Good. We are therefore intended to follow your advice shall lodge your Belt at our Fire place at Onondaga to the end that all our confederacy may have recourse to it & act accordingly

The Deed to His Majesty, that to the Proprietors of Pennsylvania, with that to the Traders being then laid on the Table were executed in the presence of the Gov' Commissioners, & the rest of the Gentlemen

After which the Cheifs of each Nation received the Cash which was piled on a Table for that purpose and then proceeded to divide the Goods amongst their People which occupied the remainder of that day

P.M. The Governor & Commissioners took leave and returned to their respive Provinces and that night Sir William took leave of the Cheifs recommending it to them to remember what had been then transacted & cautioning them against committing any Disorders at their Departure but to pack up their Goods & return home in peace & Good Order

Sunday Nov 6th

The Indians began to decamp & Sir William sett off on his return for Johnston Hall where he arrived on the ninth of that Month

A True Copy examined by

G JOHNSON Deputy Agent as Secretary.

Sic. — Ed.

1769

Document n° 24

Date : 20 avril 1769

Référence : Archives nationales du Canada, série RG 10, bob. C-1223, vol. 14, p. 38-41.

Nature du document : Proclamation de Guy Carleton.

Résumé : Décision concernant le différend entre les Abénaquis de Saint-François et des agriculteurs canadiens. Ces derniers, avec des concessions et baux illégitimes, ont empiété sur les terres réservées aux Indiens. Ils sont sommés de cesser toute activité sur les terres en question.

CANADA
STATE RECORDS

No...

1769

NAME Guy Carleton, Gov^r
ADDRESS Quebec
DATE 20th April

SUBJECTS:

Forbidding white people to settle on the Land of the S^t Francis Indians.

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Proclamation [39]

George Trois par la Grace de Dieu Roi de la Grande Bretagne et les Territoires en Dépendances et la Suite à François Cartier, Giorgiau, Alexander Magdalainne, Jean Semette, Régis Laussière, Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis, Annisse, Pierre Chateau Vieux le Cadet Latinville, Crevier S^t François, François Gille, François Gille, Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille et Anisse leurs ouvriers, Laboureurs, Domestiques et Représentans et chacun et tous d'eux en particulier Salut Vous ayant été représenté dans votre Cour de Chancellerie pour notre Province de Québec par François Maseres Ecuier notre avocat Général pour la dite Province faisant pour Jerome Adiewanedon, François Xavier Abemesin, Charles Mesadocor et Joseph Louis Guille surnommé Manmanrignonante et autres Chefs de la Nation indienne dite Abenakis vivante sous notre Protection dans la Seigneurie de S^t François et proche d'icelle dans notre dite Province Que malgré que les dits Indiens aient été tranquilles et paisibles possesseurs pendant plus de soixante années dernièrement écoulées d'une certaine étendue de Terres sise dans la dite Seigneurie et commençant à environ un Quart de Lieuë au [?] [?] l'Établissement actuel d'un nommé Baptiste Descheneaux le Cadet, ainsi que de certaines Isles grandes et petites se trouvant dans la dite [40] Seigneurie Laquelle étendue de Terre

contient environ un Lieuë de Front sur la Riviere S^t François François en montant sur toute la profondeur de la dite Seigneurie de S^t François; Cependant que vous les dits François Cartier, Giorgiau, Alexander Magdalainne, Jean Semette, Regis Laussière, Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis, Annisse, Pierre Chateau Vieux le Cadet, Latinville, Crevier S^t François, François Gille, Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille et Anisse conjointement avec vos ouvriers, Laboureurs, Domestiques et Représentans sous pretexte de certaines concessions ou Baux supposés et illégitimes à vous dernièrement accordés avez dernièrement grandement troublé et interrompu la dite Nation Indienne dans la Possession et Jouissance de la dite Étendue de Terre et Isles en ensemançant et cultivant plusieurs Parties d'icelles a Votre Profit et en coupant et enlevant Bois, Foins et Denrées sir icelles et en exerçant autres actes de Propriété non convenables sur icelles sans aucune autorité légitime: À ces causes nous enjoignons et commandons sérieusement à vous les dits François Cartier, Giorgiau, Alexander Magdalainne, Jean Semette, Regis Laussière, Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis, Annisse, Pierre Chateau Vieux le Cadet, Latinville, Crevier S^t François, François Gille, Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille, et [41] Anisse conjointement avec vos ouvriers, Laboureurs, Domestiques et Représentans et chacun de vous en particulier sous Peine de mille Livres Sterling à prendre sur les Terres meubles et immeubles de chacun de vous à notre Profit de désister absolument des à présent tous et chacun de vous de troubler [?] interrompre de quelques Façon que ce soit la dite Nation Indienne ou aucun membre d'icelle dans la paisible possession et jouissance de toute ou aucune Partie de la dite étendue de Terre ou Isles, en ensemançant ou cultivant aucune Partie d'icelles, ou en coupant ou en enlevant aucun Foin, Bois ou Denrées sur icelles, ou en exerçant aucun actes de Propriété quelconques sur icelles, et ainsi de ne faire ni commettre aucun Degat ni Dommage sur le tout ou aucune Partie d'icelles jusqu'à ce que vous aiez pleinement répondu à la dite Plainte de notre avocat General, et que notre Cour en ait autrement Disposée. Témoin l'honorable Guy Carleton notre Gouverneur et Commandant en Chef de notre Dite Province de Québec et Garde de notre Sceau public d'icelle &c &c à Québec dans notre dite Province ce vingt d'avril, de notre Regne le neuvième.

Guy Carleton

CANADA.

STATE RECORDS.

No.

1769

Name

Guy Carleton, Gov.

Address

Quebec

Date

20th April

SUBJECTS:

Forbidding white people to settle on the Land
of the St Francis Indians.

CONTENTS:

Proclamation

39

George Trois par la Grâce de Dieu Roi de la
Grande Bretagne et les Territoires en
dépendantes et l'avis de François Cartier,
Georgian, Alexander Magdalaine, Jean Sennette,
Noëlle Laupsiere, Joseph Demerai, Joseph Louis,
Amise, Pierre Chateau Vieux le Capitaine
Lafleurille, (Pierrier St. François)
François Gille, Joseph Louis, Robert Gille,
Joseph Gille, et Ann. les leurs Ouvriers,
Laboureurs, Domestiques et Représentants et
chacun et tout d'eux en particulier Salut Nous
ayant été représenté dans notre Cour de
Chancellerie pour notre Province de Québec par
François Masson Ecuyer notre Avocat Général
pour la dite Province faisant pour Acome
Mikwanon, François Davier, Humesin, Charles
Lecardot, et Joseph Louis Gille surnommé
le manrigonate et autres Chefs de la Nation
Antienne dite Abenakis vivante sous notre
Protection dans la Seigneurie de St. François et
voisin d'icelle dans notre dite Province. Que
malgré que les dits Indiens n'ont été tranquilles
et sursitaires plusieurs pendant plus de soixante
années dernièrement écoulées d'une certaine
étendue de Terrains s'étendant en la dite Seigneurie et
commençant à environ un Quart de Lieue au
château d'Abolissement actuel d'un nomme
Miquin Descheneau, et la dit. a. n. n. que de certains
C. n. grandes et petites se trouvant (dans la dite
Seigneurie

L'empire de laquelle l'endue de Terre contient
 environ un demi de front sur la Riviere St. Francois
 en montant sur toute la Profondeur de
 la dite Riviere de St. Francois; Et pendant que
 vous les dits Francois Cartier, Giorgian,
 Alexander Magdalaine, Jean Semette, Regis
 Laupiere, Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis,
 Annisse, Pierre Chateau vieux le cadet,
 Lalinville, Crevier St. Francois, Francois
 Gille, Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille,
 et Annisse conjointement avec vos
 Ouvriers Laboueurs Domestiques et Représentans
 sous Pretexte de certaines Concessions ou Traux
 injustes et illegitimes à vous dernièrement
 accordez avec dernièrement grandement
 trouble et interrompu la dite Nation Indienne
 dans la Possession et Jouissance de laditeendue
 de Terre et Isles en ensemençant et cultivant
 plusieurs Parties d'icelles à votre Profit et en
 coupant et enlevant Bois, Toins et Denrées sur
 icelles et en exerçant autres Actes de Propriété
 non convenables sur icelles sans aucune autorité
 Legitime: A ces causes nous enjoignons et
 commandons serieusement à vous les dits
 Francois Cartier, Giorgian, Alexander
 Magdalaine, Jean Semette, Regis Laupiere,
 Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis, Annisse,
 Pierre Chateau vieux le cadet, Lalinville,
Crevier St. Francois, Francois
 Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille, et

Laquelle est due de Terre contient
 une section en suite de front sur le Riviere St. Francois en montant, sur toute la Profondeur de
 la dite Ligne sur le dit St. Francois; le pendant que
 vous les dits Francois Carlier, Georgian,
 Alexander Magdalainne, Jean Semette, Regis
 Luppier, Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis, Annisse,
 Annisse, Pierre Chateau vieux le cadet, Latinville,
 Latinville, Crevier St. Francois, Francis
 Gille, Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille,
 et Annisse conjointement avec vos
 Ouvriers Laboueurs Domestiques et Représentans
 sous pretexte de certaines Concessions ou Traux
 injustes et illégitimes à vous dernièrement
 accordés avec dernièrement grandement
 trouble et interrompu la dite Nation Indienne
 dans la Possession et Souveraineté de la dite Grande
 de Terre et Isles en encrochant et cultivant
 plus que Parties & icelles à votre Profit et en
 coupant et enlevant Bois, Foin et herbes sur
 icelles et en exerçant autres Actes de Propriété
 non convenables sur icelles sans aucune autorité
 légitime: A ces fautes nous enjoignons et
 commandons serieusement à vous les dits
 Francois Carlier, Georgian, Alexander
 Magdalainne, Jean Semette, Regis Luppier,
 Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis, Annisse,
 Pierre Chateau vieux le cadet, Latinville,
 Crevier St. Francois, Francois Gille
 Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille, et

Admirez vos Ouvriers Laboureurs
Domestiques et Représentans et chacune de
vous en particulier sous Peine de mille Livres
à prendre sur les Terres, Meubles
et Immeubles de chacun de vous à notre
Profit de dévister absolument des à présent
tous et chacun de vous de troubler
interrompre de quelque Façon que ce soit la
dite Nation Indienne ou aucun membre
d'icelles dans la paisible Possession et
jouissance de toute ou aucune Partie de la
dite étendue de Terre ou Isles, en ensemençant
ou cultivant aucune Partie d'icelles, ou en
coupant ou en enlevant aucun Foin, Bois
ou Derrée sur icelles, ou en exerçant aucun
Actes de Propriété quelconques sur icelles, et
ainsi de ne faire ni commettre aucun Degrat
ni Dommage sur le tout ou aucune Partie
d'icelles, jusqu'à ce que vous ayez pleinement
repondu à la dite Mainte de notre Avocat
General, et que notre Cour en ait autrement
disposé. Temoins l'honorable Guy
Carteton notre Gouverneur et Commandant
en Chef de notre dite Province de Québec et
de notre Sceau public d'icelle &c. &c. à
Québec dans notre dite Province ce vingt
d'Avril, de notre Règne le neuvième.

Guy Carteton

Jeiguurie la quelle est de votre content
environ un demi de lieue sur la Riviere de
Francois en montant, sur toute la Profondeur de
la Dile Jeiguurie de M^r Francois; se pendant que
vous les dits Francois Cartier, Giorgian,
Alexander Magdalainne, Jean Semette, Regis
Lauquier, Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis,
Annisse, Pierre Chateau vieux le cadet,
Lainville, Crosier M^r Francois, Francois
Gille, Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille,
et Annisse conjointement avec vos
ouvriers Laboureurs Domestiques et Représentans
sous pretexte de certaines concessions ou Prax
supposés et illegitimes à vous dernièrement
accordés avec dernièrement grandement
trouble et interrompu la Dile Nation Indienne
dans la Possession et Souveraineté de la Dile Etendue
de Terre et Isles en ensemençant et cultivant
plusieurs Parties d'icelles à votre Profit et en
coupant et enlevant Bois, Foin et Denrées sur
icelles et en exerçant autres Actes de Propriété
non convenables sur icelles sans aucune autorité
legitime: A ces fautes nous enjoignons et
commandons serieusement à vous les dits
Francois Cartier, Giorgian, Alexander
Magdalainne, Jean Semette, Regis Lauquier,
Joseph Demarais, Joseph Louis, Annisse,
Pierre Chateau vieux le cadet, Lainville,
Crosier M^r Francois, Francois Gille
Joseph Louis, Robert Gille, Joseph Gille, et

Carte de nos Officiers de la Province

Domestiques et Représentans et chacun de
vous en particulier sous Peine de mille Livres
à prendre sur les Terres, Meubles
et Immeubles de chacun de vous à notre
Profit de divertir absolument dès le présent
tous et chacun de vous de troubler
interrompre de quelque Façon que ce soit la
dite Nation Indienne ou aucun membre
d'icelles dans la paisible Possession et
jouissance de toute ou aucune Partie de la
dite étendue de Terre ou Isles, en ensemençant
ou cultivant aucune Partie d'icelles, ou en
coupant ou en enlevant aucun Foin, Bois
ou Denrée sur icelles, ou en exerçant aucun
Actes de Propriété quelconques sur icelles, et
ainsi de ne faire ni commettre aucun Dégât
ni Dommage sur le tout ou aucune Partie
d'icelles, jusqu'à ce que vous ayez pleinement
répondu à la dite Plainte de notre Avocat
General, et que notre Cour en ait autrement
disposé. Temoins l'honorable Guy
Carteton notre Gouverneur et Commandant
en Chef de notre dite Province de Québec et
de notre Sceau public d'icelle &c. &c. à
Québec dans notre dite Province ce vingt
d'Avril, de notre Règne le neuvième.

Guy Carteton

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Document n° 25

- Date :** 26 août 1769
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *The Documentary History of the State of New York*, Albany, 1849-1851, vol. 2, p. 948-954. Aussi dans O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 8, p. 183-186.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de William Johnson au Earl of Hillsborough, de Johnson Hall.
- Résumé :** Johnson décrit sa visite dans le pays des Six-Nations. Chez les Senecas, le mécontentement est grand. Des messagers cherokees arrivent pour assister au congrès général qui se tiendra à Onondaga le mois prochain et où les chefs de la Confédération du Canada et d'autres viendront renouveler et confirmer les alliances.

so great an Expense as is necessary for Convening all those Indians who should attend on such an occasion, without particular Orders, and I have the Satisfaction to find that herein I acted for the best, as from your Lordship's last Letter I observe that in case I am of opinion that it may be of ill consequence, His Majesty will ratify the boundary agreeable to the Treaty, to which I have only to add that since my last Tour into the Indian Country I find my former opinion so much strengthened, that I think it highly prudent to decline the mention of the affair unless I receive yr Lordship's orders to the contrary, or that something should occur that may justify me in so doing.

The Rt hon'ble The Earl of Hillsborough

Endorsed

“(No 10.) August 21st 1769.

To the Earl of Hillsborough.”

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Johnson Hall Augt 26th 1769.

My LORD

Having had the honor to write your Lordship on the Subject of the Boundary & Cession which Letter accompnys this I am now to give your Lordship an Account of the Transactions during my late tour through the Countrey of the Six Nations.

I left home on the 26th June and after many delays arrived at Onondaga the 10th July where I found the Chiefs &c of that nation with Sev^l others from the Neighbouring Villages who being in great want of Indian Corn from a failure of their Crops I gave them a Supply of that & Sev^l other Articles, & previous to my Gen^l Meeting held Sev^l private conferences with the Chiefs at their Hunting Cabbins returning from one of which in the night My Canoe overset, & in ascending the bank I rec^d a very Severe Cut by a fall on my wounded leg which had very nigh rendered me incapable of proceeding, however on finding myself a little easier I held a Congress with them 2 days after which they opened with a Speech wherein they made many enquiries after news, & whether a War was not to be commenced between England France & Spain, They said they were well assured of

thus, & that there were many things which gave them much concern, amongst the rest That some of yr nation continued Obstinate^{ly} bent on War, and that they feared it would Compell them to disturb the Cherokees & others with whom they had made peace. That the Intrusions of the New Englanders into Pennsylvania they were afraid would draw Some of their people into a War, and that it gave them concern to find that those persons who had the Management of the Trade were removed:—I gave them all the satisfaction in my power on these heads & afterwards proceeded for Cayuga where there were about 500 Indians Assembled, with whom I had a meeting to much the Same effect as with the Onondagas only I observed that the further I advanced into the Indian Country, the more earnest the Indians appeared in their Sev^l discourses. I next went to Seneca, where I had Summoned the chiefs of that nation as also those Indians living near the head of Ohio to meet me, who Soon Assembled to the number of 2000 & upwards, before I met them in publick I was visited by two Chiefs in whom I have always had reason to place much confidence who told me that they had laboured hard for Some months to keep their people in order and to prevent their receiving Sev^l belts which had been Sent to their Country for very bad purposes, but that nevertheless many came to their hands which had occasioned a Spirit of Discontent amst them as I would find on opening the Congress, about the Same time Messengers arrived notifying the approach of a number of Cherokee Chiefs who were coming to attend a Gen^l Congress to be held at Onondaga at the beginning of next month to which the chiefs of all the Canada confederacy & other Northern Indians were Summoned to renew & Strengthen Alliances. When we Assembled the Senecas began with a long detail of what they called Grievances, They Said that they found the Conduct of all people altered for the worse towards them, That not a Season had passed Since the late peace without the murder of Some of their people by the Inhabitants, That by withdrawing those who had the inspection of the Trade & Frauds & abuses would be more common than ever; That no business could be Transacted without Interpreters at the posts & that they could not do without Smiths, to mend their arms and other implements used in Hunting That they were well

assured that a War was near at hand, & that they were courted to engage in it, which tho' contrary to the Sense of their Chiefs might probably be agreed to by to many of the Warriors, If those affairs which gave them So much uneasiness were not adjusted for they saw there was no provision made for their redress, I then explained to them what I had in Genl made known before to the Confederacy, Touching the present System for Indian affairs. That they would find the Colonies heartily disposed to make what Establishments were necessary and to prevent frauds or Injustice of every kind, but that they ought to make allowance for the importance of these matters as they required Some time to be put on a proper footing & that those whose Interests & Trade were So materially Connected with them would certainly pursue the wisest measures for promoting peace & Commerce. They answered that I had told them So before, That they well knew how Slow our people here were, & that altho' Some of the Old people of every nation were still disposed to believe all this, They found the Majority of the rest particularly of the other Confederacies were not. They gave me a long State of the Politics of the other Nations, on which they observed that the fact was—the Indians expected to meet the same treatment from us which they had done from the French, That the latter repeatedly told them they would not, That they found it too true, & that they were full of Resentment thro' Disappointment.

It may not be amiss here to remark that when Inds. are Disposed to Quarrel they collect all the materials they can as Grounds for their conduct & often insist on things as Grievances, which in reality have given them little Concern The true Cause is often misrepresented, & therefore the proper remedy is Wanting. They are Jealous of us & envious of one another, & I dont doubt but that the late Great present may prove a means of dividing the Councils of the Six Nats. with the rest, for tho' the sole right was in that confederacy (& double the sum wou'd not have contented all who desired to partake of it) The rest will probably be Jealous of it of which I am in hopes a proper use may be made.

During my stay at Seneca, I saw and spoke with sev'l Indians from different Nations who brought belts of union & messages, & after having settled matters for obtaining a knowledge of what

is to pass at the Congress before mentioned, I took leave of the Indians & arrived here about 10 days ago, much indisposed nor am I yet recovered from the Hurt I received at Onondaga, so that I hope your Lordship will excuse any defects in this Short Sketch which is extract'd hastily from my Journal.—On my way home I was overtaken with the news of a Murder of a Young Seneca Lad who was fired upon on the River Susquehanna by some of the frontier Inhabitants without the least provocation given (of which I have since rec'd. an acct. from Pensylva.) as the father of this Lad has generally lived within the Settlements, & with the whole family demonstrated the most zealous attachment to the English, & were much respected by the Indians, the murther is a very unlucky accident at this tyme, but it is not alone, sev'l others having been lately committed by the Infatuated & Lawless Inhabitants on the frontiers of Virginia &c. who as they have hitherto acted with Impunity are encouraged to go on.—And tho' the effects of all this have not been Sensibly felt for some time, they at length begin to make their appearance particularly about the Illinois, Ohio &c. of which your Lordship will doubtless receive information from the Commander in Chief, the Indians having killed sev'l. people attacked & plundered sev'l. Traders boats & in short blocked up the Communication of the Ohio so that it is no longer practicable for the Traders, whilst at the same time They are endeavouring to form a more strict alliance than ever for purposes that are but too obvious, seeming only to wait the success of their negotiations for the Commencement of Hostilities, and altho' upon these occasions they use much caution and secrecy, yet some part of their late conduct does not exactly agree with it, but shews an Extraordinary degree of Confidence from some Quarter, of which the answer herewith inclosed to the Speech of Lt. Col Wilkins Commands. at Illinois furnishes some instances, to Illustrate which I have annexed some notes. I have rec'd. a Copy of the Speech of Mon. VerChere formerly a French officer of the Indians of Lake Erie as now delivered by them; this Speech was made known to me by some Spies I have who with many others since positively affirm that he gave them a present in the name of the French King and desired them to hold themselves in readiness, but on my communicating it to the General who wrote

concerning it to Canada, the Indians who esteem Vercheres came to the Comd^t at Detroit delivered up Vercheres belt, and also the Speech in the manner sent me, and was evidently altered to prevent his meeting with punishment, nevertheless tho' they have certainly suppressed much of what he said to them enough remains which to a man conversant in their Idiom would be a convincing proof without any thing farther.—In short as I suspected & frequently represented would be the case, none but Frenchmen can go into their Country to the Westward, & the Indians positively and publicly declare, to all people that they will suffer no others into their Country. I was informed that the French were at the bottom of the representations artfully prepared to get the Gen^l. Liberty for Trading at Large in the Ind^l. Country which I then observed was calculated for them to Engrass: it all.

In the mean time the Colonies have as yet done nothing Except £150 Voted by N York for the defraying the expenses of officers of Trade a sum scarcely worth mentioning & the Gov^o. now writes me that he ment^d his apprehensions of the Ind^l. uneasiness for want of Commissaries to the members of Assembly but without effect & adds that the Inadequate provisⁿ made for Interpreters & Smiths shews how little the matter in agitation was understood.—In short none of those conversant in these matters expect they will do anything material I ought the rather to mention this because in your Lordships Letter of Octobr 12th 1768. (N^o 6) you observe that the reliance on the benefits Intended to be the result of the late measures was not upon their propriety but "upon the execution of them & upon the regulations which the Colonies shall think fit to adopt for the management of the Commercial part." I kept people on the frontiers as long as I possibly could consistent with his Majesties Instructions & gave timely notice to the Colonies concerned that they must be withdrawn, as did the Commanter in Chief, but without effect, and I persuaded myself that your Lordships long knowledge of American affairs will render it necessary for me to point out the little expectation of these measures having the effect desired be the consequences what they will. Tis my sense of these consequences alone that induces me to offer a word in addition to what I formerly said hereon, for I aver upon my honor I never had the smallest advantage in the

appointments that formerly existed, but add trouble in Corresponding with the officers, constantly sending them instructions & paying their acct^s & settled salaries when I rec^d them from the Com^r in chief, and very often obliged to advance them money before I rec^d it myself. Your Lordship will then judge how little I ought to have Coveted this from any other motive than the better execution of the public Service.

This moment I have advice that the people have abandoned their settlements from Bedford to Fort Pitt, in consequence of some Robberies committed by some partys of Indians, and also fearing their resentment for their own late conduct towards them, That a party of Ind^s coming from war had robbed a House where there was only one Woman, whom they threw into the Potowinack, on which a party of the Inhabitants pursued & killed three of the Indians, That they had then resolved to augment their number & proceed to cut off a Mingo Village not far from thence, If so, a War is inevitable. In short there is but too much Licentiousness on all sides for by the same acct. I am assured that Callender a Trader on his way to Fort Pitt with 25 Horses Loaded with Indian Goods was attacked near Bedford by 30 White men disguised & painted like Indians who destroyed & Carried away the Greatest part of his Goods declaring they would suffer none to pass on to the Ind^s. That this circumstance has greatly exasperated the Ind^s & contributed to alarm the peaceable part of the White Inhabitants: When we consider the state & disposition of the Indians a people without Laws, or Government very revengeful and influenced much by French Councils & very Jealous of us, We may conclude that as these people cannot in Gen^l be kept in order without an Expence that may be deemed greater than its Object, All we can do is to divide their Councils & retain a part of them in our Interest, which I am pretty confident I have Interest and Influence to do at all events; It is highly necessary to prevent a too Gen^l union amongst them, and I should rather have declined taking the pains I did to effect a peace between the Six Nations & Cherokees, because we enjoy the most security when they are divided amongst themselves At the breaking out of the Ind^l Indian War I proposed to raise Indians to be employed against the enemy, It was thought giving them too much Consequence, however I took upon myself

to send out a few parties which notwithstanding the pains generally taken to allow them as little merit as possible Contributed Essentially to bring that war to a Conclusion. For altho' it may be said & is in part true that Inds are unwilling to fight against one another in our Quarrells, there are many exceptions to this Opinion. There are some to be had who will join with ardour against any Enemy, & many more whom it is policy to retain in our service, who tho' at first unwilling to act offensively from maxims of policy, Yet if by any means blood is drawn will become principals in the war, & this the Indians are so sensible of that there is nothing of which they are more apprehensive.

I hope that whatever is the Issue of the present Alarms I shall be able to retain a large body in his Majesties Interest, & even to get them to act against the Enemy if it is required of me, and so soon as I receive any farther information that may be material, I shall communicate it immediately

I have the honor to be &c

The Rt. honorable

The Earl of Hillsborough.

SIR WM. JOHNSON TO LT. GOV. COLDEN.

Johnson hall, Oct. 4th 1763.

DEAR SIR,

I sincerely congratulate you on your once more entering upon the Administration of Government, and I most Cordially wish you health, Success, and Satisfaction in the discharge, of it tho' as you Justly observe there will be doubtless some who will endeavor to throw difficulties in your Way, but I expect you will Surmount them. The pleasure of seeing you, would I do assure you be no small inducement to my undertaking a Journey to New York At present however it is not in my power, as you have probably heard that on my late Tour thro' the Six Nation Country as I returned from holling a private Meeting in th Night, my Canoe was overset & in ascending a Bank I got a fall by which my Leg was very dangerously Cut with a Stake which has hitherto Confined me to the House, as it did for some time to my Chamber. The advice you give me tho' I take it Extremely kind, is founded

on the Expectation of an Event. which would give me real concern, and therefore I must be very far from desiring it,

Sir H Moore sometime ago promised that he would take some Measures for effectually Securing to the Mohocks and Conajoharees the Lands on and about their Villages, this the Inds. spoke of at the late Treaty at Fort Stanwix and I am persuaded that you will do whatever is best for that end; with a View to wch I shall send you the Surveys wch St Harry directed me to get made in order to know their exact Contents. There are 2 or 3 other Subjects which I shall take the Liberty of touching upon. You know the Assembly framed a Bill for Dividing the County of Albany, by forming a County on this River, the bounds they proposed seem evidently the Work of a party for private purposes they Extended Albany Co. to Aries Kill by which means they not only Cut & divide a Number of Patents, but by carrying it so far up the Mohock River must render it a hardship on the people of the New County to Erect the buildings necessary, and greatly hurt the New Settlements,—All the principal people of this Country have subscribed a petition to the Assembly which is in the hands of Capt De Lancey to be laid before the House Setting forth the Case, & praying that the Boundary may be Extended either with, or without Schohare, that in Running from Hardenberghs Patent on either Side of Schohare thence along the Patroons Line to the West bounds of the Township of Schenectady thence North along the West Line of that Township. This I can Assure you is the best, most Natural, and Convenient boundary that can be formed, and I therefore take the Liberty of recommending it to your patronage.

The next thing is with regard to the Militia, Govr. Moore formed Sev' regiments, as the Old ones were overgrown he divided the province into Two Districts, giving me the Command from the frontiers to the Highlands as Brigalier General (which in fact was no preferment it was going backwards) What was done with respect to the Militia was really Necessary in order to make them decent and respectable, I however heard sometime ago of farther Intentions of his, wch I can't say much for, but perhaps I was misinformed, Much favor was Shewn to certain persons in these Appointments but what I have principally to observe at present, is, that there seems to be a Law necessary for enforcing Obedience

Sir William Johnson to the Earl of Hillsborough.

(N^o 11.)

[Plantations General, OCLV., No. 11, B., 27.]

Johnson Hall, August 26th 1769.

My Lord,

Having had the honour to write your Lordship on the subject of the Boundary & Cession which letter accompanys this, I am now to give your Lordship an Acc^t of the Transactions during my late Tour through the Country of the Six Nations.

I left home on the 26th of June and after many delays arrived at Onondaga the 10th of July where I found the Chiefs &c^t of that Nation with several others from the neighbouring villages who being in great want of Indian Corn from a failure of their crops, I gave them a supply of that & several other articles, and previous to my General Meeting, held several private conferences with the Chiefs at their hunting cabins returning from one of which in the night my canoe overset & in ascending a bank I received a verry severe cut by a fall on my wounded leg which had verry nigh rendered me Incapable of proceeding, however on finding myself a little easier, I held a Congress with them two days after, which they opened with a speech wherein they made many Enquirys after News, and Whether a war was not about to be commenced between England, France & Spain, they said they were well assured of this, that there were many things which gave them much concern, amongst the rest that some of the Nations continued obstinately bent on war, and they feared it would compel them to disturb the Cherokees & others with whom they had made peace, that the intrusions of the New England people into Pensilvania they were afraid would draw some of theirs into a war, and that it gave them concern to find that those persons who had the management of the Trade were removed, I gave them all the satisfaction in my power on these heads, & afterwards proceeded for Onyuga where there were about 500 Indians assembled with whom I had a meeting to much the same effect as with the Onondagues, only I observed that the farther I advanced into the Indian Country, the more earnest the Indians appeared in their several discourses. I next went to Seneca where I had summoned y^e Chiefs of that Nation, as also those Indians living near the head of Ohio to meet me, who in a few days assembled to the amount of two thousand and upwards, before I met them in public I was visited by two Chiefs in whom I had always had reason to place much confidence, who told me that they had laboured hard for some months to keep their people in order, & to prevent their receiving several belts which had been sent to their Country for verry bad purposes; but that nevertheless many came to their hands, w^h had occasioned a spirit of discontent amongst them, as I would find on opening the Congress, about the same time Messingers arrived notifying the approach of a number of Cherokee Chiefs who were coming to attend a General Congress to be held at Onondaga the beginning of next month, to which the Chiefs of the Canada Confederacy and other Northern Indians were summoned to renew and strengten alliances. When we assembled the Senecas began with a long detail of what they called greivances, they said that they found the conduct of all people altered for the worse towards them, that not a season had passed since the late peace without the murder of some of their people by the Inhabitants, that by withdrawing those who had the inspection of the Trade &c^t frauds & abuses would be more common then ever, that no business could be transacted without Interpreters at the Posts, & that they could not do without Smiths to mend their arms, & other implements used

in hunting, that they were well assured that a war was near at hand, & that they were courted to engage in it, which tho' contrary to the sense of the Chiefs might probably be agreed to by too many of the warriors, if those affairs which gave them so much uneasiness were not adjusted, for they saw there was no provision made for their redress, I then explained to them what I had in general made known before to the Confederacy touching the present system for Indian affairs, that they would find the Colonies heartily disposed to make what Establishments were necessary, and to prevent frauds or injustice of every kind, but that they ought to make allowance for the impatience of these matters as they required some time to be put on a proper footing, & that those whose Interests & Trade were so materially connected with them would certainly pursue the wisest measures for promoting peace & Commerce. They answered that I had told them so before, that they well knew how slow our people here were, and that altho' some of the old people of every nation were still disposed to believe all this, they found the majority of the rest, particularly of the other confederacies were not, they gave me a long state of the politicks of y^e other nations on which they observed, that the Fact was, the Indians expected to meet the same treatment from us, which they had done from the French, that the latter repeatedly told them they would not, that they found it too true & that they were full of resentment thro' disappointment, it may not be amiss here to remark, that when Indians are disposed to quarrel, they collect all the materials they can as grounds for their conduct, and often insist on things as greivances which in reality have given them little concern, the true cause is often misrepresented and therefore the proper remedy is wanting, they are jealous of us, & envious of one another, & I don't doubt but that the late great present may prove a means of dividing the Councils of the Six Nations with the rest, for tho' the sole right was in that Confederacy (and double the sum would not have contented all who desired to partake of it) the rest will probably be jealous of it, of which I am in hopes a proper use may be made.— During my stay at Seneca I saw & spoke with several Indians from different nations who brought belts of Union & Messages, & after having settled matters for obtaining a knowledge of what is to be transacted at the Congress before mentioned, I took leave of the Indians and arrived here about ten days ago much indisposed, nor am I as yet recovered from the hurt I received at Onondaga, so that I hope your Lordship will excuse my defects in this short Sketch which is extracted hastily from my Journal.— On my way home I was overtaken with the news of a murder of a young Seneca man who was fired upon on the River Susqueham by some of the frontier inhabit^t without the least provocation given (of which I have since received an account from Pennsylvania) as the father of this young man has generally lived within the settlements, & with the whole Family demonstrated the most zealous attachment to the English, and were much respected by the Indians: the murder is a verry unlucky accident at this time, but it is not alone several others having been lately committed by the infatuated and lawless inhabitants on the frontiers of Virginia &c. Who as they have hitherto acted with impunity are encouraged to go on. And tho' the effects of all this have not been sensibly felt for some time, they at length begin to make their appearance particularly about the Illinois, Ohio &c. of which your Lordship will doubtless receive Information from the Commander in Chief, the Indians having killed several people, attacked & plundered several Traders boats, & in short blocked up the communication of the Ohio, so that is no longer practicable for the Traders. Whilst at the same time they are endeavouring to form a more strict alliance than ever for purposes that are but too obvious, sewing only to wait the success of their negotiations for the commencement of hostilities,

and altho' upon these occasions they use much caution & secrecy, yet some part of their late conduct does not exactly agree with it, but shews an extraordinary degree of confidence from some quarter, of which the answer herewith inclosed to the speech of L' Col Wilkins' commanding at Illinois furnishes some instances, to illustrate which I have annexed some notes, I have received a copy of the Speech of Mans' Verchere (formerly a French officer) to the Indians of Lake Erie, as now delivered by them, this speech was made known to me by some spies I have who with many others since positively affirm that he gave them a present in the name of the French King, and desired them to hold themselves in readiness, but on my communicating it to the General, who wrote concerning it to Canada, the Indians who esteem *VerChere* came to the Commandant at Detroit, delivered up *VerCheres* belt & also the speech in the manner sent me which was evidently altered to prevent his meeting with punishment, nevertheless tho they have certainly suppressed much of what he said to them, enough remains, which to a man conversant in their idiom would be a convincing proof without any thing farther. In short as I suspected and frequently represented would be the case, none but Frenchmen can go into their country to the Westward, & the Indians positively & publicly declare to all people that they will suffer no others into their country, I was informed that the French were at the bottom of the representations artfully prepared to get the general liberty for trading at large in the Indian country which I then observed was calculated for them to engross it all. In the mean time the Colonies have as yet done nothing, except $\text{£}150$ voted by N. York for defraying the expence of Officers of Trade &c a sum scarcely worth mentioning, and the Governor now writes me that he mentioned his apprehensions of the Indians uneasiness for want of Commissaries &c to the Members of his Assembly but without effect, and adds that the inadequate provision made for Interpreters & Smiths shews how little the matter in agitation was understood; In short none of those conversant in these matters expect they will do any thing material, I ought the rather to mention this because in your Lordship's letter of October 12th 1768 (N^o 6.) you observe that the reliance on the benefits intended to be the result of the late measures was not upon their propriety but upon the execution of them & upon the Regulations which the Colonies shall think fit to adopt for the management of the Commercial Part." I kept people on the frontiers as long as I possibly could consistent with His Majesty's Instructions, and gave timely notice to the Colonies concerned that they must be withdrawn, as did the Commander in Chief, but without effect, and I persuade myself that your Lordship's long knowledge of American affairs will render it unnecessary for me to point out the little expectation of these measures having the effect desired by the consequences what they will, 'tis my sense of these consequences alone that induces me to offer a word in addition to what I formerly said hereon for I averr upon my honour I never had the smallest advantage in the appointments that formerly existed but additional trouble in corresponding with the officers constantly sending them instructions, paying their acc^{ts} and settled salaries when I

¹ Lieutenant Colonel John Wilkins was appointed captain in the 53th Regiment of Foot 10th December, 1755, and became a major, unattached, in 1762; was commandant at Niagara in 1763, whence he marched to the relief of Detroit with a force of 600 regulars, but was attacked on the way by some Indians and driven back to Fort Schlosser with serious loss. He made another attempt to reach Detroit, but was overtaken by a storm on Lake Erie, when 50 of his men perished, and he and the remainder were forced back to Niagara. *Burkman's Postscript*, 376, 377. He became a major in the 60th Regiment in August, 1761, and in June following lieutenant-colonel of the 18th or Royal Irish. In May, 1768, he was ordered from Philadelphia with 7 companies of his regiment to Fort Pitt, whence he proceeded to Fort Chartres, of which post he became commandant. We find him there in 1771. *Pennsylvania Archives*, IV., 308, 377, 395. He died, or left the army at the close of 1776. *Army List*, 1776, 216. — Ed.

received it from the general, & very often obliged to advance them money before I rec^d it myself. Your Lordship will then judge how little I ought to have covetted this from any other motive than y^e better execution of the public service.

