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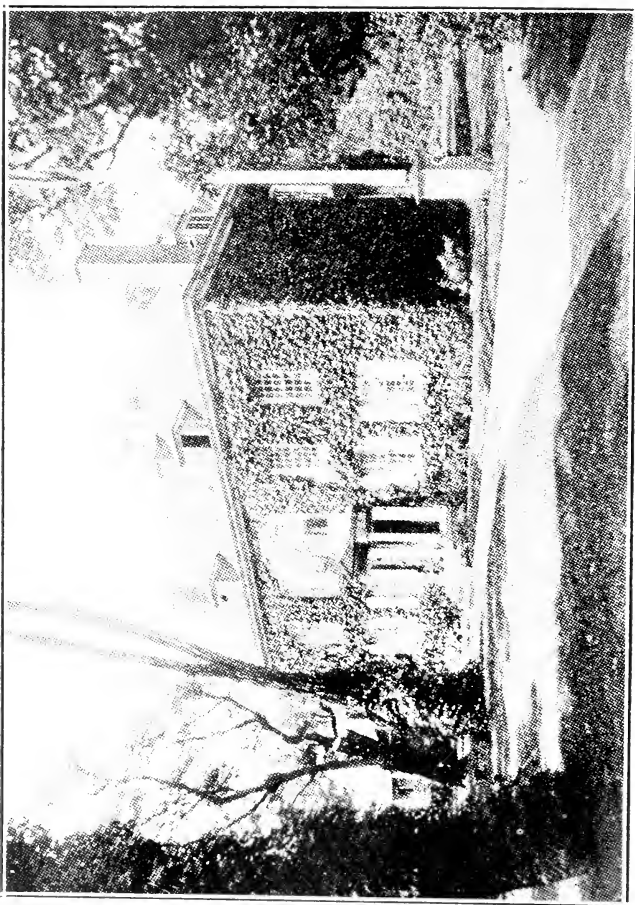
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FORT JOHNSON  
Courtesy of W. Pierrepont White, Ureca, N. Y.



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# THE PAPERS OF SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

Prepared for publication  
by  
ALMON W. LAUBER Ph.D.  
of  
The Division of Archives and History

ALEXANDER C. FLICK Ph.D., Litt.D.  
*Director and State Historian*

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## PREFACE

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Volumes I and III of *The Sir William Johnson Papers* were printed in 1921 and Volume II followed in 1922 under the direction of the then State Historian, Dr James Sullivan. His three predecessors were all concerned with the publication of the Johnson papers. Hugh Hastings, the first State Historian, began to publish a single volume of selected letters—a project which his successor, Victor Hugo Paltsits, postponed in 1907 on account of errors in the editorial work. The Capitol fire of 1911 seriously injured the Johnson manuscripts, but the third State Historian, James A. Holden, proceeded with the preparation of the Johnson materials for publication, the gathering of maps and illustrations and the search for supplementary Johnson items in other hands. Mr Holden thus initiated the principle that the series should include all the Johnson papers in the possession of the State and also those that could be found elsewhere. He had assembled and edited materials for the printer to about 1755 when he retired from office in 1916. Doctor Sullivan continued to have the Johnson papers from 1755 to 1762 edited by Dr Richard E. Day, under whose scholarly guidance the first three volumes were printed.

When the present State Historian assumed office in 1923 he decided to proceed with the publication of the Johnson papers according to plans already formulated. He instituted in the depositories of the United States, Canada and Europe a more thorough search for Johnson items than had hitherto been made. As a result several thousand additional letters and documents have been obtained. As this new material came to hand it was incorporated chronologically in volumes IV to VIII which cover the period from January 1763 to October 30, 1775. Notwithstanding this practice there have been accumulated enough

supplementary Johnson data to expand what promised to be one into four additional volumes.

Consequently this new material in volumes IX to XII has been arranged chronologically, thus forming practically a second series. Volume IX covers the important period from 1738 to 1758. Its contents have come from private collectors, whose names are given in connection with the letters, and from the Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Calif.; William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia; the Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa; the Library of Congress; and the Public Record Office, London. To these individuals and institutions the New York State Historian wishes publicly to express his thanks for cordial cooperation.

All known Johnson material has been included in this collection. In addition many letters of Daniel Claus, hitherto unprinted, appear in this volume. The minutes of numerous Indian councils are included and throw further light on Johnson's masterful relations with the red men. A considerable portion of this primary material dealing with the aborigines is in Johnson's own hand.

It is a pleasure to commend the painstaking scholarship of Dr Almon W. Lauber, Assistant State Archivist, who has prepared this volume for the press and insured the freedom of the text from errors.

ALEXANDER C. FLICK  
*Director, Division of Archives and History  
and State Historian*

Walter Butler

Ol. Partridge

Per. P. P. P.

Al. B. B. B.

De Louagne

Steph Hopkins

W<sup>m</sup>: Williams

J<sup>r</sup> D. Cyster

Solomon Page

E Braddock

Tho: Williams

James F. Mercer

Jacob Glen

Rich: Gridley

Robert

J. H.

Warren

Frederick Middleton

Peter Stragell





*W. Proul sculp.*

From a portrait in the Abbott Collection, New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.



# SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON PAPERS

---

PETER WARREN TO JACOB GLEN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Boston Sept<sup>br</sup> ye 3d 1738*

SIR

My very good freind Coll<sup>o</sup>: Wendall going your way gives Me This oppertunity which I with great pleasure imbrace to thank you for your great civility to My nephew Mr Johnson<sup>2</sup> whose welfare I have much at heart. if he can by any Means do well there I will Support him as far as possible, and if I am not Much Mistaken in him his diligence and Application will put him Soon in a good way, I propose to have him Trade a little to which purpose I have wrote to My father<sup>3</sup> to lett me know what will be proper for y<sup>r</sup> country in which if you can give Me, and him any light I Shall be Oblidged to you, and hope some time to have it in My power in person to Thank you and assure you how Much I am

Sir

Most humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

P. WARREN

ADDRESSED:

To

Major Glenn at  
Schenectedee

by

Coll<sup>el</sup> Wendall

---

<sup>1</sup> In collection of Mrs Schuyler Van Rensselaer, New York City.

<sup>2</sup> William Johnson who later became Sir William Johnson.

<sup>3</sup> Probably refers to father-in-law. In 1731 Peter Warren married Susan De Lancey, daughter of Stephen De Lancey.

## RECEIPT TO ARIN DALINE

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>[September 18<sup>th</sup> 1741]

Rec<sup>d</sup>. of Arin Daline the Sum of ten Pounds three Shillings  
& Seven pence half penny in full of all Acc<sup>ts</sup>. As Witness  
my hand this 18<sup>th</sup>. Day of September 1741——

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

---

£ 10..3..7

---

## TO EDWARD COLLINS

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>March the 26<sup>th</sup>. 1742S<sup>r</sup>.

Inclosed I send y<sup>u</sup>. M<sup>r</sup> Corrys full Acc<sup>ts</sup>.<sup>3</sup> I thought it was  
not of much Consequence to draw out all the Particulars of the  
tenants Acc<sup>ts</sup>. moreover it would be a tedious peice of Work,  
however if it be requisite, please to let me know, and I will draw  
them all out. at first I had but his bare word and Honour for  
the payment of the tenants Debts, but Since I have had Severall  
Letters from him, and in his absence from his Wife Concerning  
them, and acknowledging the Debt as his own I am Sorry he  
Urges me to this proceeding, however it being his fault, as I  
will plainly, and to his Shame make appear, I Cannot be blamed,  
nor Censured for Useing him as he deserves, therefore in as  
much as it requires haste, I beg you will use your Utmost for  
the Recovery therof, Your Speedy Compliance and Care, will  
highly Oblidge S<sup>r</sup>. Y<sup>r</sup>. Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>. ——

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

My best respects to }  
M<sup>rs</sup>. Collins —— }

---

<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> In collection of Stephen H. P. Pell, Ticonderoga, N. Y.

<sup>3</sup> See letter of Corry to Johnson, June 4, 1742 in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 1:16–18.

## A BILL OF SALE

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>

[March 8, 1744/5]

Know all Men by these presents that I William Johnson of Mount Johnson In the County of Albany, & Province of New York, Merchant, for and in consideration of a Negro Man named Quack to me delivered, at and before the ensailing & delivery of these presents, by Wessell Vanscoike of the City of Albany black Smith, the receipt whereof I do herby acknowledge, and myself to be therewith fully Satisfied & content, and therof & every part therof, do herby Acquit, and discharge the S<sup>d</sup>. Wessell Vanscoik his Exec<sup>rs</sup>. Adm<sup>rs</sup>. & Assigns, have granted Bargained & Swaped & by these presents, do fully clearly and absolutely, grant, bargain, Swap, & release unto the Said Wessell Vanscoik, One Negro Boy called Stepney, To Have & to Hold the S<sup>d</sup>. Negroe Boy Unto the S<sup>d</sup>. Wessell Vanscoik, his Exec<sup>rs</sup>. Adm<sup>rs</sup>. and Assigns forever. And I, the S<sup>d</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson for my self, My Heirs, Exec<sup>rs</sup>. And Adm<sup>rs</sup>. do Covenant & agree to & with the above named Wessell Vanscoik his Exec<sup>rs</sup>. Adm<sup>rs</sup>. and Assigns, to Warrant & defend the exchange of the above named Negroe Boy against all persons whatsoever, In Witness wherof I have herunto Set my hand & Seal this 8<sup>th</sup>. Day of March Anno Domini, One thousand Seven hundred & forty four, & five

Sealed & delivered in  
presence of

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

JOHAN WOHL [       <sup>2</sup>]  
DANIEL COUGHLAN

INDORSED:

One bill of seel from  
Mr: Willem Johnson

<sup>1</sup>In Van Schaick Papers, Gansevoort-Lansing collection, New York Public Library, New York City.

<sup>2</sup> Possibly Traugott.

TO \_\_\_\_\_

Copy<sup>1</sup>

DR. SR.

June 23<sup>d</sup> 1746

I am heartily glad I can send you so good an account of our Indians at the Mohawk Castle, yesterday I went there and called them all together and told them how forward the expedition was at Cape Briton and would be so here likewise in a short time wherefore told them I hoped they would be as ready as well w<sup>h</sup>. would be the only way of recommending themselves to the favors of y<sup>e</sup>. Government & all their Brothers here and a great deal more too tedious to mention. Their answer to me was that they would all as one man join heart and hand to fight with us again[st] the french our Common Enemy when ever called upon upon which I returned them my hearty thanks and gave them a fine large Bull of 5 years old Bread and Liquor equivalent w<sup>h</sup>. I think they deserved I never saw them behave so chearful before upon any occasion they are to meet & receive the interpreter all painted feathered & dressed, I am in haste

Sr. Yr. assured freind & humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

excuse haste.

W<sup>M</sup> JOHNSON

TO GEORGE CLINTON

Copy<sup>2</sup>

[Mount Johnson, July 24, 1746.]

[ ]

[

<sup>3</sup>]

[

wh]o came

<sup>1</sup> Copy in New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> In Colonial Manuscripts, New York State Library, Albany, N. Y. The Calendar of Colonial Manuscripts, p. 578 lists this item as follows: "Mount Johnson, July 24, 1746. Letter. William Johnson to Gov. Clinton, informing him that he had received news by an Indian from Canada that a French army was about to attack Schenectady, &c. (extract)"

<sup>3</sup> One or more lines burned off.

[ ] the Credit of  
 [ ] probable for one of them  
 [ ] sent to Canada this sumer, is now  
 [ ] ago, & affirm, that as he came  
 [ ] away from them, the Army was ready  
 to March: He traveled day and Night, and so did the Post who  
 came [from the] Mohawks with a Belt or String of Wampum  
 [and the] said News; He is now with me at my House;  
 [He does] not choose to go down alone, wherefore I send  
 [him] with one of my People, as I thought it my [duty to]  
 acquaint your Ex<sup>y</sup>. thereof, and of the difficulty [that] the  
 Inhabitants up this River are in, by [Reason] of Harvest &  
 most of the Indians out a [Hunting.]

W<sup>m</sup> JOHNSON

Extracted & Ex<sup>d</sup> Ⓢ Jn<sup>o</sup>. Catherwood

A RECEIPT

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>

[March 1, 1746/7]

Rec<sup>d</sup>. March the 1<sup>st</sup>. 1746/7 from His Excell<sup>y</sup>. the Honble.  
 George Clinton, four hundred, & thirty Pounds New York  
 Curren<sup>y</sup>, upon Acc<sup>t</sup>. of Subsistance for my Self, & Officers  
 Under Me, Appointed by his Excell<sup>y</sup>. to Command a Regm<sup>t</sup>.  
 of Christians, & Indians, As also upon Acc<sup>t</sup>. of the White  
 Peoples Subsistance under me, for w<sup>h</sup>. I promise to be Account-  
 able ———

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

£ 430 ———

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll<sup>l</sup>. Johnsons Rec<sup>t</sup>.  
 for £430 paid Mr.  
 Cruger for his use  
 this 14 March  
 1746/7  
 on acct of his  
 Commanding a  
 Regim<sup>t</sup> of Christians  
 & Indians  
 N<sup>o</sup> 1

## JOHNSON TO CLINTON

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:422-24 is printed an extract from a letter of 16th March 1747 from Colonel William Johnson to Governor George Clinton concerning an engagement between Mohawk and Coghna-wage Indians, the discontent of the Mohawks, the neglect of Colonel Schuyler to give orders in connection with the affair, the necessity of Clinton's sending men to aid the Indians in case of need lest they become cowed and dejected and therefore refuse to assist the English who, they say, must wish them destroyed since they sent them out in such small parties against superior French forces. Johnson further adds that unless Clinton furnishes the desired aid, the inhabitants will quit that section of the country.

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>2</sup>*May 22th 1747.*

MAJOR GLEN.

SIR:

As the battoes are some returned from Oswego wh I had of you, I have ordered the negroe to deliver them to you with what poles and Paddles are yours, and hope you will take care of them & send me a receipt for as many as you receive that I

<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.<sup>2</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

may see what are wanting. There are some gone down last week, dont know whether they have delivered them or not What battoes of mine go along down or are there already, I should be much obliged to you if you would have them rid up in y<sup>r</sup> Yard safe. In so doing you will much oblige. Im Yr Verry Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

To MAJOR JACOB GLEN at Schenectady.

A RECEIPT

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>

[June 1, 1747]

Rec<sup>d</sup>. the 1<sup>st</sup>. of June 1747 from His Excellency the Honr<sup>ble</sup>. George Clinton, four Hundred, & thirty Pounds New York Currensey, upon Acc<sup>tt</sup>. of Subsistance for me, My Officers & Men, for w<sup>h</sup>. I promise to be Acct<sup>ble</sup>. for . Witness my Hand

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

---

£430 .. ———

---

Witness ANTH: DUANE

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Coll<sup>l</sup>. Johnsons  
rect for Subsistance  
of Self & Company  
for Expedition  
430:0:0.  
June 1<sup>st</sup> 1747  
N<sup>o</sup> 4

---

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

<sup>2</sup> In Clinton's hand.

## A RECEIPT

D. S.<sup>1</sup>July 2<sup>d</sup>. 1747

Money paid for Scalps &amp; Prisoners as follows —

Walter Butler 6 Scalps at 10 £ Ⓕ.....	£60.. 0.. 0
Canajoharees 2 Scalps .....	20..—..—
d <sup>os</sup> : 3 Prisoners 1 under age.....	50..—..—
Thomas Butler 8 Prisoners 2 of age.....	} 40..—..—
& 6 under age.....	
Gingegoe 7 Prisoners 4 of age.....	80..—..—
3 under age .....	30..—..—
3 Scalps under age.....	15..—..—
1 Scalp by Daniel the Ind <sup>n</sup> : &c.....	10..—..—
	<hr/>
	£365.. 0..—

Rec<sup>d</sup>. the Contents.<sup>2</sup>W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

Implements<sup>3</sup> Requisite for those Men who are to  
go upon Service w<sup>th</sup>. the Indians, Viz<sup>t</sup>. ———

Axes ———

Hangers ———

Indian Shoes ———

INDORSED:<sup>4</sup>

Coll Johnsons

receipt for £365:0:0

for Scalps &amp; prisoners

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.<sup>3</sup> Entire note and list in Johnson's hand.<sup>4</sup> In Clinton's hand.



## A RECEIPTED BILL

D. S.<sup>1</sup>

[Feb. 27, 1748]

His Excellency the Honbl George Clinton &ca &ca for the Subs. of the Indian Officers Sergts. and Private Men that enter'd into His Majesty's Service upon the Occasion of His Exclys: Engaging the Six Nations of Indians to join upon the intended Expedition against Canada in the year 1746

To Capt. Aaron Steven's Subs. from 19 Augt. 1746 to 24th Novr. 1747 being 463 Days @ 7/6..	173..12.. 6
To Capt. Tedy Magin's Do from 5 Sepr. 1746 to Do. . . . . being 446 Do. @ 7/6. . . . .	167.. 5.. —
To Lt. V'ishers Do. from 28th Do. to 24th Do. . . . . being 454 Do. @ 3/6. . . . .	79.. 9.. —
To Lt. Van Slikes Do. from 29 Ditto to 24 Do. . . . . being 453 Do @ 3/6. . . . .	79.. 5.. 6
To Lt. Stevens. . . Do. from 30 Do. . . . . to 24 Do. . . . . being 452 Do @ 3/6. . . . .	79.. 2.. —
To Lt. A Van Slikes Do from 30 Do. . . . . to 24 Do. . . . . being 452 Do. 3/6. . . . .	79.. 2.. —
To Lt. Butlers Do. . . . . from 2 Sepr 1846 to 24 Do. . . . . being 449 Do. 3/6. . . . .	78..11.. 6
To Lt. Butler Junr. Do. from 3 Do. . . . . to 24 Do. . . . . being 448 Do. 3/6. . . . .	78.. 8.. —
<hr/>	
	£814..15.. 9
To the Pay of 1 Sergt from 1st, Sepr. 1746 to 24th Novr, 1747 being 450 Days @ 2/6. . . . .	56.. 5.. —
To Do. . . . . of 1 Do. . . . . from 7 Do. . . . . to 24 Do. . . . . being 444 Do. . . 2/6. . . . .	55..10.. —
To Do. . . . . of 16 Men . . . from 1 Do. . . . . to 24 Do. . . . . being 450 Do. @ 2/ Ea. . . . .	720.. —.. —
To Do. . . . . of 1 Do. . . . . from 5 Do. . . . . to 24 Do. . . . . being 446 Do @ 2/ . . . . .	44..12.. —
To Do. . . . . of 1 Do. . . . . from 4 Do. . . . . to 24 Do. . . . . being 447 Do. @ 2/ . . . . .	44..14.. —

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

## A RECEIPTED BILL—Continued

To Do.....of 7 Do.....from 6 Do.....to 24 Do.....being 445 Do. @ 2/ Ea.....	311..10..—
To Do.....of 1 Do.....from 8 Do.....to 24 Do.....being 443 Do @ 2/.....	44.. 6..—
To Do.....of 2 Do.....from 22 Janry..to 24 Do.....being 307 Do @ 2/.....	61.. 8..—
To Do.....of 1 Do.....from 27 Do.....to 24 Do.....being 302 Do @ 2/.....	30.. 4..—
To Do.....of 1 Do.....from 4 March..to 24 Do.....being 266 Do. @ 2/.....	26..12..—
To Do.....of 1 Do.....from 20 April..to 24 Do.....being 219 Do. @ 2/.....	21..18..—
	<hr/>
	£. 1416..19.. 0
The Officers Substinance brot Forward..	814..15.. 9
Exchang'd into currency.....	407.. 7..10
	<hr/>
	£1222.. 3.. 7
The Mens Pay brot Forward.....	1416..19.. 0
	<hr/>
	£2639.. 2.. 7

Receiv'd the 27<sup>th</sup>. day of Feby 1747 from His Excellency The Hon<sup>ble</sup> George Clinton Two thousand six Hundred thirty nine pounds two shillings & seven pence in full of the above Account, being For the Subsistence & Pay of the Officers & Men under my Command as Colonel of the Six Nations of Indians from the time they enter'd into His Majestys Service upon the late intended Expedition ag<sup>t</sup> Canada until the 24<sup>th</sup>. of November 1747 as  $\text{¶}$  my Certificate thereof delivered this day to His Excellency.—

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

27 Feby: 1747<sup>1</sup>

Colonel Johnsons Acco<sup>t</sup> and  
Receipt for the pay of the Troops that were  
on the Indian Service to the  
24 Nov<sup>r</sup>: 1747.

£2639..2..7

N<sup>o</sup>. (4)

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Mount Johnson May 20<sup>th</sup> 1748*

S<sup>R</sup>/

Being so hurried at Schenectady to gett away I had Not time to Acquaint You that the Governour has sent me up a Colonels Commission of the Regiment of the County. Wherefore Now acquaint You of it, & desire You would write to all the Officers of the Regiment, (Except those up here whom I have wrote to already,) to send me immediately returns of their Companys, w<sup>th</sup>. all the Officers Names, the dates of their Commissions, and the Number of Men in Each Company that I may be able to make a proper return of the whole Regiment to his Excellency, In the Mean time while they are doing of

<sup>1</sup> Should read "1748."

<sup>2</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

this, if You have got ever a late return of the Regiment, I should be glad to see it. I intend as soon as I have the Returns, to Divide the Regiment As Equal as possible. Wherefore the Sooner they make them the better, at those dangerous times. Expecting the Speedy Execution of these Orders, I conclude Sr

Y<sup>r</sup> Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

You are to See that there be }  
 always ten brisk Men ready to }  
 Join the thirty, out of the }  
 three Companys Now there — }<sup>1</sup>  
 Whom Capt<sup>n</sup>. Chew has Orders }  
 to have always ready — }

ADDRESSED:<sup>1</sup>

On His Majesty's Service

---

To Jacob Glen Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Coll<sup>o</sup>. —

or in his absence to the }  
 next Command<sup>g</sup>. Officer } at Schenectady

FROM JACOB GLEN

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

Schon<sup>dy</sup>: May 21<sup>th</sup>: 1748

COL<sup>t</sup>: JOHNSON

Sr: I Rec<sup>d</sup>: y<sup>rs</sup>: of the 20<sup>th</sup> Instant by Brandt the Indian Yesterday, as for a List of the officers and men Belonging to the Regiment I have not, or Ever had, I Applayed to Col<sup>l</sup>: Schuyler for one but Never got it, nor do I know The Names of all the Cap<sup>ts</sup>., as many as I know I have put their Names in

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

the Inclosed List, I Desire to be Excused to Send orders to them, and hope youl be as good and write to his Excellency & Desire him to Excuse me, and put another Lieu<sup>t</sup>: Col<sup>l</sup>: In my Place or Stead and youl Verry much Obleidge

Sr. Yr friend and most obedient  
Serv<sup>t</sup>

JACOB GLEN

ADDRESSED:

To<sup>1</sup>  
Lieu<sup>t</sup>: Collonel Jacob Glen  
att  
Schenectady

TO JACOB GLEN

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

COLL<sup>o</sup>. GLEN/  
SIR/

May 23<sup>d</sup> 1748

I am Surprised to hear that you would Incline to lay down yr. Commission, att least dureing the Warr, as there is none Else there so fitt to have that Command, as Yourself and Can thereby be the means of Doing Yr. Country Service, Wherefore beg You will lay aside Such thoughts & let us Settle the Regiment, as Soon as possible, for the Security of the Country, for as it is now without being Settled, We are in a poor way, I should be glad to hear from you as Soon as possible & Should be much oblidge to You for the loan of the History of the five Nations & the late Act of Assembly Concerning the Regulating of the Militia of the County of Albany. Both of wh.

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<sup>1</sup> Evidently should read "from." The address then becomes an indorsement.

<sup>2</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

I shall return you again in a Week, or ten days. I am Sr Y<sup>r</sup>  
Real freind

& Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:

To

LIEU<sup>t</sup>. COLL<sup>o</sup>. JACOB GLEN

att

Schenectady

FROM JACOB GLEN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Schon<sup>d</sup>y. May 24<sup>th</sup> 1748*

Sr. I Rec<sup>d</sup>. Y<sup>rs</sup>. of the y<sup>e</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> Instant I think it Impossible  
for you me or any body Else to Settle the Business of the  
Regiment well in the way you Now propose to me, the only  
Way I think it Can be Settled, is to do it in the way you  
first proposed to me, and if that Cant be done, to Leave it as  
it Was Before otherways it will Create to you & many of your  
Real friends a great Deal of Ill Will among the People and  
Strengthen y<sup>r</sup> Enemyes this Sr. is the Sincer Sentement of

Y<sup>r</sup>. Real & True friend &

Humb<sup>l</sup> Servant

JACOB GLEN

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<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.; written on back  
of letter from Johnson to Glen, May 23, 1748.

AN ACCOUNT OF EXPENSES WITH RECEIPT

D. S.<sup>1</sup>

His Excellency The Honble: George Clinton Governor of New York for Sundry Disbursements made to the Six Nations of Indians who were Engaged on the Expedition Intended against Canada

To William Johnson Esqr:.....Dr:	
1746	
Decemr: 13d:	
To charges at Albany when the 12 Warriours returned From York	£2... 8... 0
4 waggons to Schenectady with them.....	1.. 16... —
Charges in Ditto.....	1.. 4... —
4 Slays to the Mohawks with prisoners.....	3.. 12... —
4 lb Paint at York & Albany.....	4... —... —
To a Battoe and 2 Hands carrying up Hendks: Sick People.....	1.. 3... —
Ransoming the 2 Girls &ca: from the Indians.....	24... —... —
Rum &ca at Meeting about ye divin: of ye prisoners.....	3.. 12... —
Paid for Slays to Carry up to the Great Flatts Cohasorah &ca who are} Lame.....	—.. 18... —
4 Hides for Outscouts for snow shoes.....	1.. 10... —
New Years day a treat to the fighters.....	4.. 10... —
To Hendk: & Party in private presents by Your desire.....	60... —... —
Expences for keeping and treating Hendk: and his party wth: 4 Horses and Slay} 4 days when they brought me their Scalp & Prisoners.....	4.. 15... —
To making 2 Coats lac'd for Hendk: & Seth Senr.....	1.. 10... —
To 20 Ells strouds & 40 Laps to the Warriours w <sup>n</sup> Cloath'd.....	20... —... —

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Provs: for Outscouts who were Constantly out towards Canada to watch the Enemies Motion . . . . .	3..10..—
To each Mohawk who were out being 24 Men to Canada 5 dollars over the reward by your Excell's order for Cloathing. . . . .	48..—..—
1 Belt Wampum wh; ye Scalp to ye Messisageys Castle. . . . .	6.. 6..—
Another with another Scalp to the Oneidas. . . . .	6..—..—
2lb Paint to the Conajohées; when return'd from Canada. . . . .	2..—..—
A pair of Boots to Old Hendk; as a present. . . . .	—..15..—
	<hr/> <hr/>
	£201.. 9.. 0
Carry'd Forward. . . . .	
His Excellency the Honle: George Clinton Continues: . . . . .Dr:	
Brought Forward . . . . .	£201.. 9.. 0
1746	
Decembr: 13	3.. 5..—
	4..10..—
	8..—..—
	8.. 8..—
	0..18..—
	1..—..—
	—..16..—
	2..—..—
Provs: for Outscouts who were Constantly out towards Canada to watch the Enemies Motion . . . . .	3..10..—
To each Mohawk who were out being 24 Men to Canada 5 dollars over the reward by your Excell's order for Cloathing. . . . .	48..—..—
1 Belt Wampum wh; ye Scalp to ye Messisageys Castle. . . . .	6.. 6..—
Another with another Scalp to the Oneidas. . . . .	6..—..—
2lb Paint to the Conajohées; when return'd from Canada. . . . .	2..—..—
A pair of Boots to Old Hendk; as a present. . . . .	—..15..—
	<hr/> <hr/>
	£201.. 9.. 0
Carry'd Forward. . . . .	
His Excellency the Honle: George Clinton Continues: . . . . .Dr:	
Brought Forward . . . . .	£201.. 9.. 0
1746	
Decembr: 13	3.. 5..—
	4..10..—
	8..—..—
	8.. 8..—
	0..18..—
	1..—..—
	—..16..—
	2..—..—
1 Belt of Wampum to Moses, for one he gave the Caghnawags: to stop their Mouths when he was at Canada . . . . .	3.. 5..—
4 Young Horses hydes for snow shooes and 6 pair ready made for Out- scouts . . . . .	4..10..—
4 Guns paid for which Bursted of those I gave to the Warriours of Both Castles . . . . .	8..—..—
14 Ells Black Strouds for to wipe of the tears of both the next Castles being their Custom 'ere they can be spoke with, at 12/ pr. . . . .	8.. 8..—
To 3 Strings Wampum to speak wh; Contg: 300 @ 26/ pr. . . . .	0..18..—
2 Gallins: Rum to each Castle at Meeting. . . . .	1..—..—
2 dollars to Capt: Stephens for particular persons at Conajoharee. . . . .	—..16..—
Slay hire to Conajohée: with Officers & Indians to Invite them all down. . . . .	2..—..—
1747	
Janry 24th:	



Feb'y:	27th:	To Sundry drugs &ca with a Docter for Hendk:.....	1..16..—
		2 Slays hired to go up w <sup>th</sup> : Hendk:.....	2..—..—
		Cash to Sundry Indians for mending Guns.....	2..12..—
		Provisions to Sundry Do:.....	5..10..—
March	2d:	To 2 pair Womens Hose to Hance the Wilts Wife 8s; Cash & Rum to Buy } Corn for 20s: .....	1.. 8..—
	6th:	Cash to Young Brant for Encouragement to go Out.....	5..12..—
	7th:	To 3 Strings and 1 Belt of Wampum thrown to the 5 Nations to Insist upon } their steadfastness that this Delay might make no Change in them.....	3..—..—
		1 Black stroud 30s Stockes: & Shirt to Clean Brants House after the Decease of } his Son before he could keep Council in his House.....	2..10..—
		Provisions for 32 Outsouts 10 days at 6d a man pr day.....	8..—..—
		A Treat at the Castle before they went Out.....	2..18..—
		30lb Powder & Lead 90lb.....60 flints.....	6..17.. 6
		Tobacco & pipes 5s & 30lb Shott 22/6.....	1.. 7.. 6
		To a Belt of Wampum to David a Conajee: who went out a fighting, with 10 } more, in all 11 men.....	6..12..—
		To a party of Conajohes; who came down in Order to go a fighting a Treat } & a Cagg of Rum.....	2..15..—
	10th:	A Black Stroud for Nickus of Conajohes Child.....	1..10..—
		10 Ells Linnen @ 2/ pr for Powder Baggs and Making.....	1.. 5..—
Carried Forward .....			£285..19.. 0

1746	His Excellency the Honble: George Clinton Continues.....Dr:		
March	Brought Forward .....	£285..19..0	
10	To a treat to another party of Conajohs: come down to go against the French .....	1..18..—	
	To another party of Do: 10 for a Warr dance .....	3..—..—	
	28lb Shott for these 14 men .....	—..14..—	
	1 pocket Pistol to Peter of Conajoharee .....	1..—..—	
	25 Ells Red Ribbon ..... @ 12d .....	1..5..—	
	1 Red small Flagg for the Outscouts to Shew .....	—..9..—	
	6 pr: Stockgs: 6 pr Shoes, & 6 Blkts: for Prists: .....	7..1..—	
	8 pr: Snow Shoes for Scalpers & Outscouts .....	4..16..—	
19	Att the Outscouts a treat at their Return .....	2..5..—	
	Att the Several meetings of both Castles a treat and Sundries for a Warr Dance .....	11..10..—	
	7 Belts Wampum to Condole the Deaths of the Nations 8400 Wampum that is 7000 Black at 6s pr 1400 white at 4s pr .....	23..16..—	
	Making each Belt at 6/ .....	2..2..—	
	2 Long strings Wampum 2s: 500 white at 4s: .....	1..—..—	
	Cash paid Sundry Fighters Wives for Substantice durence their mens Absence .....	15..—..—	
21st	Provisn: for the Fighters on the March yt is for Nickus with 12 men for 20 days at 6d pr .....	6..—..—	
	For the Party of the Bear, Paulus, Abraham, and David Capt: in all 15 Men provisions .....	7..10..—	
	Tobacco on their Journey pipes & Shott .....	1..10..—	
	6 Razors 6 Combs .....	—..16..6	
	15 Ells Black Strouds, sent with the Belts of Wampum to the 5 Nations to Condole their Loss .....	9..—..—	

	Cash to Capt: Stephens for Provs: for ye Party, and treats at the Different Castles 30 Dollars	12. —. —.
	1500 Black Wampum at 6s pr to Capt: Stephens	4. 10. —.
	500 white Do: @ 4s: to Do:	1. —. —.
	1 Blanket 12s: & 1 pr: Woms hose 16s: To Do:	1. 8. —.
	2 pr: Child: hose 4s & 1/2 Ell Blue Strouds 6s Do.	— 10. —.
	2 pieces Gimps 18/ 1/2 Dozn Knives 9/ & 3 Shirts 24s: Do.	2. 11. —.
	4lb Powder @ 4s Do.	— 16. —.
	Carried Forward	£409. 6. 6
	His Excellency the Honbe: George Clinton Continues. Dr:	
	Brought over	£409. 6. 6
1746	To 1 piece Yellow Ribbon Qy, 9 1/2 Ells @ 1/3 To Capt Stephens	— 11. 10 1/2
March	To 1 ps: Red Do. 22 Do. 1/3 To Do.	1. 7. 6
	To 1 ps: purple Do. 9 1/4 Do. 1/3 Do.	— 11. 6
	To 1 ps: Narrow Blue Do. 7 3/4 Do. 1/3 Do.	— 7. 9
	2 lb paint	2. —. —.
	a Belt of Wampum with the French Prisoner	6. 10. —.
	To what paid Sett. Cahungevana & Joseph Senr: for Staying at home from Hunting, & Go out a Fighting wch: they did Directly	12. —. —.
	As also in Company wth: them gone a fighting Nickus, Capt David, Noah, Gilliane, Daniel, Peter his Son, John son of Isaac, Sett., Wantee: Afinger, Cousen & Petrus, 30s pr: To 14 Spears for the Indians @ 3/6.	16. —. —.
1747	Mending Locks of 8 Guns @ 10s pr.	2. 9. —.
27th:	5 Guns new Stock'd.	2. —. —.
	Mending Axes	2. 10. —.
		— 15. —.