This moment I have advice that the people have abandoned their settlements from Bedford to Fort Pitt, in consequence of some robberies committed by some partys of Indians, & also fearing their Resentment for their own late conduct towards them, that a party of Indians coming from War had robbed a House wherein there was only one Woman, whom they threw into the Potowmack, on which a party of the Inhabitants pursued & killed three of the Indians. That they had then resolved to augment their number and proceed to cut off a Mingoe village not far from thence, if so, a war is inevitable. In short there is but too much licentiousness on all sides, for by the same account, I am assured that *Callendar* a trader on his way to Fort Pitt with 25 horses loaded with Indian goods was attacked near Bedford by thirty White men disguised & painted like Indians who destroyed & carried away the greatest part of his goods, declaring they would suffer none to pass on to the Indians, that this circumstance has greatly exasperated the Indians, & contributed to alarm the peaceable part of the White Inhabitants. — When we consider the state & disposition of the Indians, a people without laws or government, verry revengefull & influenced much by French Councils and verry jealous of us, We may conclude that as these people cannot in general be kept in order without an expence that may be deemed greater than its object, all we can do, is, to divide their Councils & retain a part of them in our Interest, which I am pretty confident I have interest & influence to do at all events. — It is highly necessary to prevent a too general Union amongst them, & I should rather have declined taking the pains I did to effect a peace between the Six Nations & Cherokees, because we enjoy the most security when they are divided amongst themselves, at the breaking out of the late Indian War I proposed to raise Indians to be employed against the enemy, it was thought giving them too much consequence. However I took upon myself to send out a few parties, which notwithstanding the pains generally taken to allow them as little merit as possible, contributed essentially to bring that War to a conclusion, for altho it may be said, and is in part true, that Indians are unwilling to fight against one another in our quarrels, there are many exceptions to this opinion. There are some to be had who will join with ardour against any enemy, & many more whom it is policy to retain in our service, who, tho at first unwilling to act offensively from maxims of policy, yet, if by any means blood is drawn will become principals in the War, & this the Indians are so sensible of that there is nothing of which they are more apprehensive. — I hope that whatever is the issue of the present alarms I shall be able to retain a large body in His Majesty's Interest, and even to get them to act ag^t the enemy if it is required of me, and so soon as I receive any farther information that may be material, I shall communicate it immediately.

I have the honour to be with the
most profound Respect,
My Lord,

Your Lordship's,
most obedient,

The Right Hon^{ble}
the Earl of Hillsborough.

& verry Humble Servant
W. JOHNSON.

- Date :** 14-24 juillet 1770
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 8, p. 227-244.
- Nature du document :** Compte rendu du traité avec les Six-Nations, les Indiens du Canada et autres, et les députés cherokees, près de German Flats.
- Résumé :**
- 16 juillet. 2 000 Indiens rassemblés.
- 17 juillet. Rencontres privées entre Johnson et des chefs indiens.
- 18 juillet. Début du congrès. Sont présents, du Canada : 78 Indiens de Kahnawake et d'Akwesasne, 8 Algonquins, 11 de Kanehsatake, 2 Abénaquis de Saint-François, 2 Hurons de Lorette et 7 Népissingues.
- Un chef de Saint-Régis déclare que, conformément aux invitations qu'ils ont reçues, les chefs des Sept-Nations du Canada sont ici rassemblés pour assister au congrès. Suivent quelques cérémonies de condoléances et d'accueil. Un orateur oneida s'adresse aux Indiens des Sept-Nations : il est satisfait qu'ils soient venus. Conférences privées.
- 19 juillet. Les Sept-Nations effectuent une cérémonie de condoléances pour le

meurtre de trois Indiens des Six-Nations. Les députés cherokees sont venus renouveler l'alliance et demander de l'aide aux Six-Nations contre des peuples ennemis. Les Six-Nations veulent avoir l'avis de Johnson. Ce dernier leur conseille de ne pas aller prêter main forte aux Cherokees, car ils devront ainsi négliger la chasse et le commerce et cela les affaiblira.

20 juillet. Délibérations des Indiens.

21 juillet. Réponse des Indiens. Ils décident de suivre l'avis de Johnson et de demeurer en paix. Ils vont d'abord envoyer les Shawnees pour tenter de négocier avec les nations ennemies. Johnson répond qu'il est satisfait de cette décision. Il revient ensuite sur le traité de Stanwix.

22 juillet. (p. 237-238). Conférence entre William Johnson et les Indiens du Canada. Ils se plaignent de la situation à Saint-Régis, où des intrus ont été imposés par une autre nation. De plus, l'hiver dernier, un Français nommé Clignancourt est venu s'installer à Kahnawake et y occasionne du trouble. Ils demandent à Johnson de prendre la chose en considération. Celui-ci leur répond que, selon les informations qu'il a reçues, la situation à Saint-Régis a été réglée à la satisfaction des Indiens de l'endroit. Pour ce qui est de Kahnawake, il va écrire une lettre à ce Français et donner des instructions à Claus.

Une rencontre générale suit où l'on discute du traité de Fort Stanwix. Un orateur des

Indiens du Canada prend la parole (p. 240). Lors de la conquête du Canada, ils se sont unis aux Anglais et ont décidé d'être fidèles à leurs engagements. «We then agreed for the preservation of peace, that the Cagh-nawagees should have their eyes on the Council Fire of the Six-Nations at Onondaga, and the other Council fire at your house, whilst our Brethren at Canasadaga should have their eyes upon all the Nations up the Ottawa or great river to the Westward». Ils ont toujours fidèlement rapporté les informations à Johnson et ont cherché à promouvoir la paix. Ils ont l'intention d'envoyer un message aux Indiens de l'Ouest. Johnson est très satisfait et approuve cette action.

23 juillet. Johnson renouvelle la chaîne du «Covenant», ce qui est approuvé par les nations indiennes.

24 juillet. Les Indiens du Canada expliquent qu'ils vont aller rencontrer Johnson chez lui (Johnson Hall) sur le chemin du retour. Johnson affirme qu'il sera content de les recevoir puisqu'il a des choses à leur dire.

upon to send to the South and Westward, supported by the steps I shall take, will I hope have weight, and prove serviceable in a high degree, and in order to be armed against any thing that may in another quarter threaten to disturb the public tranquillity, I have taken measures to be informed as early as possible with the proceedings & issues of the Congress, which they are about this time to hold at the great plains of *Sioto* near the Ohio, where some are endeavouring to form Confederacies for very bad purposes, secretly countenanced and supported by French Traders, Renegadoes and all those Indians, who have not hitherto been heartily attached to the English, but with wonderfull art, have for a time past endeavoured to shake the fidelity of the Six Nations, thro' the means of some of the Seneca Towns, who are most dissatisfied with our conduct.—I have in the course of this letter touched upon the principal subjects of both, the public and private conferences at the late Congress, this, is as much as I could do from the variety of matters that occur upon such occasions, which, however trivial in appearance, demand my particular attention. Upon the whole I must observe that the Indians are at present in a state of uncertainty as to what course they shall take; the measures lately taken have strengthened the fidelity of our friends and afforded a temporary satisfaction to others, but it is on the continuance of them and the adoption of the wisest measures for their redress and satisfaction we must solely rely for the securing their fidelity, which tho' comparatively of little moment, when weighed with the great objects of concern, wherein the Crown is so deeply interested, is nevertheless in a relative view, from a variety of peculiar circumstances worthy the most serious consideration, and therefore I most humbly recommend the heads herein stated^d of, as what may be productive of the most happy effects to this Country. If by any means they can be carried into execution under the auspices of the Crown, to promote which, My Lord, my whole influence & the small remainder of my health, shall be most willingly devoted. I hope to be honoured with your Lord's commands on the foregoing subjects, and am with the highest respect My Lord,

Your Lordship's most devoted and
most humble servant.

Johnson Hall. 14. August. 1770.

W^m JOHNSON.

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Indians.

[Translations General (. P. O.) COLVI.]

Proceedings at a Treaty with the Six Nations, the Indians of Canada, the several Dependant Tribes, and the Deputies from the Cherokee Nation, held at the upper settlements, near the German Flatts in July 1770, by Sir William Johnson Baronet.

On Sunday the 15th of July 1770. Sir William Johnson, accompanied by Colonel Daniel Claus, Col: Guy Johnson ¹⁷⁷⁰ Agents, Richard Shuckburgh Esquire Secretary for Indian Affairs, & several other Gentlemen from the neighbouring settlements, set out from Johnson Hall, and on Monday the 16th arrived at the place for holding the Treaty, where were assembled about 1600 Indians, and many more yet expected. At 2. P. M. the Speaker of the Six Nations, came to Sir William's Quarters to be informed, when they should make their first visit, and whether

²¹ Printed from Johnson's Manuscripts. — Ed.

they should come in a body, or each Nation separately; to which Sir William answered, that, as the house in which he resided, was too small to admit them, he would cause a large arbour to be made in the Field, where he would receive them all the next morning. At 6. p. m. 80 Indians arrived from *Onoghquagey*,¹ and other villages on the branch of *Susquehanna* the Chiefs of whom waited on Sir William, who after the usual ceremony, ordered them provisions, and sent them to their quarters. In the evening 16. Algonkins etc. arrived, who informed Sir William, that they had left seven canoes of Chipweighs n^e Oswego, on their way to the Congress. —

Tuesday the 17th The *Bant* Chief of Onondaga, with the speaker of that nation, waited on Sir W^m early in the morning and acquainted him, that their head warrior Diaquanda had refused to attend to business, and encamped with another Nation, which gave them all concern, and would greatly interrupt their proceedings; but as he was Sir William's particular friend, and much under his influence, hoped that he would make use of it to persuade him to return to them. — Sir William gave them a gracious answer and assured them that he would use his influence to that end.

Sir William accordingly sent for Diaquanda, and after some discourse, at length persuaded him to join, and assist his Nation in Council, for which he received their sincere thanks.

The Indians not being all assembled as yet, Sir William received visits from the Chiefs, and held several private meetings with the principal Men of each nation, from whom he received much useful and interesting information, respecting the sentiments and present disposition of the Indians. —

In the evening the old Sachems of Onoghquagey, came to Sir Williams quarters to acquaint him of Thomas King's (one of their Chiefs) having some days ago, unfortunately killed a young *Tuscarora*, for which he was so much concerned, that he determined to return the next day to the Village, where he committed the Murder, and submit himself to the Will of the Friends of the Deceased. Sir William told them, that he was extremely sorry for the death of their friend, desiring them to tell Thomas King that he would talk with him on that subject, and contribute his endeavours, that the affair might be amicably accommodated.

At a Congress held at the German Flatts on Wednesday July the 18th 1770.

PRESENT — The Hon^{ble} Sir W^m Johnson Bart^l Superintendent.

Col: Daniel Claus, Dep^y Agent.

John Butler Esq^r Interpreter.

Col: Guy Johnson. d^o

Captⁿ Norman McLeod^r of the late 50. Reg^t

Rich^d Shuckburgh Esq^r: Sec^y: for Indian Affairs

Captⁿ Michael Byrne.

Hon^{ble} Harkener Esq^r and several other Gentlemen and Inhabitants from the settlements, with the following nations of Indians.

¹ New Windsor, Broome County, N. Y.

² Captain Norway McLagan entered the army in January, 1756, as Ensign in the 121 Highlanders, on the augmentation of that regiment preparatory to its embarking for America, and served under Lord Loudon in Nova Scotia; under General Abercrombie in the expedition against Ticonderoga in 1758, he accompanied the expedition under Amherst on Lake Champlain and down the St. Lawrence in 1759, 1760. Having been transferred to the 80th or Gage's Light Infantry, he was commissioned Captain Lieutenant of that corps on 1st October, of the latter year, and served in it until its reduction in 1763, when he went on half pay, and was, some time after, appointed Commissary at Niagara. His name is continued on the half pay list until 1757, when it disappears. *Brown's High and Low*, IV., 155, et seq; *Army Lists; Kwoz*. Owing to the similarity of the names, this officer has been confounded with another, in the *Note, supra*, VII., 851, which ought to be struck — 110

SIX NATIONS.

Mohawks of the three Villages.....	209.	Tuscaroras.....	132.
Onondagas.....	250.	Senecas.....	354.
Oneidas.....	232.	Cayugas.....	269.

their Dependants:

Ganagsaragues ¹	115.	Oonoghungeys.....	124.
Nanticoks & Conoys.....	193.	Tuteloos.....	78.

FROM CANADA.

Cagnawageys and the Indians of St Regis.	78.	Abenakis St Francis.....	2.
Algonkins.....	78.	Hurons of Lorette.....	2.
Ganagsadagas.....	11.	Nipisinks.....	7.
River Indians.....	2.	Deputies from Cherokee Nation.....	7.

An Ottawa Chief called Okayowess from Michilimacinae.

All these were joined by 26. Messages and 230. Indians of the several Nations during the Treaty, amounting in the whole to 2320 Indians.

Being all seated, Saghteghroana, a Chief of St Regis stood up and said; that agreeable to the summons they had received, there were now assembled the Chiefs of the Seven Nations of Canada in order to attend the Congress.—Then returned the string of invitation.—Then, Conoquieson, a Chief of Oneida stand up on behalf of the Six Nations and said.

Brother Warsaghiyagey.—We are very happy to see you here this day at our particular request. You know, Brother, that when the Deputies who are now here from the Cherokee Nation, first came to our Fire place at Onondaga, to request on behalf of their Nation, that we should join them in making War upon the troublesome people who were their Enemies, and from whom ourselves have received several insults; as it was an affair of importance, which required much deliberation, tho' inclined to agree to their desires, yet, as none of our Confederacy from Canada were present, and as we had given you assurances that we should not enter into any engagements without your concurrence, and approbation; we thought it most fitting to send Deputies to you, requesting you would assemble the Whole of our Confederacy, that we might confer together thereon.—Brother, We are very thankful that you have complied with our request, as people in alliance should do, and we are now to acquaint you, that agreeable to the Belts and Messages sent amongst us, we are all, now met here from Ohio to Canada, to a considerable number; and I do now on behalf of all those Nations here assembled, take you by the hand, sincerely welcoming you to this place, where we have kindled up a fire, and where, I hope the business we meet upon, will go on, to our mutual satisfaction—

gave three strings.

Then after acquainting the Indians of the death of an Oneida child, since they left their village he proceeded.

Brother.—Agreeable to the Ancient custom established by our wise Forefathers, that whenever we meet, we should mutually condole each other for our losses, and as we suppose, that you have doubtless sustained some, since our last interview, we do now agreeable to this laudable practice Condole with you for the same. We open your eyes, that you may look

¹ These Indians were located on the Canaseraga creek, in the town of Sullivan, Madison county, N. Y. (not Oneida county, as stated in note 2, VII, 312.)—Ed.

cheerfully. We open your Ears that you may hear us, and clear your throats, that you may speak freely to us. We likewise gather the bones of the deceased of your people, and bury them deep, carefully covering the grave from your sight. And we once more kindle the fire at this place, and sweep out all the dust from the Council Chamber, that nothing may obstruct us in our business — gave 3. Strings.

Then Thomas King on behalf of the Warriors of the Six Nations arose and said.

Brother. I take this opportunity on behalf of all the Warriors of the Six Nations, and their Confederates now assembled, to let you know, that we are not well pleased with our Sachems for neglecting to acquaint us with what they purposed to say this Morning, and for not giving you our particular thanks for calling, and meeting us this day, as the occasion of this assembly, is principally on our accounts, upon a matter in which we as Warriors are particularly interested. And, they well know it, for, *there* are the Men (pointing to the Cherokee Chiefs) whose business they all know is chiefly to us the Warriors, to invite us to engage against their troublesome neighbours with whose conduct we are likewise much dissatisfied.—I do therefore with this Belt, at the desire, and on the part of all the Warriors here assembled from Canada to Ohio, and of the Cherokee Deputies, take you now by the hand, in the most friendly manner, kindly thanking you for complying with our request in calling us together, and giving you a most hearty welcome to this place, where we are all happy to find that you are arrived in safety.— a Belt of five Rows.

Then Tagawara an Oneida Chief stood up on the part of Sir William Johnson, and first addressed the Indians of Canada as follows:

Brothers of the Seven Nations of Canada.

I am very glad to see you all here this day agreeable to summons, It is a proof of your attention to the affairs of your Confederacy, and I sincerely welcome you upon the occasion.

Then addressing the rest, and repeating what Conoquieson said, proceeded:

Brothers. I am glad to see you all this day in health, and am well pleased, that in consequence of the circumstances you mention, you have now brought hither the Chiefs of so many Nations, and Confederate tribes; because by them means none can plead ignorance of our transactions, and the business will go on to the satisfaction of you all. I do therefore give thanks to providence for permitting us to meet this day, and cordially take you all by the hand, bidding you a hearty welcome to this place.— Gave 3. Strings.

Brothers. As a proof of my regard for the wise institution of your Ancestors, and from the information I have received of the losses you have sustained since our last meeting, I do now on the part of His Majesty the King of Great Brittain sincerely Condole with you on this melancholy occasion. I open your eyes, that you may once more look with cheerfulness, and your Ears that you may hear distinctly, and I clear the passages to your heart, that you may speak freely its real sentiments. I do also gather the bones of your dead, and bury them in a deep pit, carefully covering them from your sight, and I also sweep, and cleanse your Council fire, that we may meet therein, and proceed to business without interruption.

Gave three strings.

Then after repeating the speech of Thomas King he addressed the Warriors & Cherokees as follows:

Brothers. I am much obliged, in that you have expressed so much desire to thank me particularly on your parts. I entertain a high opinion, and regard for you all, and by this

Belt, I now take you all by the hand in the most friendly manner, giving you a very kind and friendly welcome to this place, wishing that you may always conduct yourselves with prudence and attention to the true interest of your respective Nations.— A Belt of Six Rows.

Then addressing the whole, he said :

Brothers of the several Nations here Assembled.

I am very glad that we have now so far prepared for business by going through the usual forms to mutual satisfaction, and shall be ready to enter on the important affairs for which we are assembled, on the arrival of the rest of your people who are hourly expected.— Then Sir William ordered pipes and Tobacco to be distributed amongst them, and recommended it to the Warriors, that as he was using his utmost endeavours, that they should be supplied with what necessaries they wanted, he expressed that they would behave with order and decorum.— that they should avoid liquor, and commit no violence on any of the property of the Inhabitants. Then adjourned.

In the afternoon Sir William held several private meetings with the Chiefs, in order to inform himself as to their sentiments, and resolutions at that time.— In the evening several of the Mohawks arrived, and reported that the rest would join them early to morrow. At night Sir William called together a Sachem and Head Warrior from each of the principal Nations, with whom he held a Conference until the night was far advanced; of these, there were some who were much to be depended upon for their integrity, from whom (amongst other things of much importance to be known previous to the Congress) he learned that the Warriors were for the much greater part obstinately bent on a war with the Southern Indians.—that great part of the Sachems, convinced by the arguments Sir William had made use of at the private conferences, would have gladly declined it, and seemed disposed to send the Cherokee Deputies back after renewing the late Treaties, and giving them farther assurances of their friendship for that Nation, but that they very much doubted whether the warriors could be persuaded thereto, as they were much exasperated at the insults which some of the Confederacy had received from the Indians of *Wubash* etc, and what in consequence of the treatment the English had received from these Nations, the Warriors expected, not only their concurrence, but their aid, and assistance to carry it on in like manner as they had formerly assisted the English.—Sir William further learned, that there were some other very interesting points to be spoken upon at the Congress, on all which he had much conversation with those present, using his utmost endeavours to procure a favourable issue to the Congress, and endeavouring all in his power to avoid their making any requisition of aid from the English should it so happen that a War must take place.

Tuesday July 19th 1770.

Early in the morning the remainder of the Mohawks arrived.

The Chiefs of the Canada Indians in consequence of the Murder of three of the Six Nations formerly at *Oswegatchy*, on which they had never Condolod, assembled at Sir William's quarters, and after calling together the rest of the Indians, proceeded to the Bower, where the seven Nations of Canada, after premising the occasion of their meeting then, and that they could not with propriety unite in measures until they had obeyed the institutions of their Ancestors, by performing in the fullest manner the ceremony of Condolence for those losses, and giving the necessary Belts etc, to the Six Nations on that occasion. This having taken up the greatest

part of the forenoon, the Chiefs of the Six Nations informed him that they would consider on an answer, and accordingly withdrew to a private Council place to deliberate thereon.

About noon four Canoes with 26 Mississages from the North side of Lake Ontario came to Camp to attend the Congress.

Sir William having judged it highly necessary, as well from the temper of the Indians, the greatness of their numbers, and the disorders they are too liable to commit when in Liquor, advised the Magistrates to give notice to the Traders etc by no means to sell them any, until the Congress was ended; and it was done previous to his arrival; but having this day received information that some Traders etc had actually sold them a Keg of Rum, and that others had resolved to follow this example, which greatly alarmed the Inhabitants, and occasioned their applications to him to check it, he issued a notification under his hand and seal which he sent throughout the whole settlement by a peace Officer, strictly forbidding them at their peril to sell any Rum to the Indians, or any spirituous liquors whatsoever during the Congress, until they had removed, when they might sell it to them beyond the settlements; the apprehensions of the Inhabitants being very great, as from the temper shewn by many of the Warriors, they had reason to dread, that neither their property, or persons would be secure, should they get liquor amongst them.

The Six Nations after sometime spent in Council, returned to the public Council place, & after returning thanks to the Indians of Canada performed the ceremony of Condolence & gave the usual Belts to them in return.

In the afternoon, the Indians being in readiness, waited on Sir William, when the future proceedings of the day being regulated and resolved upon, they proceeded to the Bower, where Abraham Chief of the Mohawks acquainted the rest with the business then to be entered upon, after which Teyawarunte Speaker of the Six Nations, did on behalf of Sir William Johnson perform the whole ceremony of Condolence for a Mohawk Chief lately dead, a Cayuga killed by one of that Nation, and a Seneca Chief lately drowned, and delivered the several Belts for the several purposes on such occasions, covering the graves with a black Belt, they answering with a Yo-hah, customary on Condolances.—The Indians after being a short time in consultation addressed Sir William by Conoquieson their Speaker, and after repeating all that he had said to them, they returned to the ceremony of Condolence in like manner—which ended, the Chiefs all shook hands with Sir William and the rest of the Gentlemen, returning him many thanks for having made their minds easy. When Sir William arose, and told them that he was happy to find that every thing was so far settled to mutual satisfaction, that there now only remained [to] attend to the principal business for which they assembled; to that end he recommended it to them to preserve sobriety, and good order in their encampments, and to be in readiness to attend the morning following, when he should make them a speech.

Then the Cayuga Chief arose, and condoled for the murder of a Tuscarora committed a few days before by Thomas King, and covered the grave etc. After which adjourned.

The Mississages from the North side of Lake Ontario arrived at Sir William's Quarters, & after the usual salutations, told him, that being at Oswego with others of their Nation, they, who were for the most part the principal Men, thought proper to attend him, on hearing that he had opened a Congress with their Brethren.

Sir William after expressing his satisfaction at seeing them, and bidding them welcome told them, that he could have no objection to their being present, but that on the contrary he was always glad of any opportunity of making his transactions public, with all well disposed Indians.

This Night, the Boats having on board the present for the Indians, arrived after a tedious passage occasioned by the lowness of the water at this season.

At a Congress held at the German Flatts on Friday July the 19th 1770.

PRESENT— The Hon^{ble} Sir William Johnson Bar^t Superintendent.

Col: Daniel Claus. Dep^y Agent

Capt^a Norman M^cLeod of the late 80th Reg^t

Col: Guy Johnson d^o

Col: Hanj^a Harkemer¹ Justice of the Peace.

Richard Shuckburgh Esq^r secretary for Indian Affairs

Rudolph Shomaker d^o

Indian Affairs

Capt^a Michael Byrne,

John Butler Esq^r Interpreter.

with the several Nations of Indians before mentioned.

Being all seated, Sir William addressed them as follows:

Brothers of the Six Nations, of the seven Nat^{ns} of Canada, of the several dependant Tribes, and all others here assembled; Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors.

I desire that you will carefully attend to the words I have now to say to you, it being on matters on great importance to you all.—Our Brothers of the Six Nations sent Messages to me last fall from their great Council Fire at Onondaga accompanied by the Cherokee Deputies here present to acquaint me, that these Deputies were charged (as Ambassadors from their Nations) with Belts Messages, and a pipe to strengthen their alliance, and solicit the aid of the Six Nations against the Piankeshaws, Wawaingtonos, and others, as people troublesome, and Enemies to both; on which the Six Nations would not determine, until agreable to their engagements, they had first in public Congress had my sentiments & concurrence thereon. At the earnest solicitations of the Six Nation Messengers, and the Cherokee Deputies, seconded by the representations of Thomas King, who had accompanied them from the Cherokee Country, and the many requests since repeated, of the Six Nations, I, after consulting the King's General, laid the same before His Maj^{ty}, who has through my representations being graciously pleased to, empower me to meet you on this occasion, where, I am ready to hear your sentiments, and give you my advice; after which, I shall speak to you upon your late treaty, which the King has empowered me to Ratify, and also to attend any other public affairs that may occur. I therefore recommend it to you in the course of this business, to pay the most serious regard to what I have to offer and to give me in answer the truth, the words of your heart.

A Belt 11. Rows.

Brothers. As so many of the Chiefs already know much of my sentiments concerning the Embassy from the Cherokees, I think it now more particularly necessary, to address you the Warriors thereupon. In the first place you sh^d consider, that war should never be carried on, with any Nation without very sufficient reasons, and until all other measures have proved ineffectual; for, a desire on every slender pretence to make war, will undoubtedly cause many of

¹ Colonel HANJOST HERKIMER was the second son of Johan Jost Herkimer, one of the Palatines mentioned in the patent of Burnetsfield, or the German Flats, in 1725, and younger brother of General Nicolaus, of the Revolutionary army, who was killed at Oriskany. He filled various county offices until the Revolution, when, adhering to the Royal cause, his property was confiscated by the New-York act of 1779. He retired with his family to Canada where he died between the years 1784 and 1787. — Ed.

our friends to be jealous of you, and may occasion the forming a powerfull Confederacy on the part of the Enemy, which although you may be able to withstand, will nevertheless so far engage the greatest part of your young Men, that, hunting and Trade, which are the blessings attendant on the peace you now enjoy, must be greatly, if not totally neglected; the want of this, you must all feel, and this is not the only loss you must sustain in any War with a numerous people. In the next place, those Nations against whom it is said you are disposed to carry your Arms, have been considered as friends in alliance with you, and though from their situation, & most probably from the evil Councils of the French, they have been induced to do some mischief, you should still consider, that in attacking them, you weaken yourselves. This is bad policy, as the breach is not so irreparable, but that through proper negotiations, a mutual good understanding may be effected between you, whereas warlike people, who have once quarrelled are not easily brought to a strict union afterwards.

I have already expressed my thoughts so candidly to the Chiefs, that I now confine myself to these principal arguments, to which I shall add one more that ought to be of the greatest weight with you, and that is the sentiment of the great King your Father, and of his subjects, which will also I trust convince you that they are real friends, and teach you to regard them accordingly. Another King, another people, indeed any people who had not esteem for the Indians would be glad of this occasion to stir you up to War, because War would weaken both, you, and your Adversarys; that this is not the case with us; you must plainly discern; for the King esteems you, and wishes to see you happily, and at peace with all your neighbours. These are likewise the wishes of all his subjects; they know that it is for your interest, and they cannot give you a stronger demonstration of their friendship, at the same time that they lay you under no restraint in this particular, beyond what your own reason must approve of. Consider this coolly, and deliberately, and give me in answer the real sentiments of your hearts.—

A Belt of 9 Rows.

Sir William then spoke to the Cherokee Deput^{ies} and cautioned them strictly to observe the Instructions they received from their Chiefs, without addition, and alteration, as it might be of bad consequence, should they say anything to the Northern Indians beyond what they had been authorized. All which they assured him they would strictly observe.—To this speech the Indians after some time spent in consultation answered, that they had heard with attention all that Sir William had said to them; that they were very thankful to him for the regard he had expressed for their interests—that their Chiefs would assemble early in the morning, and deliberate with as much expedition, as such a weighty affair would admit of, on a proper answer, which they would deliver to him so soon as they were agreed in sentiments.

Then adjourned.

Saturday July 20th

In the morning the Sachem, and Chief Warriors of both the Confederacy, or Leagues of the Six Nations, and the rest, met in their encampments to take Sir William's speech into consideration, where they spent the whole day in deliberation without being able to come to a conclusion. In the mean time, Sir William finding (notwithstanding all his endeavours) that Liquor was brought amongst the Indians, rode round the adjacent settlements to caution the Traders, and other persons not to sell any.—In the evening, three Chiefs Deputed from the several Nations, waited on Sir William to apologize for their not returning an answer this day

as they had purposed, which they assured him was owing to the difficulties it met with from the Warriors, who seemed averse to any thing but war. That the three principal branches of the Confederacy, the Mohawks, Onondagas, and Senecas had at length agreed to an answer, but that the rest were not as yet come to any conclusion.—Sir William spent some hours in discourse with these Chiefs and others whom he sent for, in order to expedite their answer, the necessity of which he represented from the scarcity of provisions for so great a number owing to the unfavourable season, and the loss of the Inhabitants crops, and discoursed a long time with them on the matters he recommended to their consideration.

Sunday July the 21th 1770.

The former part of this day was spent in private Conferences as well between the Indians as with Sir William, and the Chiefs, in order that they might be thoroughly satisfied with his advice, and unanimous in their answer.—Early in the afternoon they acquainted Sir William that they were ready to deliver their answer and accordingly assembled.

PRESENT— as before.

Being all seated, the Onondaga Speaker called to the speakers, and Chiefs of the rest to approach the Front near Sir William in order to give in their answer, which done they appointed Abraham Chief of the Mohawks their Speaker, who addressed Sir William as follows.

Brother. The Six Nations and their Dependants from Ohio to Canada have now assembled after two days spent in Deliberation to deliver you their answer to your speech. Then repeated what Sir William had said on his first belt, and added, now Brother, we have according to your advice taken your discourse into due consideration. A Belt 11. Rows.

Brother.—You desired that we should give you an answer from the bottom of our hearts; We accordingly met amongst ourselves and have had many debates together in order to bring about what seemed so pleasing to the King, at your desire; this took up all our time, and has prevented us from giving you an answer sooner. He then repeated what Sir William had said on his second Belt, after which he proceeded as follows:

Brother. You have very kindly signified to us, that the King does not desire to see us at war with Indian Nations, and you have likewise given us your opinion thereupon, and shewn us the advantages of it in a very clear light.—Brother, We have seriously considered all this, and believing that it is the King's regard for us that occasions him to wish us at peace, and confiding in your friendship, which we are certain has induced you to give us the advice, we at length do agree to the same, & shall strictly follow it, provided we can bring those troublesome Nations to reason & submission without War, and live peaceably as we do with the Southern Indians; to this end we shall stay all hostilities, and make use of our younger Brothers the Shawanese, who live near them, to convince them of their folly, and presumption, and, if this has a due effect, and that these Nations will join heartily in promoting peace, and abiding by their ancient agreements, we shall be well pleased, and shall not make war upon them. This Brother, you may be assured is the determined resolution of us all, and therefore you may depend upon it that we shall observe what we have said to you. A Belt 10. Rows.

Brothers. We have endeavoured as much as possible hitherto to keep our people sober & quiet; We are very sensible, that it would upset the business, if our people got Liquor, for, as our young men, are with difficulty kept within bounds, when sober, it is certainly impossible

to do any thing with them when drunk. We therefore now assure you, that it is our resolution during the course of this Treaty to keep ourselves sober, and should any Kegs of Liquor be brought amongst us by the Traders we will on discovery stave them to pieces.

Gave three strings.

Brother, We have now answered you sincerely and from our hearts on one part of the business which has occasioned our present meeting, & we hope that it will be agreeable to you, and are ready to proceed on the rest.—They then conferred for some time in private after which Sir William addressed them.

Brothers—The Six Nations and others here Assembled.

I have attended seriously to your answer concerning the War you proposed to engage in; I have as well before, as during the course of our proceedings here said so much to you on the subject, that I persuaded myself you would be convinced, and am glad to find you are so; and I know, that it must appear as a striking proof of His Majesty's humanity and regard for you all, and that you may easily perceive that I have had no other motive in recommending it to you, than my Friendship and sincere wishes for your prosperity. I know, that there are some parties of yours that are now gone to the Southward. As this is not consistent with the pacific sentiments you have expressed for the Southern Indians, I think, they should be recalled; and when you send to the Shawanese for the purposes you have mentioned, I recommend it to you to make choice of wise Deputies, good Men, who will faithfully execute the trust you repose in them, sincerely wishing for your own sakes that you may faithfully abide by the resolutions, you have now expressed to me.

Brothers. I am very glad that you have determined to let no Rum come amongst you, as that Liquor will not only obstruct business, but may be productive of the most dangerous consequences. You see and know the pains I have taken to prevent it, and I hope that you will do the like on your parts, agreeable to your promise.—

Brothers, The King, my Master, having received all the papers, and proceedings relative to the great Treaty at Fort Stanwix, together with the Deed of Cession, which you then executed to him, has laid them before his Council of great Men, and after considering the whole of it, has signified to me (what I hope will be deemed a further instance of his paternal goodness) that he did not require the Lands so far to the Southward, if it was of the least inconvenience to his Children, whose interests he has, so much at heart. He has at length in compliance with your own desires, as transmitted by me, and the public grant that you made, impowered me to ratify the same by letters I have received from the Lord, who is one of His Majesty's Secretaries (holding the letter in his hand), which I now purpose to do.—You all knew the Deed of Cession, of which this, (shewing a Copy) is a true copy. You all know that it was executed in a public meeting of the great[est] number of Indians, that has ever assembled within the time of our remembrances, and that all who had any pretensions were duly summoned to it. You all remember the great, and valuable present you received upon that occasion, exceeding any thing you had ever seen. Yet notwithstanding all this, I find that there are some of your Dependants who live by your toleration, and who never had any Title to the soil, who talk, as if they were dissatisfied with your Act, or doubted your authority. It is therefore incumbent on you, to see into, and make diligent enquiry abt it, and to shew these people, if any should there be, their Folly.—This I expect you will do without delay, as a testimony, of your gratitude to the King, and in justice to yourselves; and I expect that upon this occasion, you will make choice of

honest, wise Men, who will not deviate from their Instructions, but faithfully execute what you direct them. Fully persuaded, that you will do this, and that you are resolved to abide for ever faithfully by your engagements entered into at that time, I do now by virtue of the powers to me given in the name, and on behalf of his Britanic Majesty, Ratify and confirm the whole of the Treaty made at Fort Stanwix in 1768, and also the Deed of Cession to the King then executed (except what relates to the private grants, which his Maj^y will consider of) and I do declare, that the same is ratified accordingly.

A Belt.

The Indians, in answer expressed their satisfaction at what Sir William had said, to which, as it was very late, they deferred giving an answer until next day.

then adjourned.

At night Sir William had a conference with a principal Sachem and Warrior of each Nation, when he spoke with them on the subjects for the meeting to morrow—he found that besides some grievances, which were to be the subject of the future proceedings, the Indians were suspicious, that the English intended totally to neglect, and disregard them, and that this opinion daily gained ground amongst the several Nations. The Chiefs spoke with much warmth on the reduced state of those living under our Arms (as they called it), namely, the Mohawks, and others living amongst our settlements, who they remarked had been very usefull to us, and were now greatly neglected by the English.—The Mohawks in particular, (supported by the rest) signified their desire to speak in public, that His Maj^y would take their case into Consideration, and allow them a Missionary, observing that they, and their Fathers had been Christianized, and attended for many years by Ministers of the Church of England—that a former King had built them a Church, and had taken much care of them, but that they have been now for many years without an English Clergyman, which gave them much concern.—Sir William, foreseeing, that these, and many other matters of a private nature, would if spoken in public, furnish part of the Confederacy with subjects for disagreeable reflections, represented to them, that there would be no occasion to bring matters before the rest of the Nations, in which they were not particularly concerned, as he would lay them before His Maj^y, from whose generous sentiments and pious regard for their future welfare, they might expect that they would be attended to.

The Sachems and Chiefs of Canada Indians desired a conference in public with Sir William, and being assembled, their Speaker addressed him.

Monday—July 22^d 1770.

Brother. We have desired to speak to you in this public manner on an affair which concerns ourselves, and which has occasioned great uneasiness amongst us.—Brother, you know us for many years—we knew you, and esteemed your character, when we were in the arms of the French, and when you came down with the army to Montreal ten years ago; you then spoke to us, gave us good words, and by the order of the General gave us solemn assurances, that if we did not assist the French, but permitted you to descend the River without interruption, we should be placed among the number of your friends, and enjoy our rights and possessions and the free exercise of our Religion forever.—This we believed, for we knew your character, and had a confidence in you, and accordingly agreed to your request,

and have ever since behaved in such a manner, as to demonstrate our fidelity, and attachment to the English.

Brother. You always give us good words, and have shewn yourself our friend. It is therefore with concern we tell you our grievances at this time occasioned by the ill disposed people who give disturbance in several quarters.

Brother—You are not ignorant that there are many Men, of whom we have before complained, who are no longer our friends, and either guided by interest, or, perhaps from resentment on finding our attachment to the English, endeavour to alter the minds of all the great Men, who have been sent to command in Canada, and to misrepresent us to them. ~~Through such means our brothers at S^t Regis, have been distressed for sometime past by Intruders imposed on them from another nation, who have no pretensions to live in their village; and last winter, a Frenchman named Clingan-court, came into our principal village of Cagnawagee, bought a house privately, and was no sooner settled, than he began to create much disturbance by telling false stories to the Commanding Officer there, and giving countenance to immoralities, that are highly displeasing to us. Our Priest who is a peaceable good Man, endeavoured as far, as was in his power to restrain these disorders in the usual manner, and to punish the offenders according to the Religious forms of our Church, but was threatened, and treated with the greatest contempt, so that he could not do his duty, through the artifices of this Frenchman. This gives us great concern, and if we are not redressed, we may in a little time be deprived of the use of that Religion, the use of which we were assured should be permitted to us. We therefore earnestly request, that you will take this matter into serious consideration, and if you shall think it fitting, that you may lay it before the King, that we may not be interrupted hereafter in the exercise of our Religion, or our priests prevented from inflicting such pains and penances, as our Church requires, on offenders.~~

A Belt 7. Rows.

To which Sir William answered.

Brothers. I have harkened to your speech, and do assure you, that I have not forgot any part of the engagements we formerly entered into, and which it is his Maj^{ty}'s intention shall be strictly observed in every particular. You have therefore nothing to fear on that account.

The affair of S^t Regis, I understand has been lately settled to the satisfaction of the Indians of that place; and as to what you mention respecting your village at Cagnawagee, I make no doubt, that it would be soon settled in the like manner, on my acquainting the Governor of Quebec therewith; but, as he is now I understand, sailed for England, I think, the readiest method to gratify your desire, will be by letter to the Frenchman. I shall accordingly write to him in a proper manner, and give Col: Claus Instructions about the affair on his return to Canada, which will be in a few days.—

You may be assured of His Maj^{ty}'s Esteem & that I shall continue to shew you all the friendship in my power, so long as you continue to promote peace, and adhere faithfully to your engagements.

Returned their Belt.

The Indians spent the Forenoon of this day in Council, and about noon Sir William had a conference with some of the Chiefs on the subject of their answer.—In the afternoon the Indians sent to acquaint Sir William that they were assembled.

At a Congress with the several Nations of Indians, Monday July 22^d 1770.

PRESENT — as before.

Conoquieson asked whether Sir William was ready to attend to what they had to say.—
On being answered in the Affirmative,

Abraham stood up and addressed him as follows.

~~Bother Gorah Warraghiyagay.~~

~~We are now met together in full Council to answer you concerning what you last spoke to us about the King's having received our Deed, and the proceedings at Fort Stanwix, with his Ratification of the same, with which we are highly pleased, and we shall also speak on what you have mentioned concerning the discontent some Indians have expressed at part of our Cession. Brother, We beg therefore that you will attend to what we have now to answer.~~

~~Brother.—When we met you to so great a number, and in so public a manner at Fort Stanwix, we should have hardly acted as we did, unless we had been possessed of a full right to the Lands, and had full authority to do so. We are surprised that any doubt can arise ab' it. You very well know, that our Title has been allways Indisputable. As to the pretensions of any inconsiderable people behind our backs, we shall soon silence them, and we now desire, that you may assure the King, that it was our property we justly disposed of, that we had full authority to do so. We return the King the sincere thanks of all our Nations for ratifying the same, and we again confirm it, promising to abide always thereby. A Belt 8. Rows.~~

Brother. We are very happy to hear of the good disposition of the King towards us, and the assurances you give us on that occasion. We are highly pleased with the indifference the King shews for Lands, and we consider it as a sure sign of his regard, that he does not love to see us at war.

Brother. We are not desirous of making war, but when the same appears necessary. We therefore now acquiesce with your advice to us, and shall let the Southern Nations alone, provided they act a proper part towards us. But Brothers, whilst we express ourselves so disposed, we cannot help reflecting on the treatment we still continue to receive, particularly on the Southern Frontiers, where our people are frequently Robbed and murdered, and no reparation made for all this. If we inclined, to be silent on such conduct, our young Men would force us to speak, and that warmly; they would soon be for Revenge, as the provocation we have received, is too great to be longer born with.—Brother. We request that the great King will give orders to his Governors, and great Men concerning these matters, assuring you that we are disposed to abide by our engagements, and restrain our young people, but that we cannot pretend to do it, unless a speedy end be put to the behaviour of the people who have so repeatedly attacked us.—
A Black Belt of 10 rows.

Brother. At the Treaty at Fort Stanwix you then told us, as you had done before, that we should pass our time in peace and travell in security, that Trade should flourish & goods abound; that they should be sold us cheap, & that care should be taken to prevent any persons from imposing on us—Brother, this would have endeared all the English to us—but we do not see it—It is now worse, than it was before, for we cannot get goods at all at present, and we hear from all Traders, that nobody will bring in any, and that you have none for yourselves.

Brother. We should take up a great deal of time, if we repeated all that we suffer by these things, but you must be yourself sensible of them, and therefore we rely upon you that you

will lay these matters before the King, and represent our situation, so that he may hearken to our words, and afford us redress. A Belt of 10. rows.

Then Conoquieson stood up and said.

Brother. Agreeable to what you yesterday recommended to us, we have now fixed upon four Chiefs from amongst us, who are men of sense, that will faithfully deliver our words to the Shawanese, of which number Thomas King is the principal, who is a Man, that you may be assured, will faithfully execute whatever is desired of him.—Then acquainted the Six Nations and Sir William Johnson, that, by the death of Gaweha n Tusedasa Sachem, there was a vacancy at the Council fire, & accordingly raised up Tattiwabwage to supply his place with the usual ceremony. After which Saghtaghoana, on behalf of the Seven Nations of Canada stood up and said.

Brother, We the Nations living in Canada express our sincere thanks to you for having by your prudence and wisdom brought all the Nations here, into one way of thinking, which no other person could ever have effected.—This is a great work Brother, and it gives us a great pleasure, and, I now speak to you and all the Nations in public upon it.

Brother. When we united ourselves with the English on the reduction of Canada, we then resolved to act like Men, to be true to our engagements and to scorn lyes,—We then agreed for the preservation of peace, that the Caghawagees should have their eyes on the Council Fire of the Six Nations at Onondaga, and the other Council fire at your house, whilst our Brethren at Canasadaga should have their eyes upon all the Nations up the Ottawa or great River to the Westward.—Brother, we did this, we always gave you true intelligence, and studied to promote peace; for Brother, we are Men of our words, Men who despise double dealings, and are incapable of deceit. We shall still act up to that character, & our actions shall prove the truth of what we now say. We resolve in order to promote the work, which you have begun, and so successfully conducted, to send proper Deputies to the Indians to the Westward, taking that part of the negotiation entirely upon ourselves, and we shall agree with the Six Nations in the Message they send, that we may not speak with two mouths upon so important an occasion. The Men we shall make choice of, shall be such as we may place the utmost confidence in, & they shall have orders from us to return by way of Detroit and Fort Pitt to your house to bring you a faithful report of the Negotiation.

Then shewed the Belt which they purposed to send. Then Abraham the Chief returned Sir William the Belt which he had sent to the meeting at Onondaga last fall cautioning them not to let their warriors go to war, or enter into any rash resolves until they heard from him — with this having complied, they, according to custom returned the Belt.—After which Abraham returned the Belt sent last spring by Sir William to the Seneca's Country, to require them to collect all the horses they could, the property of the white people, and to deliver them up. All which they promised strictly to comply with, and to prevent any from being taken in future by their people, or dependants.

The Speaker then acquainted Sir William, that they had finished all the material business of the Congress.

To all which Sir William answered as follows:

Brethren of the several Nations here assembled.

I am well pleased with the answer which you have given me on the several subjects, and I hope that your actions will correspond with the words you have made use of.—As I may well

acquainted with your claims & pretensions, I considered the murmurings of some of your Dependants, as of little importance.—It is nevertheless a duty which you owe to yourselves to put a stop to them, and I am very glad to hear that you have taken resolutions for that purpose, which I hope, and expect you will see performed.

~~Brothers. It is with concern that I hear you complain, that the people on the southern frontiers still continue to molest you, because I know that great pains have been taken to put a stop to such behaviour.—Brothers, You know, that I have often on this subject, that I have reason to believe much of the ill treatment you meet with, proceeds from the indiscretion of some of your young people, when passing through that part of the Country, amongst people who suffered severely during the war; I shall nevertheless, as you desire, lay your complaint before His Maj^y, who, I am persuaded, will give any orders that may be further necessary for your security; and I am certain that the several Governors will use their utmost endeavours for that purpose; but I expect in return that you will give the most strict caution to your young people that they govern themselves in a peaceable, quiet manner, when they resort to that Country; for otherwise, you cannot expect that the Inhabitants will treat them with kindness.~~

Brothers.—I very well remember all the promises that have been made you, and also the engagements between us.—You all see that they are committed to writing in your presence. I know that amongst other things, you received assurances of a free, and plentiful Trade, and I can confidently assure you, that you will still enjoy the same. It is true, that for some little time goods have been scarce, but I can now inform you, that they will be again in great plenty, as the Merchants have now sent for large cargoes which may be very soon expected at New York, and a large quantity is already come to Montreal, according to certain advices I have lately received. I have likewise the pleasure to acquaint you, that (although the affair has taken up some time from the distance of some of our Colonies from the others) there is now a good prospect, that the affairs of Trade will speedily be regulated on terms of advantage to you all, as I have heard that some Commissioners for that purpose are already met, and more on their way to the place appointed for determining thereupon. I shall however comply with your request in laying this matter before the King on whose attention to these, and all other affairs in which you are interested, you may safely and confidently rely.

Brothers. I approve of the manner you have resolved upon to send Messengers to the Shawanese, and of the Men you have chosen for that purpose. But, as I likewise intend to send Messengers as well to the Shawanese as to Michilimacinac, I shall expect to be made acquainted with the purport of your Message that we may both correspond on that subject.

Brothers of the seven Nations of Canada

I thank you for your honest and spirited address to myself, and all here assembled, and I greatly approve of your resolutions to send Messengers in the manner you propose. I shall gladly join them with Messengers from myself, to which end it will be necessary that I know, what you intend to charge them with, that we may unite in Sentiments.

Then it growing late, and a Thunder storm coming on, Sir William thanked them all for their accordation with him in sentiments and adjourned.

Tuesday July 23^d In the morning the Indians all assembled in Council.

~~PRESENT — as before.~~

Sir William having desired their attention spoke as follows:

~~Brothers of the Six Nations, of Canada, and all others here assembled.~~

Having now brought the business of this Treaty to a favourable conclusion, I cannot help expressing my satisfaction thereat, and at the readiness, and unanimity which the Chiefs have manifested upon this occasion. It only now remains, that I close this Congress, in a suitable manner by adding strength and weight to our proceedings. — I do therefore by this Belt, renew and strengthen the covenant chain, or alliance entered into between our ancestors and yours. I likewise clean and brighten it, so that it may not contract any rust, and I do assure you on the part of the great King, that we shall take care to hold it fast, and preserve it unhurt to the latest posterity. if you will on your parts be observant of the part which is in your hands, and take equal care of it. I likewise declare, that it is the intention of His Maj^{ty} and all his subjects to abide by, and fulfill the engagements with you, so far as is possible, and I recommend it to you all to make public the transactions of this Treaty throughout all the Nations to the setting of the sun; and as you value yourselves, and wish to be happy, to abide by, and faithfully perform all that you have promised.

Gave the Belt of the Covenant Chain, after which every Nation gave the Yohah.

Brothers. Notwithstanding the great additional expense which the King, my Master has been at in bestowing favours on such an additional number of Indians, as by the reduction of Canada have been admitted into our alliance, his Maj^{ty} is still mindful of you, and has therefore been graciously pleased to consider your present wants by ordering you a handsome present, which I have brought to this place and which shall now be delivered to you. I hope that you may retain a grateful sense of these, and all other Marks of his Royal favor, and that you will always be studious to merit the continuance of his protection and friendship, and the regard of all his subjects.

Brothers the Mississagans. I am glad that by your attending at this Treaty you had an opportunity of observing the friendship subsisting between the English and your Brothers here assembled, and the unanimity with which we have brought several weighty matters to an agreeable conclusion. I recommend it to you faithfully to relate the particulars that have passed here, to your Nation, and confederacy, at your return, assuring them of the Friendship of the Great King, and that I shall always preserve a sincere regard for them, and their interests, so long as they continue to merit it by contributing to diffuse the blessings of peace throughout the Country within their influence, and by joining heartily in promoting the several matters of importance agreed upon before me by their friends and Confederates — A Belt.

Bretheren of the several Nations here Assembled.

Every thing for the present being agreeably adjusted, and concluded upon, I have only to add my expectations that you will be steadfast in fulfilling your engagements, and I now close this Treaty with my kindest wishes for your prosperity.

Brothers the Cherokees.

You have heard the conclusion, & determination of the Six Nations, and their Confederates; and upon maturely considering all circumstances I hope they will prove agreeable to your

Nation, to whom I desire you will faithfully report all the transactions at this place assuring them of my friendship, and that I am much obliged to them for the grateful sense, which from the Belts you delivered me, I find they retain of my endeavour in effecting the peace between them, and your Brothers here assembled, that I shall always continue to promote it, trusting that they will do the like on their parts, and sincerely wishing, that by attending to the words of your Brother in Carolina, who has the care of you, you may continue to deserve the esteem of the great King, and all his subjects.

2. five Belts.

The Six Nations then renewed their engagements with the Cherokees, acquainting the Deputies, that as they had now come to a final resolution before Sir William Johnson, they hoped that the same would be found satisfactory to the Cherokees.

The Nanticoks¹ then addressed Sir William, requesting that he would give them a Passport, and letters to the Gov^r of Carolina, that they might go, and bring the remainder of their people from thence, and dispose of some land they yet have there.

6A Belt.

They then earnestly requested, that he would prevent the Traders from bringing any more Rum down the Susquahanna, as they who lived there, were determined to abstain from drinking, seeing so many murders committed by means thereof.

A Belt.

Sir William promised them, that he would grant them a Passport, and also write in their favor to the Gov^r of Carolina concerning their lands there, and recommended a proper conduct to them as they passed thro' the several settlements, etc.

a Belt.

Sir William also promised that he would do all in his power, to discourage the bringing of Rum to their settlements, and expressed his approbation of the resolutions they had taken, and wished them to continue firm in the same.

Returned a Belt.

The Cayuga Chief then arose, and acquainted Sir William and the Six Nations that the Delawares, Monsies, etc living at Chughnot,² Wialosing³ etc. had promised to remain where they now live, & not regard the invitation of their Countrymen living at Ohio, and further assured the Six Nations, that they would not agreeable to their directions.

Spoke with two Belts.

Then the Chiefs of the several Nations assembled to consider of an answer to the Covenant Chain Belt, and after some time spent, Abraham the Mohawk Chief stood up, and in the name of the Six Nations and Canada Confederacy etc repeated what Sir William had said on said Belt, and returned their most hearty thanks for renewing the Covenant and they on their parts did the same.

The Onondaga speaker then arose & acquainted Sir William that they appointed Taganaghquaghsee in the room of Kanhjiakaia deceased, Tawahmgseraghse of Karaghiadirra⁴ in the room of Odongota Chieftain of the Warriors, and two more of the Onondaga Nation. All which they hoped he would approve of, and give them such testimonials etc. as are usual on these occasions. Sir William admitted, and approved of their recommendations, and after giving the appointed Sachems the necessary admonitions, he told them that he would at next general meeting give them the proper testimonials etc. which he had at his house.

A large Belt.

¹ Although these Indians have been generally considered a Maryland tribe, it appears by the text that they originally came from Carolina; they afterwards migrated to the eastern shore of Maryland and thence up the Susquahanna. They exist no longer as a Nation. *Gallatin's Synopsis of the Indian Tribes.* — Ed.

² See VII, 50, note 5.

³ See III., 594, note.

⁴ See VII., 723, note.

Wednesday Morning the Chiefs of each Nation present waited on Sir William at his quarters to let him know the purport of their Message, to be sent by their Deputies to the Wawinghtanakes, Piinkashaas, Kickapos etc, which is as follows:

Brethren. These Deputies from the Six Nation Confederacy are now sent to inform you of the peace established between us and the Cherokees, as well as the good harmony and union that subsists between us, our Brethren, the English, and all the Nations of Indians to the rising of the Sun, at the same time to let you know our surprise and displeasure at your untoward and unruly behaviour towards some of our people, as well as to our Brethren the English, who are employed carrying goods to the Illinois for your use, and that of all the Indians in that quarter, which shews that you are not in your senses. — Wherefore we now take you by the head, and shake you so, as to bring you to them, and also take that hatchet out of your hands, which you run about with, doing Mischief. Should you still prove obstinate, and persevere in your wickedness, they are in that case authorized by the whole Confederacy now assembled to tell you, that the consequence will prove fatal to you. Repent therefore of what you have done, otherwise you will inevitably involve your Nations in a War, which must terminate in your ruin.

A large Belt shewn.

The Canada Confederacy consisting of Seven Nations then told Sir William, that as they intended to wait on him to his house (in their way home) they would there acquaint him with the purport of their Message to those troublesome Nations who were now like Men void of sense, running about with a sharp Axe in their hands at a time, when he was endeavouring to spread peace over all the land.

The Missisagans also came to acquaint Sir William, that they intended to wait upon him to his house, where they had something to say to him relative to their Nation.

Sir William after having returned the Chiefs his hearty thanks for the part they had acted during the Congress, and expressing his approbation of the Message which they intend sending to the ill disposed Nations, told them, and the Canada Confederacy, Missisages etc, that he intended also sending them some Belts which should coincide with theirs in a great measure. Then told the Canada Indians & Missisagas etc, that he would be glad to see them at his house, as he had something particular to say to them. Then Sir William ordered provisions for all the Nations on their journey home, and after parting with them in the most friendly manner, sett off that morning for his own seat accompanied by above one hundred and fifty Indians etc, and followed by several other parties, on the private affairs of their respective Nations.

The foregoing is a true copy, ex^d by me

RICH^d SHUCKBURGH^l Secretary for Ind^a Affairs.

¹ RICHARD SHUCKBURGH who, if he did not compose, at least introduced the popular and well known air of *Yankee Doodle* into this country, was of German origin, and received a commission as Surgeon of Captain Horatio Gates' Independent Company of New-York, on the 25th June, 1737. *Army List* 1758, 132. Whilst encamped at Greenbush, in the neighborhood of Albany, during the French war, to please, it is said, some eastern Jews, he composed a tune and recommended it to the officers as one of the most celebrated airs of martial music. The air took, and in a few days nothing was heard in the Provincial Camp but *Yankee Doodle*. Little did the Doctor imagine the renown which awaited the air that he had recommended in joke. *Furner & Moore's New Hampshire Collections*, III., 217. On the death of Captain Wrazall, Sir Wm. Johnson nominated Dr. Shuckburgh Secretary for Indian affairs in 1759, when he left Captain Gates' corps; but the appointment was not confirmed, Witham Marsh having been sent out in 1761 to fill the office. *New-York Commissions*, V., 211. We find Dr. Shuckburgh next appointed, 22 December, 1762, Surgeon of the 17th Foot, then serving in America, to which regiment he continued to be attached until 1763. (*Army Lists*, 1765, 1769.) when he succeeded Mr. Marsh, and filled the office of Secretary of Indian affairs for several years. He received a grant of land in May, 1765, in the present town of Glen, Montgomery county, N. Y. — Ed.

Document n° 27

- Date :** 14 août 1770
- Référence :** O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *The Documentary History of the State of New York*, Albany, 1849-1851, vol. 2, p. 973-978. Aussi dans O'Callaghan, E. B., éd., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 8, p. 224-227.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de William Johnson au Earl of Hillsborough, de Johnson Hall.
- Résumé :** Johnson revient du congrès général (German Flats) et, depuis, il a rencontré de nombreuses nations séparément pour des affaires les concernant plus particulièrement.

they Ceded to the southward of the Kanhawa River, and to explain these points in a Way that I hope will be Satisfactory to the few of their Insatiable Depend^{ts} Who have pretended to be discontented at the Extent of a Cession so fully Agreed to in the largest Assembly that was ever yet held of the true & real Proprietors, and as I hear from the Southward that the Cherokees deny that their Depys, have orders to draw the Northern nations into so Extensive a War as has been represented to me I shall study to avail myself of it, in altering their purposes, but should it appear that the Authority of these Depys is indisputable & that the Northern Ind^s cannot be diverted from their purposes With any safety to the publick, I shall in that case make it as much their own affair, as possible, and endeavor to act in the manner most agreable to his Majestys Inclinations as Expressed in your Lordships Letter to me. I foresee much trouble and difficultys in the Course of the intended Congress, as well from the discontent shewn for so long a time by many of the Indians, & The very disagreeable report, before ment^d as from the want of any Appointments for the Regulation of Trade & the little prospect there is, of its ever being duly attended to but on all these matters I shall endeavor to give them the utmost satisfaction in my power, to prevent their operating to any disagreeable purposes.—And his Majesty may be assured that on this or any other occasion I shall never presume to recommend or incur any Expence, unless I am convinc^d from Experience, of its necessity, and in that case I shall conduct myself with the strictest Honor, & Integrity, and with a Frugality proportioned to the Exigency, and importance of the Service.

As I hope Within a few Weeks to give your Lordship an acct of the result of my Transactions, I have only at present to add that I am with all Imaginable respect,

My Lord &c.

The Rt honble
The Earl of Hillsborough,

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Johnson hall August 14th 1770.

MY LORD

On the 12th ult^o I had the honor to write your Lordship my Letter N^o (13,) previous to my Journey to hold a Congress with the Northern Indians & Depy^s from the southward, from whence I returned some days ago, attended by so many Tribes, and Messengers on the private business of each Nation, that it was not in my power earlier to transmit the proceedings which I now have the honor to Inclose.

From My last Letter your Lordship has been enabled to form some Judgment of my Embarrassment, arising from the disagreeable nature of the business I had to engage in, on which account I held many Conferrences, (too long to be inserted) with the Leading men of each Nation upon my Arrival at the place of Congress, to which the Issue & Determination of the Indians as contained in the papers herewith Transmitted must be entirely attributed, They having at length agreed thro' the pains I took and the extraordinary prudence & good Conduct of some of the Chiefs whose abilities & Influence were peculiarly Exerted upon that occasion, To Stop proceedings against the Southern Indians, until they shall propose terms of accomodation & to decline their intended Application for our Assistance & Support in the War a Circumstance which gave me much uneasiness at first as I found that they came with a determined resolution to demand it in publick, and that not so much from necessity as with design thereby to Judge of the nature of our Friendship, and the regard we paid to former Engagements, of which they entertain great doubts, Concluding upon this to be a favorable occasion that must finally determine, & direct their Conduct towards us for as Strict Alliances with them are Considered both Offensive & Doffensive Any Evasion or refusal from us would undoubtedly in their present disposition have so far increased their Suspicions & Resentment as to make our Trade & frontiers Severely feel the effects of that Spirit of War which now predominates amongst them, At a time when we are very ill Calculated to defend the one, or the other, howsoever matters may be misrepresented with regard to our Strength or their Weakness for whilst they Exist in their present State they are able to make

severely to feel their power without the possibility of their Sustaining a proportionate Loss even from a Vigorous Exertion of our Abilities, So that My Lord disagreeable as was the Alternative on which the issue of the proceedings first Appeared to depend, I found that a trifling Circumstance when compared with the prospect of either drawing his Majesty contrary to the principles of humanity to be an Actor in their Quarrells, or to see at least a Temporary end put to the Ind^a Trade, and the Total ruin of those Settlements which Industry & peace have added to the Colonies, this I thought myself bound to prevent as well from humanity as duty and I hope the measures I pursued for that purpose will be honored with his Majestys Approbation, as In so doing I carefully avoided discovering what would have been the resolutions of the Crown, & so Conducted it as to make the Issue of the Congress flow from their own resolutions, on a farther & more mature consideration of the business proposed.

The Number of the Ind^a. who attended upon this occasion being , the great scarcity owing to the destruction of the farmers crops this year, and the particular obligations, I was under to the steadyness & good behavior of so many Leading Men amongst them which I was under the necessity of rewarding over & beside the present, but particularly the distress they were in for cloaths, from the total want of Ind^a. Goods, have increased the Expence of this Congress much beyond my Inclinations, but as it was unavoidable, I trust all things considered, It will be found cheap, salutary & advantagious to his Majestys Interest, without a due regard to which I should not have incurred it.

The rest of the proceedings which consisted in the Ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, and the subject of Grievances will require my saying some little upon. As to the first, your Lordship will observe sufficiently from the publick conferences, the satisfaction Expressed by the Ind^a. at the whole of that Treaty with the resolutions they have taken to render it permanent & acceptable to all their Dependants. The latter are only the principal Grievances which were spoken in publick, besides which there were many others of an Inferior Nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the bulk of my Transactions & might

be deemed unworthy the attention of Government,—they nevertheless gave me much Trouble, & occasioned great delay, which was of most concern to me, as the daily maintenance of such a number of Ind^a. amounted to a large sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time both by Day & Night, & thereby considerably shortened the Time of our Setting.

Your Lordship will find that the principal Grievances complained of in publick regarded the conduct of our frontier Inhabitants towards them, & the state of the Ind^a. Trade, The first (as I have repeatedly observed) is what they have but too much reason to Complain of & which they have retaliated in a very few Instances, Tho' I know the contrary is too often represented. I have on former occasions said so much of the Licentious Spirit of the Inhabitants on the Southern Frontiers, that I need only add that it still continues, & their malevolence & disregard to all Treatys is still Demonstrated, whensoever they fall in the way of any small Partys, or single Ind^a. Even since I began this Letter I have rec^d dispatches from Mr. Croghan at Fort Pitt acquainting me that a soldier had shot an Indian there & that another was killed by a Virginian two days after near to that River. The continuance of which proceedings will render all Transactions with them abortive, and altho' agreeable to their Wishes some farther directions to the Gov^{rs}. would give pleasure to the Ind^a. Yet I fear it is not in the present state of things in the power of our Governments here to put a stop to these Evils.