30	To Provs: for 30 fighters of the Wouse from the Mohawks with Liett: Walter Butlar with them for 20 Days at 6d pr man.....	10..—..—
	5 Razors 5s/ 5 pair Scissars 5s/ & 5 Combs 3/9.....	—..18—..9
	30lb Shott for their Journey pipes & Tobacco.....	1..15..—
	A Treat at parting with a Warr Dance to all ye.....	3..10..—
	A present to 2 Onondageys come down about News 2 Shirts Paint Provisions &ca.....	1..18..—
5th:	To Bring up 10 ps: Blankets 4 ps: Strouds &ca from Albany to my house.....	2..10..—
April	A Battoe sent express with a String of Wampum to Schenectady to bring the Seneca & Cayuga Sachims.....	1..18..—
	A Treat to 6 Mohawks fighters Gingego Capt:.....	3..15..—
	12lb Shott 8s pipes Tobacco & provisions.....	4.. 5..—
	A Fatt Hogg to the Fighters.....	1..—..—
	A Waggon to fetch up the Sachems from Albany.....	—..18..—
	A Treat to another party of 6 Mohawks & provs: Sett thick Lip Capt:.....	6..10..—
	A Treat & provns: to Hendk & his party being 50 men with Christians and all on my Charges 16 days.....	30..—..—
	A Treat & provns: to Another Party of 6 Mohawks Brant Capt with Thomas Butler.....	9..10..—
	Goods money & Provs: to their families who are out a fighting 3 in the Mohawks being.....	25..—..—
	Carried forward .....	£559..16..10½

His Excellency the Honourable: George Clinton Continues.....Dr:

£559..16..10½

1747

April

15 Brought Forward .....  
 To 4 Barrels pork at £3. . . . . pr for the 5 Nations who were at my house }  
 at a General Meeting with the Mohawks & Canajoharees 6 days. . . . . }  
 3 Hogs £4. .10. .— & 300 Loaves Bread at 6d pr £7. .10. .— . . . . . }  
 8 Ske: pease 24/ & 6 Ske: Indian Corn 12/ . . . . . }  
 20 Gallns: Rum at 5/ pr £5. . . . . — & 2 Barrels Beer 40/ }  
 Presents & provs: along wth: them to 6 Cheif Onondaga Sachems to each }  
 man 1 Blanket 1 Stroud 3 Shirts 2 pair Stockings 2 Laps 1 lac'd Hat 1 knife }  
 1 Cagg Rum 1 Worsted Cap 1 Large Kettle pipes & Tobacco Each man. . . . }  
 the other 5 Comes to £7. .11. .— Each Man. . . . . }  
 To a Cajuga Head Warriour the Same. . . . . }  
 7 Dollars, to Each one, is. . . . . }  
 1 Belt Wampum Qy: . . . . . 2500 and Another the }  
 Quantity whereof was. . . . . 1700 }

12. . . . . —  
 12. . . . . —  
 1. . .16. . . —  
 7. . . . . —  
 7. .11. . . —  
 37. .15. . . —  
 7. .11. . . —  
 2. .16. . . —

300 white Do: at 3d all to Use the Ax &ca. . . . . }  
 Provs: by the Road pork bread & pease. . . . . }  
 To what paid Cap<sup>t</sup> Stephens when he returned from the 5 Nations having }  
 laid it Out for Provisions. . . . . }  
 A fine Ruffled Shirt 25s a Blue lac'd Coat £4. .10. .— a fine pr Stocks: wth: }  
 a Silver Ribbon to the King of the 5 Nations named Tayengaragquere who is }  
 since Killed in the Action. . . . . }  
 To a post sent to Albany wth Letters. . . . . }  
 Ribbons to all the Warriours for their Head. . . . . }  
 Combs Scissars Razors pipes & Tobacco. . . . . }  
 1 Gun to John Abeal who went with the Indians. . . . . }

12. .12. . . —  
 —. . . . . 9. . . . —  
 1. . . . . 7. . . . —  
 5. . . . . 9. . . . —  
 8. . .10. . . —  
 —. .12. . . —  
 2. .15. . . —  
 1. .17. . . —  
 2. . . . . —

18th:

9..12..—	
10..19..—	
3..10..—	
3..10..—	
5..—..—	
1.. 4..—	
14..—..—	
2..10..—	
7.. 5..—	
<hr/>	
£741.. 6..10½	

£741.. 6..10½	
12..10..—	
15..—..—	
6..10..—	
12..10..—	
7..10..—	
2..15 :—	
1..17..—	
3..15..—	
—..12..—	

6 large Silver Meddals for Sachems & Capt: at 32s pr. ....  
 A present to the Seneca Sachem going home of .....  
 To provs: for 7 Senecas gone a fighting wh: Hendk: for 20 days at 6d pr. ....  
 Provs: for Vanslike and 7 Christians for 20 Days. ....  
 To a Feast or Treat to Lt: Walter Butlars party when they returned with }  
 6 Scalps from Crown point. ....  
 24 Ells Ribbon to the 6 Scalps ..... @ 12d. ....  
 presents to 2 Oghquaga Sachems in our Interest. ....  
 provs: on their Journey home with Rum &ca. ....  
 A large Belt Black Wampum to call them to Warr Immediately. ....

Carryed Forward . . . . .

His Excellency the Honourble: George Clinton Continues. . . . .Dr:

Brought Forward . . . . .

1747

April 29th:

To a Treat and provs: for 22 Mohawks Isaac Capt: gone against the French }  
 for 20 Days . . . . .  
 To their Wives and Families for Subsistance, in Sundries. . . . .  
 A Belt of Wampum Given to that party. . . . .  
 Provs: and Entertainmt: for the Oneidas, Schohare & Aughquaga Indians who }  
 came to me About News & to go a fighting against the French 8 Days. . . . .  
 To a party of Oneidas gone out a fighting, provs for 20 Days 15 Men wh. }  
 the Schohare at 6d pr Day. . . . .  
 Pipes, Tobacco, Scissars, Razors, Needles &ca. . . . .  
 Ribbons for all their heads. . . . .  
 To Money for mending 7 Guns & Stocks: 5 of them. . . . .  
 A Post Sent to Old Hendk: for Encouragemt: with the News of the Success }  
 of the first Party. . . . .

20th:

5th:	To provns for 16 men more who Join'd Isaacs party before mentioned for 20 days at 6d: pr: Day.....	8..—..—
	pipes Tobacco, Razors, Combs, Scissors, Ribbons.....	3.. 5..—
	106lb Shott 2lb to each man being 53 in All.....	2..13..—
	To the Wives & Children of those last 16 men in trifles of Cloathing.....	16..—..—
	To Overseers of the Indas: Castle and fences while the Indas: where all out.....	5..—..—
7	A Hogg 40/ A Cagg of Rum 5 Gallns: 25s & 20 Loaves of Bread 15/ to the Whole party of Isaac who were forced to lie one Night in the Woods } Close by upon Acct: of Nickus falling very Sick.....	4..—..—
11	To presents &ca: Given to 10 Senecas come down to me about news &ca: } & with the Crown a Shirt to Each of them 9 at 10/ pr.....	4..10..—
	A Shirt very fine with Ruffles & ribon to the Capt.....	1..10..—
	Paint and Knives to 10 of them.....	2.. 5..—
	A fine lac'd Hatt to the Head man with a Cockade.....	1..18..—
	A Red Trunk to put the Crown in.....	—..10..—
	Provisions for them at my house & on their Journey.....	8..14..—
	A Barrel of Syder for drink.....	1..—..—
	65lb Gun powder Expended at the going out & coming home of all the } Warriours & receiving the Strangers &ca.....	11.. 7.. 6
	A present to an Old Conajohsee: Sachem come down with the news of 2 parties } returning with 3 prisrs: & 2 Scalps from Canada May 24th: 1747.....	1.. 4..—
	Provisions to the Women & Children in the Castle.....	5..17..—
	Some provs: and Liquor sent to Lieutt: Thomas Butlers party to Sacondaga } with 8 prisoners.....	—..18..—
	To 6 Blankets £4..16.— 4 Blue Strouds £6.— & 6 pr: Hose } £1..16.—.....	12..12..—
	Carried Forward .....	£890.. 9.. 4 1/2

1747		His Excellency the Honble: George Clinton Continues . . . . . Dr:	£890.. 9.. 4½
May	24	Brought Forward . . . . .	3.. 14.. —
		4 pair Stroud hose 48s/ 4 Glasses 16s/ & 2 Caps 10s	6.. 15.. —
		10 lb powder 40s/ 20 lb Lead 15s/ & 10 Dollars £4	12.. —.. —
		To a large fighters Band to the big one & 1 Do: to A Scalp for him.	1.. 15.. —
		Axes and Guns Mended, and bought 6 Axes for the Senecas	58.. 10.. —
	29	To Several Indians for Staying from Hunting	7.. 12.. —
		Provisions for the next Castles families	18.. 6.. —
		For the Conajohes: families Provision	49.. 17.. —
		Cloathing for their Women and Children being naked	12.. 5.. —
		A Treat to the Conajohes: Mohawks & ca when the[y] brought in, in One	3.. —.. —
		Day 15 Prists: & Scalps & Stayed 3 Days	12.. —.. —
		provs for 6 Tuscaroras gone a fighting for 20 Days	6.. —.. —
		1 Belt to Lawrence, 1 to David of Conajoharee	11.. 7.. —
		1 on a French Boy in the Room of Hendk: Junr: of Do	3.. 2.. —
		Blankets, Shirts, Laps, Shoes & Stockings to the prists:	2.. 13.. —
		Present to Old Abraham & Brant of Conajohree: 2 Blankets 32s 2 pr Stroud	1.. 16.. —
		Stocks: 20s & 2 Laps 10s/	3.. 6.. —
		2 Shirts 20s & 2 pr: Weos: hose 8s provisions 25s	9.. 10.. —
	2	To Cash paid for 3 expresses pr: Indians	5.. 8.. —
June		To a Blanket, Shirt, Stocks:, Kettle, Salt & Cash to a poor Widow, Mother	
		of a Young Man was Kill'd in Canada by the French	
		A present to Abraham Senr: Hendks: Brother & Brant Senr: of Conajohce	
		Sachems, 2 Blankets, 2 Strouds, 2 pr Stroud hose, 2 prs: Woms: hose 2 Knives	
		one Gun, powder, Lead 2 Worsted Capps and provs: with them	
		A Battoe to the Seneca's poles & paddles	



Charges of Expresses, up and down, about those Shott at Capt: Fannings, }  
 & presents to make it up, and them easy. . . . . }  
 Charges of Waggon, and Battoes, to Carry up the last Cargoe of Goods sent }  
 me this Month. . . . . }  
 To 6 Meddals of Silver at 32s pr for Sachems. . . . . }  
 Guns, pistols, Axes, mended this Month. . . . . }  
 Provisions & Entertmt for about 40 Oneidas at my house 5 days Some more }  
 Cajugas, Mississageys Ottowas. &c About news, & provs: On their Journey }  
 home with Rum. . . . . }  
 A present to a Cajuga, 1 Blanket, Lap, hose, skin, Glass, Comb, Gill cup, }  
 Rum 1 Galln: & Cagg, Knife. . . . . }

15

23..10..—  
 8..15..—  
 9..12..—  
 3..19..—  
 19.. 5..—  
 2..12..—  
 £1186..18.. 4½

Carryed Forward . . . . .

His Excellency the Honoble: George Clinton Continues. . . . .Dr:

£1186..18.. 4½

Brought Forward . . . . .

1747

June

15th:

Fitting out 5 Indian Outscouts towards Crown point to Watch the Motion of the }  
 Enemies Army . . . . . }  
 To David of Conajohec: & Adam for 2 Scalps of a Man & a Woman. . . . . }  
 Presents to Sciwatkis & Tussanonda 2 Oneida Sachems and to 5 Men More }  
 Along wth: them being very requisit. . . . . }  
 To a Belt Wampum sent by Sciwatkis to Stop the Young Warriours from going }  
 to Flatt Heads £2..12.. & 3 Caggs Rum £3..11.—. . . . . }  
 100 lb powder to the 2 Castles upon having news of the french Armies Coming. . }  
 300 lb Lead for Do. . . . . }  
 Mending Guns, Axes, &c. . . . . }  
 Ridg: Battoes over ye Carryg: place &c for Senacas. . . . . }  
 2 Indians sent Express Abt: Hendks: Missfortune. . . . . }

22d

5..12..—  
 20..—..—  
 9..17..—  
 6.. 3..—  
 13..—..—  
 7..10..—  
 4..12.. 6  
 1.. 4..—  
 —..12..—

Provs: & Liquor for a Party of the 5 Nations Consisting of 9 men att my house 8 Days		7..10..—
To Do: on their Journey to Canada.		4..10..—
Clothing & Provs: to their Wives & Children.		5..16..—
To the following Clothing, Arms, Ammunition &ca Supplied the Indians of Six Nations with Since Feby: 1747 —		
163 Blankets	at 16s.	£130. 18. —
168 Shirts	8/6.	71. 8. —
161 Laps	6/.	48. 6. —
162 pr: Stockings	6/.	48. 12. —
174 Deer Skins wt: 435 lb.	5/.	108. 15. —
83 Hangers	10/.	41. 10. —
80 Axes	2/6.	10. —. —
173 Knives	1/6.	12. 19. 6
338lb Gun Powder	3/.	50. 14. —
680lb Lead	6d.	17. —. —
427 Flint		— 17. 9
184 Awl Blades		— 15. 2
3lb Vermillion	20/.	31. —. —
91 Looking Glasses	3/.	13. 13. —
90 Kettles	3/9.	16. 17. —
154lb Shott.	6d:.	3. 17. —
71 Guns one with Another.	40/ pr.	142. —. —
To 6 Gallns: Rum to bury 2 Women that dyed in the Mohawks Castle in one Night		749.. 2..11
		1..10..—
		£2023..17.. 9½
Carried Forward		

His Excellency the Honorable: George Clinton Continues.....Dr.

Brought Forward

£2023..17.. 9½

1747  
June 22

2 Black Strouds for the Burial aforesaid.....  
 4 Galls: Rum to Conajohée; for a Burial.....  
 Battoes & hire with Men for them & Hendk: to go home.....  
 To Hendks: Son a Banyan of Calico.....  
 To Do: some Silver Works as Breast Buckles &c.....  
 Provisions to 43 Oghquga's Several others of the Senecas Onondago's Cajugas }  
 &c;a: 15 Days at my house at a most Reasonable Computation..... }  
 Cash on their Journey.....  
 To a War Dance for the Oghquago Warriours.....  
 Provs: for Squshagehtey & party of 12 Men a Fortnight at my house and on }  
 their Journey to Canada..... }  
 To 1 Belt Wampum by ye Oghqugos to call them.....  
 To fetching up from Albany Provs: Lead for the Indians.....  
 Sending it up to Oswego wh 3 hands at £8. —. —. pr.....  
 Provisions for the Men.....  
 Carrying over the Battoes &c;a: over the Carrying place..... £33. 15. —  
 54 Deer Skins..... wt: 135lb @ 5/.....  
 14 Axes..... 2/6..... 1. 15. —  
 104 Knives..... 1/6..... 7. 16. —  
 84 Awles..... —..... 7. —  
 21¼ Vermillion..... 20/..... 20. 5. —  
 3 Guns paid for..... 40/..... 6. —. —

18th:

23d

To an Entertainmt: given to the Whole Castle of Conajohée; when I Went up }  
 there, 1 Ox £4. —. —. — 8 Galln: Rum 48/ & 1 Bart Beer 25s..... }  
 Battoe hire there with ye Above Things & Powder.....

3. —. —  
 1. —. —  
 2..17.. —  
 1.. 5.. —  
 —..15.. —  
 39..18.. —  
 3..12.. —  
 3..17.. —  
 9. —. —  
 5.. 5.. —  
 1.. 7.. —  
 24. —. —  
 2..15.. —  
 2.. 5.. —

70..18.. —  
 7..13.. —  
 1..16.. —

Bread 25s/ Lambs 16s/ Laying out the fort.....	2.. 1..—
A Belt Wampum wth: an Indian Scalp in the Room of the Great Oneida } Sachem Sciwatkis.....	5.. 12..—
To provs: Lead Powdr: Shoes &ca: to Outscouts sent towards Crown point.....	4.. 17..—
Making of 374 Shirts at 7d with Thread.....	10.. 18.. 2
Charges enterts: the Cajugas, Onondagos &ca: at my house 6 Days wch time } I was Oblig'd to send for the 2 Castles Mohawks having a great deal of News } which they did not tell in Albany.....	15.. 18..—
Provisn: on their Journey home.....	3.. 15..—
Carried forward .....	£2248.. 1.. 11½

His Excellency the Honble: George Clinton Continues .....

Carried forward .....

£2248.. 1.. 11½

1747

July 23d:

A present to Ottrowaney & 3 more who I find were not well pleased with }  
what Got in Albany.....
 9.. 10..— || To twenty four Young men were along with them in paint 50 Boxes or } 2½ lb paint..... | 2.. 10..— |

A Belt Wampum to Ottrowaney.....
 6.. 15..— |

29th

To Cash given to 4 Widows who lost their husbands in Canady Cloathing &ca }  
for their Children .....
 16.. 12..— || To 4 more Widows who lost their husbands in Canady & Cloathing & provs for } their families being more principle Indians..... | 22.. 18..— |
| Provs: at my house & on their Journey for a parcel of Onondagos Canajohee } &ca with presents to the Black princes Son & 7 more Cheifs Indns:..... | 38.. 16..— |

Augt:	8th	To 1 piece White lace Qy: 50 yds: at 5/6 pr for hatts &ca. . . . .	13..15..—
		Carriage of Powder, Lead, Blankets &ca from Schenectady to my House in Battoes . . . . .	1..12..—
		1 Chest pipes and fraight up for the Indians. . . . .	14..10..—
		2 Expresses pd: for Carrying ye News of one of the old Conajohce: Chiefs being Murtherd and Scalpt by ye French Indians also 1 River Indian, this went with 3 Strings Wampum among the Nations. . . . .	4.. 5..—
		Hinges, locks, and other Iron works for ye Mohawks. . . . .	2..19.. 6
	10th:	4 Dozs: Knives to Oswego with Lieuti: Visgher. . . . .	3..12..—
		2 ps: Gimps 20s/ & 3 pr Childrens hose. . . . .	1.. 6..—
		20 lb: Butter 16s/ 8d & 24 lb Sugar 18s/ & 20 Gallns: Rum £6. —. . . . .	7..14.. 8
		Caggs & Casks for Butter Sugar Rum &c. . . . .	—..17.. 6
		1C..3Qr..0lb Bisquet at 16s: pr: & 4 Bags. . . . .	2.. 8..—
		3 Ske: pease & 1 hundd: Bacon. . . . .	2..19..—
		2000 Black Wampum for Belts there. . . . .	5.. —..—
		500 White Do: for Said Use @ 3s pr. . . . .	—..15..—
		At a Meeting of the River Indians with the 5 Nations about their Joining them in the War provs: &ca: 3 Days. . . . .	3..19..—
	12th	5 Gallns: Rum at the Burial of Old Eserus ye Great Mohawk Sachem. . . . .	1..10..—
		4 Guns for to 2 Oneidas gone a fighting. . . . .	4.. —..—
		An Express Come from Oswego with News. . . . .	3..15..—
		2 Skins wt 5lb . . . . . at 5s pr for Shoes. . . . .	1.. 5..—
		To provs, shoes, knives, paint, &ca: for 318 Indians who went wh: me in quest of a Body of French & Indians to Lake Sacrama paid also for Several Guns & hangers which they had of their own 18s pr. . . . .	286.. 4..—

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£2707.. 9.. 7½

Carried Forward . . . . .

His Excellency the Honble: George Clinton Continues . . . . . Dr:  
Brought forward . . . . .

£2707 . . . 9 . . 7 1/2

1747

August 12th

Provs: Shoes &ca: to 331 Christians who went on the Same Service at the lowest Computation 10s pr. . . . .  
To an Express from the Oneida's with the Accot of their fortifying themselves and Desiring Assistce: . . . . .  
Carriage of Swan Shot, Linnen, Axes, Leather &ca from Albany to my house . . . . .  
Cash given to Hendk: Abraham & Son . . . . .  
To 3 Oneida Chiefs gone home 2 dollars to Each . . . . .  
To 3 Mohawks who are to Manage till I return . . . . .  
Battoe hire and Men to Carry these 9 Indns: Down . . . . .  
Provs: in Schenectady & Albany . . . . .  
Their Passage to York in the Sloop & provs: 16s pr. . . . .  
their Passage Up again the Same . . . . .  
To Cash paid for Scalps & prisoners . . . . .  
To 1 Belt Wampum given his Excellcy: at York to speak with the Indians . . . . .  
To 1 Belt Do: pr Your Order to be sent to the Flatheads . . . . .  
To Expences at Albany & Schenectady and Provisions on this Journey to the Sachems who came from York . . . . .  
To Cash paid for 98 lb bacon bought by Lieut Visher . . . . .  
To Ryar Bowin Smith sent to Onondaga last Winter . . . . .  
To making a small Fortification without Block houses at Conajoharee . . . . .  
To Provision found Capt Saifers Company as pr Acct in Your Hands . . . . .

165 . . 10 . . —

1 . . 18 . . 6

4 . . 3 . . —

3 . . 12 . . —

2 . . 8 . . —

3 . . — . . —

2 . . 12 . . —

1 . . 18 . . 6

4 . . 10 . . —

4 . . 10 . . —

375 . . — . . —

6 . . 0 . . 0

2 . . 18 . . 6

4 . . 15 . . 0

2 . . 9 . . 0

35 . . 0 . . 0

49 . . 0 . . 0

53 . . 5 . . 0

October 28th

Novr: 7th

Deducted for Scalps & Prisoners being allowed so much by the General Assembly of the Province of New York for that purpose . . . . .

£3429 . . 19 . . 1 1/2

365 . . — . . —

£3064 . . 19 . . 1 1/2

City of Albany

28th July 1748 Appeared before me Sybrant Van Scoicke Esqre; one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the City of Albany ..... Colonel William Johnson who made Oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God that the foregoing is a just and True Account to the Best of his Knowledge and Belief

SYBRANT G: VAN SCHAIK Justice:

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

Received this 28th day of July 1748. of His Excellency the Honourable George Clinton Three Thousand Sixty Four Pounds Nineteen Shillings and one Penny Half Penny in full of the Foregoing Account

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

28 July 1748 —  
 Colo. Johnson's Acct.  
 For the Indians —  
 £3064..19.. 1½

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Albany Octobr. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1748*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLCY./

I am Honoured with both Yours of the 5<sup>th</sup>. & 6<sup>th</sup>. Ins<sup>t</sup>. and shall punctually observe every thing you are pleased to order therein, but I heartily wish Your Excellency had Sent a Gentleman from New York, to go with the french Party to Canada, as you are Sensible Sr. of the great Difficulty it is to find such a one here. Moreover, I am att a loss how to act in relation to their pay, not haveing the least word of that mentioned in yr. Excellcy<sup>s</sup>. letter which is the principall thing, and what they will all be Assured of, Ere they move a foot. And as I fancy the Hurry of Business has been the Occasion of your Excellenceys not mentioning anything of it, I hope what I do may be Agreeable. As I assure You Sir, I will use my utmost Endeavours to manage for the best. therefore hope Your Excellcy. in your next will please to let me know how those people are to be payed whom I Send to Canada, as I am Oblidged to engage for their pay.—I herewith Send Your Excellcy. a pair of black horses, the best I could find in those parts. and altho they are not very large I dare answer for their doing the Service of the largest if well managed, & taken Care of. I am quite ashamed I could not Send you them Sooner, but I assure yr. Excellency it is a verry difficult thing to get a good large horse here being all picked up, by New England, & Philadelphia Jockeys, att Extravigant prices.— I should be glad of your Excellcy<sup>s</sup> Leave to take a trip to New York as Soon as I send away the french Party, & ours, having some affairs to Settle there.—I have agreeable to you Excellcy<sup>s</sup>. orders Sent the Provisions, and Releif to Oswego, which as it

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.



was Unexpected, put me to a good deal of Difficulty and needless Expenſe. yet ſhould not ſo much mind that, could I but get my money regularly payed, which the Province is Juſtly indebted to me.— I ſhall take Care to Send your Excellency again the Kings birthday Some Veniſon, ſplitt pease, & the beſt potatoes here, &ca.— & hope (with your Excellency's liberty) to be down then my ſelf.— I am heartily Sorry, att Your Excellency's. haveing ſo obſtinate a Sett of people to deal with, whom by their proceedings & Management [*from firſt to laſt*]<sup>1</sup> Seem to aim at nothing, but to diſtreſs thoſe New raiſed Troops, as they go the moſt Effectual way to Work for doing of it, by keeping them without Pay, or Proviſion this good while paſt. they Could not be kept, or Continued this fourthnight paſt, had not the Officers given their own Notes for the payment of what provisions they get from the Commiſſarys, that is Some of the officers, viz<sup>t</sup>. Stoddard, Chew, Butler, Sloſs, Lawrie & Corry. the reſt who are Dutchmen Sayed they would not run any riſque, ſo their Men are obliged to Shift for themſelves about, & of Conſequence under no good Command. Wherefore ſhould be very glad if your Excellency thought proper, (if they cannot be regularly payed, & maintained for a Certain time,) to diſcharge them, as at preſent they are only a plauge to me, & their Officers to endeavour to keep 'em. but, had they their due, they could be kept in as good Order as any Men in the world, and as long. I know it will be the Means of giving Our Neighbourſ the Indians, room to think, that we are determined not to Stand by them, Should they See all thoſe Comp<sup>ys</sup> break up, before things are Settled, and their [*prisoners,*]<sup>1</sup> people reſtored. for how Can they be perſwaded it is a peace As long as the French keep their people in fetters, and [*will*]<sup>1</sup> not reſtore them & after they had Sent four of the Canadians to redeem theirs, yet were reſuſed — therefore I think, if them

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<sup>1</sup> Words in italics and incloſed in brackets are crasſed out in the manuſcript.

Officers whom I mentioned before, & their Companys were Continued only Untill Spring, to keep the Indians in temper, untill we were Assured of a peace, w<sup>h</sup>. in all probability must be before that time, it would be of great Service, and the only best Means of Continuing the two Castles of the Mohawks our freinds. I hope y<sup>r</sup>. Excellc<sup>y</sup>. will please to pardon the liberty I take, in giveing you my Sentiments so freely. but as it so much behoves me to Continue the Indians our freinds, and as I take what I've wrote (if complied with) to be a great Step towards it, could not avoid acquainting y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency thereof.— As Your Excellc<sup>y</sup>. desires I should assist Mr. Erwin, who comes here to recruit, I will do it, provided the Forces, or any part of them, are disbanded and doubt not of getting Governour Shirley a great many Men. Your Excellency I hope will Excuse the Many Blunders herein, Occasioned by Hurry. I am w<sup>th</sup>. the greatest Respect Imaginable.—

Your Excellency<sup>s</sup>. —  
 Most Oblidged, & Most  
 Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:

To  
 His Excellency —  
 Governour Clinton

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll Johnson 11 Oct<sup>r</sup>.  
 Recd 17<sup>th</sup> 1748  
 To be Copyed to go home

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<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

A BILL OF EXCHANGE

D. S.<sup>1</sup>

Exchange £2836..13..1 Sterling

*New York the 5<sup>th</sup>. day of November 1748*

SIR

At Sixty — days sight of this my Third of Exchange my First and Second of the same Tenor and date not paid please to pay unto William Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>. or Order the Sum of Two thousand Eight hundred & Thirty Six Pounds thirteen Shillings and one penny \_\_\_\_\_ Sterling for Value Received of him being upon Account of Sundry Charges incurred in His Majesty's Service for Keeping the Six Nations of Indians and their Allies Strictly Attached to the King's Interest and Steady in their Alliance pursuant to his Majesties Directions Signified to Governour Shirley and me by his Grace the Duke of Newcastle in Letters to us dated the 3<sup>d</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October 1747. for that purpose. I am

Sir

Your most Humble Servant

G. CLINTON

To The Right Honourable William Pitt Esq<sup>r</sup>. }  
Pay Master General of His Majesty's Land Forces }  
or the Pay Master General for the time being }

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

## PURCHASE OF A HOUSE

D.<sup>1</sup>

[Undated]

A House and Lot in High Street — City of Albany 2 Stories high — Brick Building — good cellers Kitchen Bleech Yard Stabling &<sup>a</sup> &<sup>a</sup> purchased by Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson in the year 1748 — Valued at £1500 N. Y. C.<sup>2</sup>

A Water Lot & frame House on it — £500—0—0

N. Y. C. £2000..0..0

TO GEORGE CLINTON

Copy<sup>3</sup>*Mt. Johnson Janry: 22d 1748/9*

May it please y<sup>r</sup>. Excelley:

I am honoured w<sup>th</sup>. yours of the 6th Inst: by the post together w<sup>th</sup>: a Letter to the Govern<sup>r</sup>. of Canada w<sup>h</sup>. I shall take care to forward by Capt<sup>n</sup>. Stoddert & give him the properest Instructions I am capable of, for the Speedy recovery of our People there, & particularly the 4 Ind<sup>s</sup>. who are now two years & Eight Months there, an Age indeed, for such people who

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Miscellaneous Papers, 1714–1790, Claus Papers, W. Vol. 14. The item is written on a scrap of paper.

See Johnson to Peter Warren, July [22d] 24th., 1749, where he mentions purchasing houses in Albany and Schenectady, and Johnson to Peter Middleton, Sept. 16, 1755.

See also record of Common Council of the City of Albany for Feb. 19, 1759 which sold Sir William Johnson a parcel of land adjoining his property, and a deed by the City of Albany to Sir William Johnson, May 31, 1759 of a lot near the waterside bounded on north and east by city land.

<sup>2</sup> New York currency.

<sup>3</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

were never used to any Confinement & as nothing but their Steadfastness to the British Interest, could have caused the French to detain them so long, I think they ought to meet with a reception (att their return) adequate to their Merit, w<sup>h</sup>. I am sorry is not in my power to give them, as they will look to me & no Body Else for it. As for the Affidavits against Collins, I realy had not time to gett them, being much hurried Since I came home w<sup>th</sup>. moveing into my New House &ca. but by the next post shall transmit them to y<sup>r</sup>. Excelle<sup>y</sup>. I am verry glad y<sup>r</sup>. Excelle<sup>y</sup>. has given orders, to have the Ind<sup>n</sup>. Children returned w<sup>h</sup>. are kept by the Traders, as pawns or pledges, but I cant find that Mrs. Abeel, who has a Seneca child, or Vandreisen who has got a Mississagey, are to deliver theirs w<sup>h</sup>. I am apprehensive will cause great disturbance. As to the girl Lieut Lindsay bought, or the Boy w<sup>h</sup>. was made him a present, is quite a different thing, as they were prisoners of war taken by the Ottawawees from other Nations of the Flatt-heads whom they always dispose of at pleasure, & have done it every year since Oswego has been frequented by us, the French likewise buy them daily, but those w<sup>h</sup>: the Traders took as pledges, or rather stole from them, (as the parents came att the appointed time to redeem them, but they sent them away before hand) were Children of our friends, & Allies, & if they be not all returned next spring it will confirm w<sup>t</sup>. the French told the Six Nations, Vizt. that we looked upon them as our Slaves, or Negroes, w<sup>h</sup>. affair gave me a great deal of trouble att that time to reconcile. I must acquaint y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>y</sup>. that most of the Ind<sup>s</sup>. of both the Mohawk Castles are determined (in a very short time) to go to War against the Cataba's, & are to be joined by great Numbers of their Bretheren, as also by severall other Nations. I have for this time past, Kept them from that Vile practice, notwithstanding the French used all their Endeavours to sett them on, but as affairs are circumstanced at present, it is out of my power to attempt it. However I must humbly represent to y<sup>r</sup>. Excelle<sup>y</sup>. that the bringing about a peace between y<sup>m</sup>. & ours, would be a thing of great

Importance, & the only way in my humble opinion to Effect it, would be to get about half a Dozen of the Chiefs of that tribe, or nation, to come here, & desire a peace w<sup>th</sup>. the Six Nations, w<sup>h</sup>. I flatter myself I could persuade them to agree to, the best time would be when y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>y</sup>. was here, & have it done in y<sup>r</sup>. Presence. I hope Sir you'l pardon me for making free to give you my Sentiments thereon. there is the pay of the Smiths who were sent by y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>ys</sup>. orders among the five Nations, due for two years past, w<sup>h</sup>: they daily plague me for. I hope y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>y</sup>. will please to recommend the payment thereof to the Assembly when they meet next, as also Interest for the time they kept me out of my Money, Disbursed for the Service of the Province at the Risque of my life & fortune, & at a time when none Else here would dare to undertake it. I think there cannot be a juster demand made, moreover they must be all sensible that it has been a great loss to me in my way of Business. The Oneida Sachems were w<sup>th</sup>. me last week earnestly desiring they might be allowed a Smith among them. I told them I would acquaint your Excell<sup>y</sup>. of it & let them know y<sup>r</sup>. answer soon, there is but one Smith this Winter among the five Nations, & y<sup>t</sup>. is at the Seneca's, who pressed very hard for it, I agreed w<sup>th</sup>. him for £70 but he writes me last week y<sup>t</sup>. he was obliged to make presents to the Chiefs to the Value of ab<sup>t</sup>. £12 w<sup>h</sup>. he hopes the Assembly will allow, as it has been Usual. I hope y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>y</sup>. will not forget to have the Militia Act revived next meeting of the Assembly, otherwise it is better have none, for if they will not make Strict Acts in that Case there can be no Command, & I think in this part above any, the Militia should be well disciplined, & Regular. Submitting the whole to y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>ys</sup>. Superior Consideration, I conclude with the greatest respects Imaginable, Your Excell<sup>ys</sup>. Most Obedient

Humble Servant

INDORSED:

Copy of a Letter to Gov<sup>r</sup>. Clinton.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Albany, June. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1749 —*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLY.

Upon the Rec<sup>t</sup>. of yours Dated June the 7<sup>th</sup>. I immediately called both the Castles of the Mohawks together, & again intreated them earnestly not to Interfere in the Exchange or Redemption of their Prisoners, but leave it intirely to you, & in order to Enable you to accomplish it, insisted on their Delivering up to me all the French still remaining in their hands, which at length by much ado they agreed to upon paying them considerable rewards which I was obliged to do, e'er I could get them out of their Hands. Indeed it is more than ever Expected that they would part with them all at any rate. they had sev<sup>l</sup>. Invitations to go to Canada, & among the rest a very strong one from Nichus the Sachim in Goal, & all the rest to come, if they had any regard for them, seeing your Excellency's Endeavours were to no purpose hitherto. this Message with a Belt of Wampum had so great a Weight & touched the five Nations in Gen<sup>l</sup>. so much, that they Determined to send so many of each Nation to Canada immediately, & among the rest sev<sup>l</sup>. of the Chiefs of the Two Castles of the Mohawks, with Nichus's Wife & Family, which would have been all the French Governour could desire, & what he has this long time been Endeavouring to bring about, with all the Policy he was Master of; but I can with great Pleasure acquaint your Excell<sup>y</sup>. that I have overset all his Schemes, by preventing them from going to him, & by getting all the Prisoners intirely out of their hands being 19 in all so that there remains nothing here to be done more, wherefore hope & beg your Excell<sup>y</sup>. will Endeavour as soon as possible to get the Indians from theme with the rest, otherwise it will intirely overset all that I have done hitherto, &

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

make the Indians very ill Tempered, to say no more, as they have so long left it to us.

I am

your Excell<sup>y</sup>'s.  
most Obed<sup>t</sup>. hble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>: JOHNSON

To

His Excell<sup>y</sup>. GOV<sup>R</sup>. CLINTON

FROM BENJAMIN STODDERT

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Oswego July ye: 2<sup>d</sup>: 1749*

D<sup>R</sup> SIR/

There has been but little Trade since my last therefore cant write you on that Head, tho have heard that my french Merchants are a Trading among the Ottawawa's and presume on their return they will call on me with their returns &c &c

We have various reports here of an Army gone to Ohio some making it very Numerous others but a few so that we cant tell which to confide in tho' its beyond doubt that their is one of some sort, as it has been told here by several Indians both Cocknawagers and others; and by a Sechem from Onandauga who came here this Day we have the following Acc<sup>t</sup>. w<sup>ch</sup>. he says he had from some Indians from Canada (Viz) That the french had spoke to the Fighters of the Cocknawagers with a Belt of Wampon for their assistance, but were refused by them, and they then Applied to the Sechems for their Interest with the Young Men but they refused them also and told them they had been a great while a fighting for them and as it was now a Peace they would not take up the Hatchett again &c &c and he says they were also refused in the like manner by several Other Indians who they Applied to for Assistance, and that they had in all but Six Indians that Joined

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.



them, Three of which are Cocknawagers, & that their Army Consisted in all of Three Hundred French & the Six Indians—Janquare<sup>1</sup> is gone in the expedition and was to have commanded the Indians if they could have prevailed w<sup>th</sup>. them to have gone.

This acc<sup>t</sup>. tho' imperfect Seems the most Authentick I have heard —

My Compliments to all freinds and Am

Dr. Sir

Your most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

B. STODDERT

P: S:

As this is Capt. Lyndseys  
Birth Day we're to celebrate it  
this even<sup>g</sup>: —

ADDRESSED:

To  
Col<sup>o</sup>: William Johnson  
at  
Mount Johnson

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Stoddards letter to Coll Johnson  
2<sup>d</sup> July Recd y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1749  
Sent a Copy to Govrn<sup>s</sup> Shirley  
& Hamelton y<sup>e</sup> 24<sup>th</sup>.

FROM ARENT STEVENS

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>3</sup>

*Oswego July 2<sup>d</sup> 1749*

S<sup>R</sup>

This is to acquaint you that the Caiuga Indians came here to Capt Lindesay<sup>4</sup> and I, to let us know that the 5 Nations

<sup>1</sup> Jan Coeur, also called Joncaire.

<sup>2</sup> In Clinton's hand.

<sup>3</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in hand-writing of John Ayscough.

<sup>4</sup> Captain John Lindesay (Lindsay).

were resolved to go to Canada, & they said the Mohawks was to go along with them, that they would join the Mohawks to get the Indians out of Prison, that they did expect the Mohawks, in Short Captain & I answered them with a Belt of Wampum, & told them that we did not agree, that one Should go down before we had an Answer from your Honour, that we wondred that they should offer to go without your Consent, and we insisted upon it, that they should not go without your Liberty; They answered us they w<sup>d</sup> not go before we had an Answer from your Honour. we told them also to remain at home till they saw what would become of the French Army, which is past. we did speak with two different Nations since the last Letter So no more at present but remain your most Obedient Servant

ARENT STEVENS

To

COLL JOHNSON

FROM JOHN LINDSAY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Oswego, July 2<sup>d</sup>, 1749*]

S<sup>R</sup>

Having read the above,<sup>2</sup> I have nothing to add but to intreat, if possible, some other method may be taken, to release the Indian Prisoners, than that they Should be released by the

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in handwriting of John Ayscough—subjoined to letters of Benjamin Stoddert and Arent Stevens to Johnson, July 2, 1749.

<sup>2</sup> The letters of Benjamin Stoddert and Arent Stevens to Johnson, July 2, 1749.

Interest of the five Nations, for it will be on hard terms, they will obtain this. I am Sr. Entirely yours &c

JOHN LINDESAY

To

COLL JOHNSON

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Arent Stevens

&

Coll Lydius's Letters

to Coll Johnson

2<sup>d</sup> July 1749

CADWALLADER COLDEN TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Extract*<sup>2</sup>

*New York July 25<sup>th</sup> 1749*

The Indian affairs deserve the most serious attention as not only a very considerable branch of the British Commerce but likewise the Security of the Colonies in North America depends upon it They has been exceedingly neglected by the English while the French have applied indefatigable industry to promote their Interest Seldom any have been employ'd in managing publick affairs with the Indians but a low ignorant set of mankind who were capable of no other views but that of promoting their private profit in Trade & which they have don by the most shamefull means so as to become contemptible in the eyes of the Indians Your Excellency is so well acquainted with these affairs that it is needless to enlarge upon them The strongest proof of what may be don appears by what Coll Johnson did last War & at this time The Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada has at this time sent out a considerable force with a view it is

<sup>1</sup> In John Ayscough's hand.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Collections of New York Historical Society*, 1920, *Colden Papers*, 125-27.

thought to chastise those nations who favour'd us in the late War & to obstruct the English commerce to the Westward He sent the Caknuaga's among the five Nations to incite them to make Wars on the Flatt heads & they would have gon if Coll Johnson had not prevented it By the information the Gov<sup>r</sup> has from Oswego The Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada has not been able to perswadè any one Nation of Indians to join with him no not so much as the Caknuagas who live near Montreal & were engaged with him in the last War That only six single Indians are now gon with the French party The five Nations at the Conclusion of Any former War made Peace Separately with the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada & enter'd into Treaties & Negotiations prejudicial to the Interest of the Crown of Great Brittain The Gov<sup>r</sup> has hitherto stopt their going to Canada they have deliver'd up to him all the French prisoners that were in their hands & trust to him for obtaining the Liberty of their prisoners who are in Canada So that if he be not disabled by the assemblies refusing him sufficient supplies for this Service it is hopd this entering into treaties between the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada & the Six Nations may for the future be prevented

I am told that Sr Peter Waren has advised Coll Johnson who is his Nephew no longer to assist Gov<sup>r</sup> Clinton in the Indian affairs & to decline all publick business & to attend only his own private affairs It is so much Coll Johnson's interest to please his Uncle that it is expected he will submit to his Desire which the ingratitude of the Assembly might make him likewise incline to do The Faction hereby hopes that the Indian affairs will return into the old channel of Comm<sup>rs</sup> at Albany What is like to be the consequence of this your Excell<sup>y</sup> from past experience can Judge as well as any man I've heard that Coll Johnson has recommended M<sup>r</sup> Lydeus to be Secretary for Indian affairs but I doubt of his being equal to this task In my opinion some person of known prudence should be employ'd to superintend the Indian affairs with a sufficient allowance to support him in the execution of his Duty & to reside at Albany This officer to be immediately under the Direction of the Gov<sup>r</sup>

of New York but to Correspond with all the neighbouring Governors By this Method I think the Indians affairs may be soon brought into such a state that the Nation will reap great Benefite by it

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

*Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*August 9<sup>th</sup> 1749*

S<sup>r</sup>.

enclosed I have sent you my Letter to the Governour of Canada, and Instructions to the Person that goes with my Deputation [*thither for exchange of Prisoners*]. You have hereby [*my leave*] full Power to [*fill*] appoint the Principall Person & his Attendants, & to fill up the Blanks in my Letter to Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada The Instructions, & Pass port; [*I would not have the Number of him & his Attendants exceed six, neither would I have you send with them above that Number of French Prisoners. As I leave it to you to send which of them you think proper, I doubt not but you will fix on those, who you think will do us the most justice, in relating the humanity used in taking Them from the hands of the Indians, & providing for them in the hospitable manner we have since in your possession*] I would not have you send above 6 of the French Prisoners

In case the Governour of Canada should insist on the seeing any one particular Instruction that I give to the Person you appoint as principal I would have him draw out a Copy of that Instruction & certify it under his hand to be a true Copy & show it to him but not to let him see the [*whole*] whole original of them by any means only such particular ones as he shall demand

*[I must recommend M<sup>r</sup> Gerrardus Groesbeck to go under protection of the Company with the Flag of Truce, he being a*

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in handwriting of John Ayscough. Words italicized and inclosed in brackets are crossed out in the manuscript.

*Relation of the Mayors, & has large debts due to him from several Persons in Canada, & therefore has applied to me for protection, in going there in the Company, but not to have any thing to do in the Negotiation, with the Person you appoint to treat with the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada, only I desire the Deputy will countenance & protect him in his journey & when there, at his own Expence I have gave him a passport for that occasion]*

coll Johnson has Leave to fill up Blanks of French Prisoners not to exceed 6 in Number [*as retinue to the principal*] to recommend Gerrardus Groesbeck as one of the Attendants, not as servant.

To Copy out the Article of Instructions to empower to treat to show the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada but not to show his other Instruction

Whereas I have thought fit to send . . . . .  
to [*Canada*] Quebeck to treat with M<sup>r</sup> Le Galissoniere Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada as my Deputy these are to certify that the said . . . . . has full power & authority to treat with the said Governour & transact all manner of business relating to prisoners as well Indians and Xians for me, & in my behalf, as if I was there in Person

G. C.

memorandum an additional Instruction for Banyar  
If M<sup>r</sup> Gerrardus Groesbeck has a mind to go to  
Canada under the Convoy I would have you  
insert his name in the Passport but at his  
own Expence

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

36

D<sup>t</sup> Letter to Coll  
Johnson with my  
Letter to Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada  
and Instructions  
9<sup>th</sup> August 1749

<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S<sup>1</sup>*Albany August 19<sup>th</sup>. 1749*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLECY.

I arrived at Albany, after having a passage of 8 days, where I mett two Coghnowagees, who told me, that their Cheifs were gone to Quebec to meet their New Governour, and Endeavour to get the Indians out of Goal, & then come with them Here.— After ordering all things to be made ready for sending of Your Excellcy's. dispatches to Canada; together with the female Prisoners I went home the next Day, where I found (to my great trouble) above Sixty of the Oneida, & Conajoharee Indians, who waited my return Eighteen days. I imediately called a Meeting of both the Castles, & the Oneidae's who were here together, Wherin I first Satisfied them all, for my long Stay, & then told them in what manner Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency proposed sending the French Prisonners, for the redemption of their People, that You would only send Six now, the better to secure the release of y<sup>e</sup>. Indians and our People. they approved much of Your Excellencys Sending only a part now. they also promised me (y<sup>t</sup>. notwithstanding the many Messages, & hearty Invitations of the French Govern<sup>t</sup>. and Coghnowagees to them, and more particularly an Extraordinary one Sent them now Since I come home, to go Imediately to Canada for their Bretheren, prisonners there.) that they would listen to their Invitations, nor regard their threats, but leave it intirely to Your Excellency's Management, begging most earnestly at the Same time, that Your Excellcy. may use Your Utmost Endeavours to get their Bretheren home now. Which I assured them they might depend upon, it being (to my knowledge) Your Excellcys Cheif desire, & Study. att which Assurance they were well Contented. After that was Over, I had a Seperate meeting w<sup>th</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. Oneidae's who told me they were Sent

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

down by the five Nations in General to Assure me they had seriously considered the Messages I had Sent them this Spring. (The Substance of which in Short was this, to desire they would endeavour to recover their Senses which Seemed to me they almost lost by listening so much to the French as I found they had, & that they should once more Unite Strongly together as Bretheren, & be One Body, according to the old Agreement made between their Forefathers, and Ours. A Belt of Wampum—In the Second place Hearing that there was a Preist to Settle within twelve miles of Oswego, I insisted in the Strongest Manner, that the five Nations should by no means allow of it as they were Owners of that land, telling them the bad consequences would inevitably follow, and a great deal more too tedious now to insert here.) & that they (the five Nations) acknowl[ged] they acted In Some measure as Drunken Men, but would now follow my directions by making a Stronger Union than Ever, with their Brethren, & Remain Inseperable. A Belt of Wampum.—

In the Second place they assure me, they have at my desire prevented the Preists Settling within a hundred Miles of Oswego, which I realy find to be so, by the Coghawagees here now.—they gave Another Belt of Wampum upon that.—Now to return to the Affair in hand. Mr. Robert Saunders Setts of in two days for Canada, with Major Vanderheyden, five hands to attend them, & Six french Prisonners which makes thirteen in all. There is one part of Your Excellcy's Instructions that Mr. Saunders made a great difficulty of, & was of Opinion that his Journey would be to no purpose, if he must Strictly adhere to this part of the Instructions which says, = As it is Suspected that y<sup>e</sup>. Govern<sup>r</sup>. of Canada may raise difficulties, or make Excuses, as to the Imediate liberty of the prisonners in the hands of the french Indians, under Severall pretences, If the Indians, & Christian Prisonners in his own power be Imediately set at liberty With a Conditional promise, that the other prisonners in the hands of the French Indians, Shall be sett at



liberty at a Certain time. Then You may Agree that all the French prisoners Shall be Sett at liberty, on the first Notice I have of the liberty of the English, & Indian Prisonners in the Governour of Canadas Hands & that the Governour may Send proper persons to conduct them Home. He asked my Opinion upon it, Whether he could Accept of the Indians who are in Goal, & the English prisonners in the Governour of Canadas power, if offered, in Case the Govern<sup>r</sup>. of Canada would make him no promise of Delivering up those prisonners in the hands of the Indians. I told him my opinion before Dow, & Tenyke the Members, & Lyddius, that he must in the Strongest manner Insist on the liberty of all the Prisonners without Distinction, or Ransom, according to the Instructions but Should the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada not agree to deliver up those among the French Ind<sup>ns</sup>. at his own charge, as Expected, I thought it was much better to take the Indians, & all those in His own power, than to Come away with out them, as I am Sensible the Consequences might be worse than I can tell. I hope Your Excellency will be so Good to Excuse the freedom I took in giveing my Sentiments to him upon that Article, as he would not otherwise take it upon him. I should not have presumed to have Sayed so much to him about it, had I not heard y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency Say that that if You Could Gett the Indians & Prisoners in his power, that You would not Insist at present positively on the Rest. Which in my small Judgement is right, on Acc<sup>tt</sup>. of getting the Indians, and it was the Opinion of the two Members &ca So that I hope I have not done amiss in adviseing him so. If I have, I must Desire Y<sup>r</sup> Excellency will be so good as to [ ] for the best. Yet if it should seem otherwise [ ] You will let me know it <sup>tho</sup> first sloop, that [ ] offers Soon, (which is verry likely by Coghnav[ ] of Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency<sup>s</sup>. further pleasure before he [ ] of Canada. I have on Seriously consider[ ] much better there should none of our Ind[ ] the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada may now See, what an [ ] Your Excellc<sup>y</sup>. has over the Indians, that e[ ]

not go to redeem their own flesh, & Blood [ ]  
 Moreover if they were to go now with Mr Sau[nders ]  
 it was on their Acc<sup>t</sup>. he Sett them at libe[rty ]  
 Wherefore I have Sent none, & hope Y<sup>r</sup>. Exce[llency ]  
 I inclose Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>y</sup>. a french letter which a [ ]  
 Cheif Engeneer in Canada, and Sent me by a [ ]  
 had it of a Squaw. You'l See thereby the Desig [ ]  
 the Oswego trade, and all Communication, [ ]  
 liveing beyond them Lakes. which would [ ]  
 As to the Change of the Commission of the pe [ ]  
 Excellency have it as soon as this Harry is [ ]  
 I am much oblidge to Your Excell<sup>y</sup>. for get [ ]  
 and belive I could recover some part of the [ ]  
 Method You are pleased to Mention. but agai [ ]  
 so long; it will be as good to try what they will [ ]  
 I send your Excellency by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Vanallen, t [ ]  
 Bills, for the Dollars You were so good to le [ ]  
 and it is well I have them, for here are no [ ]  
 Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency had thought of Sending up the [ ]  
 would have been of Use to Mr. Sanders, her [ ]  
 but a Brother in law of Collin's, and he re [ ]  
 Even to See them. but he would Sell them, [ ]  
 pounds for them. Your Excell<sup>y</sup>. may I b [ ]  
 here are. I fear I have trespassed too m[uch ]  
 Patience, So beg leave to Conclude with [ ]  
 Imaginable St.

Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency[s]

Most Oblidged [ ]

Humble Servan[t]

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON]

TO GOVERNOUR CLINTON

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll<sup>l</sup>. Johnson 19th August

Recd 6 Septemb<sup>r</sup>. 1749

<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Mount Johnson 7<sup>br</sup>. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1749*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

I am honoured with Yours of the 7<sup>th</sup>. Instant and am glad to find therby that what I have done is agreable to your Excellency. When I left Albany last, I gave Beubasin orders to return in 2 or three days, which he proposed doing. But Abeel took his Birch Canoe to York without his leave, which oblidged him to wait Abeels return, who is now gone to Canada with Beubasin, as I am told, to Shew the French the art of makeing Wampum, which they never knew any thing of before. I have laid every thing plainly before the Indians as Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency desired, and do Assure You Sir, it is Incredible how easy, & well tempered they are Considering every thing. I am prepareing the Commission of the Peace, & Judges as Fast as I can, and Shall as Soon as Settled, transmitt them to Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency. As there depends much on haveing a good Sheriff in this County, I could not omit acquainting Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellc<sup>y</sup>. that I heard Hitchen Holland was putting in for it, which I could scarce give any Credit to, from what I heard Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency Say. If H. Holland was to have y<sup>t</sup>. Commission, Collins would be the acting Man, as there are none so great as them too. let me Assure Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency that all the Change proposed to be made in the Judges &ca's Commissions would be to little purpose if that Should be so: If Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency should Incline to make a New Sheriff now, and has not promised it, I would make bold to recommend a gentleman, Who I dare say from the long acquaintance I have had with him would make as good a Sheriff as ever was in Albany and as agreable to all People, being

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

verry well beloved thorough all the County. I mean Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Miller<sup>1</sup> who lives in York now, whom Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency knows this long time. I hope Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency will be so Good to pardon my troubleing You so much ab<sup>t</sup>. this Affair, which (as there depends so much upon it) Induced me to desire that favour of Your Excellency. I have since I come home, Settled all affairs with my troublesome Neighbour, and purchased all his Estate adjoining Mine, which will be a great ease to me.—

Abraham of Conajoharee, Hendricks Brother, the other day together with many more, desired me to acquaint Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency that he has read prayers for Severall years past to the Indians In their Severall Castles, and is much liked by them all, and that they are now more desireous than ever of his praying to them, w<sup>h</sup>. If he does, must always be among them, a While in one Castle & then in another, which will be of more Service than any Minister of ours. He therefore hopes Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency will be pleased to endeavour to procure him a Small Sallery, w<sup>h</sup>. may Support him, & his old Wife, in their old Age, as he is past Hunting—He is realy an Honest, Sincere, Sensible Old Man, and behaved exceeding well this time past.

I am with the  
Greatest respect Imaginable  
Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellenceys Most  
Obedient, Humble  
Servant.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To GOVERNOUR CLINTON

ADDRESSED:

To  
His Excellency  
The Honourable George Clinton  
Capt<sup>n</sup>. Generall., & Governour In Cheif  
of the Province of New York &<sup>ca</sup>. &<sup>ca</sup>. &<sup>ca</sup>.  
In New York

<sup>1</sup> Richard Miller, sheriff of Albany county, October, 1749 to October, 1754.

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll<sup>l</sup> Johnson 20 Sept  
 Recd 26<sup>th</sup> ab<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Indians &  
 desiring M<sup>r</sup> Miller to be  
 appointed Sheriff of  
 Albany.

Answered by Lieut Miller  
 3<sup>d</sup> Octobr.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>20 Sep<sup>tr</sup> 1749Extract of Coll W<sup>m</sup> Johnsons Letter<sup>3</sup>

Abraham a Sachim of Conajoharie, Hendrick's Brother, the other day, (together with many more) desired me to acquaint your Excellency, That he has read Prayers for several Years past to the Indians in their several Castles & is much liked by them all, and that they are more desirous than ever of his praying to them, which if he does, he must be always among them, a while in one Castle, & then in another, which will take up all his time; he Therefore hopes your Excellency will be pleased to endeavour to procure him a small Salary, which may support him & his old Wife in their old age, as he is past hunting, he is realy a very honest, sincere, sensible old Man, and behaved exceeding well this long time past, and has been a vast Service to the Welfare & security of these Parts, by doing his utmost in keeping the Indians firm in their Friendship & Alliance to us.— His Son Petrus Paulus has made it his Study to teach the

<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

<sup>2</sup> Society for Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. B. Series, Vol. 17. New England, &c., 1749. Transcript in Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

<sup>3</sup> Inclosed in letter of George Clinton to John Catherwood, Oct 3, 1749.

Mohawk Children to read, and has been of great Service to them, and it would be counted a great Favour to both Castles if your Excellency could get him a Salary for a Schoolmaster among them, & much engage his Uncle Hendrick, who we are all Sensible, has been of the most material Service durement the late War, and is the chief leading Sachim among the five Nations.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Extract of Coll<sup>o</sup>. Johnson's  
Letter of 20<sup>th</sup> September  
1749

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*A. Df. S.<sup>1</sup>*

October 1749

MAY IT [PLEASE] Y<sup>R</sup> EXCELLC<sup>Y</sup>. [ ]

[assu]reing them of  
[y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>ys</sup> protection.  
[against] their first  
[enem]y the French —  
[a]cqainted them of  
[gre]at tenderness and reg<sup>d</sup>.  
[y<sup>r</sup>.] Excell<sup>cy</sup>. is pleased  
[to ex]press for their  
[ ]e & Safety —

[but an] Insignificant People to the English upon the Continent, and how much it would be to their Interest to keep their faith Inviolable with us, & that [ ] [of all these false

On the receipt of y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>ys</sup>. letter I went to the Mohawk Castle and Major Glen w<sup>th</sup> me, where we had All the Indians together, and using likewise all the Arguments we possibly Could to [convince them] shew them [that all these false Rumours [ ] daily have are only artifices of the French [to] convince them of the Insignificancy of] how y<sup>e</sup>. French were

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

rumours, & Alarms are daily spread abroad by them french are the only artifices they now] is they must not listen nor be any way dismayed at any of these false Rumours, or Alarms daily spread among them by the French, it being the only Artifice they have now left to make use of. (as in a Short time they will be sensible of) being surrounded & hemmed in on Every side by the English, w<sup>h</sup>. In a Short time hoped they would be Eye Witnesses of. they were all verry easy, & well pleased upon our Assureing them of all this, but most of all upon y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>cy</sup>s. promising them Assistance of Men, w<sup>h</sup>. they Most Earnestly entreat may be as Soon as possible, they are daily carrying away their best things into the woods for fear of their Castle, Expecting their Castle and all the Mohawk River Daily would be cutt off Untill I brout them out of that Notion by shewing them that I never had moved any of My Effects away [ ] [ ] Value as I hope the whole River [ ] and that because I was sensible they did [ ] make any such attempt knowing our strength [ ] farr to Exceed theirs, all this was verry well [ ] and credited, Until last night Aaron the Indian Arrived from Albany who brought the news that One Company of the fighters I sent out some time ago, were Come back, and affirm that there is an Army Comeing from Crown Point, Consisting cheifly of Indians, w<sup>h</sup>. has now put them all in a verry great Surprise again, but I shall endeavour (all in my power) this day to Settle them as much as possible but I assure y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>cy</sup>. the only best Way to Ease their fears, is to Send a good officer and a party of Men to Each of the two Castles next for a little time and that is what they beged I would immediately acquaint Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>cy</sup>. of. I shall always esteem it as the greatest pleasure to have it in my power of being any way Serviceable to my Country, and Assure Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>cy</sup>. I have not for this long time past, Nor shall not while requisite [ ] any labour or reasonable Expence to gett the Indians heartily into our Interest, w<sup>h</sup>. I may almost make bold to assure Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>cy</sup>. [is the case] I've now

completed [                 ] thro<sup>th</sup>. a great deal of difficulty —  
I am w<sup>th</sup> the greatest respect Y<sup>r</sup>.

Excell<sup>y</sup>s. Much Obliged, & Most  
Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W. J. —

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Albany January 6<sup>th</sup>.  
1749/50*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY

After Sealing my letter<sup>2</sup>, Tiddy M<sup>c</sup>.Ginnis Come to my House, and told me of a Verry good tract of Wood Land ab<sup>t</sup>. 10 thousand Acres lying at Conajoharee some where, which he has a mind to purchase, and Offered me a fourth part thereof. which if Your Excellency Inclines to Accept of, it is at your Service. I should be much obliged to You Sir for a Licence in Tiddy M<sup>c</sup>.Ginnis Name, that he may purchase Said Tract of Land. He will with pleasure pay the Expence of it. please to pardon my freedom in troubleing You so Much Sir. I must tell Your Excellency that this place has been full this time past of Yorkers, who I find came on purpose to Make Interest again[st] a New Election. they have been busy all along the way from York to this, Working up the People to their tune. it Seems they Expect a Dissolution by their proceedings. the Cheifs that were here, was Rob<sup>t</sup>. Livingston of the Mannor, James Livingston, John Livingston, Nich<sup>s</sup>. Bayard, Coll<sup>o</sup>. Gosbeek from Esopus, Coll<sup>o</sup>. Matthews from the High Lands &ca. I heartily Wish they may be disapointed in their Expectations.—

Capt<sup>n</sup>. Stoddert is to Sett of in three or four Days att the farthest from Hence. I rec<sup>d</sup>. an Express Yesterday from the five Nations, that they rec<sup>d</sup>. Sevrall Belts of Wampum from the

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

<sup>2</sup> Letter of same date, January 6, 1749/50 which is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:546.



French Gov<sup>r</sup>., which are to be opened at my House in a generall meeting of the Sachems wednsday Next. When I have heard the news, shall acquaint Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency thereof. the French were never so Active among the Indians as at present, while we Must lye Still, & Only look on, not haveing power to do any thing, which give me leave to Assure Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency must Hurt, or weaken our Interest prodigiously, as the Indians must soon Imagine they are neglected, or rather Slighted by us. I am with best Compliments to You, M<sup>rs</sup>. Clinton &ca Sir

Your

Excellencys

Most Obedient

Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To GOVERNOUR CLINTON

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

[Albany, January 6<sup>th</sup>. 1749/50]

SIR/

Since my arrivall att Albany the Inclosed Affidavit against Edward Collins, was given by one Isaak Funda, which I thought proper to Send to Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency. there are Severall Instances of a blacker Dye Can be proved against him, nay even upon Record, off the Judges here, had I but an order from Your Excellency to try him, and call in Such Evidences, for Some people dont care to Inform against him, with out they were desired or Summoned by the Judges. As to the Vile Expression he made use of, Which was to Drink Damnation to Your Excellency in Publick Company, there are two Gentlemen who were present, declare they heard him Say it, & See him drink it, w<sup>h</sup>. they will swear before the Judges, or any Magistrate if required by Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellencys Order. M<sup>r</sup>. Sybrant G.