As to the Affairs of Trade I wish I could say that they had no cause of Complaint, but the contrary has been too often manifested of late. Commissioners are indeed appointed to meet from some of the Colonies, but it is not Expected that an Expence will be incurred adequate to the Service, in which case it is much better to do nothing, But a still greater & more alarming circumstance arose from the wants & disappointm^t of the Ind^a. in consequence of the non importation Agree^{m^t}. Those with whom they Traded embraced that opportunity of accounting for the cause of their wants, as prejudice dictated, & therefore had I fallen upon a happy mode of Explanation, or they been accustomed to doubt the Veracity of the Traders, It would have

had the Worst Consequences. These Secret Negotiations which from their bulk cannot appear on the face of the proceedings are the Ground Work of the Whole, & the beforement^d. Circumstance proved no small addition to the Expence, as I was Willing to falsify a representation of so dangerous a Tendency persuaded that in so doing it should be approved of.—Another Circumstance much complained of as well during the Treaty, as since by those Indians who accompanied me to this place is of the great Cargoes of Rum web (of late in particular) are sent amst them to their ruin, as they call it, Many Traders carry little or nothing else because their profits upon it are so Considerable, and whatever resolutions they enter into, the Ind^s. have not Virtue enough to withstand the Temptation when it comes amst them, They therefore beg it may not be suffered to come to their Castles, or hunt places, & indeed the Licentious abuse of the sale notwithstanding its peculiar profit, is Extremely hurtfull to the Trade in Gen^l. from its effects upon the Ind^s. besides its giving Encouragement to the meanest & most profligate Traders to go amongst them, in that neither capacity or knowledge of the Ind^s. or their Language is necessary for the sale of it, but very little remedy can be Expected here ag^t. the abuse of that Liquor, tho' its effects are daily manifested—Again, whenever Ind^s. are assembled on publick affairs, there are always Traders secreted in the neighbourhood & some publickly who not only make them intoxicated during the Time intended for business, but afterwards get back great part of their presents in Exchange for Spirituous Liquors, thereby defeating the Intentions of the Crown, & causing them to commit many disorders as well amst the Inhabitants as themselves—This is Grievously complained of by the Ind^s. but I know of no smal Law at present subsisting for restrains the sale of that pernicious Liquor even during publick business, which I humbly conceive should be recommended to the immediate attention of the American Legislatures, As well as some Law for the more effectual apprehend: & punishing offenders on the frontiers in a summary way.—

Another Head of which your Lordship may find the Ind^s. make mention, is their want of Religious Teachers; on this subject they greatly enlarged, at sev^l. Conferences I had with them & appear

to consider it as so great a neglect in Gov^t. that I judged it most advisable to give them better hopes, & thereby put an end to their munnuring, The majority of Ind^s. tis true, do not as yet request it, but even they consider our neglecting to Gratify those that are so disposed, as a farther instance of our indifference & disregard. I have formerly mentioned this subject on applications from some of the Tribes, It is now become a matter of more serious concern from the earnestness with which the whole were about to second the desire of a few, and when so fair an opportunity is afforded, I apprehend it is unnecessary to enlarge on the advantage it must be of to the State to secure those who have been already instructed in its Religion, and to render diffusive those Religious & Civil Sentiments, that are best calculated for its advantage & support. The Mohocks have had Missionaries of the Church of England amongst them from the Reign of Queen Anne till within these few years, they are now without any, & from the scarcity of Clergymen or some other cause, the Society cannot procure them on the Sallary which their small funds have limited them to, whilst at the same time the Ind^s. find that their Brothers in Canada &c^a, who were our Enemies, are regularly supplied, & one lately appointed in Nova Scotia at the Expence of Government as tis said, I therefore cannot help at the Intreaty of the Ind^s. humbly recommends to his Majestys consideration, the affords some allowance for the Mohock Mission which has always been under the immediate protection of the Crown, declaring it as my belief that if any farther provision could be made to employ others in so good a work it would increase their reverence for the Crown, and their attachment to the British Interest.

The other matters spoken upon during the Treaty (tho' they occupied a good part of my time then, & occasioned sev^l. hundred Ind^s. to follow me home,) are such as I trust may be Settled without any Trouble to Gov^t. The Messages which the Ind^s. have resolved upon to send to the South & Westward, supported by the Steps I shall take will I hope have weight & prove Serviceable in a high degree, and in order to be armed against any thing that may in another Quarter threaten to disturb the publick Tranquility, I have taken measures to be informed as early as possible

with the proceed^s. & Issues of the Congress, which they are about this time to hold at the Great plains of Sciota near the Ohio, where some are endeavoring to form Confederacy's, for very bad purposes, Secretly countenanced & Supported by French Traders, Renegadoes, & all those Ind^s. who have not hitherto been Seriously attached to the English, but with wonderfull Art have for a time past endeavored to Shake the fidelity of the Six Nations, thro' the means of some of the Seneca Towns that are most dissatisfied with our Conduct.

I have in the Course of this Letter touched upon the principal Subjects of both the public & private Conferences at the late Congress this is as much as I could do from the Variety of matters that occur upon such occasions which however trivial in Appearance demand my particular attention, upon the Whole I must observe that the Indians are at present in a state of uncertainty as to what course they shall take, The Measures lately taken have Strengthened the fidelity of our Friends, and afforded a temporary Satisfaction to others, but it is on the Continuance of them and the Adoption of the Wisest measures for their relief & Satisfaction we must solely rely for the Securing their fidelity; which tho' Comparatively of little moment when weighed with the great Objects of Concern wherein the Crown is so deeply interested, is nevertheless in a relative View, from a Variety of peculiar Circumstances worthy the most serious Consideration, and therefore I most humbly recommend the heads herein treated of, as what may be productive of the most happy Effects to this Country, If by any means they can be carried into Execution under the Auspices of the Crown. To promote which My Lord my Whole Influence & the Small remainder of my health shall be most Willingly devoted.

I hope to be honored wth your Lordships Comd^s on the foregoing subjects, & am with the highest respect,

My Lord, Your Lordship's
most Devoted & most humble Scr^vt.

To the Earl of Hills Bugh.

14 Aug. 1770.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

SIR WM. JOHNSON TO HON: OL. DE LANCEY.

979

DEAR SIR,

Johnson hall Novr. 9th. 1770.

In Answer to your favor of April, 1769, I wrote you on the 20th of March in that year on the Subject of a Suit Commenced by Abraham Sterling against Lady Warren, to which Letter, as I have not had the pleasure of receiving your Answer, as well as on account of a Letter I have lately received from Ireland I think it necessary to give you the trouble of another on the Subject. — This Last Letter is from Mr Sterling who writes me that he has received Lady Warren's Answer to his Bill; and that he is to Collect the Vouchers & Accots against me & to be Supported with her Aid to recover his demand Concluding with the usual Apologies, and the best he can make for so doing:—To prevent a repetition I beg to refer to my Letter of the 20th. of March before mentioned, only again repeating That he is the Only Connection I have that is not perfectly Satisfied of those Truths I have so often repeated, and that he does not appear to be so, must be entirely attributed to his unhappy Circumstances and perhaps his Character, which however I know very little of,—Allow me to add that whatever trouble Lady Warren has had thro' the Necessity of an unhappy Individual (because I am persuaded she has never been troubled by any of the rest) yet I cannot but conceive that my own Case is much harder, if I am to have the Smallest trouble on the Score of that Extraordinary Legacy of my Uncles; whilst his Estate was, as it still is, in my debt, and which I have more than once Assigned the true reasons for my hitherto neglecting to Sue for, and recover my Just demands.—If it must be Litigated it will appear that I have acted with perhaps uncommon delicacy, far exceeding what the case was entitled to, and that purely thro' a tender regard for my Uncles Memory & Character, because my Acc^t ag^t. him was Short of what I could have Justly brought, & particularly in a few Articles which If Lady Warren cannot recollect I shall never mention Whilst his Acc^t ag^t. me altho' I was so generous as to admit it, contains many Articles which I never sent for, or desired, and which were Solely appropriated to his use but never to mine. His Acc^t for a variety of reasons which

they Ceded to the southward of the Kanhawa River, and to explain these points in a Way that I hope will be Satisfactory to the few of their Insatiable Depend^{ts} Who have pretended to be discontented at the Extent of a Cession so fully Agreed to in the largest Assembly that was ever yet held of the true & real Proprietors, and as I hear from the Southward that the Cherokees deny that their Depys, have orders to draw the Northern nations into so Extensive a War as has been represented to me I shall study to avail myself of it, in altering their purposes, but should it appear that the Authority of these Depys is indisputable & that the Northern Ind^s cannot be diverted from their purposes With any safety to the publick, I shall in that case make it as much their own affair, as possible, and endeavor to act in the manner most agreable to his Majestys Inclinations as Expressed in your Lordships Letter to me. I foresee much trouble and difficultys in the Course of the intended Congress, as well from the discontent shewn for so long a time by many of the Indians, & The very disagreeable report, before ment^d as from the want of any Appointments for the Regulation of Trade & the little prospect there is, of its ever being duly attended to but on all these matters I shall endeavor to give them the utmost satisfaction in my power, to prevent their operating to any disagreeable purposes.—And his Majesty may be assured that on this or any other occasion I shall never presume to recommend or incur any Expense, unless I am convinced from Experience, of its necessity, and in that case I shall conduct myself with the strictest Honor, & Integrity, and with a Frugality proportioned to the Exigency, and importance of the Service.

As I hope Within a few Weeks to give your Lordship an acct of the result of my Transactions, I have only at present to add that I am with all Imaginable respect,

My Lord &c.

The Rt honble
The Earl of Hillsborough,

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Johnson hall August 14th 1770.

MY LORD

On the 12th ult^o I had the honor to write your Lordship my Letter N^o (13,) previous to my Journey to hold a Congress with the Northern Indians & Depy^s from the southward, from whence I returned some days ago, attended by so many Tribes, and Messengers on the private business of each Nation, that it was not in my power earlier to transmit the proceedings which I now have the honor to Inclose.

From My last Letter your Lordship has been enabled to form some Judgment of my Embarrassment, arising from the disagreeable nature of the business I had to engage in, on which account I held many Conferences, (too long to be inserted) with the Leading men of each Nation upon my Arrival at the place of Congress, to which the Issue & Determination of the Indians as contained in the papers herewith Transmitted must be entirely attributed, They having at length agreed thro' the pains I took and the extraordinary prudence & good Conduct of some of the Chiefs whose abilities & Influence were peculiarly Exerted upon that occasion, To Stop proceedings against the Southern Indians, until they shall propose terms of accomodation & to decline their intended Application for our Assistance & Support in the War a Circumstance which gave me much uneasiness at first as I found that they came with a determined resolution to demand it in publick, and that not so much from necessity as with design thereby to Judge of the nature of our Friendship, and the regard we paid to former Engagements, of which they entertain great doubts, Concluding upon this to be a favorable occasion that must finally determine, & direct their Conduct towards us for as Strict Alliances with them are Considered both Offensive & Defensive Any Evasion or refusal from us would undoubtedly in their present disposition have so far increased their Suspensions & Resentment as to make our Trade & frontiers Severely feel the effects of that Spirit of War which now predominates amongst them, At a time when we are very ill Calculated to defend the one, or the other, howsoever matters may be misrepresented with regard to our Strength or their Weakness for whilst they Exist in their present State they are able to make

us Severely to feel their power without the possibility of the: Sustaining a proportionate Loss even from a Vigorous Exertion of our Abilities, So that My Lord disagreeable as was the Alternative on which the issue of the proceedings first Appeared to depend, I found that a trifling Circumstance when compared with the prospect of either drawing his Majesty contrary to the principles of humanity to be an Actor in their Quarrells, or to see at least a Temporary end put to the Ind^a Trade, and the Total ruin of those Settlements which Industry & peace have added to the Colonies, this I thought myself bound to prevent as well from humanity as duty and I hope the measures I pursued for that purpose will be honored with his Majestys Approbation, as In so doing I carefully avoided discovering what would have been the resolutions of the Crown, & so Conducted it as to make the Issue of the Congress flow from their own resolutions, on a farther & more mature consideration of the business proposed.

The Number of the Ind^a. who attended upon this occasion being , the great scarcity owing to the destruction of the farmers crops this year, and the particular obligations, I was under to the steadyness & good behavior of so many Leading Men amongst them which I was under the necessity of rewarding over & beside the present, but particularly the distress they were in for cloaths, from the total want of Ind^a. Goods, have encreased the Expence of this Congress much beyond my Inclinations, but as it was unavoidable, I trust all things considered, It will be found cheap, salutary & advantagious to his Majestys Interest, without a due regard to which I should not have incurred it.

The rest of the proceedings which consisted in the Ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix, and the subject of Grievances will require my saying some little upon. As to the first, your Lordship will observe sufficiently, from the publick conferences, the satisfaction Expressed by the Ind^a. at the whole of that Treaty with the resolutions they have taken to render it permanent & acceptable to all their Dependants. The latter are only the principal Grievances which were spoken in publick, besides which there were many others of an Inferior Nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the bulk of my Transactions & might

be deemed unworthy the attention of Government,—they nevertheless gave me much Trouble, & occasioned great delay; which was of most concern to me, as the daily maintenance of such a number of Ind^a. amounted to a large sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time both by Day & Night, & thereby considerably shortened the Time of our Setting.

Your Lordship will find that the principal Grievances complained of in publick regarded the conduct of our frontier Inhabitants towards them, & the state of the Ind^a. Trade, The first (as I have repeatedly observed) is what they have but too much reason to Complain of & which they have retaliated in a very few Instances, Tho' I know the contrary is too often represented. I have on former occasions said so much of the Licentious Spirit of the Inhabitants on the Southern Frontiers, that I need only add that it still continues, & their malevolence & disregard to all Treatys is still Demonstrated, whensoever they fall in the way of any small Partys, or single Ind^a. Even since I began this Letter I have rec^d dispatches from Mr. Croghan at Fort Pitt acquainting me that a soldier had shot an Indian there & that another was killed by a Virginian two days after near to that River. The continuance of which proceedings will render all Transactions with them abortive, and altho' agreeable to their Wishes some farther directions to the Gov^{ts}. would give pleasure to the Ind^a. Yet I fear it is not in the present state of things in the power of our Governments here to put a stop to these Evils.

As to the Affairs of Trade I wish I could say that they had no cause of Complaint, but the contrary has been too often manifested of late. Commissioners are indeed appointed to meet from some of the Colonies, but it is not Expected that an Expence will be incurred adequate to the Service, in which case it is much better to do nothing, But a still greater & more alarming circumstance arose from the wants & disappointm^t of the Ind^a. in consequence of the non importation Agreement. Those with whom they Traded embraced that opportunity of accounting for the cause of their wants, as prejudice dictated, & therefore had I fallen upon a happy mode of Explanation, or they been accustomed to doubt the Veracity of the Traders, It would have

had the Worst Consequences. These Secret Negotiations which from their bulk cannot appear on the face of the proceedings are the Ground Work of the Whole, & the beforement^d. Circumstance proved no small addition to the Expence, as I was Willing to falsify a representation of so dangerous a Tendency persuaded that in so doing it should be approved of.—Another Circumstance much complained of as well during the Treaty, as since by those Indians who accompanied me to this place is of the great Cargoes of Rum web (of late in particular) are sent amst them to their ruin, as they call it, Many Traders carry little or nothing else because their profits upon it are so Considerable, and whatever resolutions they enter into, the Ind^s. have not Virtue enough to withstand the Temptation when it comes amst them, They therefore beg it may not be suffered to come to their Castles, or hunts places, & indeed the Licentious abuse of the sale notwithstanding its peculiar profit, is Extremely hurtfull to the Trade in Genl. from its effects upon the Ind^s. besides its giving Encouragement to the meanest & most profligate Traders to go amongst them, in that neither capacity or knowledge of the Ind^s. or their Language is necessary for the sale of it, but very little remedy can be Expected here agt. the abuse of that Liquor, tho' its effects are daily manifested —Again, whenever Ind^s. are assembled on publick affairs, there are always Traders secreted in the neighbourhood & some publickly who not only make them intoxicated during the Time intended for business, but afterw^d. get back great part of their presents in Exchange for Spirituous Liquors, thereby defeating the Intentions of the Crown, & causing them to commit many disorders as well amst the Inhabitants as themselves This is Grievously complained of by the Ind^s. but I know of no final Law at present subsisting for restrain^g the sale of that pernicious Liquor even during publick. business, which I humbly conceive should be recommended to the immediate attention of the American Legislatures, As well as some Law for the more effectual apprehend^g & punishing offenders on the frontiers in a summary way.—

Another Head of which your Lordship may find the Ind^s. make mention, is their want of Religious Teachers; on this subject they greatly enlarged, at sev^l. Conferences I had with them & appear

to consider it as so great a neglect in Gov^t. that I judged it most advisable to give them better hopes, & thereby put an end to their munnuring, The majority of Ind^s. tis true, do not as yet request it, but even they consider our neglecting to Gratify those that are so disposed, as a farther instance of our indifference & disregard. I have formerly mentioned this subject on applications from some of the Tribes, It is now become a matter of more serious concern from the earnestness with which the whole were about to second the desire of a few, and when so fair an opportunity is afforded, I apprehend it is unnecessary to enlarge on the advantage it must be of to the State to secure those who have been already instructed in its Religion, and to render diffusive those Religious & Civil Sentiments, that are best calculated for its advantage & support. The Mohocks have had Missionaries of the Church of England amongst them from the Reign of Queen Anne till within these few years, they are now without any, & from the scarcity of Clergymen or some other cause, the Society cannot procure them on the Sallary which their small funds have limited them to, whilst at the same time the Ind^s. find that their Brothers in Canada &c^s, who were our Enemies, are regularly supplied, & one lately appointed in Nova Scotia at the Expence of Government as tis said, I therefore cannot help at the Intreaty of the Ind^s. humbly recommends to his Majestys consideration, the affords some allowance for the Mohock Mission which has always been under the immediate protection of the Crown, declaring it as my belief that if any farther provision could be made to employ others in so good a work it would increase their reverence for the Crown, and their attachment to the British Interest.

The other matters spoken upon during the Treaty (tho' they occupied a good part of my time then, & occasioned sev^l. hundred Ind^s. to follow me home,) are such as I trust may be Settled without any Trouble to Gov^t. The Messages which the Ind^s. have resolved upon to send to the South & Westward, supported by the Steps I shall take will I hope have weight & prove Serviceable in a high degree, and in order to be armed against any thing that may in another Quarter threaten to disturb the publick Tranquility, I have taken measures to be informed as early as possible

with the proceed^s. & Issues of the Congress, which they are about this time to hold at the Great plains of Sciota near the Ohio, where some are endeavoring to form Confederacy's, for very bad purposes, Secretly countenanced & Supported by French Traders, Renegadoes, & all those Ind^s. who have not hitherto been Seriously attached to the English, but with wonderfull Art have for a time past endeavored to Shake the fidelity of the Six Nations, thro' the means of some of the Seneca Towns that are most dissatisfied with our Conduct.

I have in the Course of this Letter touched upon the principal Subjects of both the public & private Conferences at the late Congress this is as much as I could do from the Variety of matters that occur upon such occasions which however trivial in Appearance demand my particular attention, upon the Whole I must observe that the Indians are at present in a state of uncertainty as to what course they shall take, The Measures lately taken have Strengthened the fidelity of our Friends, and afforded a temporary Satisfaction to others, but it is on the Continuance of them and the Adoption of the Wisest measures for their redress & Satisfaction we must solely rely for the Securing their fidelity; which tho' Comparatively of little moment when weighed with the great Objects of Concern wherein the Crown is so deeply interested, is nevertheless in a relative View, from a Variety of peculiar Circumstances worthy the most serious Consideration, and therefore I most humbly recommend the heads herein treated of, as what may be productive of the most happy Effects to this Country, If by any means they can be carried into Execution under the Auspices of the Crown. To promote which My Lord my Whole Influence & the Small remainder of my health shall be most Willingly devoted.

I hope to be honored wth. your Lordships Comd^s on the foregoing subjects, & am with the highest respect,

My Lord, Your Lordship's
most Devoted & most humble Serv^t.

To the Earl of Hills Bugh.

14 Aug. 1770.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

SIR WM. JOHNSON TO HON: OL. DE LANCEY.

979

Johnson hall Novr. 9th. 1770.

DEAR SIR,

In Answer to your favor of April, 1769, I wrote you on the 20th of March in that year on the Subject of a Suit Commenced by Abraham Sterling against Lady Warren, to which Letter, as I have not had the pleasure of receiving your Answer, as well as on account of a Letter I have lately received from Ireland I think it necessary to give you the trouble of another on the Subject. — This Last Letter is from Mr Sterling who writes me that he has received Lady Warren's Answer to his Bill, and that he is to Collect the Vouchers & Accots against me & to be Supported with her Aid to recover his demand Concluding with the usual Apologies, and the best he can make for so doing:—To prevent a repetition I beg to refer to my Letter of the 20th. of March before mentioned, only again repeating That he is the Only Connection I have that is not perfectly Satisfied of those Truths I have so often repeated, and that he does not appear to be so, must be entirely attributed to his unhappy Circumstances and perhaps his Character, which however I know very little of,—Allow me to add that whatever trouble Lady Warren has had thro' the Necessity of an unhappy Individual (because I am persuaded she has never been troubled by any of the rest) yet I cannot but conceive that my own Case is much harder, if I am to have the Smallest trouble on the Score of that Extraordinary Legacy of my Uncles, whilst his Estate was, as it still is, in my debt, and which I have more than once Assigned the true reasons for my hitherto neglecting to Sue for, and recover my Just demands.—If it must be Litigated it will appear that I have acted with perhaps uncommon delicacy, far exceeding what the case was entitled to, and that purely thro' a tender regard for my Uncles Memory & Character, because my Acc^t ag^t. him was Short of what I could have Justly brought, & particularly in a few Articles which If Lady Warren cannot recollect I shall never mention Whilst his Acc^t ag^t. me altho' I was so generous as to admit it, contains many Articles which I never sent for, or desired, and which were Solely appropriated to his use but never to mine, His Acc^t for a variety of reasons which

Sir William Johnson to the Earl of Hillsborough,

[Plantations General (S. P. O.) No. 256.]

N^o 14.

Johnson Hill. 14. August. 1770.

My Lord.

On the 12 ult^o I had the honour to write Your Lord^{sh} my letter N^o 13. previous to my journey to hold a Congress with the Northern Indians and Deputys from the Southward, from whence I returned some days ago attended by so many Tribes and Messengers on the private business of each nation, that it was not in my power earlier to transmit the proceedings which I now have the honour to inclose.

From my last letter, your Lord^{sh} has been enabled to form some judgement of my embarrassment arising from the disagreeable nature of the business I had to engage in, on which account I held many Conferences (too long to be inserted) with the leading men of each Nation, upon my arrival at the place of Congress, to which the issue and determination of the Indians as contained in the papers herewith transmitted must be entirely attributed; they having at length agreed thro' the pains I took, and the extraordinary prudence and good conduct of some of the Chiefs, whose abilities and influence were peculiarly exerted upon that occasion, to stop proceedings against the Southern Indians, until they shall propose terms of accommodation, and to decline their intended application for our assistance & support in the war, a circumstance which gave me much uneasiness at first, as I found that they came with a determined resolution to demand it in public, and that not so much from necessity as with design thereby to judge of the nature of our friendship, and the regard we paid to former engagements, of which they entertain great doubts; concluding upon this to be a favourable occasion that must finally determine & direct their conduct towards us, for as strict alliances with them are considered both offensive & defensive any evasion or refusal from us would undoubtedly in their present disposition have so far increased their suspicions and resentment as to make our Trade and Frontiers feel the effects of that spirit of War, which now predominates amongst them, at a time when we are very ill calculated to defend the one or the other, however matters may be misrepresented with regard to our strength or their weakness, for whilst they exist in their present state, they are able to make us severely to feel their power without the possibility of their sustaining a proportionate loss even from a vigorous exertion of our abilities, so that, My Lord, disagreeable as the alternative was on which the issue of the proceedings first appeared to depend, I found that a trifling circumstance when compared with the prospect of either drawing his Maj^{ty} contrary to the principles of humanity to be an Actor in their quarrels, or to see at least a temporary end put to the Indian Trade, and the total ruin of those settlements which industry and peace have added to the Colonies; this, I thought myself bound to prevent as well from humanity as duty, and I hope the measures I pursued for that purpose will be honoured with his Maj^{ty} approbation, as in so doing I carefully avoided discovering what would have been the resolutions of the Crown, and so conducted it as to make the issue of the Congress flow from their own resolutions on a farther and more mature consideration of the business proposed.

The number of the Indians who attended upon this occasion being the great scarcity owing to the destruction of the Farmers' crops this year, and the particular obligations I was under, to the steadiness and good behaviour of so many leading Men amongst them,

which I was under the necessity of rewarding over & beside the present, but particularly the distress they were in for clothing etc, from the total want of Indian goods, have encreased the expence of this Congress much beyond my inclinations, but as it was unavoidable, I trust all things considered, it will be found cheap, salutary and advantagious to His Maj^{ty}'s interests, without a due regard to which I should not have incurred it.

The rest of the proceedings which consisted in the Ratification of the Treaty at Fort Stanwix and the subject of grievances, will require my saying some little upon. As to the first, your Lord^{sh} will observe sufficiently from the public conferences, the satisfaction expressed by the Ind^{ns} at the whole of that Treaty with the resolutions they have taken to render it permanent and acceptable to all their dependants. The latter are only the principal grievances which were spoken in public, besides which there were many others of an inferior nature not inserted, as they would have added much to the bulk of my transactions and might be deemed unworthy the attention of Government, they nevertheless gave me much trouble and occasioned great delay, which was of most concern to me, as the daily maintenance of such a number of Indians amounted to a large sum, to abridge which I gave them my whole time both by day and night & thereby considerably shortened the time of our sitting. Your Lord^{sh} will find that the principal grievances complained of in public regarded the conduct of our Frontier inhabitants towards them, and the state of the Indian Trade; the first (as I have repeatedly observed) is what they have but too much reason to complain of, and which they have retaliated in a very few instances, tho' I know the contrary is too often represented, I have on former occasions said so much of the Licentious spirit of the Inhabitants, on the southern Frontiers, that I need only add, that it still continues, and that malevolence and disregard to all Treaties is still demonstrated whensoever they fall in the way of any small parties, or single Indians. Even since I begun this letter I have received Dispatches from M^r Croghan² my Deputy now at Fort Pitt acquainting me that a Soldier had shot an Indian there, and that another was killed by a Virginian two days after near to Chate River; the continuance of which proceedings will render all transactions with them abortive, and altho' agreeable to their wishes, some further directions to the Governors would give pleasure to the Indians; yet I fear it is not in the present state of things in the power of our governments here to put a stop to these evils.

As to the affairs of Trade, I wish I could say that they had no cause of complaint, but the contrary has been too often manifested of late; Commiss^{rs} have been appointed to meet from some of the Colonies, but it is not expected that any expence will be incurred adequate to the service, in which case it is much better to do nothing, and that, it is thought will be the consequence of their meeting. But a still greater and more alarming circumstance arose from the wants and disappointments of the Indians, in consequence of the non-importation agreements; these with whom they Traded embraced that opportunity of accounting for the cause of their wants, as prejudice dictated, and therefore had just fallen³ upon a happy mode of explanation, or they been accustomed to doubt the veracity of the Traders, it would have had the worst consequences. These secret negotiations which from their Bulk cannot appear on the face of the proceedings are the ground work of the whole, and the before mentioned circumstance proved no small addition to the expence, as I was willing to falsify a representation of so villanous and dangerous a tendency, persuaded that in so doing I should be approved of.

¹ their. *Johnson Manuscripts.*

² *Supra*, note, VII., 982.

³ had I not fallen. *Johnson Manuscripts.* 7 Ed.

Another circumstance much complained of as well during the Treaty, as since by those Indians who accompanied me to this place, is: of the great cargoes of Rum, which (of late in particular) are sent amongst them to their ruin as they call it; many Traders carry little or nothing else, because their profits upon it are so considerable, and whatever resolutions they enter into, the Indians have not virtue enough to withstand the temptation when it comes amongst them. They therefore beg it may not be suffered to come to their Castles or hunting places, and indeed the licentious abuse of the sale notwithstanding its peculiar profit, is extremely hurtful to the Trade in general from its effects upon the Indians, besides its giving encouragement to the meanest and most profligate Traders to go amongst them; in that, neither capacity or knowledge of the Indians, or their language is necessary for the sale of it. But very little remedy can be expected here against the abuse of that liquor, tho' its effects are daily manifested. Again, when Indians are assembled on public affairs, there are always Traders secreted in the neighbourhood, and some publicly who not only make them intoxicated during the time intended for business, but afterwards get back great part of their presents in exchange for spirituous liquors of the worst kind, thereby defeating the intentions of the Crown, and causing them to commit many murders, & other disorders, as well amongst the Inhabitants as themselves. This is grievously complained of by the Indians, but I know of no penal Law at present subsisting for restraining the sale of that pernicious Liquor, even during public business, which I humbly conceive should be recommended to the immediate attention of the American Legislatures, as well as some Law for the more effectual apprehending and punishing offenders on the Frontiers in a summary way. Another head of which your Lordship may find the Indians make mention, is the want of Religious teachers. On this subject they greatly enlarged at several conferences I had with them, and appear to consider it as so great a neglect in Government that I judged it most adviseable to give them better hopes and thereby put an end to their murmuring. The Majority of Indians, 'tis true, do not as yet request it, but even *they*, consider our neglecting to gratify those that are so disposed, as a farther instance of our indifference and disregard. I have, I believe formerly mentioned this subject on application from some of the Tribes, it is now become a matter of more serious concern from the earnestness with which the whole were about to second the desire of a few, and when so fair an opportunity is afforded, I apprehend it is unnecessary to enlarge on the advantage it must be of to the state, to secure those, who have been already instructed in its Religion, and to render dissusive those Religious and civil sentiments that are best calculated for its advantage and support. The Mohawks have had Missionaries of the Church of England amongst them, from the Reign of Queen Anne till within these few years, they are now without any and from the scarcity of Clergymen, or some other cause, the Society cannot procure them on the Salary, which their small funds have limited them to, whilst at the same time, the Indians find, that their Brothers in Canada, who were our Enemies, are regularly supplied, and one lately appointed in Nova Scotia at the expence of Government as 'tis said. I therefore cannot help at the intreaty of the Indians, humbly recommending to His Majesty's consideration, the affording some allowance for the Mohawk Mission, which has always been under the immediate protection of the Crown, declaring it as my belief, that if any further provision could be made to employ others in so good a work, it would increase their reverence for the Crown, and their attachment to the British Interest. The other matters spoken upon during the Treaty (tho' they occupied a good part of my time then, and occasioned several hundred Indians to follow me home) are such as I trust may be settled without any trouble to Government. The Messages, which the Indians have resolved

upon to send to the South and Westward, supported by the steps I shall take, will I hope have weight, and prove serviceable in a high degree, and in order to be armed against any thing that may in another quarter threaten to disturb the public tranquillity, I have taken measures to be informed as early as possible with the proceedings & issues of the Congress, which they are about this time to hold at the great plains of *Sioto* near the Ohio, where some are endeavouring to form Confederacies for very bad purposes, secretly countenanced and supported by French Traders, Renegadoes and all those Indians, who have not hitherto been heartily attached to the English, but with wonderful art, have for a time past endeavoured to shake the fidelity of the Six Nations, thro' the means of some of the Seneca Towns, who are most dissatisfied with our conduct.—I have in the course of this letter touched upon the principal subjects of both, the public and private conferences at the late Congress, this is as much as I could do from the variety of matters that occur upon such occasions, which however trivial in appearance, demand my particular attention. Upon the whole I must observe that the Indians are at present in a state of uncertainty as to what course they shall take; the measures lately taken have strengthened the fidelity of our friends and afforded a temporary satisfaction to others, but it is on the continuance of them and the adoption of the wisest measures for their redress and satisfaction we must solely rely for the securing their fidelity, which tho' comparatively of little moment, when weighed with the great objects of concern, wherein the Crown is so deeply interested, is nevertheless in a relative view, from a variety of peculiar circumstances worthy the most serious consideration, and therefore I most humbly recommend the heads herein stated of, as what may be productive of the most happy effects to this Country. If by any means they can be carried into execution under the auspices of the Crown, to promote which, My Lord, my whole influence & the small remainder of my health, shall be most willingly devoted. I hope to be honoured with your Lord's commands on the foregoing subjects, and am with the highest respect My Lord,

Your Lordship's most devoted and
most humble servant

W^m JOHNSON.

Johnson Hall, 14. August. 1770.

Proceedings of Sir William Johnson with the Indians.

[Translation General (P. O. 100151).]

Proceedings at a Treaty with the Six Nations, the Indians of Canada, the several Dependant Tribes, and the Deputies from the Cherokee Nation, held at the upper settlements, near the German Flatts in July 1770, by Sir William Johnson Baronet.