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Vanscoike one of the Judges, and Doctor John Roseboom Jun<sup>r</sup>. are two of the Company heard it. Mr. Corrys<sup>1</sup> letter to me w<sup>h</sup>. I inclose to Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency, will also Shew his Villany. but this Is all Short of What can [be] proved against him. if Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellencys Orders to Examine into the Affair were but here, I can with pleasure acquaint Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency that there never was So regular a Court held att Albany as now, Since the New Judges, & Sheriff were appointed; w<sup>h</sup>. all people here allow. I am with profound Respect Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellencys Most Sincere Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:<sup>2</sup>

To  
His Excellency  
the Honourable George Clinton  
Cap<sup>t</sup>. Gen<sup>r</sup>l. & Commander In Cheif  
of the Province of New York &ca &ca &ca  
In New York

INDORSED:<sup>3</sup>

Coll Johnson January 6th  
1749/50  
about a large Tract of Wood  
Lands, Licence to T. Magin  
to purchas  
Six Nations recd severl Accts  
to be opened in full meeting  
at his house, & then to  
acquaint me of y<sup>e</sup>. News  
An Order to Judges to  
prosecute Collins wanting  
Sufficient proofs  
Yorkers canvassing for  
members

<sup>1</sup> William Corry.

<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>3</sup> In Clinton's hand.

TO ANTHONY VANSOIKE

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

Mount Johnson January the  
30<sup>th</sup>. 1749/50 —

MR. VANSOIKE/

SIR

I had the pleasure of two letters from You, Since Your Captivity, by both of which, & by what I heard from others that Came from thence, I am proud to find Your Spirits are not Cast down by all your Hardships, which is the plainest Demonstration in the world, of Your Loyalty, and I hope one time or other it may meet with a Just return. I assure You there's none Could have Your Sufferings more at Heart than I, which occasioned me, together with the Duty I owe to my Sovereign, to take all the pains was in my power to bring about an Exchange of Prisonners, which I was in hopes would have been perfected long ago, I haveing taken all the French Prisonners without Exception, last Spring out of the Hands of the Indians, which I thought would make every thing easy, on Both Sides. I have done it out of my own Pocket, nay Cloathed them ever Since, and keep them at my own House as if they were my own Family, which no Body else would ever have done, nor would Attempt it. I am Sorry to hear that Some body told the Governour then that it was my fault the Prisonners were not Exchanged because I would not let them go Untill I was repaid all the money I payed & layed out for them. You May Assure His Excellency if ever You have an Opertunity, that what He heard on that Account, is False, for Nobody has it more at heart than I, to Bring about a good Understanding between them, & Us. Otherwise (he, or any thinking Man may Judge), I should never have taken so much Pains In that Affair. I am

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<sup>1</sup> In collection of James Fenimore Cooper, Albany, N. Y.

farr from censuring Mankind, but I cant help Saying, that after all we have done, the French are realy in the Fault. The Bearer of this Cap<sup>t</sup>. Benjamin Stoddert is Sent by Gov<sup>r</sup>. Clinton in order to take another tryall for the generall exchange of all the Prisonners, whom I Expect will Succeed, as there is no Obstacle now left. After What the Gov<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. promised Mr. R Sanders. My kind Regards Attend You, and all freinds there in Generall, not forgetting the Indians, whose familys are all Well & Expect them Soon. I am D<sup>r</sup>. Vanscoike Your Sincere freind, & Hearty Wellwisher

My Compliments to Mr. Strowds who I hope is well, and has received what I send him by Mons<sup>r</sup>. Deslingenis

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:

To  
Mr. Anthony Vanscoike  
att Quebec  
In Canada

INDORSED:

Let<sup>r</sup>. Mount Johnson Jan<sup>y</sup>. 30  
1749/50 W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson Sir —  
to Anth<sup>y</sup>. V<sup>n</sup>. Schaick  
Prison<sup>r</sup>. Quebec —

SPEECH OF HENDRICK

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:548-49 is printed a speech of Hendrick to Colonel William Johnson delivered at Mt Johnson Feb. 2, 1750, at a meeting of the two castles of the Mohawks concerning news received from the south and west by representatives of the Five Nations at Philadelphia the preceding fall, relating to the attack intended by the French commander Celleron on the Indian settlement at Cajuhaga on Belle River, his reasons for not making the attack, and the message which he sent the Indians inviting them to go to Canada to speak with the governor, urging an alleged friendly Indian of Cas, cagh, sa, gey



KING HENDRICK  
(TEE-YEE-NEEN-HO-GA-ROW)

From an engraving by J. Simon in American Antiquarian Society Library,  
after a painting by T. Verelst.



to bring his family and dwell at Ca, da, ragh, que since the French governor was determined in the spring to destroy all the five nations, and the disclosure of the conversation by the Indian to the sachems.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Mount Johnson*

*May the 24<sup>th</sup>. 1750*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLECY.

This is only to acquaint you of the loss of three of our best Mohawk Indians, Viz<sup>t</sup>. Luykas the Sachim, & Speaker, Jack a Sachim, & Cornelius a Young Indian, Who were killed by some of the Southeren Indians in their way to the Catawbaas. The Indians are all prodigiously concerned att itt & Indeed they have reason, as the forementioned Ind<sup>ns</sup>. were of their Principall Men. I am obliged to give their freinds black Strowds &ca, to perform the usual Cerimonies on Such Occasions, as it is unavoidable. they are So Incensed against them Indians for this Affair, that I doubt it will prevent bringing them to a Reconciliation at present. Arent Stevens has Importuned me Much to beg y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>c</sup>y. would give him liberty of going to Osswegoe for a Month or Six weeks In order to trade a little, He being very much putt to for Money to Subsist his large family, as he Can get none of his Sallary. If Your Excell<sup>c</sup>y. thought proper to Indulge him therin, w<sup>h</sup>. I think would not be amiss, as he is a very Stedfast freind, it would also be Serviceable in another respect, that is to talk with the forreign Nations who Assemble there. I assure Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>c</sup>y. His going there last Summer was of great Importance as all the Traders allow. If Your Excell<sup>c</sup>y. would Incline to give him that liberty, the Sooner he went the better by reason he would then Meet all the Distant Nations (Who frequent Osswegoe) and if Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>c</sup>y. was to Come

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

to Albany this Summer, he Could bring all the Indians down with him. I am as ever

with all due regard  
Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellencys  
Most Obedient,  
Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

TO GOVERNEUR CLINTON

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll Johnson 24<sup>th</sup>  
May Answered 28 d<sup>o</sup>.  
☞ Mr Van Antwerp  
1750.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*August 18<sup>th</sup>. 1750*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCEY

I am to acquaint You that three Days ago, Nichus the Sachim who was so long Prisoner in Canada, came with Hendrick Abraham & the Rest of them, to tell me all the News he had heard in Canada, and Earnestly begged I would Communicate it to Your Excellency, which I shall as far as is Material. He says that Jean Coeur<sup>3</sup> a french Interpreter a noted Man among the Indians is sent, with another Officer along with him, to Ohio River in Order to bring that Body of Indians, (who are so Stedfast in the Brittish Interest) over to the French if Possibly he can by any Means, haveing for that purpose a large Quantity of Valueable Goods to Distribute among them, and all other Nations he goes thorough. If Your Excell<sup>cy</sup>. will allow me

<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich. A portion of this letter is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:589-91.

<sup>3</sup> Joncaire.



to give you my opinion and that of all the Indians I spoke to on that Head, the only way is to send an Account of it Immediately to Gov<sup>r</sup>: Hamilton, who may have time to oversett their Schemes, if he will but send proper persons there to talk with said Ind<sup>s</sup>, and tell them they only go as Spies there &ca, it would be most requisite at the same time to send them a present. this Acc<sup>t</sup>: may be depended on for the Interpreter Arent Stevens who came lately from Oswegoe confirms it, haveing seen, & spoke with Jean Coeur there, who made no Scruple of telling Severall of his Journey thither. If the French should by their Valueable presents &ca Oversett our Interest with said Ind<sup>s</sup>, the five Nations must certainly submit also, as them verry Indians are the Cheif and trustiest Allies, We, or the five Nations have wherefore I hope there may be proper means, & dispatch used to stop an Affair of so great Importance. As for my sending them any Message it would be too late, as he was so farr ahead ere we could know it, they can be there before him yet from Philadelphia. the next thing of Consequence wh<sup>h</sup>. he told me, was that he heard from Severall Indians when [he was there] that the Gov<sup>r</sup>. had given orders to the Priest<sup>1</sup> who is now Settled below Cada- raghque to use all means possible to induce the five Nations to Settle there. for which end they have a large Magazine of all kind of Cloathing fitting for Indians, as also Arms Ammunition, Provision &ca. which they distribute verry liberally. I cant omitt acquainting Your Excell<sup>cy</sup> how insolent Nichus & Hendrick &ca behaved now at my House. they entered it in a great passion would not even shake hands with me, or the Interpreter. I asked them what they meant by such behaviour. they answered they had Sufficient reason, saying Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>cy</sup> my Self &ca were all french, & had endeavoured all in our power to bring the French Gov<sup>r</sup>. into our Plott, which was to fall upon all the Ind<sup>s</sup>. on both Sides, & distroy them. that they were

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<sup>1</sup> Rev. François Picquet, founder of a settlement at the mouth of the Oswegatchie, now Ogdensburg, N. Y. An account of the missionary is given in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 1:280; Q. 1:428.

all assured of it, it being told to Nichus by Severall in Canada. & further says that the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada in a full meeting of Indians Produced a verry large Belt of Wampum he had from Your Excell<sup>cy</sup> desiring him to Join You in said Scheme, but declared he would by no means agree to any such thing haveing too great a regard for all Indians whatsoever. this was Corroborated by another Acc<sup>tt</sup>: he had in Canada, of what passed between Your Excell<sup>cy</sup> & Deslingeris, being told him by one of the french Indians who attended Deslingeris in this Manner that after De[s]lingeris & his party sett of for York the last time, that Hendrick & a party of Mohawks came to Albany in order to kill them, but, on my acquainting Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency of their design, You put a stop to it for that time. after Deslingeris was there above 50 Days to no purpose as Your Excellency would allow him no Access, A York Gentm<sup>n</sup> asked him if he did not take Notice, of the great concourse of People every day resorting the Fort, he answer'd he did, & supposed they were about settling that affair of the Exchange of Prisonners, no says the Yorker, the Governour is Schemeing how to destroy all the Indians, in Conjunction with Y<sup>r</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>. & it is agreed upon, & Settled, upon which You wrote a Letter to Deslingeris about it. which when he rec<sup>d</sup>. ordered Beaubassin to Interpret it to his Indians then there, which he did with an easy low voice. Deslingeris desired him to read it aloud, for such a vile thing should not be kept private. after that he tells the Indians, he would take upon him to Answer Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency which was that he was so well assured of the Gov<sup>r</sup>: of Canadas love & regard for all his Children, that he would never come into any such thing, but would protect them from any Attempts of the kind might be made against them. this together with y<sup>e</sup>. other Story of the large Belt of Wampum before mentioned made all the Indians Imagine it to be actually Fact. adding they plainly saw there was a Coolness Your Side, as You have not spoke to them in so long a time, which convinced them You had no love for

them. this & a great many other things they said, not worth mentioning now. w<sup>h</sup>. I Assure Your Excellency gave me 3 Days hard work to gett the better of. but at last convinced them it was French Policy (which they are remarkeable for) to Stir up the Indians, against us, & make a Division among the five Nations, w<sup>h</sup>. could they Accomplish, they would sett one half to kill the other. so that at last there would not be one of them left. which is what they aim att. The french took a great deal of pains also to hurt my Interest among the Indians by telling the Ind<sup>n</sup>. Priss<sup>rs</sup>: &ca it was owing to me that they were detained so long in Canada by reason of my hinder<sup>g</sup> the Indians to go there on the Gov<sup>rs</sup>. Invitation, & assurance of releasing them all Imediately, if only one of them would go there in the name of the rest, & make proper Submission. I had no great difficulty to settle this point with the Ind<sup>s</sup>: after making them sensible of the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canadas design in it. which I told them was to bring 'em to make Submission, & then lay them under such obligations, as would make Slaves or tools of them for ever after to him. they answered they were sensible of it, & heartily glad I did not Suffer them to go. Give me leave to acquaint Your Excellency of one thing which would be of Service, & much commended by every one who has the least spark of Goodness, that is Your Excellencys recommending those poor People to the Assembly, who were so long Captives in Canada, & taken when in our Service, I mean Mr Vanscoike, Christopher M<sup>c</sup>Grah, W<sup>m</sup>. Goff, & the four Indians whose Loyalty & Stedfastness, (notwithstanding all the temptations thrown in their way,) could not be shaken. another thing very requisite to be done, is the Sending Smiths among the five Nations, as soon as possible for they every day desire it, forbidding them at the same time or any others to bring any Spirituous Liquors among any of the five Nations for it is actually the ruin of them. the Penalty should be very great, else they will not regard it. (Mr. Collins also took a great deal of pains to per-

suade Nichus that had you Suffer'd him, he would have got them all from Canada long ago, but you would not. this I had from Nichus Himself.) I yesterday rec<sup>d</sup>. a piece of News from Lindsay, that an Onondaga Indian told him as a Secret that the French were endeavouring all they could possibly to get liberty to build a Fort att Onondaga, where they promise the Indians they shall always be Supplied with Powder, Lead, Cloathing &ca In plenty. If they should Succeed, the Consequence may be easily Judged. I thought it my duty to acquaint Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>cy</sup>. imediately of an affair of so great Importance, & shall endeavour to get further Information & try to stop it as much as possibly I can. As the managm<sup>t</sup>: of Indian Affairs has now for this long time past been quite Neglected by the Crown, & Province, Except what I have (purely on Acc<sup>tt</sup>: of Your Excellenceys request) done. & as that has given the French so great an advantage over us as not to be easily recovered. I should therfore choose with Your Excellenceys Consent, to give it up entirely, as Continuieg it longer on such a footing, must hurt both my fortune & character. which I flatter myself Y<sup>r</sup>. Excell<sup>cy</sup>. would not desire. wherfore with your approbation, I shall make out an Account of all the disbursements made to the Indians since the beginning of Novbr. 1748 Sworn to. which when done, hope to be so farr Indulged as to give me my quietuse. Waiting your Excell<sup>cy</sup>s: pleasure thereon. beg leave to Subscribe my self Your Excellenceys Most Sincere

& Most Devoted  
Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:<sup>1</sup>

To  
His Excellency  
the Honourable George Clinton

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll Johnson August

18<sup>th</sup> 1750

recd Sept<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1750

About Nichus Hendrick &c

and a party gone to Ohio

a Fort building at

Onondaga

An Extract sent to Gov<sup>r</sup> Hamelton

y<sup>e</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Sept & Sent another extract

to y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>s</sup> of Trade by Cap<sup>l</sup>. Jeffreys

Recd in Council 24 Sept.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Mount Johnson Septbr. 14, 1759*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY

After acknowledging the receipt of Yours of the 16<sup>th</sup>. of August Wherein Your Excellency Mentions the nature of the Mistake which Mr. Catherwood<sup>3</sup> was pleased to say was found in my Accounts, I must acquaint Your Excellency that after the Strictest examination made by me, & my Clerk of all the Accounts from the Beginning between Your Excellency & me, none such could be found. Wherefore I am surprised what is Meant by it. Certainly so Considerable a Sum could hardly be Overlooked by Us, when so Strictly examined into here at the time those Accounts were delivered in. Mr. Catherwood in a Letter to me lately, does not mention any thing of it.

The inclosed information I had from Capt<sup>n</sup>. Thomas Butler then at Oswego, but is since come from thence, & by further Enquiry find by the said Ind<sup>n</sup>. Discourse with him, & by severall

<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In William I. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

<sup>3</sup> John Catherwood, Secretary to Governor Clinton.

other Accounts that the French Governours are spiring up the Indians against the Settler's of Nova Scotia as much as possible, & have Succeeded beyond Expectation, telling them the English are Settleing now on their Lands & if allowed will in time dispossess them of all their Lands, telling them also that they are Men of no Spirit, if they do not likewise revenge the Loss of so many of their People Slain by the English in the late War. they Supply them with Arms, Ammunition, Cloathing &ca, for said purpose. this Account is Confirmed by the Coghnowagees who told severall of our Mohawks (whom they met when Hunting) that the Anagungaes had been at their Castle desireing their Assistance in the Pressingest Manner. the Coghnowagees made answer that it was but lately they had Buryed their Ax, & they did not choose to take it up again so soon, Understanding there was a Generall Peace.

I think it my Duty to acquaint Your Excellency of what I heard Mr. Kalm<sup>1</sup> the Swedish Gentleman, (who was lately at my House in his return from Niagara) Say. He assured me He read a Letter from the Lord Intendant of Quebec to the Commanding Officer at Niagara dated some time this last Summer, wherein he desires him to Supply all Indians (who pass there in their way to Oswego) with Goods at such a price, as may Induce them to Trade there. to gain which point at this time, He the said Lord Intendant in his Letter says he will not regard the loss of 20 or 30000 Livres a Year to the Crown. He also allowes said Officer to Supply said Indians with what quantity of Brandy, or Rum they may want, w<sup>h</sup>. never was allowed before, for their Preists were always against Selling them liquor but finding Liquor to be one of the Principall Articles they trade for, they are determined to let them have it, as they would otherwise go to Oswego for it. I take it their view in this, is as much (if not more) for preventing any Communication between us, & said Indians, as for engroceing the Trade, & in my opinion they could not have fallen upon a better Scheme to Accomplish it. Said Mr. Kalm told me he heard the Officers

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<sup>1</sup>Peter Kalm, Swedish naturalist.

at Niagara say that by their Letters from Canada they had an Account that Oswego would be given up to them, as an Equivalent for the Island Tobago.

I cant help acquainting Your Excellency of the ill temper of the Indians of the Five Nations at Present, Occasioned by the Commissioners of the Oswego Dutys threatning to make all the Inhabitants Settled to the Westward of Albany, pay Dutys for what Rum or Strowds they Sell to the Indians, by which means said Indians must pay Considerably more than Usual for said Commodities. this together with their being in some other respects not so much taken Notice of as at this time they expected (& as I realy cant help thinking they ought) gives them a great deal of Uneasiness, & am afraid may be of verry bad Consequence if not prevented. they would have me draw up an Instrmt. for them by way of Complaint to Your Excellency about it, & would all sign it, but that I told them I would mention it to Your Excellency. wherfore heartily wish there may be a Stop put to it, as it would also be a great Hardship to all the Inhabitants who Carry on a little Trade for a Livelyhood in the Country.

As there is nothing could be done, would give a more generall Satisfaction to the Country, Particularly to the People of the County of Albany than if Your Excellency would fall on some Effectual way to prevent any Slaves flying to Canada, being harboured there, as (otherwise) our bordering on the french makes our Slaves a verry precarious property. Mr. Sanders tells me, that when last Year in Canada discourseing with the Present Govern<sup>t</sup>. about some Slaves taken in the War, it lead them to talk about Negroes running away from their Masters, & protected there, which Mr. Sanders said was a verry wrong thing. upon that the Gov<sup>r</sup>. told him if Your Excell<sup>cy</sup>. would incline to settle that affair, he would willingly come into it. I assure Your Excellency it would be a thing of vast Service to this part of the Province, & gratefully acknowledged by them all.

The Indians plauge me daily for Smiths to be sent to their Castles, & for Powder & lead &c. which I have been under a

necessity to give them while mine lasted.—it is high time now for the Smiths to go to their Castles, wherefore hope the Assembly may make Provision for it, & for all the past Services unpaid. the Smiths ought to have about 20£ for presents to give the Indians of each Castle where they are Quartered.—I have not as yet seen Your Excellencys Speech, nor the Council or Assemblys Answer, but this Instant had an Acc<sup>t</sup>. from Albany. that there was a likelihood of their falling upon Business which I heartily wish they may. Docter Ascough wrote me a few days ago to mention another man in the room of Mr. Petry if he did not incline to Continue the Supply of Oswego. He never had the least thought of giving it up as long as Your Excellency thinks proper to Indulge him with it. so farr from that, He has some time ago sent up half a Years Supply for the Garrison. there is not a fitter man in the Province for it than he is, as he lives so Contiguous to it I hope Your Excellency will not forget to have the Militia Act revived. it Cannot be too Strict for this part of the World, the People here being verry Stiff necked. I am with all respect Imaginable Your Excellencys

Most Obedient

Humble Servant,

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

P. S.<sup>1</sup> I flatter my self if proper Steps are taken, I could bring the five Nations to make a lasting peace w<sup>th</sup>. the Catawbaas. and I make bold to Affirm, if it be not done now it will hardly ever be done.

I understand the Mayor<sup>2</sup> of Albany is of the other Side, and Says he will not be mayor longer if he can help it — this I thought proper to let Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellen<sup>y</sup>. know lest you be deceived in the Man, as I realy have been.

<sup>1</sup> Entire postscript in Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Sanders, mayor of Albany, 1750–54.



Mr. Saunders Continues to behave verry well, as does also Mr. Sybrant Vanscoike the Judge, so that Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency cannot be at a loss In Case You have an Inclination to make a Change. Mr. Saunders is the fittest Man in Albany for Mayor, as is Mr. Vanscoike for Recorder. Pardon my freedom in giving Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellcy. my Sentiments.

I hope the Assembly will Consider the Hardship it has been to me to be kept out of so Considerable a Sum of Money so long a time and allow me Interest as they may Judge reasonable.—Mr. Petry, & Harkemar have been allowed Interest for Six or Seven Hundred pounds they were kept out of Some little time; wherfore I think it would be verry cruel, if they did not allow it me also, who have advanced So much more, and at So perillous a time, and part of it as Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency knows w<sup>th</sup>. out any Act of Assembly, or Certainty than w<sup>h</sup>. nothing could have induced me to it, but the Eminent Danger the Garrison of Oswego was in of being deserted, had I not Sent them provisions at the time I did, w<sup>h</sup>. (as I am Convinced is more than all the County of Albany would have done on such an Uncertainty) I think ought to be at least paid with moderate Interest, w<sup>h</sup>. I leave Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency to Judge.—

ADDRESSED:<sup>1</sup>

To  
His Excellency  
Governor Clinton

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Coll Johnson 14 Sep<sup>r</sup>  
recd 23<sup>d</sup> ☿ Benthurian  
1750  
an Extract of it laid  
before the Assembly  
26<sup>th</sup> Instant

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Clinton's hand.

A MEMORIAL<sup>1</sup>D. S.<sup>2</sup>

[1750 —————]

To his Excellency the Honb<sup>le</sup>. George Clinton  
 Captain General & Governour in Chief of the  
 Province of New York and Territories thereon  
 Depending in America & Vice Admiral of the same  
 and Admiral of the White Squadron of His Majesty's  
 Fleet.

The Memorial of William Johnson humbly sets forth

That Your Excellency having Communicated to Your Memorialist the Advice of His Majesties Council of the 6<sup>th</sup>. Instant Upon what Your Memorialist represented to Your Excellency, and them, he is thankfull to Your Excellency for the promise of Your Endeavours that his Majesty may reimburse to him the remainder of his Accounts therein mentioned amounting to One thousand Nine Hundred Seventy One pounds Eight Shillings & Six pence three Farthings, for which he has no reason to hope that the Assembly of this Province will make any Provision for the payment of; and that a reasonable Allowance may be made by his Majesty for Your Memorialists Personal Services, and for the delay of payment of the money he has advanced.

That Your Memorialist has hereunto annexed Coppies of the said Accounts Sworn to by which will appear the said Sum of One thousand Nine hundred Seventy One pounds Eight Shillings & Six pence three farthings to be unprovided for by the Assembly, and the dates of the Articles on the D<sup>rs</sup>. and C<sup>rs</sup>. sides will shew the delay of Payment, and from the Articles themselves Your Memorialists personal Services can in part be Judged of —

That in obedience to Your Excellencys order to recapitulate herein Some of the Principal Services Your Memorialist did in the management of the Indian Affairs, for which no Satisfaction is made to him he begs leave to set forth

<sup>1</sup> Inclosed in Johnson to Clinton, Sept. 14, 1749.

<sup>2</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

That in the Year 1746 after Your Excellencys Endeavours by Means of the then Commissioners of Indian Affairs to bring the Indians to Your Excellency then in Albany, to Engage them in the Expedition then proposed against Canada had proved unsuccessfull, and after the Declaration of the Commissioners of Indian Affairs that the Indians were Inclined to the French and were in a verry ill temper towards the English and that they knew of no other means than what had been taken to bring the Indians down to Your Excellency for the purpose before; Your Memorialist at Your Excellencys request was prevailed on to use his endeavours for that Purpose which proved so Successfull as to bring the Indians to Your Excellency at Albany when Your Excellency was Enabled not only to break off the Treaty then in Agitation between them and the Governour of Canada, but also heartily to Engage them in the Warr, and in the then intended Expedition against Canada, in all which Your Excellency Knows Your Memorialists utmost Endeavours were employed

That during the Warr Your Excellency and Council had Sufficient Information that the Governour of Canada had sent an Invitation to the Sachims of the Six Nations to come and speak to him in Canada in order to draw them off from the Warr—Your Memorialist by order of Your Excellency and Council went to Onondaga the place of the General Council of the Six Nations and there prevailed with them to reject the Invitation of the Governour of Canada and to refuse to goe.

That after the Disbanding the forces raised for the Expedition against Canada Your Memorialist at Your Excellencys request and on Your Commission for that purpose undertook the care of the posting in the most proper places on the Frontiers the fourteen Companies of Foot raised by this Province to guard them, and to see that all things necessary were provided for them, which was attended with great personal fatigue Hazard and loss of time, and with great Expences not charged in his Accounts

That after the Peace with France Your Excellency having Sufficient Information that the Governour of Canada had sent a

Message to the Six Nations to come to Canada and bring with them the french Prisoners they had taken dureing the Warr, and that on delivery thereof to him, he would deliver to them all the Prisoners of the Six Nations taken by the french and their Indians dureing the Warr, this being done with a View to attach the Indians to the french Interest. Your Memorialist by Your Excellencys orders used his utmost Endeavours to Induce the Indians to reject the said Message and to rely on Your Excellency for the release of their Prisoners along with the English Prisoners of this Province taken dureing the Warr, which endeavours of Your Memorialist proved Effectuall, and the Six Nations accordingly rejected the said Message of the Governour of Canada, and refused to go to Canada to carry there the french that were Prisoners with them.

That at Your Excellencys request Your Memorialist also prevailed on the Six Nations to deliver into Your Memorialists hands all the french Prisoners they had taken dureing the Warr, and by Your Excellencys order after many Messages and Endeavours to have the English and Indian Prisoners taken by the french dureing the Warr Exchanged for them, that Exchange was happily Effected thro' Your Excellencys means.

These two last advantages were new in their kind for at the Conclusion of all former Warrs between the English and French the Indians depending on this Province were suffered to go to Canada to make Peace separately and to exchange prisoners there to the great weakening of their dependance on this Province

As the severall matters and Services herein set forth amongst many others done by Your Excellen<sup>ys</sup>. order in the management of the Indian Affairs are well known to Your Excellency, Your Memorialist with great Confidence relies on your Excellency's promise to represent the same to his Majesty's Ministers so that he may obtain reparation for the Losses he has Sustained by advanceing money for defraying the Expences of the Services he went on

with great personal fatigue and hazard, and likewise that he be allowed a proper recompence for those Services —

W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

CONFERENCE WITH SCANAGHTRADEYA

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:608–10 is printed the proceedings of a conference at Mount Johnson, December 4, 1750, between Colonel William Johnson and Scanaghtadeya, a Cayuga sachem, concerning the lead plates planted by the French along the Ohio and found by the Indians, and the visit of Jean Cour<sup>1</sup> to the Senecas when he promised to build a trading post at the carrying place between the Ohio river and Lake Erie.

FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

L.<sup>2</sup>

*January 7, 1751*

Delivered to me by a Onendaga Sachim to report to Coll. Johnson, viz:

BROTHER:

On our way Back from the Catabaw Nation we met two Englishmen (the one is named Cresse) who said they were sent on the road to meet the five Nations by the Gov't of South Carolina and the Gov'r call'd the big Knife they shewed us a written Paper marckt with a big seal which they said is sent to us by order of our Father the King of England they told us the words of ye said paper, was that the Gov'rs of S. Carolina & Virginie had sent Conrad Weizer sometime past to acquaint the five Nations that the Catabaws desired to make a peace with us, of which they have not rec'd an answer therefore the English would know if Weizer has delivered the said message to us, as there has been since that time nine of the Catabaws kill'd and a

<sup>1</sup> Joncaire or Jan Coeur.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, Jan. 1911, p. 63–4.

great many cattle Belonging to the English destroyed, But did not know if done by the five Nations or foreign Indians they said they were a going with the written Paper to Oheio and hope to bring those Indians with them to make a peace with the Catabaws w'ere they would make a fire on the road w'here we met them at the said fire within the time of eight months tho' it were better it could be done in all haste as it hard to restrain the Catabaw Warriors from revenging their Brothers Blood which is daily Spilt; they told us that it was the Devil which makes all the mischief between us & the Catabaws, & keep us from makeing a peace with each other they asked us if the English should come into our country and kill our cattle whether we would take it so patiently & not revenge it.

After they had said all that was in the written paper they showed us a fine lace coat, and said their was many more with a great deel of other goods which should be giving us in concluding the peace with the Catabaws and the English would acknowledge the five Nations to be the Oldest nations and formerly the Owners of the land in which the English now lives on.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Feb<sup>y</sup>. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1750/1*

MAY IT PLEASE Y<sup>R</sup>. EXCELLENCEY/

I am not att all unmindfull of the Kindness You have done me, in lending me that Sum on my bare Note, without Interest. Which Nothing but the Injustice done me, could have drove me to that necessitty. I assure You Sir it was my Intention when I borrowed Said Sum to repay it with thanks, out of the first Money I rec<sup>d</sup>. from the Treasurer, as Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellencey May Judge by my leaveing My Warrants there. but As they have so unexpectedly, & shamefully allowed me so Inconsiderable a Sum for

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; draft in New York State Library, badly damaged by fire, printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 1:320-21.

dischargeing the many debts I've (by Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency's orders) contracted on Acc<sup>ts</sup>. of the Province, I was under a necessity to draw for it, In order to Stop their daily dunning. as Nothing Else S<sup>r</sup>. could have induced me to call for S<sup>d</sup>. Money out of Your hands, I hope Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency will please to Judge of it in a more favourable light, than I find You have, and please to accept of the Inclosed Order on the Treasurer, w<sup>h</sup>. I expect he will pay on demand it being above two Years, Since it was allowed me. but if not, & Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency should still insist on my passing my Bond, I shall do it.—I find there is an Act passed for effectually preventing any person w<sup>t</sup>. soever to Sell any Indian Merchandize liable to Dutys to any Indian whatsoever, & even to any Christian (Excepting only w<sup>t</sup>. is requisite for their Family's Use) with out entering, and paying Dutys, as well as if sent to Oswego. this is what I made bold to acquaint Your Excellency of some time ago, and was in hopes (from the Assurances You were pleased to give me) it would not pass. I must beg leave to Assure Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency, there never was an Actt passed here so disagreeable to the People of the County in general and much more so to the Indians who must Suffer most by it. it is always the Indians greatest Complaint that Goods are too dear, but how much more it must be so now, I leave Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency to Judge.—

I am with great respect Your  
Excellency's Most  
Obed<sup>t</sup>. Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

TO GOVERNOUR CLINTON

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll<sup>o</sup> Johnson 21  
February 1750/1  
recd 12 March 1750/1

Coll<sup>o</sup>. Johnsons received  
12 March by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Stoddard

<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Mount Johnson March 29<sup>th</sup>. 1751*S<sup>R</sup>/

I rec<sup>d</sup>. Your Excellency's favour of the 20<sup>th</sup> Curr<sup>tt</sup>. by Arent Stevens, and am glad to find thereby that Your Excellency's in a fair way of being paid that Sum You were pleased to advance me, w<sup>h</sup>. should have been done long ago had I common Justice done me. If your Excellency will but recollect, what you were pleased to acquaint me in Yours of the 20<sup>th</sup> of Novb<sup>r</sup>. last concerning Commiss<sup>rs</sup>. My giving up the Indian Affairs will then appear reasonable to You. for I am Sure I Judged by what you then wrote me that you would Immediately appoint Commissioners.—By Your Excellency's laying so much weight, on the payment of my Acc<sup>ts</sup>. w<sup>th</sup>. out objection, it seems as if you Suspected me, which I should be glad to know! I assure You Sir, it gives me no Small Satisfaction to hear from Home, that all my Acc<sup>ts</sup>. were allowed of without objection, and Such of Yours as were vouched by me; As to endeavour to prevail w<sup>th</sup>. ye. Albany or Other Members to alter that Act so prejudicial As Well to the Inhabitants of the County, as to the Indians, as Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency advises, I must Say, I dont think it is my business at Present, as I have nothing further to do with them, any more than I should be extremely glad to See them made easy in that point, w<sup>h</sup>. So Sour their temper as to make them verry uneasy to all their Neighbours. If it ends there we may be glad of it.—Your Excellency may (when You receive that Sum) Inclose the Note in a Letter, to me if you think proper, & the overplus, please to order to be paid to M<sup>r</sup>. Hennerry Hansen Merch<sup>t</sup>. there, whose receipt Shall be Sufficient for the Same. I have a Considerable large Acc<sup>tt</sup>. against Your Excellency for the many disbursements made on Acc<sup>tt</sup>. of the five Nations Since Novb<sup>r</sup>. the 1<sup>st</sup>. 1748

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; draft partially destroyed by fire, is printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 1:324–25.



together with the Expence of Sending Arent Stevens to Oswego with a Cargo of Goods as a present for the foreign Ind<sup>ns</sup>. in our Interest, by Your Excellency's orders, w<sup>h</sup>. I expected Should have been deducted out of that Sum. otherwise I would have delivered in my Acc<sup>t</sup>. before. the reason of my not Sending it now, is, my Clerk is not at Home. but Shall Send it Soon, and hope Your Excellency will please to pay it to S<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Hansen. and as for my time, & trouble these two Years, & four Months past, w<sup>th</sup>. S<sup>d</sup>. Ind<sup>ns</sup>. I must leave to Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency, who no doubt remembers Your promise & order's to me, which was, to Continue the Care of the Indians untill such time as the Affair might be Settled at Home w<sup>h</sup>. you Said was then on the Carpet & that I should have my pay as Coll<sup>o</sup>. continued so long, adding further that I should act frugally, and wean the Indians from craveing so largely as in the Warr. Which I really have done, as much (& more) than any Man Else could have done, As will appear hereafter. The Bearer herof, is a french Young Gentleman, Son of Mr. De Quaneay an Eminent Merchant in Canada, Who has been for these 14 Years past at Mississipi, and Ilenos from whence he came last Fall by the Way of Oswego. he has lived ever Since at Mr. Lyddiu's whose Wife is his Aunt, or near Relation. He having an inclination to Settle here, begged I would write a few lines, to acquaint Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency of his resolution, hoping to have Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency's permission, and protection, that thereby he may be enabled to follow business.—

I am w<sup>th</sup>. all due Regard Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency's

Most Obedient

Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To GOVERNOUR CLINTON

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll Johnson 29 March

recd 16 April 1751

☞ Mr De Quaneay

<sup>1</sup> In John Ayscough's hand.

## REPORT OF JOHN LINDESAY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[May 24–June 25, 1751]

## Lieut. Lindesays Report, of Indian News.

Oswego May 24<sup>th</sup>. This day came here the Red Head, and Four more Onondagah Sechams in order to go to Canada, they told me they were sent by consent of the Five Nations, to the Governor of Canada, to forbid the building of those Forts, the French have & are building. I used all the Arguments I could think of to diswade them from going, but to no purpose.

May 27<sup>th</sup>. This day came from Swegachee, the Young Red-head, in order as he said to Trade, but I found his chief Business was to carry as many Indians as he could to said Place, and did accordingly carry off Four Squaghs.

May 29<sup>th</sup>. This day came a Canoe from Wiyahthenhook with Ottawawa Indians, who told that Mimnack, with an hundred of said Nation, had gone out & taken Six English Traders, as formerly mention'd & bro<sup>t</sup>. them to Niagara, and were sent to Canada, and that said affair had made great disturbance.

May 31<sup>st</sup>. This day came Kindarundie an Oneyda Sachem, in order to go to Canada & join the Red head. and conceiving it would be of great consequence to stop him, because one Nation cannot speak in the name of the Five, I sent for him, and told him, the bad consequence attending the Five Nations going, and receiving Presents from the Governor of Canada, for they might see by his building of Forts, on parts belonging to them, that he look'd on every thing as his own, which was theirs, and consequently on them as People who had no Property, & his Slaves. He seemd to give heed to what I said, and was inform'd by Mr.

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich. Portions of Lindesay's report under the dates Feb. 5, Apr. 3, May 4, May 5, and July 10, 1751 are printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:706, 729. The portion of the report dated July 15, 1751 is printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:363–64; Q. 2:623–24.

Mc.Gin & Visher, & some others that if I would back what I said with some Presents, he would go there no more. On which I sent for him, and some other Oneyda's, and in yo<sup>r</sup>. Excellency's name, made him a handsome Present, and promis'd to recommend him to your favour, and I wish he may be noticed accordingly. Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Mc.Gin & Vicher were very Assisting to me in this, and did join me in said presents as did also Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Stodderd & Butler.

June 4<sup>th</sup>. This day came Three Canoes, in which were some of the Five Nations Cocknugas & Sevenundia Indians who told of the taking of the Philadelphians, and said their Nation went and spoke to the Commander who had the Prisoners, with Three Belts of Wampom, but could not procure them their Liberty. on their speaking of the Peace, they said it was not Peace, but they were only Smoaking their Pipes. They told that a Trading Canoe from Wiyahthenhook, with Five Squaws & Two Indians, had come to trade with the Twig Twees, and after leaveing their Castle were follow'd by one of said Nation, who having got very drunk, fell into the Fire & was burnt to Death, of which accident they sent word to the Castle, who follow'd them, & kill'd them all. I hope this news is not true, as Canoes have come since who say all is well at Wiyahthenhook.

June 15<sup>th</sup>. This day came Fourteen Canoes of Michelmackenock Indians, who told there was like to be Warr betwixt the Twigtwees, and Ottawawa Indians, which if not made up, would stop the Trade. They said the French at the Fort at the carrying place had used all their endeavours to hinder them from coming here, but they would not hearken to them, but said if some way was not fallen on, to hinder that Fort at the carrying Place, from being finish'd and have what was done demolish'd, the French would put a great many Men into it, & entirely Stop their & all other Indians way to this Place. The demolishing this Fort is of such consequence that I wish it may be done. I am just now getting those Indians to send a Belt of Wampom thro' the five Nations. their doing this will encourage much our Five Nations, and I have done all that in me lies, to shew them the consequence of Allowing the French,

to keep that Fort, and from building any other, without their consent.

June 18<sup>th</sup>. This day came a Canoe from Cataraque, in which was Two Indians, and the French Interpreter of said Place. he came to see me & said he was going to the Seneca's to see a Brother of his. but I am inform'd he goes through all the Five Nations, to invite them to Canada. I shall do all I can to stop them but as matters are, it's little I can do. I begg leave to recommend to your Excellency Chiquaquondie, an Ondogah Sechem, who is now in Int'rest & has a great influence over those of his Castle. and if he is not taken notice of now, am afraid we shall loose him, and the consequence of that would be Loosing y<sup>e</sup> whole Castle. Notwithstanding what the Red Head said, he was going to Canada about, I am since inform'd he & some other Sachems of Ondagah, & Cayaugah have Sold the Carryng Place, to the French. I wish the Places of all the Dead Sachems may be fill'd up.—

#### 1751. Lindesays Report.

June 25<sup>th</sup>. This day came here Three Canoes of Twigtwees, who told that their Nation was mostly for the English, & hated the French. that 125 Canoes of their Nation were gone to Trade w<sup>th</sup>. the Philadelphians. that they were come to suck of our Milk, which was always good. this they meant by buying Rum. they told in the Warr they had cut off Seven French Houses. That the French liked them not, nor they them, nor were not afraid of them. They said as they were English in their Hearts they wish'd to carry a Mark of it, (by this they meant a Flagg) which I accordingly bought, & made them a present of in yo<sup>r</sup>. Excellency's Name, and gave them also a Cagg of Rum w<sup>th</sup>. Pipes and Tobacco, to Smoak, & drink yo<sup>r</sup>. Health in their Castle. Never were Indians better pleas'd, or anything better bestow'd. They being the most daring of the far Indians.

JOHN LINDESAY.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Gr[een]wich the 30<sup>th</sup> June 175[1]<sup>2</sup>*

SIR/

I have just recived yours of 12<sup>th</sup> Inst by [ ]th all the things excepting the Martens & black Squarrel [ ] got away [ ] journey to Albany Mrs Clinton is much obliged to you for your Intention You may depend [on] every one thing I can do for you. I [ ] not only use all my endeavours to get y<sup>e</sup> Money, but [ ] every thing in my power to procure you the first [ ]ant Company here and will try as soon as my freind [ ] to town to Parliment to try when I can to get a Promise [ ] you may depend on hearing from me when [ ] taken & how I am likely to succeed, and [ ]  
[ ]<sup>s</sup>  
all friends desire to be very kindly remembered to you [ ]  
very heartily wish you well and am

My dear Sir

Your faithfull friend  
and Servant

G CLINTON

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH<sup>4</sup>

*A. Df.*<sup>5</sup>

*Albany 30<sup>th</sup> June [1751]*

S<sup>R</sup>

His Excellency arrived here last Thursday [*& all the Indians*] and the Commissioners from Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut Fryday, the Commissioner from S Carolina coming the day

<sup>1</sup> In handwriting of Richard Ayscough.

<sup>2</sup> Year uncertain.

<sup>3</sup> Several lines missing.

<sup>4</sup> Sheriff of New York county, 1746–53. Many of the letters from Governor Clinton to Johnson are in his hand.

<sup>5</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

before [*with Six Catawbas & Conradt Wiser arrived*] Conradt Weiser with Six of the Catawbas & their Interpreter came with us. All the Indians are come in this day so that there is nothing to hinder his Excellency falling on buisness but the want of the Books of Precedents relating to Indian Affairs which he is informed you have carryed up with you he therefore desires, that you will immediatly send them down Express, or that you would come with them yourself, for as you was so good as to promise to assist and advise him all in your power minutely you need not be any ways seen publick in the Affair. I am certain if you could come it would be taken exceeding well by his Excellency & much oblige S<sup>r</sup>

COLL JOHNSON

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Dr<sup>t</sup> Letter  
to Coll Johnson  
from Albany 30 June  
1751  
about the minute Books of  
Indian Affairs

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Mount Johnson*

*July 27<sup>th</sup>. 1751.*

(Copy)

May it please Your Excellency

I inclose Your Excellency an Account<sup>3</sup> of what the French are about now at Cadar[a]ghqui, given to Captain Lindesay<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In John Ayscough's hand.

<sup>2</sup> Transcript in Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.; printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:729.

<sup>3</sup> The account follows this letter. Lindesay's letter to Johnson concerning Attrawaney's account is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6, 729-30.

<sup>4</sup> Captain John Lindesay.

by Attrawaney, a Cajuga Sachim, who begged of him to let me know it as Soon as possible; I thought proper also to let Your Ex<sup>c</sup>y know, that there has a Body of French to the Number of twelve Hundred French & Two Hundred of Orondacks &c<sup>a</sup>; passed by Oswego about a fortnight ago with a design to cut off (as I understand) some of the Nations of Indians to the Westward, who are Strongly attached to the British Interest, also to Stop the Philadelphians building at, or near Ohio, or any where else thereabout, having this Account confirmed by a French Deserter now at my House, who Saw this Body of Men Set off from Cadaraghqui. I immediately, in Your Ex<sup>c</sup>ys Name, took upon me to Send an Express through all the Nations, with a large Belt of Wampum, acquainting them of the French's March that way and desiring they might be on their Guard, which has been So kindly taken by the Five Nations, that it is not to be expressed; I am with all due Respect imaginable &c<sup>a</sup>,

His Ex<sup>c</sup>y GOV<sup>R</sup>. CLINTON

AN ACCOUNT<sup>1</sup> BY ATTRAWANEY

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

Attrawaney's (a Cajuga Sachim) Account of the French building a Ship at Cadaraghqui, Sent to Lieuten<sup>t</sup>. Lindsay, at Oswego July 1751

(Copy)

This 10<sup>th</sup>: day of July Attrawaney came here from the Messegas, where he had been Negotiating an Alliance with Said Nation, he told all the old Sachims were dead, and Young Ones put in their places, who confirmed their old Alliance and promised to keep it firm and Strong although they were Solicited by the French not to make an Agreement with the Five Nations.

He told he was at Cadaraghqui, where they were building a large Ship, which was to have three Masts, and that some there

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<sup>1</sup> Inclosed in Johnson to Clinton, July 27, 1751.

<sup>2</sup> Transcript in Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

told him when fitted was designed to come & take this Place. That he Saw there Six Cannon, designed for Said purpose, three Yards long with a Wide Bore, He brought with him eight Messesagas, Young Fighters, who were to

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

*A. Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*January 3<sup>d</sup> 1752*

S<sup>R</sup>

Your Favour of 25 December inclosed to Mr Hanse, I this day received and communicated to his Excellency.—By that Letter you seem disappointed that the Writts for the ensuing Election were not come up <sup>by</sup> post, & which you fear will give the Albanians time to play off their villainous designs of tampering & corrupting the Electors. His Excellency orders me to acquaint you that as it would be impolitick to meet the Assembly till the beginning of April (he having great reason to expect before that time Instructions, from home, in relation to their Conduct) This is Mr Alex<sup>rs</sup> opinion, that calling of them together, before it would be proper to meet them, which must be in six Weeks from the Publication of the Writts, could be of no Service. And as they must be issued by Advice of Council, he thinks they should not be out till the latter end of Feby. I wrote you word by Capt Ross 25<sup>th</sup> Decem<sup>br</sup> of his Excellency's gratefull Sentiments, and Approbation of your indefatigable trouble & pains in Dutchess & Albany Counties, when you went up, and make no doubt, but Fortune will favour the Brave that you may carry your point in both your Nominations for Albany, as I hope Capt Ross will in Dutchess He had inclosed your Commission as Surveyor of the Woods, with him which I congratulate you on, and make not the least Question, but you will make the proper use of for the Good of the Cause to which I wish Success, and am not affraid of

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.



your carrying your Point, notwithstanding the Albany Grandees, whose Soul and Blood are money, and am rather pleased that they will have an Inducement now to let out some of it, (tho' by drops) between this & the Election.

I am &c

J A

COLL JOHNSON

☞ post

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

*A. Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Febry 2<sup>d</sup> 1752*

S<sup>R</sup>

Your Favour of 15<sup>th</sup> Ultimi I recd ☞ post and communicated to His Ex<sup>lly</sup> who is well pleased that you was so cautious as to make Memorandums of what you heard reported of him by his Enemies. I am not surprized that Collins<sup>2</sup> flies you. For Villain is wrote in his Face, and I hope his Excellency will have sufficient proof to make him, the Example, his Ingratitude deserves.

As yet we have heard Nothing from Albany, Schenectady or Dutchess, but are in hourly Expectation. Major Drum, I fear will cheat the Devil, once more.

In the inclosed News Paper is an Answer to that Scurrilous, Grubstreet in De Forreests on the Coentjie's Club, and a paper on the Indian Affairs. I suppose the Dutch Sachims will charge it to the Man who came over with a £40 Cargo. he is not the Author. M<sup>r</sup> Alexander sets out to morrow for the Jersey's. that Assembly mett Yesterday was Sen'night. I suppose he may stay 3 weeks at furthest, so that his Excellency purposes to meet the Assembly the latter end of March at furthest, which I imagine will have a short sitting, and you may depend you will

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Collins.

not be kept long down, so as to hinder your affairs in April or May.

A Ship arrived at Boston from England three days after the post Sett out, so that we could have no Letters till next Saturday Sen-night I hear his Excellency has a large Packet, if any Letters for you you may depend on my taking care to forward them. &c

J A

COLL JOHNSON

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

*Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Febry 15<sup>th</sup> 1752*

S<sup>R</sup>

Your letter of 9<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> I recd this morning, and am very Sensible of your good Services. I immediatly sent the D<sup>r</sup> to M<sup>rs</sup> Alexander<sup>2</sup> & Smith<sup>3</sup> for their Opinions on a Scrutiny, both which you have enclosed. they are both, as the D<sup>r</sup> tells me, of Opinion that the Sheriff should make no return, till he has inquired by a Scrutiny, for the moment he makes a return his Judiciall power ceases and then the Faction have no remedy but by petitioning the Assembly which tho' it should be probable of Success yet I believe as they have been at so great Expence allready I do not imagine they will proceed further &c

G. C.

COLL JOHNSON

☞ return of Express

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book; in handwriting of John Ayscough.

<sup>2</sup> James Alexander, member of Executive Council, 1750-56.

<sup>3</sup> William Smith, appointed attorney general by Governor Clinton, August 20, 1751; member of Executive Council, 1753-67.

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

A. Df.<sup>1</sup>

21 Febr'y 1752

S<sup>R</sup>

Your Favour of 10<sup>th</sup> Instant with the Account of Collins<sup>2</sup> and Dowes<sup>3</sup> Villainy I recd yesterday ̄ post, and went immediatly with it to M<sup>r</sup> Smith for his Opinion on it which is inclosed, from M<sup>r</sup> Smiths I went to M<sup>r</sup> Alexanders who joins fully in opinion with M<sup>r</sup> Smith, and says there should be no delay in taking the proper Affidavits that Process may issue immediatly for fear the Evidences might be subverted.

I am heartily sorry that you could not carry your Nominations, and to see that the Sheriff has made his Return in to the Office, which had he not done so soon might have been better, for till the return was made he would have kept the Judicial Power in his hands, as by M<sup>r</sup> Alexanders & Smiths opinion, sent you by the return of the Express you will see, and now the Gentlemen have no other Remedy left but by petitioning the Assembly on an undue Election, which I fear will have no better Success than Coll Morris had in his, (viz) laid on the Table, with the Epithet of malicious &c: besides the labouring Oar will now be on M<sup>r</sup> Beekman & Fisher, which had the Sheriff had a Scrutiny, and returnd them, the other Party must have been at a very great Expence to have had a Scrutiny in the House; which it is very probable they would not have had courage to have done.

His Excellency has prorogued the Assembly to 31 March then to meet on Business, and I hope to have your Affidavits soon that Collins and Dow may have the Pleasure of seeing you here in April Term.

The Lords of the Admiralty have sent to his Excellency An Order to Cap<sup>t</sup>: Cosby to carry him and his family and Bagge<sup>e</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

<sup>2</sup> Edward Collins.

<sup>3</sup> John Dow.

home when ever his Excellency pleases to embark and to land him at what Port he shall desire, so that his Excellency purposes to leave the Province the beginning of June next.

To COLL JOHNSON  
 ☞ the Care of Judge  
 Brinkerhoff.

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

A. Df.<sup>1</sup>

Febry 26 1752

S<sup>R</sup>

Your Favour of 18 Febry ☞ Express with the papers inclosed came to hand; Which when his Excellency had perused, he was of Opinion that L<sup>t</sup> Mills was no ways culpable, but observed justly, that had not the Corporal Drum & 8 Centinels been guilty they would not have deserted, which plainly proves them so, I think Cap<sup>t</sup> Stodderts Letter takes off even the least Suspicion of ill Conduct in L<sup>t</sup> Mills, and I believe had great influence with his Excellency, he has given Directions to Coll Marshall if he thinks it necessary to send up an Officer (with the Party that are to go up from hence to supply the deficiency [*in the Garrison of Oswego*], as soon as the River is open,) not to relieve, but to assist L<sup>t</sup> Mills, in settling the Quiet of the Garrison of Oswego

It is M<sup>r</sup> Alexanders<sup>2</sup> Opinion that M<sup>rs</sup> Fisher and Beekman have the greatest reason on their Sides to petition the Assembly for a Scrutiny which he says, they cannot in Justice refuse them, so that if they come down<sup>3</sup> they must be prepared with the proper Evidences to invalidate the Bad Votes. I from the bottom of my heart wish Success to it. M<sup>r</sup> Alexander says there is no paralel between Coll Morris's and their case, & would have them proceed by petition to the Assembly for a Scrutiny.

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

<sup>2</sup> James Alexander, member of the Executive Council, 1750–56.

<sup>3</sup> See Johnson to Richard Ayscough, March 11, 1751/2.

As to those Villains Collins<sup>1</sup> and Dow<sup>2</sup> I sent you Mess<sup>rs</sup> Smith and Alexander in my last. Mr Alexander says you have full power in your Commission as Surveyor of the Woods to put it in execution, but to observe not to exceed the Bounds of the Statutes provided for that purpose. You will find it under the head of Ship Timber, & Pine trees in America

I [*have sent you one of Dr Downings Letters*] shall send you copies of all the Letters you sent ☿ next Oppertunity time not now permitting, for his Excellency says he can not part with the Originals. I must again desire you will not forget the Affidavits for Mr Smith, relating to the Oswego Commissioners.

To COLL JOHNSON

PS Mr Alexander will put Mess<sup>rs</sup> Beekman & Fisher in the Method of their Petition

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

*A. Df. S.*<sup>3</sup>

*March 14<sup>th</sup> 1752*

S<sup>R</sup>

His Excellency, having this day prorogued the Assembly to Tuesday 28 April on Account of the Small Pox orders me to acquaint you of it, in Order to prevent any inconvenience to you, by your Attendance here so soon, but hopes that you will not fail being down the beginning of April. &c.

J A

To D<sup>R</sup> COLDEN

☿ Benthuyzen

the Same to Coll Johnson

☿ D<sup>o</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Edward Collins.

<sup>2</sup> John Dow.

<sup>3</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

A. Df. S.<sup>1</sup>

23 March 1752

S<sup>R</sup>

Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> Instant I recd yesterday with the Sheet of the Votes inclosed and communicated the Contents this Morning to M<sup>r</sup> Smith his Opinion is that the two Candidates must be personally here when the Petition is delivered to the House, and that they pursue it with the utmost Vigour, for a feint of any sort would be of worse Consequence than if they had set tamely down with the Injustice done them and be only a bad precedent for the Future, for a Scrutiny must be ipso facto before the House & no where else. The [*way to prove*] load of proving the bad Voter's qualifications is to lay intirely on the [*Candidates*] Members Returnd to prove them entitled after Mess<sup>rs</sup> Fisher & Beekman have [*protested*] objected against them so that they have nothing more to do but to remark every disqualified [*Vote*] Elector As to Depeysters affair M<sup>r</sup> Smith will deferr his opinion till he can talk with you upon it

Inclosed is the produce of last week worth your reading you'll see by the Title what you may expect. His Excellency expects Letters saturday next via Boston

I am &amp;c

miss Cass Compliments to the Swan & should be very glad to see it

J. A.

COLL JOHNSON

☞ Johny Beekman

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

FROM MARTIN KELLOGG

Copy<sup>1</sup>

Stockbridge, April 13, 1752

SIR:

By a Mohawk from Connajaharie we are informed the Tawectaweewees invited several Tribes to smoak with them at or about the beginning of January last past, signified their design of making war with the French, and has ordered three French to be killed, to say, an Officer and two Soldiers — took another, cut off his ears, sent him to Canada to do word to the Governor, &ca. 'Tis also said our Six Nations will join with them to war against Canada and others of the Tribes. Also that you are desired to send Provisions, Powder, Cutlass's, &c., to Oswego, where they have promised to meet with you early this Spring. Also that you are desired to build a Fort at Chenoontawanie for them to retire to in case they need. I have made report to Boston Court, and shall very soon make Report to Connecticut Court, but, Sir, we have not a word from yourself about all this. I should be glad you would send me an Account what you suppose true of all the above soon as you can, that I may convey the same to our several Governments, that in case any thing may be wanted to encourage such a Design it may be had, is of very great importance wisely to improve an advantage to the best Purpose. If truly many of the Tribes are resolutely set, and will unite to war against Canada, I am apt to think they will soon amaze the French, and vastly interrupt their Peace; you, Sir, can have opportunity to exert yourself in doing abundance for the Crown of Great Britain. I question not your willingness and ability herein, and wish you may be directed in every thing for the better, from your ready Friend and humble Servant,

MARTIN KELLOGG.

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 5:574.

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

*A. Df.*<sup>1</sup>*16 April 1752*S<sup>R</sup>

Yours of 30<sup>th</sup> ultimo I recd and as you desired to know what was proper to be done, I carryed the Affidavits by his Excellency's Order to M<sup>r</sup> Alexander & the Att<sup>y</sup> Gen<sup>ll</sup><sup>2</sup>, who both allow that it is a most consummate piece of Insolence & impudence in Collins to make so free with his Excellencys Characters but both opinions are that it is not worthy to commence a prosecution on because it will be difficult to prove damages by a Jury as things are now and advise his Excellency not to shew his teeth till he can bite hand, which I hope you will bring materials sufficient to enable him all the Good Family send their Compliments as does &c

P S

The Dover & Marry  
both expected hourly

To COLL JOHNSON  
⌘ Abraham Doue

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

*A. Df. S.*<sup>3</sup>*27<sup>th</sup> May 1752*S<sup>R</sup>

Late last night arrived four Catawbaas w<sup>th</sup> one Mohawk Prisoner from S: Carolina, of which his Excellency being on the other Side, sends me over to give you this early Notice,

<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

<sup>2</sup> William Smith, appointed attorney general by Governor Clinton August 20, 1751.

<sup>3</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.



that you may as soon as possible give a hint of it to the Mohawks that they may if possible be well disposed to receive them in a friendly manner. The Gov<sup>mts</sup> of Carolina have displayed their Generosity, by sending 100 p<sup>cs</sup> 8 to defray all their Expences, & have sent no Person of Note with them but an Indian, who talks English well, and one of the Indians that was last Year at Albany, who understands the Onondaga Language & talks it perfectly. His Excellency is determined not to advance one penny his self or by his Friend's, but purposes to have a Council to morrow on Gov Glen's<sup>1</sup> Letter, and to receive the Indians at that Board, who have a present of Skins, as an Acknowledgement of Services done by him to them; after which they will be forwarded up by the first Sloop. &c

J A

COLL JOHNSON  
by Hagan

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

*A. Df. S.*<sup>2</sup>

July 24<sup>th</sup> 1752

S<sup>R</sup>

His Excellency haveing received by the Nebuchadnezar His Majesty's Orders to stay some time longer in his Government, and as nothing but exercise can be the means of preserving his health in this Climat he desires you will buy him a pair of Geldings, the Colour indifferent, so they match, as to size there is no occasion of 15 hands as they will be chiefly for Sley or Charriot, let them be above 14 hands & nimble flippant horses, for their work will not require them to be weighty I must intreat you to send them down as soon as possible you can, for his Excellency is resolved to use as much exercise as possible before Winter sets in. I shall write to L<sup>t</sup> Miller to assist you

<sup>1</sup> Governor James Glen of South Carolina.

<sup>2</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

in looking out & to make use of all his Excellency's Friends to  
 lend a helping hand for it is a pitty one moment should be lost  
 in procureing them &c.

J A

COLL JOHNSON

PS his Excellency wishes  
 L<sup>t</sup> Miller could match  
 the Chair Horse he sent  
 last year to y<sup>e</sup> care of Capt Ross directed to Mr Miller

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

*A. Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>25<sup>th</sup> August 1752S<sup>R</sup>

His Excellency orders me to acquaint you that he has been told that One M<sup>r</sup> Lawyer was much displeas'd at not being included in a grant for some Lands in which he was concern'd as a Petitioner for, with Others, and seem'd to expect from the friendship subsisting between him and you, of which his Excellency was entirely unacquainted, as not haveing any recomme[n]dation from you; If his Excellency can be of any Service to him in any future favours you may assure him of having the preference if you will only mention him to the Governour.

The Assembly is this day prorogued to 12<sup>th</sup> Octo<sup>br</sup> by Advice of Council C J<sup>2</sup>: present; an account of the Small pox, and I fancy will Meet soon after on Business, On Account of the Act for support of Government & the Excise & other Criminel Acts expiring.

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

<sup>2</sup> James De Lancey, chief justice of the N. Y. Supreme Court, 1733-61.

Mr. C: J<sup>1</sup> and M<sup>r</sup> Chambers<sup>2</sup> have had a meeting with Mess<sup>rs</sup> Richards<sup>3</sup> & Walton<sup>4</sup> [*about Repairs*], necessary at Oswego, those two Members think it to late in the Year to give it a thorough repair now, at least till they could hear from the Majority of the House about reimbursing the Money that must be advanced by any one that should undertake to do it.

His Excellency by Advice of Council has orderd a Letter to be wrote to the Mayor and Aldermen of Albany signifying that if they can procure any one to put it in a tolerable Condition for the present, so as to keep the Goods and Soldiers dry this Winter [*that*] they shall be paid [*by the Treasurer*] their disbursements; and that he will recommend it strongly to the Assembly, that that Garrison may be compleatly repaired next Spring, which it is the Opinion of the Council they will readily come into, for last Session they passed a Vote for repairing it, and seemed fully convinced that there was an absolute necessity that it should be done.⊕ I am &c

J A

To COLL JOHNSON

☞ Capt Ross.

⊕His Excellency read the Paragraph in Council yesterday about the distress of the Indians, and the confirmation of the Peace with the Catawbas and five Nations which brought on the Carpet the Hardships in your last Letter to me but transcribed in his Name you suffered in not being paid your Oswego Debt, which the C. J<sup>1</sup> said must be a mistake for that he believed you was and seem'd to know nothing to the Contrary, on which His Excellency proposed to shew the Order in Council of May last upon it, but haveing a great deal of Business deferred it

<sup>1</sup> James De Lancey, chief justice of the N. Y. Supreme Court, 1733-61.

<sup>2</sup> John Chambers, member of Executive Council, 1752-63.

<sup>3</sup> Paul Richards, representative from the county of New York.

<sup>4</sup> William Walton, representative from the county of New York.

till next Council when he will shew it again and said he could not help thinking it [*hard*] very ungenerous that you should not be paid, as Petre was tho' your debt was due long before Petre had any demand, and makes no doubt but [*that he*] C. Justice<sup>1</sup> he wrote home that it was thro' him & by his Interest only that you was paid, purely to make a merit of it to himself w<sup>th</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Peter & your other Friends there Mr Pavy mentioned to me that you had not recd the License to purchas in Arent Stevens name a Tract of Land of the Indians, I assure you S<sup>r</sup> I sent it up inclosed to L<sup>t</sup> Miller about a week after Mr Pavy went up, and insisted on Mr Banyars making dispatch with it which he did prior to three other Licenses that were granted, and as I have not heard from you about it since I hope it is come safe to hand His Excellency has hinted to me that he should be glad to come in for a Share of that Tract on paying an equal dividend of the Charges &c and if it would suit you I know an Offer of being a partner in it would be very well taken by him, this I impart to you as from my self not with his knowledge but should be glad to have your Answer upon it as I know it would please him much.

FROM JOHN AYSCOUGH

*A. Df. S.*<sup>2</sup>

28 August 1752

S<sup>R</sup>

His Excellency haveing forgot to mention in his of 25<sup>th</sup> Inst the appointment of another Sheriff in the room of Mr Miller,<sup>3</sup> he orders me to desier you will recommend some proper person that you can confide in to succeed him in that Office, for he makes no doubt that if he should nominate him again, that the

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<sup>1</sup> James De Lancey, chief justice of the N. Y. Supreme Court, 1733-61.

<sup>2</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.; in the George Clinton letter book.

<sup>3</sup> Richard Miller served as Sheriff of Albany county from October, 1749 to October, 1754.