On Sunday the 15th of July 1770. Sir William Johnson, accompanied by Colonel Daniel Claus, Col: Guy Johnson Dep: Agents, Richard Shuckburgh Esquire Secretary for Indian Affairs, & several other Gentlemen from the neighbouring settlements, set out from Johnson Hall, and on Monday the 16th arrived at the place for holding the Treaty, where were assembled about 1000 Indians, and many more yet expected. At 2. P. M. the Speaker of the Six Nations, came to Sir William's Quarter to be informed, when they should make their first visit, and whether

Document n° 28

- Date :** 18 août 1770
- Référence :** Carter, Clarence E., éd., *The Correspondence of General Thomas Gage with the Secretaries of State, 1763-1775*, Archon, 1969, vol. 1, p. 264-267.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Gage à Hillsborough, de New York.
- Résumé :** Les Shawnees et les Delawares ont tenté de convaincre toutes les nations de l'Amérique de s'unir en une seule Confédération. William Johnson a tenu un congrès avec les Six-Nations et les «Northern Indians» et a tout mis en œuvre pour faire échouer ce projet de fédération indienne.

William. The Regiment quartered upon the Island, might ferry over in the Night a Strong Detachment, who might March to Boston and receive the Prisoners, and escort them to the Castle, after their Condemnation. Most People are of Opinion they will be condemned, Justly or unjustly, for that no Jury will be found in Boston, who will dare, tho' inclined to it, to give any other Verdict.

I have the honour to be with the greatest Regard, Respect, and Esteem, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most obedient, and most humble Servant,

THO^S GAGE

RIGHT HON^{BLE} EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH

one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

[Endorsed] New York 7 July 1770. Lieu^T Gen^L Gage. (N^o 47) R. 17. August. C. 16. Ent^d C & E.

TO HILLSBOROUGH

[P.R.O., C.O. 5:88. A.L.S.]

NEW YORK July 10th 1770.

(N^o 48)

MY LORD,

Overtures have been making for Some Weeks past, by the Traders of this City, and those of Boston and Philadelphia, to break their Association against importing; but without determining any Thing. At length the Merchants of New-York resolved to import; and Application was made to me, to use my Influence with M^r Colden the Post-Master,⁸² to detain the Packet two or three Days; that time might be given them, to write for Goods. I was glad to give every Assistance in promoting so desirable a Measure, and the Packet that was to have Sailed on the 8th Ins^t, is detained till tomorrow.

They agree to import every thing but Tea, tho' Glass Painter's Colours &c^a are not to be imported till after Christmass, when the Act for laying Dutys on those Articles expires.

I have the honour to be with the greatest Regard, Respect & Esteem, My Lord, Your Lordship's Most obedient, and most humble Servant,

THO^S GAGE

RIGHT HON^{BLE} EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH

one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

[Endorsed] New York July 10th 1770. Lieu^T General Gage. (N^o 48) R. 17th August. C. 18.

TO HILLSBOROUGH

[P.R.O., W.O. 1:9. A.L.S.]

NEW YORK August 18th 1770.

(N^o 48)⁸³

MY LORD,

The Lord Hyde Packet returned to this Port on the 12th Instant; by which opportunity I have had the honour to receive your Lordship's Dispatch, N^o 30.⁸⁴

⁸² To Alexander Colden, July, 1770, *Docs. Rel. Col. Hist. N.Y.*, VIII, 220-221.

⁸³ Misnumbered.

⁸⁴ June 12, 1770, Gage MSS.

The 14th Regiment continues in the Barracks at Castle William, and Care will be taken to make the Repairs Necessary for the Accomodation of the Regiment, as well as to put them in Possession of the Castle, and to Strengthen that Fortress, in Case the Extremity of Affairs Should require it. The Lieutenant Governor, upon Provincial Consideration, has not judged it prudent hitherto, to put any other Garrison into the Fort, than the Provincial Company; the Regiment is in the Barracks on the Outside of the Fort, under it's Walls. I have begged M^r Hutchinson, to concert Measures with Lieutenant Colonel Dalrymple,⁸⁵ for the taking Possession of the Castle with the King's Troops, upon the first Appearance of Danger; and the officers Commanding Since the Arrival of the Troops at Boston, have had Orders, which will be repeated, to Seize the Castle the Moment it became Necessary.

Your Lordship having Signified to me His Majesty's Determination, relative to the Disposition of the Troops in the Southern District, the Materials that have been provided in this Place for a Pile of Barracks, will be Sent to S^t Augustine, as originally intended; and a Detachment sent from thence to the Bahamas, as soon as I can Settle their Transportation with the Commander in Chiefs of the King's Ships in these Seas, in the Manner His Majesty is pleased to direct, in your Lordship's Letter to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, of which you inclose me a Copy.⁸⁶

The Plans and Report made by the Engineer, who was sent to the Island of Providence, which your Lordship is desirous to receive, are transmitted herewith; and I am to acquaint your Lordship, that a proportion of Stores and Ammunition have been in readiness a long time, for the use of the Forts in said Island, but detained thro' the want of a Conveyance. It is expected that an opportunity of forwarding them will now offer in a few Days.

I had the honour in a former Letter, N^o 47 to report to your Lordship, the Opinion of Lieutenant Governor Du[r]ford respecting the Forts of Pensacola and Mobile, and what he conceived, the best to be undertaken, for the Defence of West-Florida. I have Since received Letters from Brigadier General Haldimand,⁸⁷ from which I transmit your Lordship some Extracts, in French, in which Language the Letters are wrote. Your Lordship will observe therein, that the Brigadier joins in Opinion with the Lieutenant Governor, concerning the Forts and the best Manner of defending the Province: That nothing more can be done with the Fort at Pensacola, than to replace old Stockades with New, and that the Fort of Mobile is in so ruinous a State, as not to admit of any Repairs, but at too great an Expence; and from it's Situation, is of little or no use. The Scheme of constructing Batterys to defend the Harbour of Pensacola, is adopted by both. And that every thing that shall be undertaken may be completed in the best Manner, and that we may proceed in these Matters, upon as Sure and certain Foundation as possible, I mean to Send the senior Engineer under my Command to Pensacola, as well to view the Province and the Forts, as to consider the Proposals that have been made, and to send in Plans and Estimates, of Such Works as shall be fixed upon.

Attention will at the Same time be given, to the Application made by Lieutenant Governor Du[r]ford, for a Supply of Ordnance and Stores, and to furnish him with Such Proportions of each, as is judged Necessary, as far as the Magazines under my Care will allow of.

⁸⁵ To Hutchinson, Aug. 12, 1770, and Lt. Col. Dalrymple, Aug. 13 and 19, 1770, *ibid.*

⁸⁶ Feb. 23, 1770, *ibid.*

⁸⁷ May 31, 1770, Add. MSS, 21,664, and June 27, 1770, Gage MSS.

I have the Pleasure to acquaint your Lordship, that the Company of the 18th Regiment that went down the Ohio in March last, is Safe arrived at Fort-Chartres.⁸⁸ There is no Account of any Serious attack upon the Illinois, but three white Men have been killed at Cauho⁸⁹ Some Leagues from Fort Chartres by Indians in disguise, and some few of the Savages of the Country have also Suffered. A Detachment was Sent from the Fort to Cauho by desire of the Inhabitants, who took up Arms; but no Discoverys have been made. The Tribes most Suspected of doing this Mischief, have Sent Some of their Chiefs to visit the Commanding-Officer, and to declare their Desires of our Friendship.

A Detachment of 50 Men, under the Command of an Officer, named Parnasse, arrived in the Spring from New-Orleans, of whom thirty are posted at Misere, and the rest at St Louis. He paid a Visit of Compliment at Fort-Chartres, and to assure Lieutenant Colonel Wilkins of his Intentions to keep up a good Understanding with His Majesty's Subjects. The French People on the Spanish Side of the Mississippi, were a good deal disappointed, at the Return of the Spaniards into Louisiana, and no less alarmed, at their Approach to the Illinois. Some of them came over to us, and others proposed, with many more from the English Settlements of Kaskaskies and Cauho, to form a New Settlement, at a Place called, Cap au Grais, Several Leagues beyond Fort-Chartres, above the Mouth of the Illinois River. I have desired the Commanding Officer in general,⁹⁰ to Suffer no Vagabonds to Settle in any part of the Indian Country, but to try all Means to Send them away, either to West-Florida or Fort-Pitt; from whence they might be conveyed towards the Coast: And if any Spanish Subjects should emigrate, he is told, they would be better disposed of in these Provinces, than in that distant Country. But if they would Settle in the Illinois, they must first take Oaths of Allegiance and Fidelity to the King, and to join his Forces against all his Enemies. The Board of Trade has given strong Reasons against forming new Settlements at Such an immense Distance from the sea; or using Endeavors to increase those we have; for the Country can produce Nothing that will enable the Inhabitants to Make Returns for the Manufactures carried to them, except Skins and Furrs; And they will naturally decrease as the People increase; when Necessity must force them to Supply themselves with Cloaths and other Necessarys in the best Manner they shall be able. But as there are Inhabitants in the Illinois Country, it may be better that they should be British than Spanish Subjects: Those on the English Side are become more tractable than they were, the Militia turns out when ordered, and they begin to be Sensible, that all Commerce with France is at an End; and that they must depend upon the English.

There is Advice from many parts, that Deputys from the Shawnese and Delawares have been Negotiating with most of the Nations upon the Continent; with Design of engaging them, to enter into a Plan they have concerted, to unite the Northern, Southern, and Western Indians, in one general Confederacy. A very dangerous Event if the Plan Succeeds, but the Indian Officers think it impracticable. A Meeting will be held however very soon, at the Sciota Plains, to consider of the Proposal; where a very considerable Number of Indians are expected to Assemble.⁹¹ Sir William Johnson has held the Congress So long talked of with the Six Nation and Northern Indians, and has, no doubt, used every Endeavor to defeat the Project. He has not had time to Say more

⁸⁸ From Lt. Col. Wilkins, May 30, 1770, Gage MSS.

⁸⁹ Cahokia.

⁹⁰ Aug. 27, 1770, Gage MSS.

⁹¹ From Croghan, July 13, 1770, *ibid.*

of the Issue, than, that it had proved more favourable than he at first expected; that the proposed War was deferred, till some further Steps are taken with the Ouahashe and other Nations; and the rest of the Business, Notwithstanding the Dissatisfaction of So many Tribes on several Subjects, wherein they expect Relief, has been Satisfactorily concluded.⁹²

A Quarrell has happened near Missilimakinac between the Traders and Indians. A French Trader was Stabbed, and an Indian shot; another Indian was made Prisoner, and brought to the Fort, and afterwards Released.⁹³ In other Respects, the Reports from all the Posts upon the Lakes are favourable, the Savages well disposed, and the Trade going on.

Your Lordship's Sentiments, in the Dispute between Lieutenant M^cDougal and the Inhabitants of the Detroit, about Hog-Island, have been communicated to the Parties; but I am informed, they can not be brought to any Agreement, and are preparing to lay their Claims before the Council Board.

The Spanish Troops continue to desert from New-Orleans, and report, that there are not four hundred Soldiers left in the Province of Louisiana. The French Merchants are removing out of the Province, to France or the French Islands; and the rest of the French would also remove if they could dispose of their Lands and Plantations.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest Regard, Respect, and Esteem, My Lord, Your Lordship's most obedient, and most humble Servant,

THO^s GAGE

RIGHT HON^{BLE} EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH,
one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

[Endorsed] New York 18th Aug^t 1770. Lieu^t Gen^l Gage. R. 17th Sept^r (N^o 48)
By mistake, it should be 49. C. 19. Ent^d.

TO HILLSBOROUGH

[P.R.O., C.O. 5:88. A.L.S.]

NEW YORK September 8th 1770.

(N^o 49)

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's Letter N^o 38;⁹⁴ inclosing a Copy of an Order in Council, dated on the 6th of July last,⁹⁵ has been duly received; together with Dispatches for Lieutenant Governor Hutchinson, which have been forwarded by Express to Boston.

I wrote by said Express to M^r Hutchinson,⁹⁶ and to Lieutenant Colonel Dalrymple,⁹⁷ for the carrying His Majesty's Commands into Execution; by putting a Garrison of His Majesty's Troops into Castle William, and have detached Captain Montresor, Engineer,⁹⁸ to make such Repairs as shall be found Necessary towards putting the Fort into a respectable State of Defence, and to make Repairs and Additions to the Barracks.

The Fort, abstracted from any Commanding Spots contiguous to it, of which it might be proper to take Possession, if in a Danger of an Attack, may very well be defended, by one Regiment, or by less Numbers. It is so very small,

⁹² From Johnson, Aug. 1, 1770, *ibid.*

⁹³ From Capt. Turnbull, June 21, 1770, *ibid.*

⁹⁴ July 6, 1770, *ibid.* This is No. 31.

⁹⁵ Acts Privy Council, Col., V, 263-264.

⁹⁶ Sept. 2, 1770, *ibid.*

⁹⁷ Sept. 2, 1770, Gage MSS.

⁹⁸ Sept. 4, 1770, *ibid.*

Document n° 29

- Date :** 18 septembre 1770
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série RG 10, bob. C-11466, vol. 87, p. 34411.
- Nature du document :** Lettre ouverte de Daniel Claus.
- Résumé :** Les Abénaquis de Saint-François se plaignent que les seigneurs de l'endroit veulent y céder des lots de terres. Le gouverneur Carleton, il y a deux ans, a réglé l'affaire en promettant aux Abénaquis qu'ils ne seraient pas dérangés dans leur jouissance des terres qu'ils occupent à Saint-François. Claus ne veut pas que cette promesse soit brisée car les conséquences pourraient être dangereuses.

(A True Copy)

Complaint having been me by the Abenakis of S^t Francis that yet Seigneurs of Said place intended in a few days to lay out the lands near the Indian Village on both sides of the River S^t Francis into Lots, in order to rent them out to Tenants as soon as such would offer themselves.

And whereas His Excellency Governor Carleton ordered me two years ago to acquaint said Abenakis of S^t Francis of his having settled matters with the Seigneurs there in such a manner as not to molest the the Abenakis in the quiet and peaceable possession of the Lands they occupied at and about S^t Francis these many years past.

It is hoped and expected that His Excellency's promise to said Indians will by no means be violated by the Seigneurs of S^t Francis or any one whatsoever, as it could not fail of being productive of such dangerous consequences as of disturbing the peace of the Inhabitants of that neighbourhood in particular, and perhaps that of the Province in general.

Given at Montreal this 18th day of Sept. 1770.

Dan. Claus

Do to Iⁿ [Wm?] Johnson B^t for Canada

To all whom it may concern.

(A true copy)

34411

Complaint having been made by the Abenakis
of St. Francis that the Seigneurs of said Place
intended in a few days to lay out the lands near
the Indian Village on both sides of the River St.
Francis into Lots, in order to rent them out to Farmers
as soon as such would offer themselves.

And whereas His Excellency Governor Carleton
ordered me two years ago to acquaint said Abenakis
of St. Francis of his having settled matters with the
Seigneurs there in such a manner as not to molest the
the Abenakis in the quiet and peaceable Possession
of the Lands they occupied at and about St. Francis
these many years past.

It is hoped and expected that His Excellency's
promise to said Indians will by no means be violated
by the Seigneurs of St. Francis or any one whatsoever
as it could not fail of being productive of such
dangerous consequences as of disturbing the peace
of the Inhabitants of that Neighbourhood in particular,
and perhaps that of the Province in general.

Given at Montreal this 18th day of Sept. 1770

Jam. Clary

J. to M^r. J^r. Johnson Sec^y for
Canada

To all whom it may concern

ANC 1, RG10, C-11466-187
vol.

- Date :** 15 août 1771
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1, p. 119-121.
- Nature du document :** Lettre d'Hector Cramahé à Daniel Claus, de Québec.
- Résumé :** Cramahé voudrait bien suivre les demandes de Johnson, mais comment empêcher les Blancs de s'établir dans les villages indiens alors qu'ils y sont invités par les Indiens eux-mêmes ?
- Une dispute est en cours entre les Gill et les Indiens de Saint-François. Cramahé a envoyé un juge régler l'affaire, mais Cramahé doute que l'entente dure.
- Il y a quelques jours, un Huron de Lorette a poignardé un Micmac de la Baie des Chaleurs dans une rue de Québec. Le Micmac est grièvement blessé et en danger de mort. Le Huron est gardé en prison ; Cramahé demande conseil avant que la cour le convoque le 3 septembre.

Quebec 15th August 1771

Daniel Claus Esq^r
Dep^y Superint^t of the Indians
in the [District?] [of?] [Montreal?]

Sir

I am favoured with your's from La Chine of 2^d August, with one inclosed therein from Sir William Johnson, which shall be answered as soon as possible; in the mean Time, however willing I am, as far as in me lies, to comply with Sir William's Requisitions in whatever regards Indian Affairs, I must acknowledge myself at a loss; how, in the present state of Things in this Province, to prevent white Men from settling in Indian Villages, when invited there by some of the savage Inhabitants; I hope you will be able to bring all those of the Sault to an agreement about that matter at present, untill more settled times permit us [120] to deliberate upon, and make some Regulations therein.

When at Montreal, I understood from M^r Hertel's Friends, he desired only to get his credits, and intended retiring from S^t Regis; Colonel Prevost, with whom I [been informed?] upon the subject, will give him a friendly [hint?] about it, which I hope will have the desired effect.

Some disputes having arisen at S^t Francois between the Indians of that Village, and the Gills, I desired Judge [Martielle?] upon his circuit to endeavour to accommodate their difference, which he has done for the present, but whether their Agreement will continue, I believe a mater of some doubt.

A Huron of the Village of Lorette, some days since, on the street of Quebec, stabbed a Micmac from the Baye des Chaleurs, both [121] of them being in their [Cuss?], and the latter, who received five wounds, one of them in his Lungs, is not yet out of danger, tho' much better than he was; upon the Information of some Persons present, a Justice of the Peace committed the Huron to Gaol, where he now lies [locked?] in case the other die; if tried by our Laws, will certainly be condemned; I should be desirous of having your Opinion upon this Matter, before you depart the Province, or if you remain till the beginning of September, you might confer thereupon with the Chief Justice, who holds his Court at that Place the 3^d of next Month.

I am with great regard

Sir

Your most obedient

humble Servant
H.T. Cramahé

119
Dated 15 August 1771

Sir

I am favoured with Yours from
~~the 15th~~ of 15 August, with an enclosure
therein from Sir William Johnson, which shall
be answered as soon as possible; in the mean
time, however, willing I am, as far as I
can, to comply with Sir William's Request
in whatever regards Indian Affairs, I must
acknowledge myself at a loss, from the
present State of Things in this Province, to
prevent what often happens in such Cases
when invited there by some of the said Indians
I hope you will be able to bring about
the said to an Agreement about that Matter
at present, until more settled Times permit

to deliberate upon, and make some Regulation
therein.

When at Montreal, I understood from
Mr. Bartlett's Friends, he desired only to get
his Credits, and intended returning from St. Louis;
Colonel Racine, with whom I was conversed
upon the Subject, will give them a full
hint about it, which I hope will have the
desired Effect.

Some Disputes having arisen at
St. Francois between the Indians of the Village,
and the Gally, I desired Judge Mackay
his Circuit to endeavor to accommodate
the Difference, which he has done for the
present, but whether their Agreement will
last, I believe is a matter of uncertainty.

A house of the Village of Lachine,
some days since, on the West of Quebec, shall
distance from the large one that was built

at length being in these papers, and the ladies
who received five Hoists, one of them in his
sings, is not yet out of danger, tho' much
better than he was, upon the Information of
some Person present, a Justice of the Peace
committed the Baron to Gaol, where he is
detain'd in case the other dies, tho' by
law, without trial he should
be deserv'd of having your Opinion upon
this Matter, before you depart the Province
as if you remain till the beginning of
September, you might confer thereupon with
the Chief Justice, who holds his Court at
Place the 2^d of next Month

I am with great Regard

Your most Obedt

servant

W. Pitt

Document n° 31

- Date :** 20 août 1771
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1, p. 123-126.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Daniel Claus à Hector Cramahé, de Lachine.
- Résumé :** Concernant l'installation de Blancs dans les villages indiens, Claus est d'avis que l'on doit rechercher l'unanimité dans le village. Pour ce qui est de Kahnawake, il a réconcilié les anciens et les jeunes gens [Impossible de lire : les Blancs sont-ils acceptés ou rejetés par les Indiens?].
- Concernant Saint-Régis, Hertel a réussi à imposer sa présence malgré l'opposition de la majorité des Iroquois. Hertel a attiré des Abénaquis de Missisquoi qui se sont fait avertir par les Six-Nations qu'ils empiétaient sur les terres de chasse de ces derniers.
- À Saint-François, les différends ont été réglés par Claus en 1766, avec l'aide de chefs de Kahnawake.
- Concernant l'altercation entre un Huron et un Micmac à Québec, il eût été préférable qu'aucun Blanc ne soit témoin de cet incident. Il est difficile d'appliquer la loi aux Indiens, surtout dans le cas de nations

distantes. Claus espère que le Micmac se rétablira et que le Huron pourra ainsi être relâché, car s'il est condamné, les Indiens diront que les Anglais leur vendent de l'alcool pour les détruire. Claus s'inquiète des quantités de rhum vendues aux Indiens. Claus examine, de concert avec les chefs de Kahnawake et de Kanesatake, la possibilité de nommer des jeunes gens sobres au contrôle de l'alcool dans les villages.

Les Abénaquis de Saint-François vont envoyer un message à ceux de Saint-Régis pour les inviter à s'établir à Missisquoi.

La Chine 20th. Aug^t. 1771

Sir

I am honored with yours by last post, and return you my sincere thanks for acquainting me with some particulars relative to Indⁿ. Aff^{rs}. in this Prov^{ce}. I coincide with you wth. regard to white mens setting in the Indⁿ. Villages with that proviso that they be unanimously called or invited [?] whole Town, since every Indⁿ. Nation or Village in this prov^{ce}. and for ought I know in America is to be considered as a Republic or Community governd by Sachems or chiefs appointed by the whole Town in public council and not the [?] matter concerning the Community may be under taken without the approbation of those [?] assembled in the [Council ?] house w^{ch}. I [?] [?] not been the case in this Aff^r. at Sault S^t. Louis and therefore the whole Town all to ab^t. [?] opposed any white peoples settling upon the Lands reserved by the Community for plant^g. Ind^r. [?] their seigneurial Lands being out of the Question and intended for white Settlers. However since my arrival here I prepared them for a [Reconciliation ?] by private conversation wth. both parties and upon the Recp^t. of your fav^r. I called [?] together and after 2 days altercation [?] brought them to agree in the presence of old & young men of the Town that white men being to [?] to work on their Domain occasion all [?] to establish [?] w^{ch}. was approved of [?] by the whole [?] seeing the divided parties to shake hand together and forgive & [?] all part animosities no oblivion

The Aff^r. of S^t. Regis is almost similar to the above by M^r. Hertells prevailing upon a few of the most weak & debauched Ind^s. to let him first at their house & afterwards establishing himself in opposition to all the original inhabit^s. the Iroquois, who are a slow passive people & did not think proper to prevent it otherways than by y^e. assistance & [redness ?] of Governm^t. they being afterwards become unanimous that he should remove & only waited for help on to [relief ?] from that [?] [?] could not obtain these 5 years passt his stay is not only attended with the keeping the whole Town in hot water but his attracting & encouraging a parcell of vagrant Abenakis who formerly lived at Misisqui & who have been warned off by the 6 Nations of Iroquois on whose hunting ground they yearly encroach & hostilities were within an ace commencing by an Iroquois meeting wth. Abenakis who had robbd his hunting ground and taking away an Iron Beaver Trap wth. the Game, had the Iroquois been killed the Beaver would have extended to the

whole Nation [?] [?] been the scene of action for any individual Indⁿ. committing hostilities wth. in an other Nation that Nation makes reprisals upon [?] [?] indiscriminately be they ever so innocent or ignorant of what happend.

The Disputes at S^t. Francois were settled by me in the year 66 in conjunction wth. most of the chiefs of Sault S^t. Louis who went with me upon the Spot. The Indns. in general are fond of comptaining but in this Prov^{ces}. in particular being [?] and if they find easy admittance will find [?] for endless complaints that they have sometimes reason to complain I allow but it is not [?] difficult to find out by those that are People [?] [?] wth. their Aff^r. customs [?].

I could have wished most sincerely the Quarrell between the Huron & Mikmac to have happen so as that no Notice had been taken of it by the whites as the like accidents between [?] & Ind^r. frequently happen are allways settled by the respective [?] other parties belong to & I know no Instance when our Laws taking cognisance of the like murders it being but of late years they were made sensible of being liable to submitt themselves to the Law in Cases between Whites & them and even that is difficult to put in Force wth. distant Nations & I could trace the Occasion of last Indⁿ. War to our insisting of [2 ?] Indⁿ. being delivered up for the murder of an English Trader. I heartily wish the Micmac may recover & Huron be set at liberty for should it happend that the latter was to suffer the good Intention of our Laws to prevent murder would not be the thing [?] thro the distant Indⁿ. Nations but that the English sold the Indⁿ. Liquor to murder one another in order get [?] of their race by Liquor as well as their [?]. It gives me great concern to [see ?] the immense quantity of [Rum ?] dayly sold to all the Indⁿ. in this Environ by [?] [?] of greedy cheats of Rum [Tiplers ?] [?] to Ind^{ns}. chiefly in the suburbs of Montreal when they choose to be in order to carry on their [?] with more safety. I am persuaded it cant be long before some disagreeable accident between whites & Ind^{ns}. must happen the latter being so insolent in the Inhab^{ts}. wth. if sober [?] not be the [?] Liquor that there is bearing with them as to doing all [?] of mischief [?] themselves murders so frequent on [?] that at the late congress between the Lake of 2 Montⁿ. Ind^{ns}. & those of Sault S^t. Louis there was no less than 4 murders (that happend [?] Liquor between Montreal & their Villages within a year or two) made up & the [?] concernd reconciled. They have however at last carryed that point among themselves so far as to prevent Liquor being sold or brought to the Village of Sault S^t. Louis & Lac de 2 Montⁿ. by [?] a parcell of active sober young men to examine every [?] coming on shore & [search ?] every house they suspect to have any Liquor in it and they say that since it was not in our power to stop the source of that destructive Fountain they were at least lead of [?] Stream from their Village in order to live [?] wth. [?] rather a reflection upon us...

I shall at least remain in this Provce. till the arrival of the chief Justices & confer with him upon said matters [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] he thinks proper & I acquainted with. I am with great [?] the Ind^{ns}. of Sault S^t. Louis I find are very well pleased with [1 ligne illisible] & beg he may be [?] and by [?] M^r. Hertell just came to tell me that he intended wintering ab^t. the Riviere de Lievres and is going to S^t. Regis to bring away his Effects at the same time has a Message to deliver from the Abenakis of S^t. Franc^s. to those of Regis desiring them to settle at Misisqui w^{ch}. if he effects [I shall ?] be happy.

I have the hon^r. to be &^{ca}.

D. Claus

Lalchane 20th Aug 1911

I am honored with yours by last post, and
 return you my sincere ^{thanks} acknowledgments for
 acquainting me with the particulars relating
 to Ind. Aff. in this Prov. I coincide with
 you with regard to white Men settling in the
 and villages with that proviso that they
 be unanimously called to invade by the
 whole Town, since every Ind. Indian Village
 in this Prov. and for aught I know in America
 is to be considered as a Republic or Community
 governed by Sachems or chiefs appointed by
 the whole ^{town} public council and not ^{them} ^{the}
 matter concerning the community may be
 taken without the approbation of that
 assembly in the Council House with
 not been the case in this Prov. at least
 and therefore the whole town shall be
 opposed any white peoples settling upon
 reserved for the Community for planting
 the signorial lands and out of the lands
 intended for white settlers. However some
 of them have prepared them for a present
 and upon the receipt of your letter called
 together and after 2 days deliberation
 they have decided in the presence
 of many of the white men that shall be
 tried to expel the white men from the
 lands reserved for the Community.

The Ugr of St Regis is similar to the above by
Mr Hertells prevailing upon a few of the most weak
Soleb acceded Ind. to let him ^{fact} trade at their houses
He afterwards establishing himself in opposition of
all the ^{rights} ^{of} the ^{Indians} ^{who} are a day passive
people & would not ^{be} ^{to} ^{prevent} ^{of} ^{that} ^{they} ^{being} ^{very}
of Government! they being ^{now} ^{become} ^{unhappy} ^{and}
that he they ^{at} ^{various} ^{times} ^{only} ^{wanted} ^{for} ^{relief}
from ^{the} ^{Indians} ^{to} ^{be} ^{relieved}
these 5 years past, they ^{is} ^{not} ^{only} ^{attended}
with the keeping the whole town in hot water but
his attacking & encouraging a parcel of young
Abiniquis who ^{yearly} ^{live} ^{at} ^{the} ^{mouth} ^{of} ^{the} ^{river}
have been warred off by the 6 Nations of Iroquois
on whose breaking ground they yearly encroach
& ^{at} ^{last} ^{they} ^{are} ^{now} ^{settled} ^{by} ^{an} ^{accident} ^{by} ^{an} ^{accident}
Iroquois ^{at} ^{the} ^{mouth} ^{of} ^{the} ^{river} ^{at} ^{the} ^{mouth} ^{of} ^{the} ^{river}
breaking ground ^{at} ^{the} ^{mouth} ^{of} ^{the} ^{river} ^{at} ^{the} ^{mouth} ^{of} ^{the} ^{river}
with the Game, has the Iroquois been killed ^{the}
would have extended to the other Nations ^{the}
been the scene of action ^{the}
in an other Nation that Nation makes reprisals
indiscriminately to they ever so innocent victims
of what happened.

The Disputes at St. Francois were settled by me in
the year 1711 in conjunction with the chiefs of the
Indians who were with me at that time. They
Ind. as my grant was not of any consequence
and they ^{at} ^{last} ^{they} ^{are} ^{now} ^{settled} ^{by} ^{an} ^{accident} ^{by} ^{an} ^{accident}
for ^{the} ^{Indians} ^{to} ^{be} ^{relieved}
of ^{the} ^{Indians} ^{to} ^{be} ^{relieved}
had no Notice ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians} ^{to} ^{be} ^{relieved}
by the ^{Indians} ^{to} ^{be} ^{relieved}
It had are allways settled by the respective

hardly belong to the nation I know of no instance
of our Laws taking cognisance of Murders not
being but of late years they were made punishable
of being liable to submit themselves to the Law in
cases between Whites & them and even that is
difficult to put in force with distant Nations
It would trace the Occasion of last War
to our invading of the Indians being delivered up for
the Murder of an English Trader. I heartily
wish the Micmac may recover & return to rest
at liberty for should it happen that the latter
was to suffer the good Intention of our Law
would not be the thing which thro' the distant
Indians but that the English sold the
liquors to murder one another. ^{under} ^{of} ^{their} ^{race} ^{is} ⁱⁿ ^{danger} ^{by} ^{liquors} ^{as} ^{well} ^{as} ^{the} ^{rest}
of this race is a danger by liquor as well as
of our ^{own} ^{people} ^{is} ⁱⁿ ^{danger} ^{by} ^{liquors} ^{as} ^{well} ^{as} ^{the} ^{rest}
daily sold to all the ^{of} ^{this} ^{Province} ^{by} ^{several}
of greedy cheats of them ^{the} ^{most} ^{chief} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians}
Suburbs of Montreal ⁱⁿ ^{order} ^{to} ^{carry} ^{on} ^{the} ^{trade}
with more safety. I am persuaded it can't be long
before some disagreeable Incident between a White
Man & Indian shall happen the latter being so ignorant
of our Laws & the former being so ignorant of the
Indians that they are bearing up to themselves
the trade of liquor to the Indians there was no liquor
sold to the Indians for many years past
it has been within a year or two made up by
concerned persons they have at last carried
the trade of liquor being sold to be brought
to the Indians to be sold to them by the
apartment of a young man to examine about
concerned persons they have at last carried
any liquor to the Indians to be sold to them by the
to stop the ^{of} ^{the} ^{trade} ^{of} ^{liquor} ^{from} ^{their} ^{hands}
at least lead the stream from their hands
rather than ^{to} ^{run} ^{upon} ^{us}...
part of the ^{of} ^{the} ^{Province} ^{the} ^{arrival} ^{of} ^{the} ^{British} ^{Army}
for with him upon the ^{of} ^{the} ^{Province}
I am ^{of} ^{the} ^{Province} ^{the} ^{arrival} ^{of} ^{the} ^{British} ^{Army}
of the ^{of} ^{the} ^{Province} ^{the} ^{arrival} ^{of} ^{the} ^{British} ^{Army}

M^r Hertell just came to tell me that he intend
wintering at the Riviere de Lièvre and is going
to the Regis to bring away his Effects at the same time
has a Message to deliver from the Abinegeons
to France. Those of Regis desiring them to
settle at Missisqui & if he Effects shall
be happy I have the honor to be

I have the honor to be
Yours truly
J. G. J.

To the Hon^{ble} —
Gov^r of the Prov^{ce}
Commander in Chief of the Prov^{ce} of Quebec &c
at Quebec

1760

- Date :** 25 juillet 1772
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1, p. 137-143.
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Daniel Claus à Hector Cramahé, de Lachine.
- Résumé :** Claus a tenu une conférence dernièrement avec les Indiens du Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes. Ils les a informés du contenu d'une lettre de Cramahé concernant les agissements de certains marchands sur la rivière des Outaouais [Grand River]. Les Indiens lui font une réponse formelle. Selon la Proclamation de Carleton de 1766 (qui reprenait la Proclamation royale de 1763), ils devraient pouvoir profiter de leurs territoires de chasse sans interférence. En conséquence, si des marchands veulent commercer avec eux dans leur district, qui s'étend selon eux, du Long Sault jusqu'au lac Nipissing, ils peuvent s'assembler à Carillon, mais pas plus haut, et avec des « dry Goods » seulement, pas d'alcool. L'alcool fait des ravages énormes dans leur village. Ils ont l'intention, puisqu'ils partent bientôt pour leur chasse d'hiver, d'expulser tous les marchands présents plus haut que Carillon. Claus a finalement réussi à les convaincre d'attendre la réponse de

Cramahé à ce discours. Cette situation s'est déjà produite il y a dix ans : le général Gage avait forcé des marchands à revenir à Carillon, en présence de la garnison militaire. Sans cette présence, il n'y a plus de contrôle sur le trafic d'alcool.