C J<sup>1</sup> & Murray<sup>2</sup> would object to him as haveing the Kings Commission please to send your Answer as soon as possible for the Appointment is 29 of Next Month which will soon come as the Stile is alterd

I am &c

J A

To COLL JOHNSON  
to the Care of L<sup>t</sup> Miller  
☞ Jacob Ten Eyeck

A DEED OF LAND

D. S.<sup>3</sup>

[*Jan. 2, 1753*]

This Indenture Made the Second Day of January, In the Twenty Seventh Year, of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the Grace of God, of Great Brittain, France and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith &c — And in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred & Fifty three Between, Captain Thomas Butler of the Mohawks Country, in the County of Albany & in the Province of Newyork of the One Part, And Captain Walter Butler of the Mohawks Country in the County & Province aforesaid of the other Part; Witnesseth, that the said Thomas Butler, for and in Consideration of the Sum of Four Hundred, and Seventy Five Pounds, Lawful Money of Newyork, to him in Hand Paid by the Said Walter Butler, at or before the Ensealing and Delivery to these Presents, the Receipt whereof is hereby Acknowledged, And thereof, and therefrom, and of and from every Part, and Parcel thereof he the said Thomas Butler Doth hereby exonerate, and Discharge the Said Walter Butler, his Executors and Administrators, Hath granted bargained and Sold, aliened

<sup>1</sup> Chief Justice James De Lancey, of the N. Y. Supreme Court.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Murray, member of Executive Council, 1744–58.

<sup>3</sup> In New York State Library, Abbott collection, Albany, N. Y.

released and Confirmed, and by these Presents Doth fully Freely and absolutely, grant Bargain, and Sell, alien release and Confirm, unto the said Walter Butler (:in his actual Possession now being:) and to his Heirs and Assigns, All that Certain Tract of Land Situate in the County of Albany/: being Part of a Larger Tract of Wood Land, Lying on the North Side of the Mohawks River, and on the Back of the Line of John, Margret & Edward Collins &<sup>a</sup>: formerly granted by Letters Patent from his Present Majesty to Marian Scot & others; Beginning, at a Certain Place in the Northerly Bounds of the Land formerly granted to John Margret and Edward Collins, being Twenty Six Chains Easterly, as the said Northerly Bounds Run, from the most Northerly Corner of the said Land, and running thence North Two Degrees West, One Hundred Thirty four Chains, then East Seventy Eight Chains, Then South Two Degrees, East One Hundred and Tewenty Six Chains to the Northerly Bounds of the aforesaid Lands, granted to John, Margret & Edward Collins then along their Line North Sixty Two Degrees West Eighty Nine Chains, To the Place where the same Tract of Land Began, Containing Eleven Hundred and Forty two Acres, and Six Sevenths of an Acre, and the Usual Allowance for High Ways. Together with all & Singular the Woods Under Woods Trees Timbers Feedings, and Pastures Meadows, Marshes, Swamps, Ways Waters, Water Courses, Rivers, Rivulets, Runs and Streams of Water, Ponds, Pools, Fishing, Fowling, Hunting, Hawking Mines and Minerals whatsoever /Except Gold Mines or Silver Mines:/ of in and to the same tract of Land or in any Wise appertaining thereto, under the Exceptions Provisoes Limitations Conditions Reservations, Savings and Restrictions, in the said Letters Patent, whereby the Premises were granted, to Marian Scott and others aforesaid. And also all the Estate Right Title Interest, Property Claim and Demand, whatsoever both in Law and Equity of him the said Thomas Butler, of in and to all the Singular the said Premises, and of, in and to every part and Parcel thereof.

with the Appurtenances, and the Reversion and Reversions, Remainder & Remainders, Rents Issues Profits and Services, of the said hereby granted Tract of Land and Premises, and every Part & Parcel thereof, with the Appurtenances, To Have and to hold The said Tract of Land & Premises hereby granted and Released or Meant Mentioned and Intended to be hereby granted and Released, and every Part and Parcel thereof with the Appurtenances, /within and under Exceptions Provisoos, and Limitations, Conditions Reservations, Savings & Restrictions, unto the said Walter Butler his Heirs and Assigns, to the only Proper Use and Behoof of the said Walter Butler his Heirs & Assigns for ever, And the said Thomas Butler for himself his Heirs Executors and Administrators, Doth Covenant and grant to and with the said Walter Butler his Heirs and Assigns, that he hath not done any Matter Act or Thing, whereby the above granted and Released Premisses, or Part or Parcel thereof, are or may be any Ways changed, charged or Incumbred, in Title Estate or otherwise howsoever. And also that he the said Thomas Butler, the said Premisses, and every Part and Parcel thereof, with the Appurtenances hereby granted and Released unto the said Walter Butler his Heirs & Assigns against all & every Person or Persons Whatsoever Claiming or to Claim any Right Title or Interest, of in or to the same of any Part thereof, Shall and will for ever Warrant, & Defend by these Presents; In Witness whereof the said Thomas Butler to these Presents, hath hereunto Set his Hand and Seal, the Day and Year first above Written

Sealed and Delivered}

In the Presence of}

THO<sup>s</sup>: BUTLER

ALEXANDER M KANNY

DAN<sup>L</sup>: CLAUS:

INDORSED:

Tho<sup>s</sup>: Butlers Deed

To his Father Jan<sup>y</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup>: 1753

For Land

## AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>[*Jan 9-10, 1753*]<sup>2</sup>

Brother

Since we have heard of the Death of our Great Frind Sir Petter Warren<sup>3</sup> have all ways had Tears in our Eyes and as We look upon You to be in the Same Meloncholy Condition are Come to Condole with you and Dry up your Tears on this melon. occ<sup>n</sup>. For were you To Remain in this State it woud be a General loss to the Countrey but to us in particular we now Desire to wipe away your Tears and to open your Mouth and ears that you May a Gain See hear & Speak to us your Brothers

Belt

We are much Gri[e]ved for the loss of our Good Fri[e]nd As we are Convinced of the Good Services he has done against the Enemy. Nay to him we seemed to owe preservation now he is Gone and as its the Lords will We Submit to it but we must count our Selves now lost without him, nay we look on our Selves as Dead men or men Doom'd Shortly to Die for our Great Help is no more

A Belt

Brother

This Sorrow which is on us has Darkend our Eyes that we cou'd not Clearly See, the Sun Seemd Dim Darkned with Clouds but Now We Clear up that Darkness and the Clouds role aside that we Can begin to See the Sun Shine Bright

A Belt

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Records, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol 9.

<sup>2</sup> Date taken from the indorsement.

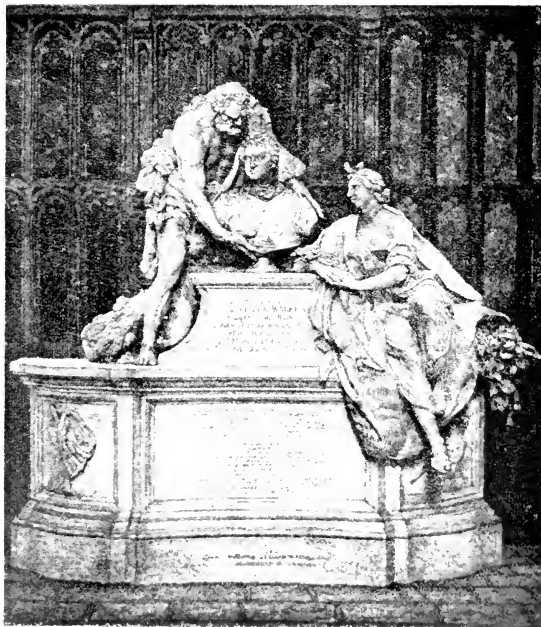
<sup>3</sup> Sir Peter Warren died in Dublin, Ireland, July 29, 1752.





HOME OF SIR PETER WARREN,  
FOURTH AND PERRY STREETS, NEW YORK  
CITY

From Martha J. Lamb's *History of the City of  
New York*, 1:588



TOMB OF SIR PETER WARREN IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY

From *The American Historical Register* (1895), 2:975



Brother

As we are Sensible the Grife with which you are Troubled is deep Setteled in Your Body We now with the Clearist water rench your inwards to remove the Grife whear buried there

a Belt

Brother

We Remember the Joyfull Day we first Saw you in our Country. its now Since about Seventeen Years ever since which time we have lived in the Greatist frindship and also dont forget you then told us you wou'd live & Die amongst us to our Great Sattisfaction

Belt

Brother

you have been A Great Good Standing tree amongst us a long time. We are now Troubled [to] find it falling. but are Detirmend [to] keep [it] up with all our Might. We want no other Tree but Such as you are and our Room or meeting place we Desire may [ ]

Belt

Brother

We leave here with you a little bag in which is Contained all Necessaryes Relateing to News we Desire you to take particular Care of it, in it youl find a Candle which you will light imeadiately on reciveing any News relateing to your Belts its light will bring your News Clear To us Either by Night or Day

Belt

Brother

forget you then told us you wou'd live & Die amongst us to our sioners to take Care of us and our News We dont like them Nor Wont hear them Speak in any Shape Nay if our Good Brother the Gov<sup>t</sup>. wants to Speak with us through those men We the two Castles of the Mohawks Wont heare his News

We Cant Say how the upper Nations Will behave in this for they Speak with lips & not with hearts Which is not our principle

Belt

INDORSED:

Jan<sup>y</sup>. 9<sup>th</sup>. & 10<sup>th</sup>. 1753

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*May 22<sup>d</sup>. 1753 —*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCEY

Your favour by Mr. Ogilvie<sup>2</sup> I received together with the Negroe fellow, Whom I shall have as great Care taken of as if my own — I received Yesterday a letter from Capt<sup>n</sup>. Stoddert, an Abstract of which I send Your Excellency, as I look upon it worthy Your Excellencys Notice &ca. — I make bold also to inclose a letter I received from the Mayor of Albany, purely for Your Excellencys perusal, it shews what they want to have done, and indeed could it be obtained, I think it would be a great Security to Albany. however I shall say nothing on that Head, being of opinion Your Excellency will be addressed by Others more imediately concerned.

I have Been so much from Home this time past, that my business is quite backward, which will prevent my going to York, as early as I intended, however shall endeavour to be there ab<sup>t</sup>. the tenth of June. I assure You Sir, I am so much pestered now with Traders Indians &ca that I can scarce lay pen to paper. So hope Your

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. John Ogilvie.

Excellcy. will excuse Brevity, & Blunders, and believe me with all respect

Imaginable  
Your Excellency  
Most Obedient  
Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

PS: I thought it proper to let Your Excellency know, that the two Castles of y<sup>e</sup>. Mohawks are resolved to go to York very shortly, (as Some of their Cheifs told me yesterday) as I understand to have some greivances redressed, what they are, I realy know not as I did not choose to Ask. I beg Your Excellency wil let no one know, that I gave you the least Notice of it, as it would cause a great Jealousy. but I thought it my Duty to let y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency know something of it before they Sett of.—

ADDRESSED:<sup>1</sup>

To  
His Excellency  
the Honourable George Clinton —  
Capt<sup>n</sup>. Generall, & Governour in Cheif of  
the Province of New York &c<sup>a</sup>. &c<sup>a</sup>. &c<sup>a</sup>.  
att New York

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Coll Johnson 22<sup>d</sup> May  
Recd the 31<sup>st</sup> 1753  
with an extract of Capt Stodderds  
from Oswego  
The May[or] of Albanys letter  
of 17 May  
& giving me an acct y<sup>t</sup> the Indians  
intends to be down at New York.

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Clinton's hand.

FROM WALTER BUTLER

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*fort William June 12 1753*S<sup>R</sup>

these with my Humble Respects to you and to inform you that the Indians of this Castle Have this Afternoon met in the fort and Having Recid<sup>d</sup>: a belt of Wampum Has Informd me of the Affair as follows two Days ago News Came from Anadorgos<sup>2</sup> who has Recid<sup>d</sup>: this News with the Belt of Wampom from the french in this form Children I am Now agoing by Oswago and would not have you be any ways Desturbd att It as we are all french with out any Indians and would have you be still as we have no Desine against any Indians my Design is to Ohio and that to warn the Inglesh of from my ground We are so favourable to give them in Sivel terms Warning to Remove three times of from my ground the which if they do not wee shall Drive them by force of armes He Likewise Informd us that they under Stood the English Intended to Hold fast and keep footing where they was and they said they Lik<sup>d</sup>: it very well and was glad to hear that porposal of the English Inhabitants as they the french was able to Cut them in peices so this being Immediately Drawn up I thought proper to send it forth with that you may take your own sentements in the Affair above Deliver<sup>d</sup>:

So S<sup>r</sup> I am Your Most Hum<sup>b</sup>:

Servant to Comand —

WALTER BUTLER

P S S<sup>R</sup>

please to Do me that favour to give my Duty to His Excelency and Let —. You know I am I thank God in a state of Health —

WALTER BUTLER

<sup>1</sup>In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich. Inclosed in a letter from Johnson to Clinton, and in Clinton to Gov. James Hamilton, June 18, 1753. Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 5:624.

<sup>2</sup> Onondaga.



HOME OF COLONEL JOHN BUTLER AND HIS SON CAPTAIN WALTER BUTLER  
ON SWITZER HILL NEAR FONDA, N. Y.

Photograph by Harry V. Bush of Canajoharie, N. Y.





ADDRESSED:

To  
the Hon<sup>ble</sup>: W<sup>m</sup> Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>:  
att New York

INDORSED:

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Butlers Letter to Coll Johnson  
the 12 June delivered to me the  
18 & laid before y<sup>e</sup>. Council<sup>1</sup>  
the 18th 1753

FROM ARENT STEVENS

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Schenectady, 13th June, 1753.*

S<sup>R</sup>.:

This Day I received from the Five Nations of Indians a Belt of Wampum with a Message that I should forward it to your Excellency and Col. Johnson, which I here do with all imaginable Duty. The Wampum the French made a Speech with to the Five Nations at Onondaga, which was to assure them that the French Governor had no Design to hurt his Children the Five Nations, but that his Army was going to take Possession of their Lands at Ohio, and hoped that the English would not dispute with them but leave the Land on their arrival there, otherwise they would take it by Force of Arms; the Five Nations begs to assure your Excellency that they have so great a Regard for the English that they send to your Excellency the same Belt which they received from the French that you may see they act with the greatest Truth, but desire your Excellency will return them the Belt again.

The first Castle of Mohawk Indians are much displeas'd with the Conojohary Indians for going to New York before they

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<sup>1</sup> Of Pennsylvania.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 5:624-25. Inclosed in Johnson to Gov. George Clinton, and in Gov. George Clinton to Gov. James Hamilton, June 18, 1753.

knew whether it would be agreeable to your Excellency, for which reason they have not accompanied thither.

I am, with the utmost Respect, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,

ARENT STEVENS.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*July 30<sup>th</sup>. 1753 —*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY

I have only time to acquaint Your Excellency that as Soon as I got Home, I went to the Mohawks and called them all together and told them how their Bretheren of Conajoharee had behaved, at N. York. after which I sent Messingers to call the Conajoharies to my House where I ordered the Mohawks to attend also, the third day they arrived at my House to the Number of 250 great & small. They gave me their usual Salute wh. is firing all their Guns. after getting them all quarters, they mett, then Hendrick rose up & desired to speak a few Words first before I begun, which are as follows. Brother Warraghiyagey on receipt of your Message (by our Brother ye. Mohawks) our Hearts laughed for Joy to hear our only Brother was again impowered to treat with the Five Nations, and manage their Affairs, we then Agreed unanimously to go down, & hear you speak, but had the Governour desired the Commissioners of Albany to Invite us down, we would not move a Foot, nor hear them at all. as I have not time now to Cobby all that I said to them, and their Answers (being hurried with getting them away in good order after four days spent at my House) Hope it may at present Suffice to acquaint your Excellency that I have not only Joined or welded the Chain again and made it as Strong & bright as ever. but have also timely prevented the

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

warriours of both Castles going to Warr against the Catabaws, and Stopped above a Dozen Familys going to Canada being all ready for a March, the reason the latter gave me for their leaving this place, was that they must inevitably perish for want if they stay'd here, upon w<sup>h</sup>. I gave them a small matter of provision for the present, and promised them more which I hope I may be enabled to perform, as a breach of promise in such a Case especially at this time must be verry Ill taken. had I known their wants (when at York) as well as now should have laid out a good part of the Money for provisions as nothing could be more acceptable. I have considered the taking the Ax out of their hands at this time would not be proper, and have asked their opinion about it, they agreed w<sup>th</sup>. me and said that were it to be done now, as the French are at War with their Brothers at Ohio, & Elsewhere, that it would be like tying their Hands, while their people were knocked in the Head, & begged it might not be done at this Juncture. wherefore I thought it my Duty to acquaint Your Excellency of it, and know how I am to act in that affair, being part of my Instructions, and also Inserted in my Commission. If I may give my opinion, I think it best to be done when the Gov<sup>r</sup>. Meets them at Albany, provided it be then peace. It will be verry necessary to make Sachims now when I go up in Every Nation (as there are severall dead) of those who are most hearty in our Interest. for which purpose I should want at least Eight, or ten Meddalls. which if approved of, the Sooner they were Sent up the better, I assure Your Excellency that by doing so, the French have gained a great many to their Interest. and must daily more, if we do not the Same at least.

I am with all due respect

Your Excellencys

Most Obedient

Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

WM. JOHNSON

P S. there Are Severall Seneca Sachims att my house now who have waited my return from York above twenty Days, also Some Ondaga's & Oneidas, by whom I shall Send a Belt of Wampum to Morrow to acquaint the Five Nations of my goeing up to Onondaga soon, and that they may be all ready at a Call to mett  
To GOV<sup>R</sup>. CLINTON

INDORSED:

Coll Johnsons 30 July.  
Reced ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1753  
31<sup>st</sup> August. Read in Council

TRANSACTIONS WITH THE SIX NATIONS

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[Sept. 8, 1753]

September the 8<sup>th</sup>: 1753 Entered the Onondago Castle being met by the Sechems a Mile on this side, who said they were all ready to Receive me, Soon after I was seated the Red Head one of the Chief Sachems of the Castle spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

As you enter Our Meeting Place, with wet Eyes, and sorrowfull Hearts, in Conjunction with our Breatheren the Mohawks, we do by this String of Wampum wipe away your Tears, and asswage your Grief, that you may Speak freely in this Assembly.

here they gave a String of Wampum

Now follows the Speech to the General Convention of the six Nations at Onondago.

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Bretheren of the 6 Nations.

The great Concern I am under for the Loss of Our three great and beloved Brothers. Caghniagarote, Onughsadego, & Gahuskerowano, who in their time made your Assembly compleat, makes it incumbent on me, to Condole their Death, and as it is a great Loss to Us in general I by these three Belts of Wampum dry up your Tears that we may see each other clear your Throats, that we may speak together, and wash away their Blood out of Our Sight, and Cover their Bones with those Strowd Blankets.

here gave 3 Belts of Wampum & 3 Blankets of Strouds

Bretheren of the 6 Nations

I am now to acquaint you, that the Indisposition of the Present Governor and the Expectation of the Sudden Arrival of a New one has Occasioned the Interview Proposed at Albany between you and him this Summer to be deferred, upon which I am Commissioned to treat with you, and at the same time to Assure you, that the succeeding Governor will meet you as soon as he conveniently can with Presents as Usual, You will then have an Opportunity of Laying before him whatever is amiss, which will be redressed you may depend on, without any unnecessary Delays till then I hope all of you will live in Perfect harmony, with Our Brethren the English.

A Belt

Bretheren of the 6 Nations

It grieves me sorely to find the Road hither so grown up with Weeds for want of being used and your Fire almost Expiring at Onondago where it was agreed by the Wisdom of Our Ancestors, that it should never be Extinguished, you know it was a saying among them that when the Fire was out here, you would be no longer a People. I am now sent by your Brother the Governor, to clear the Road and make up the Fire with such Wood as will never burn out, & I earnestly desire, you would

take Care to keep it up so as to be found always the same when he shall send among you.

A Belt

Bretheren of the 6 Nations.

I have now renewed the Fire, Swept clean all your Rooms, with a New white Wing, and leave it hanging near the Fire Place, that you may Use it for cleaning all dust, Durt &<sup>a</sup>. which may have been brought in by Strangers, no Friends to you or Us.

A String

Bretheren of the 6 Nations

I am sorry to find in my Arrival among you, that the fine Shady Tree, which was Planted by Our Forefathers for your Ease, and Shelter, should be now leaning, being almost blown down by Northerly Winds, I shall now endeavor to set it upright, that it may flourish as formerly, while the Roots spread abroad, so that when we sit or stand on them, you will feel them shake, should any Storm Blow, then should you be ready to secure it.—

A Belt

Bretheren of the 6 Nations.

Your fire now Burns clearly at the old Place, the Tree of Shelter and Protection is set and flourishes, I must now insist upon your Quenching that Fire made with Brambles at Oswegatsy and recall those to their Proper home who have deserted thither, I cannot leave dissuading you from going to Canada, the French are a delusive People who are endeavouring to divide you as much as they can, nor will they let slip any opportunity of making advantage of it. This formidable News we hear, that the French and some Indians are making a Descent upon Ohio, Is it with your Consent or leave, that they Proceed in this extraordinary manner endeavouring by force of Arms to dispossess your own Native Allies, as well as your Breather'n the English and establish themselves.

A Large Belt

Bretheren of Onondago.

I must remind you of a New Custom lately introduced, very inconvenient for our mutual Interest, that is when you receive News from the Westward, Southward or any other Quarter, you send it from one Castle to another, till it arrives quite altered from what it was at first, I therefore require you by this Belt of Wampum to follow the Old Custom, and send it as far as you intend it should go, directly by some of your own Nation.—

A Belt

Bretheren of the Senekas

As you have allways been looked upon as the Door of the six Nations, where all News especially from the Westward and Southward must enter, and go out we dont hear this Door open as we Used to do formerly, and believe it to be worn out and think it Necessary to hang on a New one, of such Wood as will never decay, the Noise of which when it opens should Alarm the whole Confederacy, I must not desire, that whatever your hear of Consequence, you would send it very distinctly to the Sachems of Onondago, who will send it directly to your Brether'n. I require also as you are Nearest to the Western Tribes of Indians that you will endeavor all in your Power to draw as many of them into your Interest as Possibly you can, by which Means the 6 Nations may continue their Strength and Credit.

A Belt

Bretheren of Oneida.

I am now to set up your Stone Strait, and rub off all Moss, and Dirt it may have contracted this time past, my best Advice is to have your Castles as near together as conveniently you can, with the Tuscaroras who belong to you as Children, and the Skaniadaradighronos lately come into your Alliance, or Famalies, which makes it Necessary for me, to fix a New String to the Cradle, which was hung up by your Forefathers, when they Received the Tuscarores, as you do now, the Skaniadaradighronos to feed and protect

A Belt

Bretheren of Cajuga.

I could heartily wish, that you would not live so Scattered, and that you would not listen to the French who are a People you never had any Alliance with, or Obligation to it is Agreeable News that you are about Strengthening your Castle, by taking in the Tedarighronos, and shall according to your Request give a Pass to those of that Nation here among you that they and the Rest of them may come and join your Castle unmolested.

here was given a Belt and Pass for the Tedarighronas

Bretheren of the 6 Nations.

You must imagine I was much Troubled, when immediately after my Appointment to meet you at Onondago, to renew, and put in Order, every thing relating to your Affairs, to hear that some of your People were returned with Scalps and Prisoners from the Catabas, with whom you made so Solemn a Peace last Year in my Presence, which pleased all your Broathers the English upon this Continent. the King your Father also approv'd of it. now what an everlasting shame must it be to the 6 Nations if this Bloody Affair be not immediately made up, if it be possible I expect at least that you return the Prisoners if any you have, and Commit no further Hostilities on that Nation.

A Belt

Bretheren of the 6 Nations.

As I Proceed to reform everything relative to the Old Covenant between you and Us, I must Remind you on your Part, to hold fast by that Strong Chain of Friendship made by your Forefathers, the Memory of whose Actions you have always regarded, you may depend upon the Part in our Hands that it shall never Slip. I congratulate you in the Name of your Brother the Governor on the two Additional Links to the Old Chain, the Skaniadaradighronos & Tedarighronos, who without Doubt must increase the Strength of it.

A Belt



Bretheren of the 6 Nations.

I take this Opportunity to return you the 3 Belts of Wampum sent by you to the Governor, with a Request to hinder the Rum from coming among you, he was very glad to gratify you in it, and that you had seen the ill consequences of that bewitching Liquor, and hopes you will continue in that resolution allways, the Proclamation forbidding Rum to be Sold any where among you, excepted Osswego, is Published.

here Returned them their 3 Belts.—

Bretheren of the 6. Nations.

I have now only to recommend what I have said to your Serious Consideration, and when you are prepared to return an Answer, I should be glad to hear it by the Lake, where I am encamped, and have a small Present for you and some Provision for the Families.

The Red Head reply'd to this imediately by Order of the whole

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

You may be Assured we shall take to Heart all your Words and deliberate upon every Article, as it requires some time, you must not think it long if we dont come down to the Lake where you lay as you Expect, to Morrow, it may be the Next day, tho' we consider it cant be agreeable to you to live in the Woods, We shall make what Dispatch we can.—

The Answer of the Six Nations at Onondago to the foregoing Speech, Given September the 10<sup>th</sup>. 1753.

The Red Head, being appointed Speaker.

Brother Warraghiiyagey,

We are oblidgd to you for your Speech, and Act of Condolance, for the Loss of Our three great Brothers. Caghniagagota, Onyghsadego, and Gahusqueronano, and we are the

more affected, as it was done conformable to Our manner, we are too sensible of what consequence they were off in this Assembly, to say more would exaggerate our concern, which we now wish was entirely suppress'd

A Belt

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

We are Sorry to hear our Brother the Governor is Sick, and we thank you for giving us Notice of the Sudden Arrival of a New one, we shall suspend some matters of Consequence till then, some of which, we shall mention in order as we proceed to Answer that Part of our Speech relative thereto, all of us will cheerfully attend when he pleases to call and are unalterable in Our Ancient Friendship with our Bretheren the English.—

A Belt

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

We acknowledge with equal concern with you that the Road between us has been Obstructed, and almost grown up with Weeds, that our Fire is Scattered and almost Extinct, we return you Our most hearty Thanks, for Recruiting the Fire with such Wood as will Burn clear and not go out and we Promise that we shall with utmost care dress and keep it up as we are sensible, from what has been said by Our Forefathers, that the Neglect of it would be Our Ruin.

A Belt

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

We know very well the Use of the White Wing you recommended, and are determined to use it, to sweep out whatever may hinder the Fire from Burning with a Pure Flame.

a String

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

You may depend upon our Care in defending the Tree which you have replanted from the inclemency of the High Winds from Canada we are full of Acknowledgment, for your Care and Admonition, and be Assured, we shall watch every threatening Cloud from thence, that we may be ready, to prop it up.

A Belt

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

We Rejoyce that we see the Fire burn where it should do, the Tree of Shelter look strong and Flourishing, and you may depend upon our Quenching that false Fire at Osswegalty, and doing all we can to recall Our Brothers too often seduced that Way, tho' we did not conceive we had done so much Amiss in going thither, when we Observe that you White People pray, and we have no nearer Place to learn to Pray, and have our Children Baptized, then that, however as you insist upon it, we will not go that way, nor be any more divided. I must now say, it is not with our Consent, that the French have Committed any Hostilities at Ohio, we dont know what you Christians French, and English together intend we are so hemm'd in by both, that we have hardly a Hunting place left, in a little while, if we find a Bear in a Tree, there will immediatly Appear an Owner for the Land to Challenge the Property, and hinder us from killing it which is our livelyhood, we are so Perplexed, between both, that we hardly know what to say or to think.

A Belt

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

In behalf of our Brethern of this Castle, of Onondago, I must say, that hereafter we shall transmitt our Bretheren the English whatever we hear of Consequence invariable and directly according to the old Custom.

A Belt

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

The Senekas do know themselves to be the Door of the six Nations, and thank you for renewing it, as we are Sensible it was much wanted and with such durable Wood as will never Rott, we shall be quick to hear when it opens and shall communicate distinctly what News is Passing, to Our Brothers at Onondago, in Order to be dispatched to Our Brethern the English, and shall be very Sollicitous to invite all Nations to enter at that Door and shall endeavour to keep the Roads to it clear and open.

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

We thank you for clearing the Oneida Stone, and setting it upright, and shall agreeable to your Advice, collect our People, together, also the Tuscaroros, be they scattered where they may, and the Skaniadaradighronos we do unite with us, a small Party of whom are here Present, to hear you and to take their share of Our Brother the Governours Bounty. We also return thanks for the new String, fixed to the Cradle, contrived by our Forefathers, to receive those new Bretheren, we intend to nourish and Provide for.

A String

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

The Cajugas say they have not been more conversant, with the French, than the rest of the six Nations, they will endeavour to keep themselves as Compact as they can, and thank you for this Intuition, being sensible it is for their own good, they also return you thanks for the Pass you were Pleased to give to the Tedarighronos, to come and unite with them to Strengthen their Castle, Three of these are now amongst us to partake in the Name of their Nation of the Intended Present.

A Belt

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

We are heartily concerned, with you that some of our People went out against the Catabaws and hope you will not take it a Miss, if we do not give you a difinitive Answer upon that End, at Present we can only desire your Patience, till the Fighters are all Home, there being very few here, when we shall in each Castle consult them and return an Answer at the first Meeting with the Governour. This is in Part what we Proposed to suspend till his coming, as I mentioned before I returned the second Belt.

A Belt

Brother Warraghiiyagey.

You may depend upon whatever may be Expected on our part to bring the Covenant Chain to its former brightness, it was

high Time, being almost Eat through with rust, for want of proper Care and Inspection we are glad you are Pleased that we have connected thereto, the Skaniadaradighronos, and Tedarighronos, all of whom we dayly expect among Us.

A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We Return you a great many thanks, for Stopping the Rum coming to the six Nations, and would be very glad the same Prohibition would have Effect at Osswego.

To the last I replyd (he intended to continue his Speech) that could not be at Present, likewise told them, that it would do great Pleasure to the French, while we were forbid to Sell Rum at Osswego, they Sold what they thought fit at Niagara, a Place which was Forceably taken from them, I Expected they would first hinder French Selling Spirituous Liquors there, before they proposed to stop it at Osswego, especially as it is a Place Agreed on by all the six Nations to be in the Hands of the English as a general Mart for all their Necessities, as well as for the sundry wants of all the Indians to the Westward and Southward.

They Replyed Immediatly by the same Speaker, they would go to Niagara, and forbid the French Selling Rum or any Spiritous Liquors, and also said, that they had not given that Place to the French, but that they Settled there without the six Nations Consent.

gave a Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We are Pleased with every thing you have said, and return you a great many Thanks for speaking in Our own way, which is more Intelligible to us, because conformable to the Custom and manner of our forefathers we earnestly beg that if we call or send for you or the Mohawks or the Senakas, that you will not Neglect coming, we have often Stretched out our Necks, expecting to see you, but have been disappointed, I hope for the future you and they will always appear and Attend the meeting, as we Expect a Mutual Correspondence, we shall not

omit sending all the News that drives with us, and hope the same from you directly.

After returning thanks for the Present

Ended

INDORSED:

Copy  
Coll William Johnsons  
Diary of his Proceedings  
with the Six Nations  
at Onondago in Sept<sup>r</sup>  
1753.

A MEMORANDUM

*A. D.*<sup>1</sup>

Memorandum of Such things as I would have done Untill I come Home again — January the 2<sup>d</sup>. 1754 —

To Speak to such People as owe me long, to pay me now either in wheat pease or money and if they will bring it to Albany that is the Pease, I will allow them Albany prices then in Such Case they must Store it at Jacob Van Bentheusen, and let them bring a receipt always from him that they have delivered it, and how much —

The Wheat they pay to be left here and give them exact Credit for it. Any one I owe to for Roots &<sup>ca</sup>. let them have what Goods they [ ] as payment keeping also an Exact Acc<sup>tt</sup>. of what you pay & to Whom.

To make the Indians accounts out, and to make them pay their Debts not to give them any Credit, except to a good Honest paymaster.—

What Grain You receive to Store it Safe in the bake House w<sup>h</sup>. keep locked always, and let Wolfe put Some Boards for lining in y<sup>e</sup>. Inside They may Store Wheat in y<sup>e</sup>. Mill at the North End thereof [ ]].

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Miscellaneous Papers, 1714–1790. Claus Papers, W. Vol. 14.

To let the Negroes take Good Care of all the Cattle & feed them well also to ride Home all the Hay from the Old Farm, the Oats of the Isleand & the Wheat [*as fast as possible.*] Rest of the Negroes to keep Cutting & Clearing the Side of the Road at the End of the Stone Wall quite to the next Bridge. When it is good rideing after they have done bringing home the Hay, Wheat, & Oats, then let them ride Home the Stones from below round the Wall here, and also the Stones out of the feild, beyond the Bridge for a fence, to be laid Streight—trust none of the Neighbours who are poor and cant pay—

The price of all Skins—Bever	8 <sup>s</sup>	if good
Wheat	3 <sup>s</sup> or leave it till I come	leather 4/ or 4/6 from the Indians if Soft & Good
pease	2/6 or leave it as above	Bears from 6–8–10–12–to 14 as in goodness
Corn	1/6 $\text{¶}$ Sk.—	Wolves 3/6 $\text{¶}$ Skin —
		[ ]

as soon as the Skow is finished let the Hands fall ab<sup>t</sup>. rideing Home y<sup>e</sup>. Wheat as fast as possible, and feed all the Creatures plentifully with y<sup>e</sup>. Straw of it. and to bring home all the Turnips. very good care to be taken of the Breeding Mares, & the Colts, & Calves &<sup>ca</sup>.—

A Shed of Boards to be made for y<sup>e</sup>. big Mare in y<sup>e</sup>. Barrack Yard, & to have her taken Good Care of.—If any extraordinary news comes or happens write me word by y<sup>e</sup>. next Post very full & particular —

If there should be good rideing you can get up y<sup>e</sup>. Cyder from Albany and the Slays to bring down Pease, & Store it at Bentheusens.—

If any people bring pease here you can agree with them for 2/9 a Skiple or 3<sup>s</sup> the most if fine pease. for Wheat the Same.

To send the p<sup>s</sup> of Chains that are here to y<sup>e</sup>. Smiths to get them putt together and fastened to the Skow and keep her locked on the Isleand only When they want to use her, by no means to allow any body to use her but Just for carrying of y<sup>e</sup>. Grain from the Isleand —

If there should be much rideing yet, you can Store pease on y<sup>e</sup>. loft of the New House, gett y<sup>e</sup>. trap Door neiled down, and Hinges & a Lock on y<sup>e</sup>. Door at y<sup>e</sup>. Gable End —

Franck the Cooper to be makeing Staves & Heads for flower Barrels after he has done Shingleing y<sup>e</sup>. top of y<sup>e</sup>. New House which will be done in a Day or two.—

To have some Loggs laid under the Bak House

To secure the Store House in Case of Need

FRAGMENT OF A DEPOSITION

*D. S.*<sup>1</sup>

And further the Deponent saith Not

Sworn the fifth day of  
March 1754 Before

JN<sup>o</sup> CHAMBERS

WILL JOHNSON

INDORSED:

5 March 1754

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Affidavit of Co. Johnson to  
prove the purchase of Lands  
by Nathan Sewell

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<sup>1</sup> In Onondaga Historical Association, Syracuse, N. Y.



TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*New York March  
the 12<sup>th</sup>. 1754 —*

SIR.

Inclosed with this you have my opinion of some of Our Publick affairs. I must now crave the favour to lay before You what relates to myself. I am not reimbursed a Shilling by the Assembly since your departure, nor have I reason to expect anything from them tho they cant help acknowledging my Services and influence with the Indians, and would be glad I would continue it by Joining my Interest with their Commissioners at Albany, which is impossible we think so differently respecting the direction of Indian Affairs, their allowance from y<sup>e</sup>. Province being not more than Sufficient to treat or trade with the French Mohawks which they Seem most fond off. My residence is among our Indians and what is to be negociated with them would fall under my Management, which I might proceed in, & be used as You are sencible I have been, while I expected a Recompence. If the Ministry or Board of Trade should think it necessary from the present critical scituation of the Indians to put them upon a more proper & established footing, I should think it an Honour to be employed, and you may be assured that whatever Part may be allotted for me to act in, shall be discharged with integrity not Doubting but his Majesties appointment on Such Account will put me above any other business but meerly his Service.

The Command you were pleased to mention would do me great Honour, and would Augment my Influence with the Indians, for the Management of Whom, A Plan I suppose will be formed by the Ministry or Board of Trade, concerning which I should not presume to be more particular than what I have hinted in the Inclosed. Tho my own private Opinion is, that

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

y<sup>e</sup>. Six Nations as they are now circumstanced are the best Cards we, & y<sup>e</sup>. French Can play against One another, and I belive he that has most in his Hands will be the winner in our Land Disputes.—

I hope Sir You will not forget Our freind Doctor Shuckburgh who is and has been a Sufferer here from his attachment to You. It is now more visible than Ever since your departure. he has been up with me this Winter in the Mohawks Country, and I must Acknowledge myself much obliged to him from time to time for the many Usefull remarks he has furnished me with relating to the Indians. If there should be any New Plan concerted for the Management of Indian affairs, I Should be extremely glad that he had some Appointment in the direction so as to be near Me, being thoroughly sensible (from an Intimate Acquaintance of many Years) of his Ability, & Integrity, besides has a middling Estate in the Government. I fear I have tired your patience with my long Scrawl, so desire leave to Conclude with my best Respects to You, Your Lady & Family.

& am

S<sup>r</sup>. with y<sup>e</sup>. Sincerest  
Attachment. Your  
Most Devoted  
Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:<sup>1</sup>

To

The Honr<sup>ble</sup>. George Clinton

INDORSED:

12<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1754.

Coll. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

to the Honourable

Adm<sup>l</sup>. Clinton —

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<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

TO GEORGE CLINTON

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*New York**March the 12<sup>th</sup>. 1754 —*

SIR

By this time I hope among the rest of Your Freinds I may felicitate Your Arrival in England with Your Lady and Miss. My being employed in the Woods laying out Lotts, and Settling Several Families on my late purchase until December, prevented my doing myself the honour of writing to You sooner. there has been no oportunity but this Since my return. I have not been here Since Your departure till now oblided by my own private business, and no sooner in Town but was Summoned to attend the Lieut. Governour in Council on Acc<sup>ts</sup>. of an Express Just come from y<sup>e</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Virginia, with a letter also from the French Commandant of a Fort lately built at the River OBoeuff near Ohio, declareing his intention to Mantain the Same against the English, being an Answer to that Government by Major Washington who was Sent thither as We conceive to warn the French off, or at least to see what they were doing which I belive will be better Understood by the inclosed Examination taken by me at my House in the Mohawks Country, than from any other Acc<sup>ts</sup>. yet made Publick, especially as it corresponds with a Narrative I had before of Said affair by the Indians. I would not wave the first oportunity of shewing it in Council, as the makeing of it known might be of imediate Use to his Majesty's Service in these parts. Otherwise as I am little consulted by those who have the management of Indian Affairs at Albany, I should have contented my Self to have given You only the Information (Agreable to Your request before You Embarked) among other matters to recommend my continued diligence to the notice of the Ministry. The Inclosed Examination discovers the Actual Proceedings of the French upon a Plan long since concerted, and the Execution

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

of it in great forwardness is now too Visible. You may remember Sir Some Years ago, the Indians brought me some leaden plates significantly engraved, which had been buried in Several places, on, and about the River Ohio by the French under pretence of taking possession there. those I sent to You. they now digg up more of the same Sort, one of wh<sup>h</sup>. is nailed to the Door or Gate of one of the New Forts to Shew the Indians, who are not att all pleased therewith, but afraid of the French being unsupported by Us. That the French do extend and will continue thair Settlements to the South West is most certain, being truly sensible that the Inhospitable Country of Canada to the Northward would be never able to furnish them w<sup>th</sup>. provisions to make a Continual discent upon all our Colonies, but the Fertile land on the back of us is well known to be capable of producing more than sufficient to Supply our Eneimies were they infinitely more numerous. the Settlement of Detroit on the North Side of Lake Erie, that village being near as large as Schenectady and covered by a Fort is too far from a Market to dispose of any produce, but lays verry opertune to Supply their Troops passing & repassing. I now beg leave to refer You to my letter of the 22<sup>d</sup>. of November 1749 in which are some remarks upon Indian Affairs the recital of which may be too tedious here In the Meantime without any reflection upon present or past Management of the Indians Who are much altered from what they were Some Years ago Especially Since the French have without interruption for some time Successively been treating with them. And most States are Subject or liable to Some Accidentall Vicissitudes from some cause or other, which it may be loss of time now [to] look into. It may be thought best to direct our management according to the present Exigency then can it be supposed from the present State of the Six Nations, now Eight that the miserable pittance of £170 York Curr<sup>y</sup>.  $\text{p}$  Annum, with the uncertain donation of Presents is Sufficient to retain such a number of People in the British Interest, while we are certainly far outbid by the French in the purchase of their freindship. A People who from their

Scituation are of the Highest Consequence to the preservation of all our Colonies on the Continent. The French being under the necessity of takeing their Rout thorough their Country in their March to the Southward, and the Eyes of all the Western and other far Indians are upon the behaviour of the Six Nations whose fame of power may in some measure exceed the reality. While they only Act a timid & neutral Part, I dont know a more practicable way to hinder the incursions of the French, and to revive the Spirit of the Indians than by establishing garrisons in the most Commodious places among the Six Nations, for until such time that their Family's & Corn Lands &ca. are protected 'twould be difficult to obtain their Assistance against the French on any Emergency. All Nations are at liberty to make use of their own lawful Territory. The Six Nations and their Country was allowed by Treaty to belong to Us. therefore by Vertue of that, and of the Antient League between us & them they may permit us to build Forts in Each of their Castles, or Nations where it may be Judged most requisite. and it would be highly necessary so to do to Cover us and them previous to any more active Measures, which may be with more discretion used hereafter, as in case of an Actual rupture. A proper Number of Smiths to be provided for, to repair and keep in order their Arms and planting Utensils in every Nation. Some Young People of learning, at least Grammar to reside among them in order to become good interpreters which are verry much wanted. there might be Catachists or Schoolmasters among them. A Smith also at Oswegoe to repair the arms &ca of the farr Indians who come down to trade there annually. and a farther Encouragement would be proper to a more general Trade and intercourse with all the Indians at that place, as it is a general Mart, and is known to all of them. A great part of the Indian trade as it now Stands, is little more than our Goods Sold to the French at a moderate Profit, and they on resale to the Indians have a considerable advantage, whereby they have also an oportunity of a general interview with the Indians every Where, which we dont seem to be sufficiently anxious to inter-

rupt them in. nor are the Indians so reasonably dealt with as if we had carried the Goods up among them ourselves and disposed of them immediately at first hand. In this light we may look upon the Indian trade as it is carried on by certain Traders, or Handlers, & the Cognawagay Indians or French Mohawks, who are carriers for the French, and are so prejudiced in favour of it that they seem to neglect the general trade with the Indians at Oswego, and would imply that in that intercourse of Trade consisted the whole art of managing the Indians. You may remember Sir it was held as a Maxim among some during your administration that the French Indians Should be permitted to trade even in War time. I cant think either in War or Peace it can be good in the general. it may do to Satisfie the immediate lucrative views of a few Individuals, but cutts of all communication between us, & the Farr Indians. I am convinced the French would never admit of this, if it was not an advantage to them. I have taken upon me to mention these remarks upon the Trade to Canada, as I have now before me my own Explanation of a Petition from the Handlers of Oswego to Your Excellency then in Council, in the Year 1751 which I have herewith inclosed a Cobby of, wherein it may be observed that Stores are provided for the Indians at Niagara as well as at other Tradeing Houses to the Westward, and which are not sold only but given occasionally as the Indians Stand in need of them. such kind of Encouragement should be provided for by an Allowance to the Kings Officer at Oswego who should be Comissary to regulate the Trade. This Allowance should be expended in some Cloathing for presents, also Arms, & amunition to be given by the Officer when he treats with the foreign Indians, and Stores of provisions which they while there, and on their return to their own Country are generally much in need of, and cannot be furnished with from the Garrison who have only a Competent Allowance, and the Handlers themselves in general scantily provided. A More Strict lookout at Oswego might be kept to hinder the French from passing by there up the Onondaga River among the Six Nations either to

trade with or corrupt them. This and what I have mentioned before, I believe might be effected without giving Umbrage to the French, & the Sooner the better I think. Here is a large Extent of Country, and intirely uncovered in case of War, and exposed to y<sup>e</sup>. Incursions of the Enemy from every little Commanderie, which may be as fatal to the Neighbouring Colonies as Crown Point was to us in y<sup>e</sup>. late War. A Fort or Two at certain Passes in y<sup>e</sup>. way from Crown Point to New York & New England would be very necessary, those to be built at places fixed upon by these Governments. I wont presume to say what may be necessary to be done further by the Neighbouring Colonies, but believe they by this time have reason to think that we are not the only People that must prepare to defend themselves against the French and Indians. I am in hopes from this that the different Colonies may be more united in their Councils than I am afraid they are, especially in Indian Affairs. A General encouragement from them all would convince the Indians of our Union, and be a certain caus of making them less divided in their Councils than they are at present, in a great measure owing to the Uncertainty of our acting vigorously against the French, who with Their Indians are continually tampering with them, a late Instance of which, I discovered a little before I came from Home. One of our Mohawks returning from Canada brought a Message from the French Mohawks Inviteing both Castles of our Mohawks to go to Canada with their Family's, Importing farther that if they regarded their own Safety or welfare they would hear to their freindly Advice, and Invitation that if any of them were naked or bare of Cloaths as they Said they knew they often were, that It should be no hinderance for they would be Supplied with all necessarrys at the South End of Lake S<sup>t</sup>. Sacrament where there would also be a Sufficient number of Boats to carry them all to Canada, that if they could but Succeed in this, as their concern was for them, whom they looked upon as their flesh & Blood, they would not then regard the five Nations, nor what the English could do. there was a great

deal more Said to induce them to go, too tedious to insert here. You will excuse Sir my giving You so long a detail concerning Indian Affairs as in y<sup>e</sup>. Course of this letter, when I tell You I could not comprise the Modern State of the Indians in those parts (which I promised to Send You) in less Compass.

There is yet something material Occurs to me which is this, that there should be if possible a Continued Correspondence between the Residents in the different Nations of Indians whether Military Officers or Others, & that both by Land & Sea quite from Georgia thorough the Country of the Indians Inhabiting both Carolinas to New York at least, that the different Colonies may be constantly Alarmed of the Actions or Designs of the French. this might be done in a great measure by the Indians from the Senecas Country, as they keep up a Strict Correspondence with the different Nations inhabiting beyond them, and that being our Frontier as well as theirs it would be very necessary to have a Fort there garrisoned by Soldiers as Soon as may be. 'twould also be highly requisite that such correspondence should be regularly Carried on by the Different Governments as well as by Indians aforesaid, that all might be fully acquainted with each others proceedings with y<sup>e</sup>. Indians. The Post from Virginia should be made more certain. The necessity of such a Correspondence has been lately eminent in two Cases first when I was required last Summer by this Government to convene the Six Nations at Onondaga, the Pensilvania Interpreter was ordered at the same time to negotiate with the Indians, till I stopt him at my House by your Orders. Now the Lieut. Governour here has appointed the 14<sup>th</sup>. of next June to meet the Six Nations at Albany. Mr. Dinwiddie of Virginia acquainted the Gov<sup>r</sup>. here that he intended to meet the Six Nations next May in his Government, so of Course cannot attend the Conference at Albany as was expected of him as well as of the Other Governments. this shews to the Indians how disconcerted we Act, and the less prospect there is of an Union among Us, I may venture to Say the Same will be among them. However the particular Interest of the Different Prov-



inces may Clash, it would I think be absolutely necessary by Some high Act to make them more united against the Common Enemy. The French Surrounding us continually may make all the Colonies advert more to the General Interest but I believe they will never think alike in Politicks till all are included in one grand Act of the Home Legislature. You will be good enough to excuse Sir the freedom & Manner I've used in this Account of Indian Affairs, consisting partly of Facts & partly of my own opinion, which be pleased to make use of as You think proper. besides the pleasure I always take in obeying your Commands, I own I had some private Inducement in regard to myself that has occasioned me to write, being verry intimately Effectuated as all I have is too Near the French and Indians. So hope as You are best acquainted with those Affairs, Your Influence with the Ministry may work some Seasonable Alteration in our Indian Politicks here on the Continent. While I am writeing this Young Mr. Alexander introduces to me a Messenger from Governour Hamilton who Sends him to Connecticut to require the People of that Colony & Massachusets not to persist in their Intentions of purchasing of the Six Nations a verry large Tract of Land upon the Borders of Susquahanah. this Gentleman without any letter from Mr. Hamilton to such purpose, desires to be Acquainted whether I knew of any Steps the Said Governments had taken towards makeing such a purchase, and begged I would hinder it if possible. on the Other Hand the New England People have applied to me for my Influence with the Six Nations to facilitate their Purchase, who want only a Hundred Miles Square. these are Affairs I should not choose to meddle in unless I was properly Authorised, tho I am certain others would make a great advantage had they the same opertunity. I believe the Indians att present will not be easily brought in to allow either of them Settleing on their Lands. before I conclude I must acquaint You that there is another Express arrived here from Governour Dinwidde, with an Account that his Government has raised ten thousand Pound for defraying the expence of Six Com-

panys to be sent forthwith to the River Ohio, there to build a Fort to Secure their Frontier &ca. If any part of the Indians should be prevailed upon to Join the French in crowding us towards the Sea, it would be necessary as Soon as possible to take Some measures as I have hinted above to secure the Six Nations and their Allies, which I belive is not quite impracticable Yet. One thing more I must remark while I am giving my undisguised opinion of the Indians. they have told me that they would be unwilling that either the French, or We should Settle on Ohio, which is the Cheif Hunting place they have left. So that they rather expected we would join them in driveing and keeping the French off, than that we should build Forts only to restrain the French from comeing down further upon Ourselves. I belive had the French been hindered from Settling, we could have treated with the Indians for those Lands, as they have never refused Us the preemption, which is more pleaseing to them being without Hostility than for the French to take them as it were by Force, and so treat them as tho they were conquered. this being all that occurs at present I beg leave to conclude with my best respects to You, Your Lady & Family

Sir

Your Most Obedient  
Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

The Honr<sup>ble</sup>. GEORGE CLINTON

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Collo. Johnsons Opinion  
about North America  
March 1754

As soon as received I sent  
to Mr. Pownell for  
L<sup>d</sup> Hallifaxes perusal  
received no Answer In return

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<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

TO JACOB GLEN

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Mount Johnson  
April the 2nd 1754*

I am favoured with yours of the 29th ult & express inclosing Mr. Hamiltons<sup>2</sup> letter, which I shall take the first opportunity after this to answer. It being now impossible having a great number of the Six Nations now about me, whom I want to discharge as they waited my return from New York near three weeks with impatience.

I am Sr with kind respects to you & family  
in general your most humble servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

TO JAMES HAMILTON

*Copy*<sup>3</sup>

*Mount Johnson 6<sup>th</sup> April 1754*

SIR

I cannot refuse you my friendly Offices not only in regard to your desire, which has all the weight with me it ought, but in compliance also with my own Inclinations. As my duty and Interest both conspire to oblige me to use my utmost endeavour to preserve the peace and Tranquility of a Country where my Lott is fallen.

I hear the same distant Fame of you which you are pleased to Compliment me with; and shall endeavour to preserve that Honour which may recommend me to the Esteem of Men of that same Character of which Number I am Convinc'd You are, and for that reason should be proud of Your personal Acquaintance.

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<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> James Hamilton, governor of Pennsylvania.

<sup>3</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Doubtless Sir I shall employ that influence over the Six Nations which I have acquired by hard Labour great Patience and much Expence, both of Time and Money to Preserve them, and Prevent their being imposed upon by any Stratagem, whatsoever.

I have had some distant application made to me from Connecticut Government, but none as yet imediate or of Considerable importance, when their representatives (for I am informed they have Appointed Delegates) come to me I shall give them a proper Answer, agreeable to your Proprietarys Rights, which I understand extend to the beginning of the Latitude of 43. nay more our Interests are the same and involved together, so that any encroachment would be equally detrimental to this Government and to yours, and distructive to the poor Indians, who I am sure have little reason to love or Choose as Neighbours the Crafty Inhabitants of — the N. Jerusalem whose Title to that place seems rather derived from the Subtilty of the Serpent, than the meekness of the Dove, to which last your Province is universally allowed to have a better Claim.

The weakness of my Bretheren the Indians I am well aware of, and doubt not by my Timely Caution, to hinder any sett of people (not properly authorized) to purchase any of their lands. then they may help to save us from the Invasions of our encroaching Neighbours the French, as well as the Sly insinuations of the pretended Saints our Friends and Countrymen.

I am with the utmost respect  
Your Honours most obedient  
Humble Servant

WILLIAM JOHNSON

HONOURABLE JAMES HAMILTON

TO ISAAC BOGERT<sup>1</sup>

*A. L. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*April 22<sup>d</sup>. 1754 —*

MR. BOGERT

please to Send me one of your largest Hogsheads of Rum by the Bearer and y<sup>e</sup>. price of it, and charge it to Acc<sup>tt</sup>. of y<sup>r</sup>.

Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

FROM CADWALLADER COLDEN

*A. L. S.*<sup>3</sup>

*Burnets field May y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1754*

COLL<sup>o</sup> JOHNSON

SIR

Mr Herchheimer<sup>4</sup> & the others Concern'd in the Purchass to be made of the Onnydoes sent for those Indians the Day I Came here I have waited for them ever since & this Morning three or four of them Came But the Difference subsisting between them & those of Cannajohary about their Lands (& what Else I know not) seems to threaten putting an entire stop to any busyness being done at this time. Wherefore at the Request of Mr Herchheimer & his Associates I am to beg the favour of You to favour them with Your Presence here as soon as You can — They have sent for some other heads of the Onnydoes & Expect that they & the Cannajoharys will have a meeting to Settle their Difference & its thought that You may be a great Means of a general Reconciliation as well as of

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<sup>1</sup> Of Albany, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

<sup>3</sup> In possession of Harry V. Bush, Canajoharie, N. Y.

<sup>4</sup> Johan Jost (Hanyost) Herchheimer or Herkimer. The Fall River tract was granted in 1752 to Johan Jost Herchheimer and Hendrick Herchheimer. See Benton, N. S.: *A History of Herkimer County*, p. 13.

great Service in obtaining the Purchess in w<sup>ch</sup>: they Expect  
 You will be Concern'd They Desire that You would Please  
 to Come if Possible, if not then send Your advice to them &  
 Likewise to the Indians by way of a Message

I am Sir

Your Most Humble

Ser<sup>t</sup>:

CAD<sup>R</sup>: COLDEN: Sur

Please to Dispatch the  
 Messenger as soon as possible  
 that we may know what to Expect  
 The Indians are acquainted of this & approve thereof

TO WILLIAM CORRY

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Mount Johnson August ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1754*

SIR

The Bearer hereof Patrick Flood tells me he is verry unjustly  
 dealt With, by one Vanalstine Justice of the Peace of Kinder-  
 hook, Who, (as Flood Says, and tells me he can prove it,)  
 has imposed upon him verry much, by Extorting Unreasonable  
 Tax from him Severall times, as well as threatning of him that  
 he has not enough yet from him, and Severall more such  
 unbecomeing expressions, & threats verry improper, & punish-  
 able in a Justice. I have advised him to apply to You, and  
 get the Case properly Stated & Sent to the Kings Attorney,  
 Who will take Notice of such Mal proceedings in any Magis-  
 trate. I Should be glad You would give the poor Man all  
 the Assistance, and advice that the nature of the Affair requires,  
 or will admit of, not alone for the Mans Sake, but to prevent  
 such evil practice for the future. for by w<sup>t</sup>. I understand that

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Justice does verry Irregular things, Much to the prejudice of  
Severall of his Majesties good Subjects.

I am  
Sr. with Compliments to You  
& Family Your  
Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

W<sup>m</sup>. CORRY Esq<sup>r</sup>.—

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

[*September 19, 1754*]

As His Honour the Lieut. Governour, with the advice of his  
Majestys Council of this province has thought fitt to order the  
building a Fort at the Little carrying place above Saratoga, and  
has sent me his orders, to send as many men there out of the  
Regiment of Militia under my command, as may be sufficient  
to cover the work, & protect the workmen while finishing of it.  
Wherefore, in order to comply with His directions, you are  
hereby required on receipt of these orders to detach a hundred  
men out of the first Battallion of the Regiment, together with  
proper officers to command them & when draughted to hold  
themselves in readiness to march thither at a moments notice.—  
Assuring them that his Honour the Lieut. Governour will use  
his utmost endeavours to obtain a reasonable allowance to be  
paid both officers & men, for their service. You are to detach  
said number of men in the most equitable manner so as not to  
distress one part or one company more than another. Let me  
know when this party is draughted & how, also the officers  
names who are to command them & when they may be wanted,

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<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

that I may give them proper marching orders, as well as directions how to act while there.

Hereof fail not, Given under my Hand att Mount Johnson  
this 19th day of September 1754.

WM JOHNSON Collo

To LIEUT. COLLO JACOB GLEN At Schenectady.

TO JACOB GLEN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Mount Johnson Septbr. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1754*

SIR/

I yesterday received Yours, by Mr. Cambell together with the list of Officers, to whom I have no Objection provided they are promoted, or raised according to Seniority as we spoke of & agreed upon. I hope they are all residents there, & thereabouts. I see one Harmanus Jacob<sup>s</sup>. Vanslyke, is it He who lives at Conajoharee? if so it would be wrong to make him an officer there. I shall in a few days write to the gov<sup>r</sup>. when I shall send for the Commissions.

I have herwith Sent you Copsy of y<sup>e</sup>. Gov<sup>rs</sup>. letter to me, and his Orders to the Coll<sup>os</sup>. of Ulster & Dutchess Countys. Also an Order to raise 100 Men With proper Officers to protect the Fort whilst building.

I am

Sr.

Your Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

My Compliments }  
to Your Spouse {

WM. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:<sup>2</sup>

To

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Collonel Jacob Glen

att

Schenectady

<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> Not in Johnson's hand.



TO JAMES DE LANCEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Mount Johnson, October the 12<sup>th</sup>. 1754*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR

Your kind expressions to me at Albany. (for which I was extremely obliged to You) emboldenes me now to take the liberty of begging the favour, You would recommend to the Generall Assembly the payment of the within Ballance so long, & Justly due, as will appear by the Dates of the Acc<sup>ts</sup>. which I have delivered in severall times before, attested. the detention of which has been a considerable inconveniency to me. the very Interest of it would now amount to above half the principal. add to that, the expence of time & money I have been at Sollicitting the payment thereof. wherefore I cant help thinking it will be hard, if the House does not consider my lying out of my Money so long, as well as they have Petry, Harkemar, &ca a few years ago, in a parrallel case, with this difference indeed in my favour, that I supplied Osswego Garrison in time of war, when everything was vastly dear, & obliged to pay double the Hire to men employed in that service, altho the allowance was no more, than in time of peace. I moreover supported that Garrison a year at my own Risque, as otherwise it must have deserted, and fallen into the Hands of our Enemy, for none would undertake the supplying it, being then War, the Act expired, & I unpaid.

This makes by farr the greatest part of my acc<sup>ts</sup>. the rest was money advanced for other Services of the Government, & by Orders. Whereby I assure Your Honour (were I imediately reimbursed) I had not the least advantage, but the reverse, besides my great fatigue, Risque, & loss of time, which I did not then regard, as I imagined, and still think, I was serveing the Country the only motive which first induced me to plunge

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

myself into the many difficulties, I have so unexpectedly and undeservedly since mett with. You will, (I flatter myself) Sir forgive my troubling you with so much of this affair, when you consider the scituation I have been, and am still, in.—there is another account of mine which I take the liberty of desiring Mr. Watts to deliver to Your Honour, in hopes You will also recommend the payment thereof to the House, it is Money advanced going to Onondaga last Year, as the allowance made by the General Assembly fell short

I should not have been so troublesome to Your Honour, could I have attended myself. which nothing but the uncertainty of the times prevents. I am certain were I to leave the County at that time, it would cause great fears, & uneasinesses among the People, as well as the Indians, who from the late Insolent behaviour & menaceing expressions of the St. Francis, Oronday, & other Eastern Indians, are verry apprehensive of danger, which together, with the thoughts of an approaching War led them to desire I would draw a Petition to Your Honour, for a Fort to be built att Sacondaga for their Safety. it being the nearest, and only way the French have to come from Crown Point to this part of the Country. and as they can come most of the way by Water, they can carry Artillery to demolish any Fort we have here. Notwithstanding their earnest desire, I would not draw one, (least it might be thought I had a hand in it). upon my refusal, they talked of going down to Sollicit it, and other things, personally. I dissuaded them from that also, by telling them I would mention it to y<sup>r</sup>. Honour by letter. they desired me at the same time to remind y<sup>r</sup>. Honour of your promise to them, concerning the complaints of their Lands, made to You at Albany.—

The Inclosed List of Officers to be made, I had lately from Coll<sup>o</sup>. Glen they are all for Schenectady. I shall write to him, and Mr. Ranslear (who has not yet let me know whether he accepted of the Commission) to make me a return of the Vacancys in Albany, and the rest of the Company there—

abouts, and desire them to Send me a list of such Men as they may Judge fittest to fill up the Vacancys, which when I receive, I shall transmit it to your Honour.—the many Vacancies in the Companys of the Mohawks River, some of which, are large enough to make two good Companys, will require a good many Commissions to Compleat them, and oblige one to trouble Your Honour writeing more than may be agreable, Unless you thought proper to Send me a parcel of Blanks. If so, You may be assured Sir, I shall have no regard to any thing, but the good of the Service.

pardon Sir my prolixity, and give me leave to assure You, I am

with the utmost respect,  
Your Honours  
Most Obedient,  
Humble Servant

WM JOHNSON

My Compliments attend  
Your Lady, and Family

GOVERNOUR DE LANCEY

ADDRESSED:

To

The Honourable James De Lancey Esq<sup>r</sup>.

INDORSED:

Oct<sup>r</sup>. 12 1754

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From Col. Johnson inclos<sup>g</sup>.  
his Account ag<sup>t</sup>. the Province,  
and signifying the desire of  
the Indians that a Fort  
may be built at Sachindage  
Inclosing Milt<sup>y</sup> List for  
Schenectady.—

FROM ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Philadelphia 15<sup>th</sup> November 1754*

SIR,

Mr Peters has communicated to me a Letter<sup>2</sup> which he has received from Mr Daniel Clause, wherein he informs him that Mr Lydius<sup>3</sup> of Albany has in a most unbecoming and fraudulent Manner obtained a Deed for the Lands on the River Sasquehannah in the very Centre of this Province from several Indians of the Senecas, Mohocks, Onondagoes, and Oneidoes in favour of some People of Connecticut; and that he is obliged to You for this kind Intelligence, which You desired might be imparted to this Government in all its Circumstances.

I would have done myself the Honour of acknowledging your Kindness, and of giving You my Sentiments on this untoward Affair, and desiring your Assistance before this Time; but I have had Two Assemblies on my Hands, and the Lower One obliged me to be at Newcastle a Fortnight. Now that I am at Liberty to give this Matter a full Consideration, and have consulted Mr Weiser thereupon and laid all before the Council, I can see no other Way than to get Hendrick the Mohock Chief, who I believe and hope does not countenance this vile Transaction, to take a Journey to this City, that I may lay before him the dangerous Effects of this dishonourable Sale, and consult with him by what means it can be defeated, and the Peace of the Inhabitants of this Colony preserved.

I have read with Pleasure the Letters that have passed between You and the late Governor Mr Hamilton,<sup>4</sup> as in them this Matter is set forth in its true Light, and You kindly offer

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., Penn Papers, Official Correspondence, 6:235.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Claus to Richard Peters; printed in *Susquehanna Papers*, 1:130-33.

<sup>3</sup> John Henry Lydius.

<sup>4</sup> James Hamilton, governor of Pennsylvania.

the Proprietaries and this Government your best Council and Assistance against this unjust Attempt; and by these as well as the Knowledge of your Goodness in other Respects, I am induced to give You this Trouble.