Le Huron François Vincent est venu demander pardon pour les « coups » survenus à Québec l'été dernier et espère que les Hurons pourront aller et venir en ville sans problèmes.

Le 26 juillet, post-scriptum de Claus. Il a reçu une délégation de Népissingues et d'Algonquins du Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes. Ils ont déclaré qu'ils attendraient la réponse de Cramahé concernant leur discours sur les marchands. Il n'y aurait pas de problème si ces derniers ne vendaient pas d'alcool.

La chine 25th July 1772.

To the Honorable
H. Théo^s Cramahé Esq^r
[?] [?] in chief of Provⁿ of Quebec &c.

Sir

I was favoured with yours of the 16 Ins^r and sincerely wish you have [?] now got the better of your cold.

As to the Witnesses for Ramseys Trial I cant say any thing about, doubtless Maj^r Ethering the late Commander of Niagara, who has been in Custody, and is to deliver him up to the civil Power at Montreal, will have with him all the Evidence he was able to procure. All I know is that his Brother was the only person present at the Murder.

Last Thursday I had a Conference with the Indians of the Lake of 2 Mount^s where I acquainted them with the Paragraph of your Letter relative to the late Behaviour to some Traders in the Grand River, dwelling a good while upon the [138] subject, when next Morning, they in a full Council and in the Presence of L^t Col^l Templer gave this following answer: "That they had repeatedly laid their Complaints before the Respective Governors of this Province; but seemingly to no purpose, and likewise some years ago represented their case to Lord Adam Gordon, who then visited them on his way to England and promised to lay their Complaints & Belts of Wampum in person before His Majesty. And having but the other day seen a paper, by which they found His Majesty the Great King of England did enjoin all his subjects in this Province not to interrupt or molest the Indians in their hunting grounds on any account whatsoever (which paper I found to be General Carleton's Proclamation of Oct^r 1766) and for which they could not be sufficiently thankfull to His Majesty, But seeing little or no Regard was paid to said paper by his Subjects here, they were now determined themselves to protect said hunting grounds, by virtue of that Paper, and that therefore if any Traders intended to deal with ~~their~~ them in their District **extending** [as they claimed?] from the [139] Long Sault above Carillon to Lake Nipissin, they had no objection to their assembling at Carillon or any where below it, on the South side of the Grand River, but not above that, [and there?] with dry Goods only & no Spirituous liquors, and the Traders going into the upper Country not to break bulk or sell or dispose of Liquors to Indians within that District.

[For?] it being full time for them to look about themselves and guard against their utter Ruin & Destruction, their Village

being already [thinned?] by the many losses, they these several years past sustained by the enormous sale of Liquor to them, and that at a time when they should follow their Hunting, upon which depended the **Maintenance** Subsistence of themselves & Families throughout the year, and which if neglected must make them miserable at least for that Time.

An order therefore to prevent which [Nuisance?], as they were soon going upon their Winter hunt, they intended first to clear their hunting Grounds all the way, to Lake Nipissin, of any Traders that may reside thereupon, and to follow their hunting peaceably & quietly, to the better interest of themselves {in-protection?} & the Indⁿ Trade in general, and so they finished!

On my setting they were unalterably bent & determined upon what they said, that they were to go up the Grand River as soon I left them & bring down all the Traders below Lake Nipissin, I desired them to wait at least untill I had your Answer upon this Speech, to which they [?] [140] by and with murmuring consented.

Now to tell my Mind candidly & impartially about this matter, I [wont?] pretend [?] Sir but they may be great Reason to suspect those Indians being influenced & [talked?] to by the Traders of their Village, and I believe in particular by one M^r Beaubien de Riviere, there being none of them would stick it any thing when guided by Self Interest. But it is like wise to be considered, that in Reality, the Indians have loss many of their People by the Sale of Liquor in those places and no later than 3 weeks ago the wife of a Nipissin Chief heretofore a sober woman, perished by liquor at Coulonge.

Also their proposing certain Marks or places of Trade above their Village, whereby the Traders among them may be under [?] & loose their Custom, ~~it~~ again removes that Suspicion in great Measure, and reduces their Complaints to real Motives of Grievance. Besides I well remember that about 10 years ago the same M^r De Riviere & others, upon the same Complaints & trading at the same places, were by Order of General Gage brought down with all their Effects to Carillon and the Indians their were easy untill the Garrison at Carillon was removed & the civil Govern^t took place when they had reason again to renew their Complaints ~~which~~ again & have continued to this day, so it cannot be said to be a thing lately put in their heads. ~~But~~ no liquor being allowed to be sold them heretofore [141] by the Traders under the french Govern^t and consequently, no accidents happend on that acco^t this sudden ~~mede~~ change of Rum Trade under our Government could not but sensibly [strike?] & [surprize?] them, and I sincerely believe that most Indians knowing the bad Effect Liquor has upon them in particular, [?] wish it out of their way often, but when they know it to be near them have not the power to refrain from it or be easy untill they have it.

And therefore in my [?] Opinion if the few Traders who cause this [Destruction?] and by [?] [?] [?] people of indifferent Characters, were desired to come to Carillon untill His Majesty's pleasure is known it would settle the Affair at once [Were there?] such urgent Complaints about the Vending of Rum by the Traders in

York Province, I ~~am-persuaded~~ conceive S^r W^m Johnson would not hesitate to lay them before the Governor ~~General~~ for Redress, and at the same time report it to the Secretary of State, which is as far as I think he would choose or [?] could meddle in Trade, agreeable to his Instructions from home. But the Indian Nations about Cataracqui, Niagara, Detroit &^m having allways carried on a clandestine Trade in that and other Commodities with the York Traders at Oswego, when under the french Govern^t and therefore in their way of [?] [?] expect it now from them {??} of course, when on the other hand the Traders of Canada were ~~then~~ allways restricted in the Sale [142] of Liquor to the Indians living on the Communication of the Grand River and therefore it became a Surprize upon them to have it at once so plentifully among them whereby they are [entreat?] to Extravagancies which occasion so many Accidents and of course bring on their Complaints.

Moreover I believe the charge ag^t the Albany and Schenectady Peoples (who are y^e only ones y^e carry on the Indⁿ Trade in York Prov^m) sending such ~~Amounts~~ great Quantities of Rum to the Indⁿ Country if fairly examined into, would prove greatly exaggerated, and I think they trade as much in dry Goods (except Amunition) than the Traders in this province, witness the large Cargoes imported by only 2 or 3 of them by the way of Quebec at the Time of Non-importation in the Colonies. You will think my story long & tedious, but how can it well be otherwise where Indian Speeches [are?] in the case, I therefore conclude with one more Talk from [I. Atanas?] & [?] Francois Vincent of Lorette, who conscious of their Coups last Summer at Quebec, beg to be forgiven & they [allowed?] to go & come from Town unmolested.

I am with great Esteem
Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant.
Dan. Claus [143]

July 26th

[?] After closing my Letter a Deputation from the Nipisins & Alkonkins of the Lake of the 2 Mountains arrived here, and in behalf of their resp^m Nations told me by a String of Wampum, that having after my Departure reconsidered my Discourse and Observations upon your Letter touching their Affair, It was thought necessary to send said Deputies after me (being two of the [Alkonkins?] [?]) before I dispatched my Letter to you, and to assure me that they would patiently wait for your Answer & Sentiments upon their Speech of fryday last.

For were it not for the unhappy Consequences resulting to them from the Sale of Liquor in their Places destined for hunting, they would not care how many Traders did come there with dry Goods, but the Misfortune was that the people in general resorting there has as little command over themselves as in selling Liquor, as they the Indⁿ had in drinking it.

D. Claus.

London 25th July 1777

S

I was p[re]sented with yours of the 16th and sincerely wish you had now got the letter of your self.

As to the Belongings for the said Court about saying thing about, doubtless Maj^r Charringe the late Commandant of Virginia, who has been in Custody, and is to deliver them up to the Court here at Montreal, will have with him all the Evidence that can be procured - It is known that he was the only person present at the Murder.

Last Thursday had a Conference with the Council of the City of Montreal where I shew'd them with the Enlargement of your letter and shew'd them the Behaviour of some Traders on the great River, desiring to get some more of the same.

To the Honorable
The Commandant

Subject, when next Morning, they in a full Court
and in the Presence of the Council, presented the
following Petition: That they had respectively
and their Associates, were the respective petitioners
of this Province, but seemingly to no purpose, or
else some of them represented their case to Mr. [Name]
Wardon, who then visited them, and they by his
and promises to lay their complaints before the
Queen in person before His Majesty. And having
but the other day seen a paper by which they found
His Majesty the great King of England did receive
all his Subjects in his Kingdom not to interrupt
more. He petitioned in their hearing, and in every
manner whatsoever for which he was bound to be
General Carleton's Translation of Oct. 1764, and
for which they could not be sufficiently thankful to
the Ministry, but being told that no Request was made
and that they had petitioned, they were now deterred
from doing so, and their hearing proceeded by virtue
of that Order, and that they were to be
to deal with them then [Name]

very small amount of money to be given they had no
 objection to their receiving it & would have any amount
 it in the full view of the world. But it is not that they
 are the only people who are (Civilians) & it is not
 the practice going into the interior country not to break bulk
 or sell wholesale of goods to Indians within the limits
 of their trading till time for them to get to hand. Some we
 had sent against the other than the trade. Some
 of the things already there by the managers of the
 several years past sustained by the enormous price of
 liquor to them, and that at a time when the price of
 their hunting, and which does for the ^{Sustenance} ~~the~~ ^{of them}
 and families throughout the year, and which they must
 make their subsistence of for that time.

In order to prevent the excess which has been
 made upon their attention, they were told
 that their trading grounds in the winter
 were not any the more to be used, and
 to follow their hunt as usual, & quietly to the
 interest of themselves & the Indians
 in general, and so they finished.

On another day, when some of the
 men what they said, & desired them to wait till
 that time should come when they should be

What
 & they were to go to the ground, as soon as they should be
 sent to them & bring them all the things

of liquor to the Indians living on the Commission of
the Grand River and therefore it became a surprise
to them to have it at once so plentifully ^{among them} they are
to labor organized which occasion to many their
of course bring on their Complaints.

Moreover I believe the charge of the Liberty
the necessity of ^{partly} carrying on the Indians
in York town of sending such ^{great} quantities
to the ^{Ind} country of ^{partly} carrying on the
prove greatly exaggerated, and I think they had
in ^{the} ^{country} of ^{partly} carrying on the
this Province, witness the large cargoes imported by
of them by the ^{Ind} ^{country} ^{of} ^{partly} carrying on the
importation in the territories.

you will think my story very ridiculous, but have not
well be otherwise where ^{Ind} ^{country} ^{of} ^{partly} carrying on the
I therefore conclude with no more talk from
to ^{Ind} ^{country} ^{of} ^{partly} carrying on the
to go home from ^{Ind} ^{country} ^{of} ^{partly} carrying on the

I am with great esteem
Your most Obedient
servant
[Signature]

July 26th

After seeing my letter a Deputation from the
Nipisic & Algonquins of the Lake of the St. Lawrence
arrived here, and in behalf of their respective Nations told
me by means of Messrs. that having received your
reconsidered my discourse and observations upon
your letter touching their Affairs; It was thought by
the said Deputation after me, being two of them
before, I dispatched my letter to you, and to assure me
that they would patiently wait for your answer & that
they would attend their speech at Friday last.

It was not for the unhappy consequences re-
sulting to them from the sale of Liquor in their
District for hunting, they would not care how many
Traders did come there with their Goods, but the Mis-
fortune was that the people in general resorting there
had a little concern over themselves in selling
Liquor, as they the said had no drinking it.

Document n° 33

- Date :** 6 août 1772
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1, p. 144-147.
- Nature du document :** Lettre d'Hector Cramahé à Daniel Claus, de Québec.
- Résumé :** Cramahé répond aux Indiens du Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes à propos des marchands qui vendent de l'alcool sur leurs terres de chasse. Lorsque Hey reviendra, ils tiendront des délibérations sur la situation. Il faut contrôler la quantité de rhum vendue par les marchands dans les Pays-d'en-haut, sous peine de graves conséquences pour le pays.
- Le Micmac blessé par le Huron Vincent est finalement mort. Il a été soigné aux frais du gouvernement pendant sept mois. Cramahé a recommandé au missionnaire de Lorette de tenir Vincent éloigné de la ville et de le persuader de se consacrer à la chasse, car il est très violent lorsqu'il boit.

Dan^t Clause Esqr
 Dep^r Sup^t N.D.

Sir

I am glad to find by your [Postage?] of 26th July, that the Indians of the Lake of two Mountains were moderate, and [thereby?] afforded me an Opportunity of transmitting to them, through you, my Sentiments upon that general Subject of Complaint, the selling of Rum, in Respect whereof however, since my Entrance upon the Administration of Government, no particular Representation has ever been made to me by them, at least that I at present recollect.

It has been the Wish and Desire of those who were at the Head of Affairs here, to make some wholesome Regulations for limiting the Quantity of Spirits to be allowed every Trader to send up, in Proportion to the Number of his [145] Engagés, Canoes and Value of their Cargoes; the Difficulty of doing this upon [?] Principles of Equity and Justice, without hurting or discouraging Trade, as well as other circumstances, relative to the Government itself, have hitherto prevented this Designs being carried into execution.

However provided the aforementioned Indians keep themselves quiet, and do not meddle with the Traders, the Matter respecting their hunting Grounds shall be made the object of our Deliberations immediately upon M^r Hey's Return from the Assise at Montreal, when we shall have procured all the necessary Lights and Information for that Purpose; I propose going up in September; but should Business, contrary to my present Expectations, detain me, I shall request of M^r Hey to enquire there into the particular Grievances they complain of, and to consult upon the Measures to be taken for removing them; [146] I wish it was convenient for you to wait his or my arrival.

You seem to have mistaken my Meaning in my last Letter, it never was my Intention to enter into a Discussion of the State of the Indian Trade carried on from our respective Provinces, which might, I believe, be ascertained with a greater Degree of Certainty by other Means than that you point out; my only Motive for what I therein mentioned was, that it appears to me, much of the present Dissatisfaction amongst the upper Country Indians arises from the prodigious Quantity of Rum sent up; and the frequent Impositions upon them by the Venders of it; And that I am firmly persuaded if some method is not fallen up to restrain this pernicious Trade, it will, for long, be productive of evil Consequences to both

Provinces.

Upon the Death of the Indian, wounded by Vincent, who was taken care of and [?] for seven Months at the Expense of Government [147] the Coroner called an Inquest upon the Body of the deceased, and would have proceeded further, I believe, if I had not put a stop to it; I advised, and indeed wished for his keeping out of the way some Time as, besides his having been in several [?] before, he is, apt to drink and as they all are, very violent, when in Liquor; however what is past shall be forget, if he behaves better for the future; and to prevent his falling into Temptation, I have hinted to their Missionary at Lorette, to advise his coming to Town as seldom as possible and to pursue his hunt with [?] diligence [?] [?] [?] [?] advantage him in every Respect.

I am with great Regard

Sir

Your most obedient &

Humble Servant

H.T. Cramahé

Quebec 6th Aug 1774

Sir

I am glad to find by yours
of 26th July, that the Indians of the Lake
two Marattans were intercepted, and
afforded me an opportunity of bringing
to them, through you, my sentiments upon
that general subject of Complaint, the selling
of Arms, in respect whereof I have never
Entrance upon the Administration of Government
so particular Representation has ever been
made to me by them, at least that I

It has been the Wish and Desire
those who were at the Head of Affairs here,
to make some wholesome Regulation for
the Quantity of Arms to be allowed
to stand up, in proportion to the Number of

That Clause is

Very truly

Engaged, Labour, and Value of their Labour,
the Difficulty of doing this upon strict
Principles of Equity and Justice, without
hurting or discouraging Trade, as well as
other Circumstances, relative to the Government
itself, have hitherto prevented this Design
being carried into Execution.

However provided the aforementioned
Indians keep themselves quiet, and do not
meddle with the Traders, the Matter respecting
their hunting Grounds shall be made the
Subject of our Deliberation, immediately upon
their Return from the several Markets
when we shall have procured all the necessary
Lights and Information for that Purpose.
I propose going up in September, but
Business, contrary to my present Expectations,
detain me, I shall request of you to
enquire there into the particular Grievances
they complain of, and to consult upon the
Measures to be taken for removing them;

I wish it was convenient for you to
wait here on my Arrival.

You seem to have mistaken my
Meaning in my last Letter, it never was
my Intention to enter into a Disquisition of
the State of the Indian Trade, carried on in
our respective Provinces, which might, thro' the
be ascertained with a greater Degree of Truth
by other Means than that you point out, my
only Motive for what I therein mention'd
was, that it appears to me, much of the
Dissatisfaction amongst the upper Country
arises from the prodigious Quantity of Goods
sent up; and the frequent Imposition of
them by the Masters of it; And that to
provide some Method is not better
to restrain this pernicious Trade, it will, in
long, be productive of evil Consequences to both
Provinces.

Upon the Death of the Indian, mentioned
by Vincent, who was taken last of old
for seven Months at the Expence of

The Coroner called upon Inquest upon the
body of the deceased, and would have
proceeded further, I believe, if I had not
put a stop to it; I advised, and indeed in-
sisted for his keeping out of the way
the time, as, besides his having been
a great desperado before, he was to that
effect as they all are, I was not, when
I was, however what I shall be for
the behaves better to the future, and
prevent his falling into temptation; I have
been to their ship at Lorette, and
as he is coming to town as seldom as
and to pursue his business as usual
him in every respect.

I am with great regard

Your most Obedient
and humble servant
The Coroner

Document n° 34

- Date :** 17 août 1772
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1, p. 149-150.
- Nature du document :** Message de Daniel Claus aux Indiens de Kanesatake, de Lachine.
- Résumé :** Concerne la vente d'alcool par des marchands sur les terres de chasse en amont de Carillon sur la rivière des Outaouais. Claus informe les Indiens que Cramahé va bientôt examiner la question et rencontrer les marchands et il leur demande de se tenir tranquille d'ici-là. De plus, ils ne peuvent utiliser la Proclamation de Carleton de 1766 comme ils ont prétendu le faire.

La Chine 17th. Aug^r. 1772

Message sent by Col Claus to the Caneghsadagey Ind^{as}. upon L^r. Govern^r. Cramahe answer upon to their Complaint ab^t. the Sale of Rum on their hunting Grounds in the Grand Riv^r. above Carillon.

S^c. John Interp^r. & Messenger

Bro^{as}.

I am to salute you from the Gov^r. of Quebec who has received your Speech delivered me when last at your Town and desires me to acquaint you that you must be sensible this Governm^t. having from the Beginning endeavoured to remedy your Complaint against the selling of Rum in your Country & is sorry these Endeavours not having hitherto had the wished for Effect, however he hopes & desires you will keep yourselves easy & quiet a little longer & not meddle with the Traders he being determined with the rest of the Judge Men at Quebec to make your late Complaint the Object of their [Deliberation ?] after first informing themselves and inquiring more [?] into the nature of your particular grievances, & see them redressed.

Broth^r.

By these Strings of Wampum I advise you to give Ear & comply with the Governors desire it being not so easy to [?] a matter to put an immediate stop to grievances concerning a whole Province particularly in [?] free Governm^t. as the English is; And you may likewise rely in my laying your Complaints before S^r. W^a. Johnson your chief immediatly after [?] Return home who you may be sure will leave nothing [untreed ?] [?] that may contribute towards your peace & Tranquility. I must inform you of your being wrong & mistaken of presuming to take upon you the executive power of the Govern^r. Proclamation as you told me th'other, and if you have said paper [poperly ?] explaind to you, you will find my words to be true, and therefore your acting contrary to the meaning of s^c. paper would be [?] & attended with [disagreable ?] consequences, so that you best make yourselves easy for a little while longer.

a String

Think & reflect seriously upon the above [?] and I wish you [?] health. Farewell

D. Claus
Dep^r to S^r. W^a. Johnson

at 6 o'clock 11. Aug. 1772

Message sent by Col. Claus to the Beneficial Agency
in the name of the Government. Examines Answer upon
their Complaint at the Sale of their
Hunting Grounds in the Grand Div. above Bristol

At the Court of the Messengers

By these things of Wampum I am to salute you
from the Gov. of Quebec who has received your
letter delivered me when last at your Town and
desires me to acquaint you that you must be sensible
this Government having from the beginning endeavoured
to remedy your Complaint against the selling of
Land in your Country it is sorry these Endeavours
at present have had the wished for Effect,
however he hopes to desire you will keep your
mind easy & quiet a little longer, ^{that may be} ^{the being taken}
into the rest of the ^{land} ^{then} at Quebec to
make your late Complaint the Object of their
Deliberation after first informing themselves and
inquiring ^{more minutely} into the Nature of your
particular Grievances, ^{how they stand}

By these things of Wampum I advise you that you
can remedy what the Government desires to being had in
your Country by the Government of Quebec
whose Province ^{is} ^{your} ^{Government}
English is, And you likewise rely on my laying your
Complaints before the Government of Quebec, ^{after}
that you may be sure will have nothing in view
that may contribute towards your peace & tranquillity
I must inform you of your being ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{Province} ^{of} ^{Quebec}
the Beneficial Agency of the Gov.

1773

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Document n° 35

- Date :** 3 juin 1773
- Référence :** *Sir Frederick Haldimand : Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-1784. Add. Mss. 21665, f. 141-142.*
- Nature du document :** Lettre de Thomas Gage à Frederick Haldimand, de New York.
- Résumé :** Suite au traité de Fort Stanwix, où les Six-Nations ont cédé des terres des Indiens de l'Ohio, ces derniers, mécontents, veulent former une confédération des Indiens de l'Ouest et du Sud, le tout mené par les Shawnees. Les Six-Nations, de leur côté, ont resserré leurs liens avec les Indiens du Canada et d'autres. William Johnson a tenu un congrès dernièrement avec les Six-Nations qui vont tenter de ramener les Indiens de l'Ouest à la raison : ils ont envoyé une ceinture.

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 141 r.]

New York June 3^d : 1773

Sir,

You are referred in these Matters to Sir William Johnson, and Mr. Stuart and I give you a Copy of any Letters to them desiring they wou'd report to you all Matters relative to their Department.

Among the various Tribes, Reports of the bad Designs of many are frequently reported, and often upon little foundation but from lawless and licentious Traders, and frontier People, and drunken and insolent Indians there are frequent Quarrells and Murders reciprocally committed which give Trouble

Indian Business at present of most moment is the Northern and Western Confederacies. The Northern Nations ceded Tracts of Lands at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix, inconvenient to the Indians of the Ohio, which exasperated them to a great Degree, but finding themselves too weak alone [f. 141v.] for the Six-Nations, they have been, and appear still to be, endeavoring to form a general Union of all the Western & Southern Nations, and the Shawnese are supposed to be the Contrivers of the Scheme. The six Nations in Return have strenghtened their Alliance with the Canada and other Tribes. The six Nations have by Deputy's sent to Scioto threatened much, but nothing has been undertaken openly on either Side.

The Indians who have appeared the most hostile towards us, are the three Nations on the Ouabache, & the Pouehatamies of S^t : Josephs, the former have at times killed Soldiers, as well as British Traders and Settlers at the Illinois, in so much that it was judged necessary to chastise them, the six Nations killed six or seven of them last Year, and sent a Message threatening them with War, which it is presumed will render

them more [f. 142r.] peaceable, and a Deputy of Sir William Johnsons has been ordered to Scioto to look after the Nations in those Quarters. It has very often been reported that the French and Spaniards have excited the Nations against the English, and been the Authors of many Mischiefs, tho' it has not been discovered that the Spanish Government has had any Concern therein. But it is probable the Traders at the Illinois as well British, as Spaniards Subjects have been guilty of such iniquitous Practices to keep the Trade to themselves.

A Trader and his Servants have been attacked at St^t: Joseph by the Pouehatamies, and some killed on both Sides. a Frenchman who has resided long at St^t Joseph is suspected to have excited the Savages to this Mischief; and has been before suspected of like Practices, for within these two or three [f. 142v.] Years many Traders have been killed by the Pouehatamies, and their Effects plundered. It is become proper to take measures to stop such horrid Proceedings, and Major Bassett 10th Regim^t: Commanding at Detroit is ordered to enquire into the Affair; and demand Satisfaction. You have herewith a Copy of his Letter, and my Answer on this Head.

Sir William Johnson having held a Congress lately with the Six-Nations, you have a Copy thereof, which will shew you that they mean to bring the Western Nations to Reason without Delay, and that they have sent a Belt to the Pouehatamies concerning the Murther at St^t: Josephs.

I am with great Regard

Sir,

your most obedient humble servant

Tho^s. Gage

Sir,

New York June 3rd 1773

You are referred in these Matters
to Sir William Johnson, and Mr. Stuart,
and I give you a Copy of my Letters to them
desiring they would report to you all
Matters relative to their Department.

Among the various Tribes, Reports
of the bad Designs of many are frequently
reported, and often upon little Foundation,
but from lawless and licentious Traders,
and frontier People, and drunken and
incorrigible Indians there are frequent
Quarrels and Murders reciprocally
committed which give Trouble

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most Moment is the Northern and Western
Confederacies. The Northern Nations called

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and I give you a copy of my Letters to them
desiring they would report to you all
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and frontier People, and drunken and
incorrigible Indians there are frequent
Quarrels and Murders reciprocally
committed which give Trouble

Indian Business at present of
most Moment is the Northern and Western
Confederacies. The Northern Nations wish
Tracts of Land at the Mouth of Fort Stanwix,
inconvenient to the Indians of the Ohio,
which exasperated them to a great Degree,
but finding themselves too weak alone

Major General Haldemands. for

For the six Nations, they have been, and appear still to be, endeavoring to form a general Union of all the Western & Southern Nations, and the Shawnee are supposed to be the Contrivers of the Scheme. The six Nations in Return have strengthened their Alliance with the Canada and other Tribes. The six Nations have by Deputy's sent for Sixto threatened much, but nothing has been undertaken openly on either side.

The Indians who have appeared the most hostile towards us, are the three Nations on the Quabache, & the Oneidas of St. Josephs, the former have at Times killed Soldiers, as well as British Traders and Settlers at the Illinois, inasmuch that it was judicious necessary to chastise them.

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Nations, and the Shawnee are supposed to
be the contrivers of the Scheme. The six
Nations in Return have strengthened their
Alliance with the Canada and other Tribes.
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it was judged necessary to chastise them.
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A Trader and his Servants have been attacked at St. Joseph by the Saukatomies, and some killed on both sides. A Frenchman who has resided,

look after the Nations in those Quarters.
It has very often been reported, that the
French and Spaniards have excited the
Nations against the English, and been
the Authors of many Mischief, tho' it
has not been discovered that the Spanish
Government has had any Concern therein.
But it is probable the Traders at the
Ohio as well British, as Spanish Subjects
have been guilty of such iniquitous
Practices to keep the Trade to themselves.

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been attacked at St. Joseph by the
Sachemians, and some killed on both
sides. A Frenchman who has resided
long at St. Joseph is suspected to have
excited the Savages to this Mischief,
and has been before suspected of like
Practices, for within these two or three
Years,

many Indians have been killed by
the Pontiacians, and their effects
destroyed. It is become proper to take
measures to stop such horrid Proceedings,
and Major Papett 10th Regim: Commanding
at Detroit is ordered to enquire into the
Affair, and demand Satisfaction. You
have herewith a Copy of his Letter, and
my Answer on this Head.

Sir William Johnson having held
a Congress lately with the six Nations, you
have a Copy thereof, which will show you
that they mean to bring the western
Nations to Reason without Delay, and
that they have sent a Belt to the
Pontiacians concerning the Murders

It is become proper to take
measures to stop such horrid Proceedings,
and Major Papett 10th Regiment commanding
at Detroit is ordered to enquire into the
Affair, and demand Satisfaction. You
have herewith a Copy of his Letter, and
my Answer on this Head.

Sir William Johnson having held
a Congress lately with the six Nations, you
have a Copy thereof, which will show you
that they mean to bring the western
Nations to Reason without Delay, and
that they have sent a Belt to the
Four Nations concerning the Murders
at St. Josephs.

I am with great regard

for,
your most obedient
humble servant



Tho: Gage

Document n° 36

- Date :** 22 juin 1773
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 11, C.O. 42, vol. 32, f. 26-29.
- Nature du document :** Lettre d'Hector T. Cramahé à Lord Dartmouth, de Québec.
- Résumé :** Cramahé a effectué un « tour » de la Province. Tout est tranquille, à l'exception de « some little disquiet » chez les Indiens du Sault-Saint-Louis, au sujet des limites de leur seigneurie, et chez ceux du Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes, qui se plaignent toujours du commerce d'eau-de-vie.

Transcription préliminaire

Quebec 22^d June 1773

Earl of Dartmouth
One of His Majesty's
Principal Secretaries
of State

My Lord [...] **[28 v]** Before I conclude, I think it right to inform your Lordship, that upon my last Tour, in which I visited some settlement pout of the main Road, I had the Pleasure of finding the People every where thriving and improving, and every thing as peaceable **[29]** as could be expected, some little disquiet among the Indians at Sault St. Louis and Lake of the two Mountains only excepted, about the Boundaries of the former, and the usual Complaints of the latter, in regard to the Rum Trade ; the former are in a Train of Accommodation, and, I hope, we shall be able to keep the Indians at the Lake quiet, untill a Method can be fallen upon to regulate that Business.

I have the Honor to be
with great Respect,
My Lordship's
Most Humble Servant
H.T. Cramahé

Quebec 22^d June 1773

My Lords

Herewith inclosed, I transmit to Your Lordship a copy of the Minutes of His Majesty's Council of this Province for the three Months ending the 31st of last March; for Want of a sufficient Number of Members to constitute a Board, no Council was held during the three Months preceding that Period -

Since my last I have been honoured with Your Lordship's several Dispatches N^o. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. and 8., as well as Circular Letters of the 8th December and 2^d February; the Expectation I entertained of being able to give Your Lordship some certain Information in regard to Ramsay, the Subject of your Letter N^o. 2., and a Tour I took this Spring to the upper Parts of the Province, occasioned my deferring to answer them for some Time, and it is but a very few Days since I

Earl of Dartmouth
 One of His Majesty's
 Principal Secretaries
 of State -

returned

1773 June 22
 To the Hon^{ble} Lords
 of the Council
 at Quebec

returned to this Place -

Thursday's Post from Montreal brought an Account of Ramsay's Trial having been conducted, Prisoner there from Albany, where he was taken up as present at, and an Accomplice in the Murder of the Indians near Niagara the only Chance of bringing the former to Justice seems to depend upon the latter turning Evidence against him -

Ramsay's Trial will come on in April next, when I am certain His Majesty's Chief Justice, before whom he is to be tried, will exert his best Endeavours to see Justice done him; He has already given sufficient Proof of his Desire to bring the Prisoner to Punishment, by continuing him in Goal the two last Terms; from a full Conviction of the Necessity of making an Example if possible, to deter Traders from such Males Practices in future, Mr. Hey has perhaps rather stepped out of the usual Road but in such a Case, a Deviation from the common Rules was surely warranted as it could only be intended for the Benefit of all His Majesty's Subjects

in

in this part of the World -

In charging the Jury, the Chief Justice will not neglect to guard their Minds against every Prejudice, they may be suspected to entertain on this Occasion; the Popular Prejudices against the Indians, Sir William Johnson talks of, and seems to apprehend, are by no Means so prevailing here, as he imagines -

Before I have done with this Subject, I think it right to give Your Lordship a short Sketch of this Ramsay's History, as far as comes to my knowledge; I think it incumbent upon me so to do, as from the Manner in which Sir William mentions him in his Letter, Your Lordship might be induced to believe, he belonged to this Province, in which however he never resided; in 1768, for some Irregularities committed in the upper Country, he was sent Prisoner by Captain Brown then Commanding at Niagara to Montreal, where, after being confined three Days in the Guardhouse, no sufficient Ground appearing for a Civil Prosecution, he was discharged, and came down to -

Quebec

Lucas, and from hence proceeded to
and Schenectady; From this last Place
Ramsay has been fitted out for every
Voyage he has since taken to Detroit
and Mississiniquia; and particularly
the last, when that tragical Event, for
which he is now in Containment, happen'd

Michael Duc the Canadian, who was
executed last Summer at Montreal, had
murdered at Detroit one Tenhout, a Trade
from this Province, whose Clerk he was at the
Time, and concealed the Body in the Cellar of
their dwelling House, which he continued to
inhabit for some Months, disposing of the
Effects of the Deceased, untill from a Variety
of Circumstances, strong Suspicions being
entertain'd of said Duc; full Discovery was
made of his Guilt, and by Order of the
Commander in Chief he was sent down to
take his Trial here, agreeable to a Clause
in the Mutiny Bill for America of the
6th of the present King, expressly providing
for the Punishment of Crimes and Offences
committed in the upper Country, which
Bill has been continu'd every Session
since -

Monsieur Ducy would certainly
have acted more properly, if he had consult'd

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me before he answered the Letter notifying
his Nomination to a Croix de St. Louis,
but he is an honest Man, and I am
persuaded, this Mistake proceeded from his
Ignorance of the Niceties to be observed
upon such Occasions, without the least
Intention of saying or doing any thing
disrespectfull to the Government: He
lives under -

I am a good deal surprised at
the Memorials presented by Widow Selage
complaining of Delays and Obstructions
in obtaining Satisfaction of her Demands
upon Mr. William Grant of this Place,
her Agent here never having made
the least Application to me in her
behalf; the Cause indeed has been long depending,
partly owing to some Difficulties that arose in
the Beginning about the Court it should be
tried in, one of the Judges of the Court of
Common Pleas at Montreal, in which the
Action was first instituted, having declined
proceeding in the Affair, upon Account of
his Connection by Marriage with Mr. William
Grant, and partly to some Defect in her
Agent's Powers, even after the Cause was
removed to the Court of this District -

As often as Occasion offered to

Speak

Speak upon the subject, & strongly recommend
to the Friends of both Parties, to engage
them to compromise their Differences; it do
not appear to me right to interfere too
far, as I have long foreseen a greater
Probability of the Affairs being brought
before the Governor and Council, nor is
it, I believe, likely to end there -

I shall not fail to lay Messieurs
Robin Pipon & Co. Petition, together with
what Your Lordship says upon their Subject
before His Majesty's Council, the first Time it
meets for the Purpose of Granting Lands.
There are many Claimants in much the
same Situation, and so many Difficulties occur
in the Settlement of those Affairs, that no
great Progress has been hitherto made
therein; We wait the Deputy Surveyor General
Return from above, where he is upon some
Provincial Business, to resume the Consideration
of this difficult Affair, when we shall
endeavour to get through it, as fast as the
Nature of it will admit -

Before I conclude, I think it right
to inform Your Lordship, that upon my late
Tour, in which I visited some Settlements
out of the main Road, I had the Pleasure
of finding the People every where thriving
and improving, and every Thing as peaceful

as could be expected, some little Disquiet
among the Indians at Sault St. Louis &
Lake of the two Mountains only excepted,
about the Boundaries of the former, and
the usual Complaints of the latter, in regard
to the Rum Trade; the former are in a
Train of Accommodation, and, I hope,
we shall be able to keep the Indians at
the Lake quiet, untill a Method can be
fallen upon to regulate that Business.

I have the Honor to be
with great Respect,

My Lords!

Your Lordships

Most Obedient and
Most Humble Servant

A. J. Cramahé

Document n° 37

- Date :** 2 juillet 1773
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1.
- Nature du document :** Daniel Claus à William Johnson (?), de Lachine
- Résumé :** Claus est sur place pour effectuer sa visite annuelle aux Sept-Nations bien qu'il ait peu à discuter avec eux en ce moment. Les Indiens de Kahnawake ont exprimé leur gratitude pour la manière dont s'est réglée la question des limites des deux extrémités de leur seigneurie. Il y a des troubles au Lac des Deux-Montagnes. Claus ne peut en dire plus tant qu'il n'aura pas rencontré les Indiens de ce village, ce qu'il ne peut faire immédiatement car des députés des Six-Nations arriveront bientôt et voudront rencontrer les nations de cette province. Claus veut les voir tous ensemble.

La Chine 2^a. July 1773

Sir

I arrived at this place last Monday in order to pay my annual Visit to the 7 confederate Nations of this province altho I had nothing material in charge to transact with them for this present time.

It gave me much concern to find of having [miss ?] and are in not meeting you at Montreal where I understand you resided for some days w^{ch}. had I been aware of should have left home sooner than usual, w^{ch}. were it not that was more or less confined from y^o. beg^d. of febr^y. to latter [End of May ?] with that [?] chronic disorder of mine I intended being here by the begin^g. of June in order to return before the month of Sep^r.

The Indians of the Sault S^t. Louis have with their most lively Expressions of Gratitude recounted to me the satisfactory manner you were pleased to settle the Boundaries in dispute at both Ends of their Seigneurie, and I think they [?] any other Ind^e. Nation ought to shew their [attention ?] not firmly to our Governm^t. for hav^g. so solid a Benefice conferred upon [them ?] as the holding of a Tract of Land already so well settled and capable of receiving yet a still greater Num^r. of Tenants wth. I often make them sensible of and that they never could have [expected ?] any thing of the kind while under the french Governm^t.

According to present Appearances [?] much Trouble & [?] among the Lake of 2 Mount. Ind^{ns}. of [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] summer unless the [?] it untill I meet them w^{ch}. time I cannot at present ascertain those being a party of the 6 Nation chiefs [expected ?] in [?] days [?] the Sault S^t. Louis who will want a meeting with the diff^t. Nations of this Prov^{ce}. so that it will be best to [?] it till they are ready in order to [?] [double trouble ?] of [?] [?] together. Mons^r. [De LaModiere ?] told me [th'other ?] day there was a [?] of mischief some in the upper Countries I [cant ?] as yet hear of [?] is said happend I [?] Marie DuCharm who always fond of carrying [?] illicit Trade find at last met who his Desert of the Missouri [?] [?] with those Ind^{ns}. who for killing some [?] had Trade [4 lignes illisibles]

arrived at this place last Monday in order
to pay my annual Visit to the Confederate Nations
of this Province altho I had nothing material
to transact with them for this present time.

I have no much concern to find of having
the opportunity of seeing ^{and} the pleasure of meeting
you at ^{Shroveton} where I understand you reside
for some days and had I been aware of that
left home sooner than usual, ^{and} were it not that
I had been more or less confined with that
Disorder of mine I intended being here by that time
I have in order to return before the Month of Sept.

The Indians of the Falls of Louis have with
of Gratitude
great Expressions recounted to me the satisfactory manner
you were pleased to settle the ^{business} in dispute
at both Ends of their Signatures, and I think that
any other Nation ought to show much jealousy their
to our Government for so solid a Benefit conferred upon
as the holding of a Tract of land already so well settled and
capable of receiving yet a still greater Number of Servants
that I suppose them sensible that they never could have
any thing of the kind while under the ^{old} Government?

It would give to present ^{of} ^{the} ^{Government} ^{the} ^{business} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians}
I am very glad to hear that the ^{business} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians}
is now at present ^{of} ^{the} ^{Government} ^{the} ^{business} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians}
I hope that the ^{business} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians}
will be settled in a manner that will be
satisfactory to all parties concerned
I am very glad to hear that the ^{business} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians}
is now at present ^{of} ^{the} ^{Government} ^{the} ^{business} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians}
I hope that the ^{business} ^{of} ^{the} ^{Indians}
will be settled in a manner that will be
satisfactory to all parties concerned

I am very glad to hear that the business of the Indians is now at present of the Government the business of the Indians

Date :	3 juillet 1773
Référence :	<i>Sir Frederick Haldimand : Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-84. Add. Mss. 21672, f. 91-93.</i>
Nature du document :	Lettre de John Stuart à Thomas Gage, de Charlestown.
Résumé :	<p>Des députés des Shawnees et des «Northern Nations» sont arrivés à Echota, capitale des Cherokees. Ces derniers avaient précédemment envoyé des messagers et des wampums au nord ; ils sont arrivés chez les «Congnawagies» [Iroquois de Kahnawake ?] qui, les premiers, ont accepté ces messages. Les autres nations ont suivi l'exemple des «Congnawagies», mais les Indiens de l'Ouest ont rejeté les messages des Cherokees. Selon un chef cherokee interrogé par Stuart, les Cherokees, après avoir conclu une paix avec les «Northern Nations», ont voulu faire la paix avec les Indiens de l'Ohio et des Grands Lacs qui ont refusé. Les Cherokees ont alors voulu établir une confédération avec les Six-Nations, la Confédération du Canada, les Creeks et les Chickasaws.</p>

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 91r.]

Charlestown 3^d July 1773

Sir

As the late Congress at Augusta gave me an opportunity of observing the disposition of the Creeks and Cherokees, it becomes my duty to submit to your Excellency what information I could obtain.

[luonastotah?], principal Chief and Leader of the Cherokee Nation, was upon the point of setting out to attend the meeting at Augusta, when Messengers from the Creek Nation arrived at Echote, and announced the coming of their Chief the [Mortar?] upon particular Business which with accounts received in the same time that Deputies from the Shawnese and other Northern Tribes were near at hand, determined him to remain at home to receive them : he sent his excuse by Otacite Ustencka who he had substituted to Tramack the Business of the Congress in his absence.

I endeavoured as much as possible to discover the subject of the meeting, with which view I privately examined Esnistisigud, a very leading [f. 91v.] Indian of the Upper Creeks, in whose veracity and Friendship I have Confidence. He assured me that he knew of no hostile intention entertained by his Nation against the White people, that the Cherokees had sent Messengers and Belts of Wampum to the North [?] which passed unattended to thro' all the Tribes [?] they reached the Congnawagies who first [?sed] with their proposal, & that their example was immediately followed by the other Northern Tribes, but was absolutely rejected by the Western Tribes upon the Ouabache and great Lakes who still continue to commit hostilities against the Cherokees. The same Messengers and Tokens had been sent into [?] and Chickesaw Nations, that he had seen the Belts and Tokens & could discover nothing bad in them, excepting one string which consisted of many red and black beads, mixed with white, which indicated war, but whether

against the [?] or western Tribes he could not tell & here [?] have to acquaint Your Excellency that the Indians are very obscure in their Messages when they mean to sound the inclinations of their Neighbours [f. 92r.] and leave their meaning to be understood by the few who can decipher their belts of whampum strings of beads, and other Tokens.

My information from the Cherokee Chief Attakullakulla or the Little Carpenter was to the following purpose, That after his Nation had concluded peace with the Northern Tribes they made overtures to the Western Indians [?] the mediation of the Six-Nations, that the Yaughtenoose, Peankeshaws, Kickapoos & other western Tribes did notwithstanding continue to harrass them, having rejected their offers of Friendship with insulting contemp, which induced his Nation to think of forming a Confederacy with the Northern Tribes, that they might thereby be enabled to bring them to reason, that Messengers had accordingly been sent by the Cherokees with belts & proposals to the Six-Nations & Canadian Confederacy, & that the Creeks & Chickesaws were invited to accede to the Association, that last Fall they had renewed their offers of Peace to the western Tribes in the name of the confederacy but that those Indians cut their Belts of wampum to pieces [f. 92v.] and burnt them in presence of the Messengers, whom they ordered instantly to depart, that the object of the present meeting at Chote, at which deputies from the Schawnese Six-Nations & Canada confederacy as well as from the Creeks, Chickesaws & Arkansaws or Querpies were to assist, is to concert measures to chastise the insolence of said western Tribes & bring them to reason.

My friend Attakullakulla further assured me that the intentions of his Nation toward us, were perfectly Friendly, that if his endeavours to preserve peace with his white Brethren should prove uneffectual he should at any time find his People inclined to walk in the crooked Path, he would not fail to give me notice & I begg leave to add that I believe that he very candidly and faithfully told me all that he knew.

Sir James Wright and I had intelligence from from different Indians, that the Creeks meditated something hostile against us, which would be determined upon and probably Carried into execution immediately

after their green Corn Feast, which will be about the end of July or beginning of August.

This determined us to keep back the quantity of ammunition promised to them, untill we should learn what the Green Corn Dance Produced, As such Intelligence [f. 93r.] is not entirely to be slighted, tho' I do not apprehend that it is the intention in General to break with us. After the Governor left Augusta, I found much difficulty in prevailing on the Creek Chiefs, who were appointed to mark out the lines of the new Cession, to proceed upon that business untill they should first have received the quantity of ammunition promised ; however, with the assistance of Emishsiquo, I at last prevailed, and they had actually set out upon that service essentially necessary to compleat the Cession.

The Chactaws and Creeks continue at War ; the former obtained lately a considerable advantage over the latter, who are desirous of engaging the Chickesaws and Cherokeees in their quarrel, in which I hope they will fail, for in such circumstances the Chactaws would be compelled to acquies in any Terms they might prescribe. The Creeks are already very insolent & troublesome & a peace obtained upon their own terms by their Superiority would render them more so, and intolerable neighbours to the new Collonies.

[f. 93v.] I judged that a demand for satisfaction for the murther of some Virginian emigrants committed by the Cherokeees last year, might have interfeered with the principal Business of the Congress, & at same time I thought it might with great propriety be postponed untill the result of the meeting at Chote, & the real intentions of the Indians can be discovered.

I shall be extremely happy if my conduct meets Your Excellencys approbation being with the utmost Respect

Sir

Your Excellencys most obedient &
most humble servant

John Stuart

Sir

Charlottesville July 1773

As the late Congress at Augusta gave me an opportunity of observing the disposition of the Creeks and Cherokee, it becomes my duty to submit to Your Excellency what information could be obtained.

Puonastotah, principal chief, and leader of the Cherokee Nation, was upon the point of setting out to attend the meeting at Augusta, when Mr. S. from the Creek Nation arrived at Okecho, and announced the coming of their chief the next day upon particular business, which with accounts received at the same time that some of the Creek Nation were near at hand, determined him to remain at home to receive them. He sent his excuse by Okecho to the business of the Congress in his absence.

As the late Congress at Augusta gave
me an opportunity of observing the disposition of
the Creeks and Cherokees, it became my duty to
submit to Your Excellency what information could
be obtained.

Puonastota, principal chief, and
leader of the Cherokee Nation, was upon the point
of setting out to attend the meeting at Augusta,
when Mr. Rogers from the Creek Nation arrived
at White, and announced the coming of their chief
the next day upon particular business, which with
accounts received at the same time that several
from the Cherokee and other Northern Tribes were
near at hand, determined him to remain at home
to receive them: he sent his excuse by Okacite Wo-
lenoka who he had substituted to transact
the business of the Congress in his absence.

I endeavored as much as possible to disengage
myself of the meeting, with which view I pri-
vately examined Smith's journal, a very interesting

Your Excellency

General Gage &c

in whose veracity and
friendships I have confidence. He assured me that
he knew of no hostile intention entertained by his Nation
against the White people, that the projectors of the
Messengers and Belts of Miamquam to the Westward
which passed unattended to thro' all the Tribes
They reached the Congowagies who first took notice
of their proposal, that their example was immediately
followed by the other Northern Tribes, but was
absolutely rejected by the Western Tribes upon the
Oubache and great Lakes who still continue to
commit hostilities against the Cherokee. Some
Messengers and Tokens had been sent with
and Chickasaw Nations, that he had seen the Belts
and Tokens & could discover nothing in
them, excepting one string which consisted of many
red and black beads, mixed with white, which

against the White people, that the [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
The singers and Belts of Miamquam to the [unclear]
which passed unattended to thro' all the Tribes
They reached the Congnawagies who first [unclear] with
their proposal, that their example was immediately
followed by the other Northern Tribes, but was
absolutely rejected by the Western Tribes upon the
Oubache and great Lakes who still continued to
commit hostilities against the Cherokee. [unclear]
Messengers and Tokens had been sent with [unclear]
and Chickasaw Nations, that is had seen the Belts
and Tokens & could discover nothing [unclear] in
them, excepting one thing which consisted of many
red and black beads, mixed with white, which
indicated war, but whether against the [unclear]
or western Tribes he could not tell - here [unclear]
leave to acquaint Your Excellency, that the [unclear]
are very obscure in their [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
to sound the inclinations of their Neighbors
and

and leave their meaning to be understood by
the few who can decypher their belts of wampum,
strings of beads, and other tokens.

My information from the Cherokee chief
Attakullakulla or the Little Carpenter was to
the following purpose: "That after his Nation had
concluded peace with the Northern Tribes they
made overtures to the Western Indians and in
the mediation of the Six Nations, that the King of
France, Brankshaw, Pickapaw & other Western
Tribes did notwithstanding continue to harass
them, having rejected their offers of Friendship
with insult & contempt, which induced his Nation
to think of forming a Confederacy with the Northern
Tribes, that they might thereby be enabled to bring
them to reason, that Messengers had accordingly
been sent by the Cherokees with belts of wampum to

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Uttakullakulla or the Little Carpenter was to
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Tribes did notwithstanding continue to harass
them, having rejected their offers of Friendship
with insulting contempt, which induced his Nation
to think of forming a Confederacy with the Northern
Tribes, that they might thereby be enabled to bring
them to reason, that Messengers had accordingly
been sent by the Cherokees with letters & proposals to
the Six Nations & Canadian Confederacy, that the
Crows, Spickisaw & Arkansas were invited
to accede to the Association, that last of all they
had renewed their offers of Peace to the Western
Tribes in the name of the Confederacy, but that those
Indians cut their Belts of Friendship to pieces

...of the Kerpengers, whom
they ordered instantly to depart, that the object of the
present meeting at Schote, at which deputies from the
Schannewe, Six Nations & Canada confederacy as well
as from the Creeks, Chickasaws & Britains were present,
were to assist, in to concert measures to chastise the
insolence of said western Tribes & bring them to reason.
My Friend Uttakullattah further observed me
that the intentions of his Nation towards us were perfectly
friendly, that if his endeavours to preserve peace with
his white Brethren should be proved ineffectual, he
at any time find his People inclined to walk in the
crooked Path, he would not fail to give me notice.
I beg leave to add that I believe that he very can-
didly and faithfully told me all that he knew.

...in James Wright and I had intelligence from
from different Indians, that the Creeks meditated
something hostile against us, which would be a
... into ...

as from the Creeks to which is not Arkansas or Europe
were to assist, is to concert measures to chastise the
insolence of said western Tribes & bring them to reason.

My Friend Attakullakulla further assured me
that the intentions of his Nation towards us were perfectly
friendly, that if his endeavours to preserve peace with
his white Brethren should prove successful, he would
at any time find his People inclined to walk in the
crooked Path, he would not fail to give me notice.
I beg leave to add that I believe that he very con-
fidently and faithfully told me all that he knew.

In James Wright and I had intelligence from
from different Indians, that the Creeks meditated
something hostile against us, which would be com-
menced upon and probably carried into execution
immediately after their green corn dance, which
will be about the end of July or beginning of August.

This determined us to keep back the quantity of am-
munition promised to them, until we should learn what
the Green Corn Dance produced, as such Intelligence is

is not entirely to be slighted, tho' I do not apprehend
that it is the intention in general to break with
us. After the Governor left Augusta, I found much
difficulty in prevailing on the Creek Chiefs, who
were appointed to mark out the lines of the new
Cession, to proceed upon that business until
they should first have received the quantity of
ammunition promised, however, with the assistance
of Emissequi, I at last prevailed, and they had
actually set out upon that service essentially
necessary to complete the Cession.

The Chaclaws and Bucks continue at
Stuy, the former obtained lately a considerable
advantage over the latter, who are desirous
of engaging the Chickasaws and Cherokees
in their quarrel, in which I hope they will
fail, for in such circumstances the Chickasaws

difficulty in prevailing on the Creek Chiefs, who were appointed to mark out the lines of the new Cession, to proceed upon that business until they should first have received the quantity of ammunition promised, however, with the assistance of Emistiqui, at last prevailed, and they had actually set out upon that service essentially necessary to complete the Cession.

The Choctaws and Chickasaws continue at this time, the former retained lately a considerable advantage over the latter, who are desirous of managing the Chickasaws and Cherokees in their quarrel, in which I hope they will fail, for in such circumstances the Choctaws would be compelled to acquiesce in any terms they might prescribe. The Creeks are already very insolent & troublesome, & have obtained upon their own terms by their superiority, would renounce them, more so, and intolerable neighbors to the new Colonies.

I judge that a demand for satisfaction
for the murder of some Virginian emigrants,
committed by the Cherokees last year, might
have interfered with the principal business
of the Congress, at same time I thought it
might with great propriety be postponed
until the result of the meeting at Chote. The
real intentions of the Indians can be discovered

I shall be extremely happy if my
conduct meets Your Excellency's approbation
being with the utmost respect

Sir

Your Excellency

Most obedient &c

most humble servant

TOM STANT

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of the Congress, & at same time I thought it
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Your Excellency

most obedient &c

most humble servant

John M. Stewart

Document n° 39

- Date :** 8 juillet 1773
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1, p. 160-161.
- Nature du document :** Lettre d'Hector Cramahé à Daniel Claus, de Québec.
- Résumé :** Les Indiens de Kahnawake ont bien raison d'être satisfaits, sans doute une allusion au sujet des limites de la terre du Sault-Saint-Louis. Cramahé estime que c'est payer bien peu pour se les attacher. Il espère que les Indiens du Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes resteront tranquilles. Il tentera de faire cesser la vente d'alcool parmi eux. Entretemps, Claus devrait les prévenir de ne pas déranger les pilotes de canots comme ils l'ont fait l'automne précédent.

Transcription préliminaire

Quebec 8th. July 1773

Sir

I received your Favor of the 2^d. July, and am concerned we had not the Pleasure of meeting at Montreal, there being many Things upon which I should have been very glad of consulting you in regard to the Savages.

The Indians at the Sault ought to be satisfied with what has been done for them ; if it attaches them to us effectcially, the End proposed will be answered, and the little expence we are at for the purpose is well laid out.

I hope the Indians at the Lake of the two Mountains will remain quiet ; whenever you meet assure them, I have a most sincere Desire to keep spirits from them, and shall write home very strongly upon the Subject, if that was settled, their other Complaints would be, soon at an End ; One Thing I desire you would caution them against in future, disturbing any of the Canadians employed in piloting the Traders canoes ; they actually did last Fall, and threatened repeating it again this year, and that is what cannot be allowed or winked at.

If Decharme has acted wrong, he deserves what he met with, however there is no forming a [Tridgment ?] upon the lame accounts spread abroad, if any Thing certain reaches you, I beg your forwarding it here by the first opportunity.

I am with great Regard

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

[signé] H. T. Cramahé

Quebec 8th July 1773

100

Sir

I received your favor of the 2^d Insty, and am concerned we had not the Pleasures of meeting at Montreal, there being many things upon which I should have been very glad of consulting you in regard to the Savages —

The Indians at the Saült ought to be satisfied with what has been done for them; if it attaches them to us effectually, the Ends proposed will be answered, and the little a Expence we are at for the purpose is well laid out —

I hope the Indians at the Lake of the two Mountains will remain quiet; whenever you meet advise them; I have a most sincere Desire to keep Spirits from them, and what I write home very strongly upon the Subject if that was settled, their other Complaints would be soon at an End; One thing I desire you would caution them against in future, distasting

Daniel Claus Esq.

any

Dep. Supt. &c. J.D.

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Fall, and threatened repeating it again this
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If Decharme has acted wrong, he
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Accounts spread abroad, if any thing
certain reaches You, I beg you forward
it here by the first Opportunity -

I am with great regard

Yours most Obedient

Humble Servant

(H. L. L.)

Document n° 40

- Date :** 17 juillet 1773
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. C-1478, vol. 1, p. 155, 161.
- Nature du document :** Message de Daniel Claus aux Iroquois de Saint-Régis, de Lachine.
- Résumé :** Claus demande aux Iroquois d'écouter le missionnaire. Les troubles ont été provoqués par quelques marchands français établis dans le village.

1773

Mes Frères

Comme c'est avec beaucoup de paine je vois que les Troubles de S^t Regis ne se jamais finiront vû que les Affairs de ce Village ne soient misent sur le pied de le Commencement de son Etablissement, que le Missionaire (c'est a dire Votre pere d'apresent qui a établi ce Endroit la) dirige les Affairs qui touchent le bon Ordre du Village si bien le bien etre de vos Ames et qui accepta aucune famille qui se ne vouloit pas soumettre a ses Regles la.

C'est pourquoi mes Freres mes Sentiments & mon Conseil est que vous qui demeurer a S^t Regis ayant eu la preuve d'une Tranquilité & parfaite Union [160] pendant six ou sept Annés a ma Connoissance écouteroient et se soumettroient dans des affaires qui touchent votre paix & salut si bien temporelle que spirituelle a votre Missionaire qui vous a gardé du Commencement de votre séjour a S^t Regis et qui jugera bien que [de se point?] opposer et meler dans vos Affairs qui touchent la Fidélité & Soumission au Gouvernement d'apresent et touts les bons Conseils que vous [pouroient?] assembler pour le Bien public de votre Nation. .
Enfin comme ceux Troubles se sont commencés que depuis quelques Traiteurs francois se sont mis la et ont inspirés des mauvais Sentiments aux Sauvages mes Sentiments sont que vous [prennent?] les approbations de votre Missionaire dans ce cas la qui doit croire plus capable de choisir ses propres sujets pour ce Endroit la [pour?] vous.

A La chine le 17 juillet 1773.

Dan. Claus
chargé des Aff^{es} Sauvages

1000

Comme est avec beaucoup de soin

la qualité de la laine et le jarnet pinnon sur lequel

est fait le drap de laine et de soie

est fait le drap de laine et de soie

est fait le drap de laine et de soie

est fait le drap de laine et de soie

est fait le drap de laine et de soie

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Received of the ...

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of the ...

Les

B. line # 30
(1765-1773)

1773 1781

Comme cest avec beaucoup de peine j'en vois que
les troubles de St Regis ne se jamais finissent et que les
Affaires de ce Village ne soient mis en son état
Commencement de son habitation, que de
c'est a dire forte haine d'agressement qui a été de
dirige les Affaires qui touchent le bon ordre de
si bien le bien être de vos Amis et qui accepter
famille qui se ne voudrait pas soumettre a des

C'est pourquoy mesdames mesdames
considérez que mesdames de St Regis
La priere d'une de mesdames de St Regis
(continued p. 110)

pendant six ou sept années à ma Comissaire, embarras
 et se soumettoient dans des Appais qui troubent peu
 point. Et cela si bien temporiselle; que primum est quod
 Appaisées qui vous a guet de Comissaire, com est de
 vint. Je vous a dit que j'ignore bien pour ce que
 apposer et mettez dans ces Appais qui troubent le
 difficile d'Administration au Gouvernement est d'Appaisés
 et tout les bons bons est que vous pourriez appaisés
 le bien public de notre peuple.

Enfin comme ces Appaisés se sont commencés que Appaisés
 et que l'Etat français se sont mis de adont impuissés de
 ostiments, ou faugettes mes desinants sont que vous
 Appaisés de vint. Appaisés dans le Comissaire
 vint Appaisés de choisir de Appaisés de Appaisés
 me. Et le Comissaire de Appaisés 1770.

[Signature]

Document n° 41

- Date :** 7 octobre 1773
- Référence :** *Sir Frederick Haldimand : Unpublished Papers and Correspondence, 1758-1784. Add. Mss. 21670, f. 85.*
- Nature du document :** Lettre de William Johnson à Frederick Haldimand, de Johnson Hall.
- Résumé :** Depuis sa dernière lettre, Johnson a été très occupé avec des chefs indiens du Canada, à propos de disputes entre eux et sur d'autres sujets.

Transcription préliminaire

[f. 85r.]

Johnson Hall Oct^r 7th 1773

Dear Sir

Since my last, my time has been entirely occupied with a Deputation of Indian Cheifs from Canada on some Disputes amongst themselves, and other Matters, which, I shall hereafter probably have occasion to lay before you ; this prevented me from transmitting sooner my Half Years Acc^{ts} of Disbursements for my Department to the 24th Ult^o which I now herewith inclose you, and for the amount of which, I beg to be favored with your Warrant as Usual, so soon as is convenient to you, being generally in advance to several persons on this Acc^t.

At present I have only to add that I am with true Esteem & Regard

Dear Sir,

your sincere friend & verry humble servant

W. Johnson

Johnson Math. Dubois 7/17/77

Dear Sir

Since my last my time has been entirely
occupied with a Deputation of Indian Chiefs
from Canada on some duties among themselves,
and other matters, which shall hereafter
probably have occasion to lay before you, I do
present you from remaining however my

Half year debt of Disbursements for my
Deputation to me on the 11th which I know
here with include you, and for the amount of
which I see to be cleared with your hand

which they are to favor with your blessing
as I shall soon advise you to do
being generally in advance to several persons
on this subject.

I am with true esteem, & regard,
Dear Sir,

Your sincere friend,
J. M. W. W.

J. M. W. W.

His Excellency,
An - O - Ed. D. in and -

1774

5

- Date :** 10-27 septembre 1774
- Référence :** Archives nationales du Canada, série MG 19, F1, *Claus Papers*, bob. ?, vol. ?, p. 1-20.
- Nature du document :** Journal de Daniel Claus.
- Résumé :**
- 10 septembre. Rencontre avec les chefs à Kahnawake pour les informer de la mort de William Johnson. Les Sept-Nations ont donné 9 ceintures à des députés des Six-Nations demandant à celles-ci de respecter la paix renouvelée l'an dernier.
- 14 septembre. Rencontre avec les Indiens de Saint-Régis. Ceux-ci ont été tentés de se rendre à Onondaga. Claus leur a longuement parlé et les a convaincus de demeurer en paix comme ceux de Kahnawake. Ils partent le lendemain avec des présents et des provisions en promettant de suivre les conseils de Claus.
- 19 septembre. Claus se rend à Kanehsatake, où il arrive le 20 septembre. Le lendemain, cérémonie formelle de condoléances pour la mort de William Johnson. Plus tard, Claus informe les Indiens du début du conseil entre les Virginiens et les Shawnees. Les problèmes entre ces deux groupes ne concernent qu'eux et il serait déplacé que d'autres nations s'en mêlent. Claus conseille aux

Indiens de demeurer neutres ; il est content des démarches des Indiens du Canada qui ont demandé aux Six-Nations de demeurer fidèles à leurs promesses. Finalement, il les informe de la nomination par le général Gage de Guy Johnson en remplacement de William Johnson.

Le 22 septembre, les Indiens répondent à Claus. Ils sont déterminés à garder la paix parmi eux et avec les autres nations. Ils ne veulent pas perdre Claus comme ami et protecteur.

Le 23 septembre, arrivée à Kahnawake, cérémonie de condoléances. Même message qu'aux Indiens de Kanesatake.

24-25 septembre, rencontre avec des Ottawas à Montréal. Cérémonie de condoléances. Ils ont rejeté des messages troublants provenant des Iroquois. Claus leur recommande de ne pas écouter les messages de guerre.

Le 27 septembre, retour à Lachine. Rencontre avec le père Gordon et des Indiens de Saint-Régis qui informent Claus que des chefs de leur village sont allés à Onondaga pour tenter de convaincre les Six-Nations de demeurer en paix.

Suit une lettre de Daniel Claus à Hector Cramahé datée du 12 septembre 1774 à Montréal. Informe Cramahé des réactions des Indiens à l'annonce de la mort de William Johnson et du conseil général tenu à Onondaga où des messagers shawnees

étaient présents pour demander l'aide des Six-Nations. Les Six-Nations ont répondu vouloir tenir un congrès général de toutes leurs nations, alliées et dépendantes, afin de discuter du problème.

Sept^r. 10th. 1774.

Arrived at Caghnawagey the chiefs paid me a visit and condoled with me very affect^y. I thankd them & told them should answer them next Tuesday. after told them the Circumstances of S^r W^m Death. About the Act of [?] wth. Regard to the [?] of [?].

About the blocking up Boston harbour w^{ch}. they started themselves & askd what they were fighting for. The 6 Natⁿ. Dep^y. consisting of 9 young Men & 2 Women returnd yesterday with 9 Belts from these Ind^{ns}. 7 from the diff^t nat^s. one from the Warr^s. & one from the chief woman strickly enjoining the 6 nat^s. to [?] to the peace last year renewed [?] them in my presence.

Missisageys & 6 nat^s. at [?] ab^t. hunting ground so as likely to [?] [1 ligne manquante]

Missisageys

12th. wrote Govr. [?] sent Col^o. Johnsons Letter

13th. Return^d to la chine

14th. had a meeting with the Aughguesasne Ind^s. who I heard were most inclined to go to Onondago had a long discourse with them & convinced them of the [?] of their going and that keeping a strict adherence to the [?] so [?] of Peace the Caghnaw^s. the rest of the Canada Ind^s. were [?] termined to maintain on the present occasion who [may advise ?] them w^{ch} they firmly promised to take, they told me that the Shawanese said at Onondago that the [Swigh livers ?] & their Confederates being 9 nations [?] assist them, so I told them [?] [Kayaghioto ?] a principal chief from Canawaga was no with them nations with Belts & Messages of Friendship & peace from S^r. W^m. in behalf of the English and that those Nations had shown an earnest desire by messages to S^r. W^m. to know whether the English were friendly inclined towards them which they were impatient to know having had formerly a great Esteem & friendship for the English, upon w^{ch} S^r. W^m. sent [Kayaghsotea ?] wth strong assurances of Peace on his side provided they would behave themselves accordingly and that I was pretty well convinced they would be glad to accept of Terms of Peace having [?] not behaved as they ought to have done w^{ch} they were conscious & sorry for.

15th. The Aughguisanes after giving them some little presents & provision returnd wth firm promises to adhere to my

[advice ?] & acquaint other Indⁿ. therewith; wrote by them to pere Gordon ab^t. an armourer

16th. Sent to Montreal [?] a letter from Gen^l. Gage

Sept^r. 17th. Went to see the Review of 26th. Reg^t. wch performd admirably being a fine Body of Men. An Express arrived in 7 days from York from Gen^l. Gage to Gov^r. Carleton or Cramahe. had some Discourse wth Col^s Jones & Sempler ab^t. the inconsistency of sending Interpr^r. from hence to Onond^o: w^{ch}. they thought reasonable. S^r. [?] & perthuis were much for it & represent it to Gov^r. Cramahe sent Letter to S^r. John & Col^o. Johnson by the post. dined at the Barrak with the Officers of the Reg^t. & Col^o. Jones & the [Judges ?] from Quebec, had a Letter from gov^r. Cramahe upon mine of 12th. Ins^t.

18th. Returnd to La Chine after taking Leave of Col^o. Jones who goes home & promised to remember me.

19th. a bad morning set out in the afternoon for Caneghsad^y. in Comp^y. wth [Ens^r. ?] [?] of 2^d. Batt: R A. got to point Clair

20th. Arrived at the Lake of 2 Mount^s. went thro the 3 string Condol.

21. The full form of Condolence was performd by the Indⁿ. in the Morning & I returnd my answer in the afternoon, then proceeded upon [the ?] Business by telling them the Beginning of the council between the Virginians & Shawanese, the latter having for years passt disagreed with the former on Acco^t. of [?] [?] by the former resenting their stealing of horses &^{ca}. that even the Delawares & others living ab^t. them were sensible of the Shawanese ill Behaviour toward the whites & would not join or encourage them in the same when the Shawanese seperated from them & threatned the Virginians with hostilities who then thought it time to be before hand with them & accordingly took the first oppor^{ty}. to attack the Shawanese & the latter made reprisals immediately and [?] the Quarrels begun continued ever since, that as this was an affair entirely concerning the Virg. & Shawanese it would be very improper any other Indⁿ. Natⁿ. was to [?] in it as that would cause a great I [?] among all the English in the Colonie who might come to the assistance of the Virginians & [?] all the Indⁿ. Country and therefore my best advise to them & every other Indⁿ. Natⁿ. was to keep themselves neuter & quiet, that I was very glad the Natⁿ. in Canada had acted with the 6 Nations as they did, and by a large Belt of Wampum desired they would stick to their Resolutions & use their Endeavours with the 6 Nations & other Nat^s. that were otherwise inclined to keep quiet if they regarded their own Interest when they could follow their hunting and Trade & live in peace which on the other hand they could not expect Indⁿ. most live in continual Trouble & anxiety. And that I must with this Belt I must in the strongest manner recommend to them Peace & Tranquility among themselves & use their Endeavours wth. other nat^s. to the same

purpose wth. being likewise the last advise their late gov^r. S^r. W^r. gave to all Indⁿ. Nations [?] well that as long as they preserved peace among [?] [?] [?] [?] live happy & without it much be miserable.

deliv^d the Belt.

Then with an other Belt acquainted them with Col^o. Johnsons appointment from Gen^l. Gage untill his Maj: [Pleasure ?] was known and if it should be confirmed I should still have an Eye & Case on their affairs & perhaps see them again next Summer gave the Belt. Then told them the reason of the Troops & navy being at Boston. (wth. they desired to know) also Gen^l. Carletons arrival and explained very [?] [Klochs ?] & his [?] voyage to Eng^d. & their success then broke up.

22^d. The Caneghsadageys all met and answered upon the two last Belts.

1st. That they were determined to preserve peace among them as well as all other Nat^s. they were connected with & would undertake nothing without giving me nature of it

2^d. That they hoped his Maj^y. will confirm Gen^l. Gages appointm^t. as they must be very unhappy if they should loose me who had been their Friend & protector since the Conquest & left them by the late S^r. W^r. as who told them to look upon me as if he was present, and therefore they could have as Confidences in any one else; they enlarged much upon the latter sentence wth is acco^{less}. to mention.

I then got ready & returnd with a very fair wind & they saluted me wth a discharge of 9 Canon

Arrived at la Chine 6 p. m.

23^d. Went to Cagnawagey and returnd my answer upon their Condolence & then with 2 Belts went thro the same Speeches as with the Caneghsadageys, altho I had several conferences with them before ab^t. them & one of their chiefs was wth. me at Caneghsadagey. Then returnd to my Lodging at la Chine where I had Visits from several Ind^{ns}. from Caneghs^y. &^{ca}. asking for prov^s. & [?]

24th. Went to Montreal to meet some Ottawas that came from [Michil ?] and wanted to speak to me

25th. The Ottawas came to my Lodging and condoled with me, then told me that they came away from [?] to [?] Liquor wth. was so pleaty there & intended to settle at Caneghsadagey for some time & were going to hunt among the Misisageys this winter that all was quiet among the upper Nat^s. & they rejected messages of a bad send [?] from the Iroquois.

a Breast of Strings.

I thank them for their compliment. told them was glad to see them and that all was peaceable & that these Nat^s. did not listen to evil Birds that I recomanded their [?] in the same sentiments and instill them in the [?] they should happen to see this winter on their hunt, gave them an Acco^t. of the Quarrels wth the Virg^s. & Shaw^w and the dislike the other Nat^s. ab^t. [?] [?] had to their Behav^r. they promised to follow my Directions & preserve peace gave them some prov^s. & [?] & told them to come to my Lodg^g. at la Chine on Tuesday when I would give them some necessaries for their hunt wth they requested

26. A Supper & Ball was given by the french in hon^r. of Gen^l. Carletons arrival and many french houses were illuminated, some Body put Candles upon the Pillory

27. Return to la Chine after settling wth every Body, at my arrival in my Lodging I met Pere Gordonb & a party of S^t. Regis Ind^{ns}. who acquainted me that some of their chiefs went to Onondago to hear what [?] with a full determination to enforce the sentiments of peace the nation in Canada entertained and to instill the same into the minds & assure them that they were [?] in maintaining peace.

[?] & the more so on Acc^t. of the [?] [?] [situation ?] of Indⁿ. Aff^{rs}.

Lieut^t. Gov^r. Cramahe

Montreal 12th. Sep^r. 1774.

Sir

Upon Gen^l. Gage Direct^s. [?] after the Decease of S^r. W^m. Johnson my late esteemed Father in Law that Indⁿ. matter in the Northern departm^t. should [?] carried on as usual untill His Majes^y. Pleasure was known I proposed setting off for any District with all [?] Dispatch but a [luckily ox ?] was [?] for some time by an attack of the [?] to [?] off, only the 1st. Ins^t. & was 10 days coming to thither.

you will have observed by some paragraphs in the Newspapers [?] months ago the [?] & hostile Behaviour of some [?] & his party upon the Shawanese and Senecas No latter belong to one of our 6 Nations & living on the Ohio, w^{ch}. acco^y. have been corroborated by one M^r. M^r Kee resident under S^r. W^m. Johnson at Fort Pitt with many aggravating Circumstances on the Virginians Side. Thereupon the 6 nations on Acco^t. of this alarm news came to S^r. W^m. Johnson to ask a Congress [?] [?] [?] in order to inform themselves of the Truth of this extraordinary Affair S^r. W^m. endeavoured to represent the matter to them in as favourable higher he possibly could on our side telling them that the thing was comitted by a set of People who whether provoked thereto is not acted without authority & contrary to the Intention of Governm^t. [?] at the same

time strongly recommand to them to use their utmost Endeavours with the Shawanese & those of this people that suffered, to remain quiet and wait for Justice & Satisfaction from Governm^t. enforcing it with use many strong arguments & convictions that the nations present promised firmly to follow his Advice & extinguish the flame while it was small, S^r. W^m. exhausting himself so much upon the occasion after being but just [?] little of a severe fit of a [?] [?] that he was seized with a Relapse immediately after speaking to the Ind^{ns}. went to him & [?] off in 2 or 3 hours after to the no small Grief of his family & a [great stock ?] to all the Ind^{ns}. Nations presents. In this Dilemma my Bro^r. in Law Guy Johnson & myself as S^r. W^m. Deputies last no time to remind the Ind^{ns}. that this having stroke ought not to alter their Engagments to the [?] but out of regard to his [?] rather enforce them, the [?] by w^{ch}. they were [?] of & immediately agreed to send Deputies to the Shawanese &^{ca}. to the Ohio with S^r. W^m. [?] [?] [?] & advise he gave a few hours before he died. The Deputies according by set off & proceeded as far as Cayuga where they were met by some Shawanese & Senecas from Ohio who desired them to return to the Council place of the 6 Nat^s at Onond^o. & deliver them their messages there; On their arrival at Onondago the Shawanese delivered such distressfull & messages to the Council met at Onondago of their situation with the Virginians who they said sent them threatning messages that they never would make peace with them while one of them was alive and that it was the Sentiment of all the Colonies. The Shawanese Deputies demanding at the same in behalf of their nation the [?] assistance of the 6 nat^s. in [?] Case the latter being at loss what answer to give them on so nice a Question & very much [alarms ?] at the same time at the [?] of the Virginians, told the deputies to return & tell their nations that they intended to [?] a general meeting of all their allies & dependants seriously, to consult upon these matters, when they would let them know their of [?] they have likewise acquainted my Bro^r. & me with their ans^w to the Shawanese & acquainted us with the time appointed for the Congress; Now all use can judge necessary to be done on this [?] will to use our Endeavours from letting the 6 nations & their Allies come to any Resolution in favour of the Shawanese & if possible preserve [?] between them & It is my Opinion that if the Virginians were inclind to make up Matters the Ind^{ns}. might be brought to an Accomodation, and by a Letter from Lord Darmouth to S^r. W^m. by last packet these [?] Instructions sent to Lord Dunmore to bring the people that aggressd to a sense of their ill Behav^r. w^{ch}. which the [?] much displeasd, w^{ch}. it is to be hoped may like its desired Effect. At the same [?] I shall use every Endeavour with the Ind^{ns}. in this District (whose attendance & advise the 6 Nat^s. have demanded) by laying the Quarrel between the Virg^s. & Shawanese before them in so favourable a hight as to prevail upon them to disapprove or discountenance any Resolution the 6 Nat^s. might come into to favour of [?] [?] [?].

Col^o. Templer showed me a paragraph of your Letter w^{ch}. Regard to the 6 Nat^s. & Missisageys, w^{ch}. Matter should it ever come to [?] is between these Nation I cannot in the [?] it apprehend any ill Consequence [?] [?] this or any other Province, on the Contrary was the Jealousy to [?] between them it might [?] the 6 Nations [?]

Schemes that prove more dangerous to the Peace of the Whites living near them such as the Inhabitants on the Mohawk River who an acco^t. of the silly Threads of the Virginians agst. the Shawanese & the 6 Nations Ind^{ns}. living ab^t. them in that their friends might me [?] upon them, as in a Quarrel wth. the [?] Ind^{ns}. will not singularize certain [?] on people that offended them but revenge it upon the whole. I inclosed you a Letter [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] [?] with great Respect

Sir

Your &^{ca}.

[initialisé] D.C.

[?] mortification of my arrival [?] as it [?] had [?] [?] [?] Report.

The bad Character of the [?]

The Establishm^t. of a [?] Royalty is [?] [?] [?] of a military Governm^t. and [?] Entend of the [?] all officers of State to be in Canada.

The Missisageys being [?] to [offer ?] their [?] agst. the new engl^s people [?] [?] [?] [?] & [roosting ?] on a [?].

Gen. Carleton arrived wth. [?] [Skanare ?] a Cayouga brought the first news of S^r. W^m. Death [?] [?] addition.

Then the Messengers of the 6 nat^s. gave the Reason of his Death by [Onhaghtoms ?] having said he delivered S^r. W^m. a Letter after his Return from England from the King w^{ch}. affected him so much that he came sick & it was thought [?] [?] himself.

Document n° 43

- Date :** 5 novembre 1774
- Référence :** Jennings, Francis, éd. *Iroquois Indians : A Documentary History*. bob. 31. Voir aussi O'Callaghan, E. B., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, Albany, A. Weed, 1856-1877, vol. 8, p. 524-527.
- Nature du document :** Compte rendu d'un congrès tenu par les Six-Nations avec leurs dépendants à Onondaga.
- Résumé :** Présence des Six-Nations et des Indiens du Canada. Les Six-Nations affirment chacune à leur tour leur attachement à la paix et aux Britanniques ; ils n'écouteront pas les messages contenus dans les ceintures envoyées par les Shawnees. Selon un représentant seneca, les Britanniques auraient douté de la fidélité des Indiens de Kahnawake. Les Six-Nations décident finalement d'envoyer un message aux Shawnees leur disant qu'ils (ainsi que les Northern Nations) n'écouteront pas leur message et les enjoignant de demeurer en paix.

Transcription préliminaire

Proceedings at a Congress held by the Six-Nations with their Dependants at Onondaga in Novemb. 1774 Referred to in the 2^o. page of the foregoing.

The Indians of the Six-Nations and of Canada having waited for several days for the upper Senecas, the Deputies from the latter arrived at Last and on the 5th Inst. they all assembled when Tyawaronk Speaker of Onondaga opened the Congress with the following speech

Brothers of the Six Nation Confederacy

we are all assembled this day at this our Council Fire which our Fore Fathers unanimously Established as the Grand Council Fire and where they made Rules and settled all things in a proper manner /here he repeated all the Original Rules and Ceremonies, and their diferent Treaties and Alliances and Proceedings/ Brothers, we now according to Custom lay before you all the Business on which we are assembled which is to remind Each other of our Engagements with all Nations and to take your determined Resolutions on the Subject of the Application made to us by the Shawanese for Assistance.- now Brothers, we the Onondagas, who keep the Great Council Fire remember almost everything that our Fathers did, and agreed upon, and we resolve to follow their advice and will stand to our Engagements with the English, and the assurances we have given our Brother Waghquadirha i.e. Col. Johnson we will not take any notice of the Shawanese Belts, for the Belts are not of weight enough to get an Axe from us.- having thus delivered our minds to you all our desire is to hear of your determined resolutions and we have these things to the Consideration of you and the Confederacy's we hope you will do it well, for we look upon it that this of the Belts is such a Case as our Fathers meant when they said if any thing should happen after we have made every thing good or if [**nouvelle page**] bad creature or Snake should come near the Fire, we are to join all hands to take a Stick and throw the Snake away /then laid the

Shawanese Belts and five scalps before the Confederacy which they threw down/ after a short silence,-

Sekanehoga the Canajoharrie Chief arose, and on Behalf of the Sachems of the Mohawks, Oneidas and Tuscaroras Spoke as follows

Brothers

We the Mohawks Sachems on behalf of our Selves and also on Behalf, and at the desire of the Sachems of Oneida and Tuscarora are going to deliver our Sentiments at this Council Place on the affair of the Confederacy are now met about, as it is very Necessary and Expedient that Every nation here present ought to give and deliver their opinion freely we the three above mentioned nations have consulted together, And hereby unanimously Declare before this Congress that we are firmly determined to hold fast and preserve the Peace and hold fast by the agreements we Reached with Waghquadirha i.e. Col. Johnson as much as is in our Power and the more as we find all our most sensible Allies and Dependants are that way inclined,- it would be acting a very Wrong and Base part to take notice of the Message from one inconsiderate nation /meaning the Shawanese/ and therefore our Sentiments are as above Declared.-

Then a Cayhuga Chief Named [Oyghocraquerat ou Oyeghseragearat ?] Spoke as follows

Brothers of the Confederacy

We the Cayhugas approve of what you desire that every Nation ought to declare publickly their Sentiments, and I hereby in Behalf of my Nation Assure you that we are all of one mind with our Father and Brother Col. Johnson mohaws, Oneidas & Tuscaroras and being firmly determined to stick to peace and tranquility, I by this Belt assure you that nothing shall be able to shake my firmness in this Resolution.

A large Belt

The Senecas then in behalf of their whole Nation spoke by Sorihavane a Chionessus Chief as follows.

Brothers of the Confederacy

you are very right in making every nation declare their Sentiments upon the matter in question it being certainly of more weight. I therefore on Behalf of our Nation being the upper Door tell you that as it is but lately you have repaired the Door of the Confederacy at a meeting at this place, and then settled every matter lending to the peace and welfare of the whole and that then we assured you that we the Chiefs and Warriors of our Nation should always Join in Sentiments with you for the future, our Late friend and Governor Sir William Johnson the very day he Died having so strongly recommended it to us to preserve Peace amongst us on this alarming news from the Shawanese and we having given the same Assurances to Col. Johnson Since. we should fall in Respect and Esteem to Sir William Johnson Memory and Regard to our Engagements with his Successor if we did not act up to our last promises and therefore we once more assure you that we will maintain Peace in our Nation.

Then the Mohawks, Oneidas, and Tuscaroras, resumed speaking and Little Abraham proceeded as follows.

Brothers

Having unanimously agreed in Sentiments at this Fireplace upon the affairs we met, and that we are all for the preservation of Peace thro the whole- we therefore recommend it to you Onondagas, who in a manner, [nouvelle page] are tired of us all to keep up the Council Fire and to Steady the welfare of the whole Conferacy in every Respect, we now recommend it to you in the Strongest manner to Cause your young men to be [vigilant] on the present critical Occasion in giving due notice to the Confederacy on any Emmergency, and you the Cahugas and Senecas, we once more admonish you to enforce your Present Determinations, since after this your declaration should you fail in your performance our great King and his People would consider you in a very bad Light after your Solemn Promises, we the Mohawks on our Parts are not the least apprehensive but that our young men will always Look for Advice to the Chiefs according to the Custom Long Since Established and therefore shall never be the aggressors and hope that you and your Warriors will follow the Same Example.

The Warriors then Spoke

Brothers

We the Warriors also Speak our minds in the Strongest manner that we are firmly resoved and determined to pay Strict attention to what our Brother Waghquadirha i.e Col. Johnson and our head men advise and shall not oppose their Endeavours for Preserving Peace and will be always subject to them, because if anything should happen that appears to be to our prejudice or hurt they will Consider on it and make use of the Best means to settle it, in the properest way for us we therefore Recommend it to you all to do the same and Endeavour to help all our Sachems to perform their promises.- we will therefore wait untill we hear further from them.

A large Belt

Then Serrihowane in Behalf of the Seneca Warriors Spoke as follows

Brothers

The Warriors of our Nation Charged me to acquaint you that they are sorry they had not an opportunity of being all present at this Congress they not having been Summoned as they had a Message [**nouvelle page**] from the Cognawageys Indians in Canada last Summer by which you hinted to them as if they had been the Occasion of disturbing the Peace for several years past and in Consequence and by Virtue of the said Belt (being a very large one) you advised them to Reform and for the future be peacably inclined as it would be satisfactory to the whole Confederacy, they the Seneca Warriors therefore intended to return their thankfull answer to the Confederates for their good Advice, and they had upon Consultation together resolved to follow it, and it was also the full determination of all the Seneca Warriors from Canadange to Canawako that they would Listen to their Chiefs and prevent all their People and young men from doing any thing that might disturb the peace

Gave a Large Belt in Return for that of the Confederates

Then the Seneca Chiefs said they had also a Belt from the rest of the Confederacy to all most the same purport as that of their Warriors which they there also Exchanged with their thanks thereupon assuring them that they had taken a full resolution for the future to communicate & be of one mind with the rest of the Confederacy which they hoped would strenghten and preserve the Chain of Peace and Friendship inviolable for ever.- after which the Onondagas and mohawks in a spirited Speech observed that there was no occasion for a moment hesitation about a message to the Shawanese that it would be time Enough to think of Violent measures when they found themselves in real danger, that Sir William Johnson's last words assured them of the Contrary, that Col. Johnson had at two Congresses since fully satisfied them all that they should be wanting in Respect to sir William's memory and Confidence in Col. Johnson, if they doubted what has been said, and that as they had so much wished to have him to mannage their affairs, their good Conduct then, would Recomend them to [nouvelle page] the great King as deserving his favour.

The Indians then of every nation after a Little deliberation declared themselves of one mind, after which they proceeded to Consider, and repeated on a Large Belt the purport of what they intended to say to the Shawanese and others to the South ward, to Compell them to Consider their Situation and Sue for Peace, and resolved that the Chiefs of Each nation should wait on Col. Johnson and lay the whole before him and take his advice as to the Message to the Shawanese.

The Conajoharies afterwards raised John of the wolf Tribe to be a Sachem and delivered three strings of 2000 wampum to the younger Branches of the Confederacy on the Occasion after which they spoke on a Large Belt to all assembled recommending peace and unity amongst themselves Respect and Reverence to the person who had the Charge of their affairs and to their Chiefs and that none should Envy any Favours Bestowed on them.

Then the Congress Ended.

A True Copy Examined with the Indian Records

Jos. Chew Secty.

A literal Translation of the Message from the Six Nation Confederacy to the Shawanese

Younger Brothers

We are come running to you from the great fire place, take notice of what I have to say as I am the older Brother. It happened that you came lately to the middle of the Council House to our fire place of Peace for the Six-Nations Confederacy, you there spoke to us on a Subject we did not understand, we would not give Ear to, or Agree to it as our Fire place is for Peace and we tell you we will only listen to Affairs of Peace there.

Younger Brothers

We are now here and we tell you again before all the Nations who observe you and see your bad works, we have been twice here to advise you to peace, but you have not attended and in Compliance with our antient Customs, we are come the Third time to tell you, you must be at Peace, this is the third time, and the last that you shall hear from us if you do not hearken to us.

We charge you to Consider the Case of your Warriors your women and your children and we desire your Sachems to rise your authority over your People that they may mind what we say Leave the Business of War repent and mind Peace alone and then you will be preferred. Quarrelsome People are dangerous, we advise you for your good, for we Pity you, and we know from our Superintendent^t. that the King is inclined to desire you should be at Peace and has sent orders to Virginia to promote it mind our words they are the words of the Six-Nations who are the heads of the Confederacy all the Northern Nations have left their Belts in our Hands, and refered themselves intirely to our government and determination they have joined their words to us, who are the head of the whole and you now see them all in us here present, who are now first with Authority to charge you to follow our Advice.

A very large Belt is then to be given

A True Copy Compared with the Indian Record

Robine # 31
(1774-1775)

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Proceedings at a Congress held by the Six Nations
with their Dependants at Onondaga in Novemb.
1774 Referred to in the 2^d page of the foregoing.

The Indians of the Six Nations and of Canada having waited for several
days for the upper Senecas, the Deputies from the latter arrived at
last and on the 5th Inst. they all assembled when Tjawanank
Speaker of Onondaga opened the Congress with the following speech

Brothers of the Six Nation Confederacy. —

we are all assembled this day at this our Council
Fire which our Fore Fathers unanimously established as the Grand Council
Fire and where they made Rules and settled all things in a proper man-
ner / Here he repeated all the original Rules and Ceremonies, and their
different Treaties and Alliances, and Proceeded / Brothers we now according
to custom lay before you all the Business on which we are assembled
which is to remind each other of our Engagements with all Nations
and to take your determined Resolutions on the Subject of the Application
made to us by the Shawanese for Assistance. — now Brothers, we the
Onondagas, who keep the Great Council Fire Remember almost every thing
that our Fathers did, and agreed upon, and we resolve to follow their

we are all assembled this day at this our Council
Fire, which our Fore Fathers unanimously established as the Grand Council
Fire and where they made Rules and settled all things in a proper man-
ner / Here he repeated all the Original Rules and Ceremonies, and their
different Tribes and Alliances, and provided / Brothers we now according
to custom lay before you all the Business on which we are assembled
which is to remind each other of our Engagements with all Nations
and to take your determined Resolutions on the Subject of the Application
made to us by the Shawanese for Assistance. — now Brothers, with the
Onondagas, who keep the Great Council Fire remember almost everything
that our Fathers did, and agreed upon, and we resolve to follow their
advice and will stand to our Engagements with the English, and the
assurances we have given our Brother Uraghquadaha i.e. Col Johnson. —
we will not take any notice of these Shawanese Bells. — for the Bells
are not of weight enough to get an Ear from us. — having thus debined
our minds to you all our desire is to hear of your determined resolutions
and we leave these things to the consideration of you and the confederates —
we hope you will do it well, for we look upon it that this of the Bells
is just a Case as our Fathers meant, when they said if any thing
should happen after we have made every thing good and
had

bad figures, or snakes should come near the Fire, we are to join all hands to take a stick and throw the snake away / then laid the Shawanese Belts and five scalps before the confederacy which they threw down / after a short Silence,

Sekanehoga the Comajoharie Chief rose, and on Behalf of the Sachems of the Mohawks, Oneidas and Tuscaroras. Spoke as follows

Brothers

we the Mohawk Sachems on behalf of our Selves and also on Behalf: and at the desire of the Sachems of Oneidas and Tuscaroras. are going to deliver our sentiments of this Council Place on the affair the confederacy are now met about, as it is very necessary and expedient that every nation here present ought to give and deliver their opinion freely, with the three above mentioned Nations have consulted together. And hereby unanimously Declare before this Congress that we are firmly determined to hold fast and preserve the Peace and hold fast by the agreements we Renewed with Uraghquah i.e. Col Johnson as much as is in our Power and the more as we find all our most feasible Allies and Dependents are that way inclined, - it would be acting a very silly and

to be the cause of the malice from one to another.

also in Behalf: and at the desire of the Sachems of Oneida
and Tuscarora, are going to deliver our Sentiments at this
Council Place on the affair the Confederacy are now met about,
as it is very Necessary and Expedient that every Nation here present
ought to give and deliver their opinion freely, with the three above
mentioned Nations have consulted together, And hereby unanimously
Declare before this Congress that we are firmly determined to hold fast
and preserve the Peace and hold fast by the agreements we Renew-
ed with Unaghtadaha i.e. Col Johnson as much as is in our Power,
and the more as we find all our most feasible Allies and Dependents
are that way inclined, - it would be Acting a very silly and
Base part to take notice of the message from one inconsiderate
Nation / meaning the Shawanese / and therefore our Sentiments are
as above Declared. -

Then a Sachem Chief - Named Oyoghooguat Spoke
as follows.

Brothers of the Confederacy

Let the Sachem's approve of what you desire that every
Nation ought to declare publicly their Sentiments, and I hereby
in Behalf of my Nation assure you that we are all of one mind

with our Father and Brother Col. Johnson. Mohawk, Oneida, & Tuscarora
and being firmly determined to stick to peace and tranquillity, I by
this Belt assure you that nothing shall be able to shake my firmness
in this Resolution.

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A Large Belt

The Senecas then in Behalf of their whole Nation Spoke by
Sorihawane a Quanesus Chief as follows.

Brothers of the Confederacy

you are very right in making every nation declare
their sentiments upon the matter in question it being certainly of more
weight. I therefore on Behalf of our Nation being the upper Door
tell you that as it is but lately you have repaired the Door of the Confederacy
at a meeting at this place, and then settled every matter tending to the
peace and welfare of the whole and that then we assured you that we the
chiefs and Warriors of our Nation should always join in Sentiments with
you for the future, our late friend and Governor Sir William Johnson
the very day he Died having so strongly recommended it to us to preserve
Peace amongst us on this alarming news from the Shawanese and we
having given the same Assurances to Col. Johnson since we should fail
in Respect and Affection to Sir William Johnsons Memory and Regards

you are very right in making every nation declare
their sentiments upon the matter in question it being certainly of more
weight. I therefore on Behalf of our Nation being the upper Door
tell you that as it is but lately you have repaired the Door of the Confederacy
at a meeting at this place, and then settled every matter tending to the
Peace and welfare of the whole and that then we assured you that we the
chiefs and Warriors of our Nation should always join in Sentiments with
you for the future, our late friend and Governor Sir William Johnson
the very day he Died having so strongly recommended it to us to preserve
Peace amongst us on this alarming news from the Shawanese and we
having given the same Assurance to Col. Johnson since we should fail
in Respect and Obedience to Sir William Johnsons Memory and Regard to
our engagements with his successor if we did not act up to our last promise
and therefore we once more assure you that we will maintain Peace in
our Nation.

Then the Mohawks, Oneidas, and Tuscaroras, resumed speaking and
Little Abraham proceeded as follows.

Brothers

Having unanimously agreed in Sentiments at this fire place upon
the affair we noted, and that we are all for the preservation of Peace thro' the
whole - we therefore recommend it to you Oneidas, who in a manner

instead of us all to keep up the funeral Fire and to study the welfare of the whole Company in every Respect. we now recommend to you in the Strongest manner to cause your young men to be diligent on the present critical occasion in giving due Notice to the Company on any Emergency and you the Chiniquas and Senecas. we once more admonish you to enforce your Present Determinations, since after this your declaration should you fail in your performance, our great King and his People would consider you in a very bad light after your solemn Promises. We the Indians on our Part are not the least apprehensive but that our young men will always look for Advice to the King according to the Custom long since established and therefore shall never be the aggressors and hope that you and your Warriors will follow the same Example.

The Warriors then Spoke,

Brothers we the Warriors also speak our minds in the Strongest manner that we are firmly resolved and determined to pay strict attention to what our Brother Neaguchadira i.e. Col. Johnson and our head men advise and shall not oppose their Endeavours for preserving Peace and will be always Subject to them, because if any thing should happen that appears to be to our prejudice or hurt they will consider on it and will be ready to settle it in the properest way for us.

but that our young men will always look for advice to the Chiefs -- according to the custom long since established and therefore shall never be the aggressors, and hope that you and your Warriors will follow the same example.

The warrior Shee Spoke,

Brothers we the warriors also speak our minds in the strongest manner that we are firmly resolved and determined to pay strict attention to what our Brother Neagwadika is: Col. Johnson and our head men advise and shall not oppose their endeavours for the removing peace and will be always subject to them, because if any thing should happen that appears to be to our prejudice or hurt they will consider on it and make use of the best means to settle it, in the properest way for us we therefore recommend it to you all to do the same and endeavour to help all our Sachems to perform their promises. -- we will therefore wait untill we hear further from them.

a Black Belt.

Then Serrihowane in behalf of the Seneca warriors spoke as follows

Brothers

The warrior of our Nation charged me to acquaint you that they are sorry they had not an opportunity of being all present at this conference they not having been summoned as they had a message

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from the ^{you say} Cognawagey Indians in Canada last Summer by which you
hinted to them as if they had been the Cause of disturbing the Peace
for several years past and in consequence and by virtue of the said Belt
(being a very large one) you advised them to Reform and for the future
be peaceably inclined as it would be satisfactory to ~~the~~ the
whole Confederacy, they the Seneca Warriors therefore intended to return
their thankfull answer to the Confederates: for their good Advice, and
they had upon Consultation together resolved to follow it, and it was also
the full determination of all the Seneca Warriors from Lanadage
to Lanawako that they would listen to their Chiefs and prevent all
their People and young men from doing any thing that might
disturb the Peace.

Gave a Large Belt in Return for that of the

Confederates.

Then the Seneca Chiefs said they had also a Belt from ^{the} the Confederacy
to all most the same purpose as that of their Warriors which they also
exchanged with their thanks thereupon assuring them
that they had taken a full resolution for the future to communicate &
be of one mind with the Rest of the Confederacy which they hoped
would strengthen and preserve the Chain of Peace and Friendship
inviolable for ever. - after which the Onondagas and Mohawks

The full communication of all the news
to Lanawako that they would listen to their Chiefs and prevent all
their People and young men from doing any thing that might
disturb the peace.

Gave a Large Belt in Return for that of the
Confederates.

Then the Seneca Chiefs said they had also a Belt from the ^{the} Confederacy
to all most the same purpose as that of their Warriors which they ^{they} also
exchanged with their thanks thereupon assuring them
that they had taken a full resolution for the future to communicate &
be of one mind with the Rest of the Confederacy which they hoped
would strengthen and preserve the Chain of Peace and Friendship
inviolable for ever. - after which the Onondagas and Mohawks

in a Spirited Speech observed that there was no occasion for a ^{about a message to the Shawanese} mutual
Aviation, that it would be time enough to think of violent

measures when they found themselves in real danger, that
Sir William Johnson's last words assured them of the contrary, that
Col. Johnson had at two Congresses since fully satisfied them all
that they should be wanting in respect to Sir William's memory
and confidence in Col. Johnson, if they doubted what had been said,
and that as they had so much wished to have him to arrange -
their Affairs, their good conduct then, would recommend them to

the great King as deserving his favour.

The Indians then of every nation after a little deliberation declared themselves of one mind, after which they proceeded to consider and repeated on a large Belt the purport of what they intended to say to the Shawanese and others to the fourth ward, to compell them to consider their situation and sue for Peace, and Resolved that the Chiefs of each nation should wait on Col. Johnson and lay the whole before him and take his advice as to the Message to the Shawanese.

The Conajohuris afterwards raised John of the Wolf Tribe to be a Sachem and delivered three Strings of 2000 wampum to the younger Branches of the Confederacy on the occasion after which they spoke on a large Belt to all assembled recommending peace and unity amongst themselves Respect and Reverence to the person who had the charge of their affairs and to their Chiefs and that none should envy any Favours Bestowed on them.

Then the Chiefs ended.

A True Copy learned with
the Indian Records

Joseph Smith

4 / 16
A literal translation of the message from the Six Nations Confederacy
to the Shawanese &c 24

Younger Brothers

we are come running to you from the great Fire place, take notice of what I have to say as I am the older Brother. It happened that you came lately to the middle of the Council House to our fire place of Peace, for the Six Nations Confederacy. you there spoke to us on a subject we did not understand. we would not give ear to, or request it as our Fire place is for Peace. and we tell you we will only listen to Affairs of Peace there.

Younger Brother

we are now here and we tell you, again before all the Nations who observe you and see your bad works, we have been twice here to advise you to peace, but you have not attended and in compliance with our ancient custom, we are from the third time to tell you, you must be at Peace, this is the third time, and the last that you shall hear from us if you do not hearken to us.

we charge you to consider the Case of your Warriors, your women and your Children. and we desire your fathers to use your authority over your people that they may heed what we say. Leave the Beliefs of war, repent and mind Peace alone and then you will be preferred. Quarrelsome People are dangerous, we advise you for your good, for we pity you, and we know from our Spirit that the King is inclined to desire you should be at Peace and has

affairs of your

younger Brother

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the Nations who observe you and see your bad works, we have
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and in compliance with our ancient customs, we are from the third
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authority over your people that they may think what we say
leave the bitterness of war, repent and mind Peace, alone and then
you will be preferred. Quarrelsome people are dangerous, we advise
you for your good for we pity you, and we know from our Superintendent
that the King is inclined to desire you should be at Peace and has
sent orders to Virginia to promote it. mind our words, they are
^{strong}
the words of their Six orations who are the heads of the Confederacy, all
the northern orations have left their Belts in our hands and
referred themselves intirely to our government and determination
they have joined their words to us, who are the head of the whole
and you now see them all in us here present: who are now first
with Authority to charge you to follow our advice.

every large Belt is then to be given.

a True Copy Compared
with the Indian Record. Inshinn... H