You are sensible that at the late Meeting of Commissioners at Albany, the Six Nations in open Council mentioned to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania an Application then making to them for the Sale of some of the Sasquehannah Lands by Agents from Connecticut, and that they had absolutely refused to give any Ear to such Proposal, telling the Commiss<sup>rs</sup> they were determined those Lands should not be Settled, but reserved for a Place of Retreat to such as in this Time of War and Confusion between the French and English might be obliged to leave their present Habitations, and that there was no Part of their Lands that lay so convenient as Wyomink for a Number to live together; and therefore they earnestly desired that Pennsylvania would not insist on those Lands being comprehended within the Purchase then under Consideration. They repeated with Warmth, that neither the New England nor Pennsylvania People should settle them, and if either should attempt it, they would oppose them with Force.

And in order to shew to the Commissioners of Pennsylvania, that the Reserve of these Lands was a very deliberate Act of their Council, they further declared, that in Council they had then thought proper to appoint John Shick Calamy, an Indian Chief of the Oneido Nation living in an Indian Town on those Lands as their Agent and Representative, giving him Orders to take Care of them, and desired he might be considered by Pennsylvania as their Agent; charging him, if he should find any White People attempting to settle those Lands, to make Complaint thereof immediately to the Government and to have them removed.

The Commissioners of Pennsylvania, after shewing the Indians that those Lands were in the Centre of their Province, conceded to the Indians Request that the Purchase should not

extend to them, but then they, the Indians, must be explicit about their Intentions with respect to any underhand Practices in favour of the Connecticut People.

The Commissioners likewise produced an Instrument under the Hands and Seals of the Chiefs of the Six Nations at a Treaty in October 1736, and proved the same to be their voluntary Act by One of the Chiefs who had executed it (in which Deed they had solemnly agreed to sell no Lands within the Limits of this Province to any other Persons than to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania) Whereupon the Chiefs of their own Accord, acknowledging that the Signers were well known to them to be the principal Men of their respective Nations, confirmed that Agreement and bound themselves by a fresh Deed to sell no Lands lying within the Limits of Pennsylvania to any but the Proprietaries; and all this was done in the most open and solemn Manner, and with Intent to put a Stop to the further Execution of the Connecticut Project.

Mr Peters when at Albany acquainted Mr Woodbridge of Stockbridge the Principal Agent of the Connecticut People, with this whole Transaction, and Likewise shewed him sundry Indian Deeds to the Proprietaries for those Lands; at which he was pleased to express much Satisfaction, and to say that Pennsylvania might depend upon having no further Trouble in this Affair.

Sir, I have mentioned these Particulars, because they will all serve to shew, that whenever the Six Nations in their publick Council consider this Deed obtained by Lydius, they will deem it a Violation of publick Faith and an arrant Piece of Fraud; and will resent it not only as to Lydius, who they know to be a French Convert, but as to the People of Connecticut, and will not scruple to do them Mischief. The Shick Calamys and the Indians who live at Shamokin and on Sasquehannah are very numerous and daily encreasing; when they come to see the New England People settle these Lands, which they assuredly intend to do early in the Spring, will most certainly

oppose them, and so a War between the Indians and y<sup>e</sup> Kings Subjects will be brought into the very Bowels of this Province by this Connecticut Project, which is undertaken against fair Notice and a full Knowledge.

Now it is thought that if Hendrick can be prevailed on to come down, and should hear all these Matters laid properly before him, he would find out a method of laying the Whole before the Six Nations and Preventing the Settlement of these Lands. But then as Indians do not like to blame One another, should he be told before hand that this is the Business he is sent for he may decline coming. For this Reason it is thought better not to mention a Word of this Matter to Hendrick, but inasmuch as when he took his Leave of the Pennsylvania Commissioners he made this Government a Tender of his Services, and declared in a very solemn manner, that he would at any time come to Philadelphia, whenever the Governor should think it necessary to send for him, to write him a general Letter founded on this promise, and to leave it to You to give him what Impressions You please of this Journey, and to persuade him to take it immediately.

The Letter is enclosed in one to M<sup>r</sup> Clause, who had Directions to shew it to you and to consult with you how and when to deliver it and what to say to Hendrick. If he should deliver it as of himself to Hendrick, then He would probably come to consult You, and so you might with greater Advantage give your Advice. But if You think otherwise, and that is best for You to deliver it, this is left entirely to You.

I am with perfect Regard Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

The Honourable WILLIAM JOHNSON  
at Mount Johnson

TO GEORGE CLINTON

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>*Mount Johnson  
Decbr. 2<sup>d</sup>. 1754 —*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR

I had yesterday the Honour of Yours dated the 27<sup>th</sup>. of August, which gave me unspeakable pleasure. I cannot Sufficiently express the gratefull sense I have of your Honours Goodness, in mentioning me to Your Noble Freinds, whose Patronage, or even Countenance I should deem myself highly honoured in haveing, which I can never flatter myself with the hopes of, but thro' You. Your Honour may be assured of my utmost endeavours to merit it, If ever in my power.

I should be proud if them few undigested remarks<sup>2</sup> concerning Indian affairs which I sent Your Honour might be thought worthy of Notice. they are not speculative as some I have Seen. they are partly Facts, and from my own knowledge acquired by woefull Experience. I exhibitted something of that kind to the Commissioners from the Severall Provinces convened last June at Albany, for which I had the thanks of that Board, when they were pleased to say, that they never had any tollerable Idea of Indian affairs before. this might appear vain in me but I assure Your Honour I only advance it to Shew that great part of their deliberations at that board corresponded with them thoughts of mine which You have, as well as Mr. De Lanceys letters, & opinion, Home att that time, which If I be not mistaken will corroborate them.—

I am now Just come from my New Settlement in the Woods on the North Side of the Mohawk River, back of all the other Pattents where I have been these three Months past Settling severall German Families who will be a good Barrier between Us & the French, in a verry few Years, If I can go thro with it.

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<sup>1</sup> In William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, Mich.

<sup>2</sup> Johnson to Clinton, March 12, 1754.



but I already meet with a great deal of Opposition from the Albany Pattentees of Lands, who altho they dont incline to Settle theirs, endeavour all they Can, to hinder me, by telling those who are ready to go & live on the Land, as well as them already Settled Severall Idle & Villanous things to deter them from it. the reason is, they the low Dutch dont like any should Inhabit here but themselves and they are the most unfitt Sett of Men in the World to live on the Frontiers as they are neither laborious, industrious, nor Soldiers. all w<sup>h</sup>. qualities are indispensably necessary for those who Settle on any of those Frontiers now. If I could meet with any encouragement, or assistance at Home (here I expect none, but the reverse) I would not doubt in a short time haveing 500 Familys at the back of Us. The only thing I aim at is to have my Lands free of Quitrent, which as it lies next to the Enemy, if properly represented I have hopes it might not be thought unreasonable. the next thing would be to allow a Fort there for their Protection, without which I fear they will be the first Sufferers, from severall late Ill natured expressions of the Governour of Canada, together with threats against me, to Severall of Our Indians who were there this Fall, cheifly on Acc<sup>t</sup>. of attempting so great a Settlement of Germans, & Irish as he said. If your Honour thought there might be a probability of my Succeeding in these two Articles, as it would undoubtedly be vastly for the Interest of the Crown, & Security of this Province to have the Frontiers Covered, I would w<sup>th</sup>. your approbation draw up a proper representation thereof, & send it Home, to those Y<sup>r</sup> Honour would please to advise me.—I cant help mentioning the Slaughter is made in this Province of the finest Pines in the World for his Majesty's Service, or Fleet, which shortly may be wanted & would be very Useful but as there is no One to take Care of them, they will be all distroyed Wherefore if His Majesty thought proper to Commissionate me even without Sallery, I would take Care of the Wood, as I really think it a pity to See it distroyed so.—Haveing been so long in the

Woods as I observed before, have had no opportunity of learning any Indian News worth Communicating. altho I have the Sachims of both Castles now at my House, on their way to Philedelphia on Gov<sup>r</sup>. Morri's Invitation it is concerning a fraudulent purchase made by Lyddius of Albany, of Lands within Pensilvania Government for Some People of Connecticut who intend vi, et armis to Settle it in the Spring. upon w<sup>h</sup>. Mr. Morris & Mr. Peters wrote me, verry earnestly entreating my assistance therin & that I would Send the Indians thither, with old M<sup>rs</sup>. Hendrick.—when I told them I had a letter from Your Honour, they asked verry kindly how You did, and desired to be remembered to You, & begged at the Same time I would remind You of haveing them two Pattents broke which they spoke to Your Honour about when here, Viz<sup>t</sup>. the great Pattent of Caniaderoseras alias Queensborough, Cont<sup>g</sup>. Six or Seven Hundred thousand Acres & pays but £4 a year Quitrent. besides it hinders y<sup>e</sup>. Settlement of this part of the County. The other is the Pattent w<sup>h</sup>. Phillip Livingston took for y<sup>e</sup> Conajoharee Castle & Low Lands whereon the Indians live. these two they Earnestly requested You as their Brother would lay before his Majesty, whom they hope will redress their greivances, which I assure You Sir gives them more Uneasiness than People are aware of. they have made the Same Complaint to Mr. DeLancey at Albany last June who promised all in his power to have it redressed, but as You were the first they mentioned it to, & now being near their Father they hope it will be done.—If I might refer You to the Bearer hereof Doctor Schuckburgh (whom I am heartily Sorry has been guilty of so inadvertent an action, contrary I belive realy to his inclination from what I have always heard him express) He could give Your Honour the fullest & most to be relied on Acc<sup>ts</sup>. of the present State of the Six Nations & their Allies, of any Man I may venture to Say in America, He haveing been with me at y<sup>e</sup> generall Council at Onondaga, & in Severall Others at my House & Elsewhere this time past. besides he

has Seen all my remarks &ca in order to acquaint Y<sup>r</sup>. Honour therewith more fully than I could write, & this Some time ago.—

As to the Sums of Money which I have so long ago advanced for the Service of the Government, and so often applied for here, I have not as yet received, & I understand by letters from York that they are determined not to pay it. nay they told myself so last Year, when I was determined never to ask them more. but M<sup>r</sup>. Delancey at Albany Assured me he would try what he could do in it of his own accord. now I hear they will not pay either Principal or Interest, altho they have paid Interest to others in a parrallel Case. nay with this favourable Circumstance that mine was done by Your Orders & advice of Council which they pay no regard to, as will appear by an Acc<sup>t</sup>. Sent me by the Speaker last Year from the House wherein they reject paying, and is here inclosed. the Remainder of the Principal Still due & the Interest of the Severall Sums detained from me, Severall years will amount to above two thousand Pounds this Currency, w<sup>h</sup>. is too much for me to loose, together w<sup>th</sup>. what I have been oblinded to expend to the Six Nations ever since I demitted the management of them to this day for I cannot possibly get rid of them, as they will be here, & to turn them away dissatisfied, I am convinced would be of the worst Consequence. that Expen<sup>c</sup>e tho Considerable I never made a Charge of to the Province, as they will not pay my first Acc<sup>t</sup>. so often laid before them attested in the time of Your Honours Administration. Wherefore haveing no Body Else I can apply to, or rely upon but Your Honour, I must beg Your Assistance in seeing me reimbursed. It would be cruel if I should loose So much Money by their Party feuds.—I can assure Y<sup>r</sup>. Honour I have with y<sup>e</sup>. greatest patience & Silent Heartscalding a long time laboured under the Yoke of Oppression, Envy, & Malice here, as You are sensible of. and now all my hopes of being relieved is Centred in Your Honour, of whose Goodness I have had so many Instances as leaves me no reason to doubt

of Success with yr. Assistance which will abundantly add to the Many favours already Conferred on Me.

Who am with all gratitude, warmest wishes for Y<sup>r</sup>. Welfare  
& the profoundest Respect

Your Honours

Most Devoted

Most Oblidged

Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

My best Respects  
attend Your Lady  
& Family —

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Coll<sup>o</sup> Johnson's 2<sup>d</sup> December  
1754

Recd by Shugborough  
Answered by Kit 19 March  
1755

TO RICHARD PETERS

*A. L.*<sup>2</sup>

[*Mount*] *Johnson Decbr. 9th 1754*

SIR

Your kind favour of the 15th ult<sup>o</sup> with one from Governour morris,<sup>3</sup> was brought to me by Mr. Clause into the woods, where I have been these three months past settleing some of my lands, upon which I came Home & sent Mr. Claus imediately for their Politician Hendrick, to whom I delivered the governours letter and advised him to undertake the journey, which at first he was unwilling to do, but after talking a good deal on the subject to him, and promising to join, & back him here among the Six Nations, His fears, & uneasiness vanished, so that he agreed to

<sup>1</sup> In Clinton's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntingtons Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Hunter Morris to Johnson, Nov. 15, 1754.

go,<sup>1</sup> and assured me he would do all in his power for the interest of the Proprietarie.

As none knows the nature & temper of Indians better than you do, I have not the least doubt of their returning well satisfied, & in good temper which give me great pleasure, as I am certain it would be of service to the cause in Hand.

hav<sup>e</sup> been hurried, & thronged with numbers since my coming Home, as not to allow me time to write, or scarce look about me hope you will be kind enough to excuse brevity & this scroul.

& believe me

Sincerely

Your Most Humble Servt.

WM. JOHNSON

P. S. I have given Mr. Clause  
some hints concerning y<sup>e</sup>  
Management of y<sup>e</sup> Indians  
while there, w<sup>h</sup> may be usefull.

RICHARD PETER Esq<sup>r</sup>

Compliments }  
Mr. Penn. }

TO ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Mount Johnson, Dec<sup>br</sup> the 9th 1754*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

I with pleasure embrace this oppertunity of congratulating Your Honour on Your Safe Arrival and advancement to that Government, over which I sincerely wish You long to Preside.

I have been honoured with Yours of the 15th ult. by Mr. Daniel Clause, whom I immediately sent to call Hendrick to my House. Upon his arrival I delivered and interpreted your Honour's Letter or Invitation to him, and urged his waiting

<sup>1</sup> Johnson in this letter emphasizes more the opposition shown by Hendrick than in his letter to Morris, Nov. 15, 1754.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 6:268-69.

upon you immediately, which, when he agreed to, I spoke to him concerning the affair as far as I judged necessary; and I flatter myself it will have a good Effect, He having faithfully promised me to exert himself and use his utmost endeavours for the Interest of the Proprietaries against the Connecticut Attempt.

After my expatiating some time on the Injustice of their Proceedings, more especially so after what had passed at Albany last June in Publick, Hendrick then with such warmth disapproved of them, as well as the weakness of those of his Brethren who were seduced by Lyddius, and promised to do all he could to make them revoke or retract what they had so shamefully done, provided I would Assist him and Countenance his Proceedings with the Five Nations, which I assured him I would with all my Interest; upon that He and his Party sett out full of Spirits and in good temper; and I doubt not (from the knowledge of Your Honour's great and well-established Character) of their returning so; and Mr. Peter's great experience and thorough knowledge of Indian affairs as well as of Hendrick's temper and Principalls will contribute much to Your Honour's Ease in accelerating the Affair with them, Who (to those unacquainted with their Ways and tedious forms) must be thought very troublesome and Silly. I have had a great deal of discourse with Hendrick in private about that affair, and also his present Sentiments, which to insert here would make my Letter of too great a length for Your Honour to read with Patience; wherefore make bold to refer Your Honour to the Bearer, Mr. Clause, for some Particulars I have communicated to him, as I am convinced of his Sincerity and readiness to Serve that Government on all Occasions.

Nothing could give me more Pleasure than to hear of those Indians answering Your Honour's Expectations, as I am, with all due regard,

Your Honour's Most Obedient Humble Servant,

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

FROM ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Philadelphia, 23d January, 1755.*

SIR:

I am favoured with Yours by Hendrick, and heartily thank you for the part you have been so good as to take in the Connecticut affair. Hendrick has been very explicit upon the Subject and I have entertained him and his Companions in the best manner I could, and I believe to their own Satisfaction.

You will give me leave to refer you to a Letter you will receive with this from Mr. Peters,<sup>2</sup> for the particulars that have passed here and for the Plan that we have agreed to pursue to put an end to this Affair, In which I hope for the Continuance of your friendly Offices. You will observe we propose that the Six Nations should be invited to send Deputy's to your House early in the Spring, with full powers to treat and agree upon Matters relative to this Purchase of Lydius, and to prevent the like for the future, where I shall send Commissioners to meet them, and it will give me particular pleasure if you will permit me to name you in that Commission.

These Indians Complain of ill Usage from the People of Albany on acct. of their Lands, and tell me That a very Large Trade is carried on between Albany and Canada by means of the French Indians, who for that Purpose are Constantly at Albany, and that the French by that means are furnished with whatever Goods they want either for their Trade or their Troops.

Such a Trade must be very prejudicial to the English Interest at all times, and more especially so at this Time, and ought to be prevented, but whether these Mohocks out of resentment to the People of Albany do not represent this Matter in too strong a Light you who have frequent Opportunities of observing can best tell.

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 6:286-87.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Peters to Sir William Johnson, January 23, 1755.

His Majesty upon being informed of the Steps taken by the French upon this Continent, has ordered two Regiments to be sent from Ireland and two more to be raised in America, for the Defence of his Subjects here, and I am in hourly expectation of hearing of the Arrival of the Irish Regiments at Virginia who together with the American Regiments are to be under the Command of Major General Braddock, who I hear is to have the Government of New York, but this last piece of news I believe is not much to be depended on. These Preparations seem to portend a War between us and France, the Seat of which will be Chiefly in America, and I could wish the English Colonys would prepare themselves for such an Event, but you will see by the Papers that have passed between me and the Assembly that this Colony in particular tho' most concerned are resolved to do nothing. I heartily wish you a continuance of Health, and am, Dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

ROBT. H. MORRIS

FROM RICHARD PETERS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Philadelphia, 23d January, 1755*

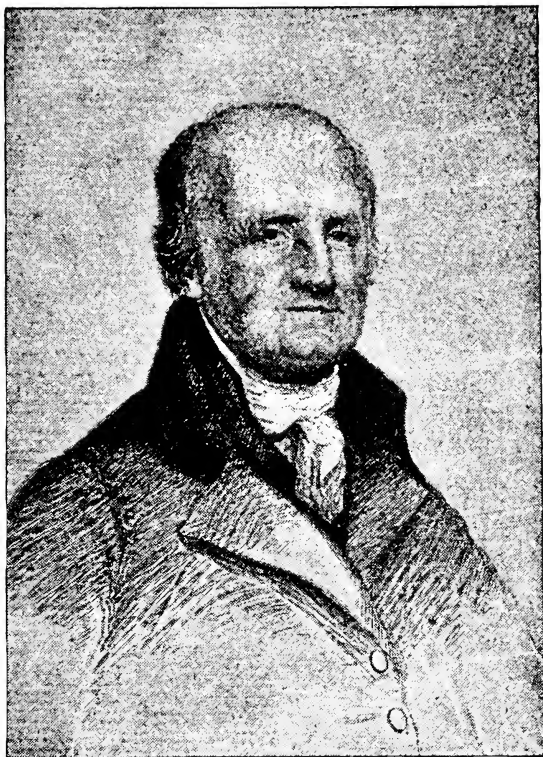
SIR:

I was on the eight Instant most agreeably surprized with your Favour of the ninth of December by Hendrick. Not having received a Line from Mr. Claus to intimate to me their kind Intention, I had given over all expectations of seeing them this Winter, and took the Opportunity of disclosing the Matter to Scarrooyady, an Oneida Chief, who succeeds the Half King in the Direction of Indian Affairs at Aucquick, and was so good as to call upon the Governor for his Commands to the Six Nations, to whom he was going at the Instance of Virginia to invite them to Winchester, and to give them an Account of

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 6:287-90.





*Richard Peters.*

THE REVEREND RICHARD PETERS

From John Russell Young's *Memorial History of the City of Philadelphia, from Its First Settlement to the Year 1895*, I-238



Indian Affairs on the Ohio. By this Chief, whose family is supported among many others by this Government, and who is a very hearty Friend of the English, the Governor sent a Message to the great Council at Onondago complaining of a Breach of Faith in the Indians in making a Deed to the Connecticut People for Lands within this Province. Such a Message was become absolutely necessary, for He had received a Belt from John Shick Calamy, the Person to whom the Indians in the Pennsylvania Treaty at Albany had committed the Care of the Wyomink Lands after having declined including them in the then Sale. Shick Calamy complained heavily that he was likely to be disturbed by some Strangers, meaning the Connecticut People, some of whom had been to visit those Lands and told him they had bought them of the Six Nations since the Treaty at Albany, and intended in the Spring to come and settle them, and praying this Government would prevent this Injustice or he should be obliged to complain to the Six Nations for Redress. I likewise gave Scarrooyady a Letter to You and charged him to take your advice in the manner of communicating this affair to the Six Nations. He went away on Christmas Day and that Day fortnight Hendrick arrived.

Before I proceed to mention what has passed between Hendrick and the Governor it may not be amiss to inform You of the Character of Scarrooyady and his Errand, that You may know how to interpose if necessary: He is a Warrior, a brave and stout Man, and has an aversion to the French, and wants without any good Reason to strike them, and secretly purposes to animate the six Nations to take Part in the War. This he will do if he can, tho' this is not his publick Errand, yet I verily believe it is his Intention, for he has with him an Hatchet Belt given to him and a few Warriors by Coll. Washington in his March to the French Fort, which they accepted, and did actually, tho' imprudently, fall on La Force and his Party at the same Time that Col. Washington did, an Account of which You have in the Speeches he made here which are copies for your Use.

I have another Reason for suspecting his Intention, as he was charged by the Government of Virginia with an Invitation to the Six Nations to come to Winchester in the Spring; it was thought necessary to give a Belt from this Province and Maryland to enforce that Invitation, and I asked him what sort of a Belt should be given, shewing him several, he chose a large black Belt of Fourteen Rowas, and tho' I did not approve it yet having asked his Advice I suffered him to have his Way, and told the Governor in Council that it was an improper Belt for a peaceable Invitation, and that the Six Nations wou'd intepret it as a Message of War; But the old Man declared he would not talk of War with that Belt, but only make Use of it to give the Invitation, and that as there was no Hatchet on it its being black signified nothing; But suspecting that he may make another Use of it, the Governor desired me to mention this Matter to You as he has done to Hendrick, that all Mistakes may be prevented and no bad Consequences ensue.

This makes my Letter long, but I hope You will pardon it. Now to proceed to our good Friend Hendrick and his Business. He told Us very frankly that You had made him an hearty Friend to this Province and would join with and support him in any Measures the Governor of Pennsylvania should advise to get rid of this Connecticut Deed, and I heartily thank you for this singular Kindness and for mentioning the same thing yourself in your Letters to the Governor and me.

In Consequence of this hearty Concurrence of yours and the Mohocks, his Honour gave Hendrick a Belt with a String of Wampum tied to it. By the Belt he was asked to undertake along with You the breaking of the Connecticut Deed, and for that Purpose and because there is no other Way in the World to get rid of it he was further desired to consider with You what will be the best Method to procure the Meeting of a Council as soon as possible at your House, to consist of two or three Deputies of each Nation and no more, in order to consult together of the most effectual Manner how to do it, and by the String You are desired to convene such Council.



KING HENDRICK

From Schoolcraft's *Indian Tribes*, 6:220



We further intimated to Hendrick and now inform you that in order to get rid of this Deed We cannot devise any Method that will be effectual unless the Six Nations in Council will execute a Conveyance to the Proprietaries of all the Lands lying within their Grant on such Conditions and in such manner as shall be agreed on at your House, and to shew the Indians and yourself our just Intentions the Governor proposed to name You one of the Commissioners along with Mr. Penn and myself.

Unless this be done it will always be in the Power of such Men as Lydius to disturb the Peace of the Government and to breed endless distractions. Nor will the Indians be Sufferers by executing such a deed for the whole, since there may be Reservations of particular Places made for them in the Grant and very good Covenants to secure their Possessions, and as it may be an Objection that all the Money received will be consumed at once and their Children reap no advantage, to obviate this it may be stipulated that the Payments shall be made annually or every Two Years for a Number of Years to come.

Hendrick seems to approve much of this Project, and I believe the more you think of the Matter the more you will be persuaded that no other Way can do the Thing effectually, and therefore if it meets with your Approbation, which I hope it will do, the Governor begs the Favour of you to summon a Council to your House, and leaves it entirely to You to fix the Time, and to take such measures with the Indians previous to the Meeting as you and Hendrick shall think proper.

It is thought that more than Three Deputies need not come from any one Nation, but that there should be Three from every Nation. I suppose so much Noise has been or will be made about this vile Attempt of the Connecticut People among the Indians that they will not be able to get more Hands to their Deed, tho' it is thought they will try further in the Spring, and bribe high, and therefore no Time should be lost to effectuate what is proposed to be done on the Part of this Province.

But if, notwithstanding what has been said, you should not see this Proceeding in the same Light We do, be pleased to

favour the Governor or me with a Letter on this Subject, and therein set down your Objections, alter, amend, or plan out anew what You think adviseable to be done. We make You our Counsellor, and shall be glad to be set right, and either to do this or any other Thing that You shall advise.

You see what a World of Trouble You have drawn on yourself by your Tender of your good Offices, but how to help it I see not, nor what Compensation can be made to you. It shall, however, be my Endeavour to contrive a Method of doing this to your Satisfaction.

Mr. Penn is out of Town or he would have joined with me in this Letter, and in his respectful Services to You in Return for your kind mention of him.

The Sasquehannah Lands being a Conquest of the Six Nations do not belong to private Indians nor to private Nations (but if to any it is to the Cayugas and Oneidas), therefore they cannot be sold by private Indians out of Council. But in Council they may be sold, and the Deed will be good; and in Council the Indians themselves may declare against the fraudulent Deed that it is made by People who had no Right, and if they had a Right it is an Imposition on the Parties and a cheat, the Indians having before given up their Right to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, and besides it is a Breach of Faith with a Province which has been remarkably true and kind to them.

I wou'd not have You imagine that we cannot with the Treaties and deeds already obtained make out a prior Title to this fraudulent Deed. No; You know that I produced to You at Albany a Deed from the Six Nations, to Governor Dongan, and his Deed to Mr. Penn, which comprizes these very Lands, and likewise other Deeds from the Sasquehannah Indians confirming that Deed, and added to all these I produce to you two Agreements made by all the Six Nations not to sell any Lands within Pennsylvania but to the Proprietaries.

I have sent You the News Papers containing all the Messages between Governor and Assembly, and likewise a Copy of



Col. Innes' Treaty with the Deputies of Seven Nations of Indians deemed to be in the French interest; but if any Credit may be given to what themselves say, are as much or more in the Interest of the English.

Tho' in the beginning of this Letter I have spoke so freely of Scarrooyady, yet I think him a mighty good Man and worthy of all kind of Notice from the Six Nations, and I should be glad to know how he is received and what he does.

Hendrick and his Friends have been kindly entertained and go away perfectly pleased; and I assure You they have behaved politely and given universal Satisfaction.

They have insisted on Governor Morris laying their Complaints against the Government of New York and People of Albany before the King, which he has promised to do after having first mentioned the Matters in difference to the Governor of New York and requested he wou'd be pleased to give the Indians entire Satisfaction. I apprehend it is a delicate affair and may give offence, but why it should, or if it does why it should be minded, I think there can be no good Reason, as Mr. Morris will I am sure observe good manners and Friendliness.

I am, Sir, Your very humble Servant,

RICHARD PETERS

FROM CONRAD WEISER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Philadelphia, 23d January, 1755*

KIND SIR:

I take this Opportunity to trouble you with a few Lines. Having read the Secretary's, Mr. Peters, to You, dated either the 21st or 22d of this Instant, I since thought upon reflecting on it that something about the ensuing Treaty with some of the Deputies of the Six Nations at Mount Johnson required a little

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 6:291-92.

more Explanation. Whether I am wrong or right You will be best able to judge when You compare mine and Mr. Peters' together.

First. Henry Brandt and Seth undertook to assist in the Affair against the Connecticut People in making that Deed, obtained by Lydius from the Six or some of the Six Nations, void, as it was obtained in a very wicked manner.

Secondly. That they would secure Things concerning the Land in Mr. Penn's Grant so sure to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania as to put it out of any such as Lydius their Power to do any more Mischief.

Thirdly. That in all this they will consult with you about everything, and proceed according to your Advice.

Fourthly. When the Time is fixed that the Treaty shall be to give Mr. Peters Notice as soon as possible, so that the Treaty be early in the Spring, the Notice is meant to come from your Honor.

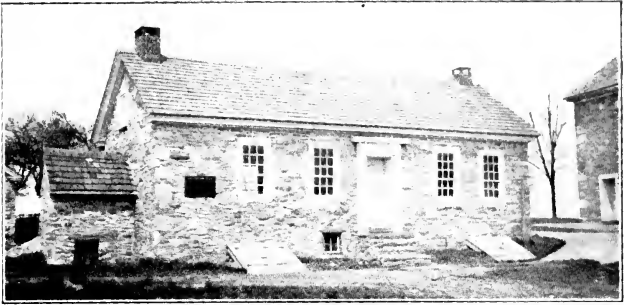
In my humble Opinion the more Secret this can be carried on the better, let Mr. Claus be sent to Onondago with some one or two of Henry's Friends; by what I can learn the Indians are sorry for what happened and will be very glad to see the Things put upon such a Footing that the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania shall have what the King has granted them, and that the Indians may come off as blameless as possible, and the wickedness of Lydius be exposed. I believe I have no need to trouble You with more Words, knowing that Mr. Peters wrote a long Letter to You.

I wish You Health and Happiness, and am,  
Sir, Your most humble Servant,

CONRAD WEISER.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Official interpreter of Pennsylvania.



HOME OF CONRAD WEISER, ERECTED ABOUT 1732, IN CONRAD WEISER MEMORIAL PARK, NEAR WOMELSDORF, BERKS COUNTY, PA.



MONUMENT OF CONRAD WEISER IN CONRAD WEISER MEMORIAL PARK, NEAR WOMELSDORF, BERKS COUNTY, PA.

These two pictures reproduced from C. H. Sipe's *The Indian Wars of Pennsylvania*, p. 100



## DANIEL CLAUS TO RICHARD PETERS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Albany, February 10th, 1755*

HONOURED SIR:

Last Saturday Afternoon We arrived in this Town, all well; the Commissioners of Indian's Affairs had a Meeting the same Evening, and called Henry in order to have a Conference with him and examine him, but he put 'em off with some trifling Pieces of News, which they were satisfied with, and afterwards he desired of them to let him know what news passed hereabouts since his Absence, when they replied that they could not acquaint him of any extraordinary, but that some Days ago a Caghnawago Indian called Thomas Whiteman brought some Letters from the Governor of Canada, one to Governor Shirley, one to Governor De Lancey, and another to Governor Dinwiddie; at the same time they suspected the Indian as a Spy, as he was noted to be such the last War.

On Sunday Evening Col. Johnson came to Town in order to go to New York, when immediately I delivered him the Letters; next morning he had a Conference with the Indians, and told them by way of Introduction that the Six Nations received a Call from the Governor of Canada to be there early in the Spring, especially the Two Mohock Castles were very strongly invited; the French sent a great many Stories among the Indians, viz<sup>t</sup>., the English were upon a Scheme to destroy all the Indians, and they received Letters from France that the King of England sent a Message to their King to join him in the Undertaking, &<sup>ca</sup>., therefore they would take them under their Protection, and many more Stories not worth mentioning.

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 6:292-93.

Scarrooyady<sup>1</sup> at his Return will relate the particulars of all these Things. I understand he was not well satisfied with the Commissioners and Cap<sup>t</sup>. Staats Morris supplied him with so much Money as brought him to Col. Johnson's, where he threw himself quite in the Care of him, and after concluding everything necessary the Colonel sent him in his Slay to the Great Flatts in Company with a Mohock Sachem, and he is soon expected back again, and Col. Johnson desired me to tell his People to entertain him well and bring him to Albany, but how he will be helped along there I do not know, as Cap<sup>t</sup>. Morris is gone for Boston last Monday.

Col. Johnson tells me that he will return with all Speed from New York and then take that Affair in Hand. One of the Cayuga Chiefs passed his House last Week, when he insisted on being acquainted of every Piece of News he heard in Albany, when after a long Pause he told the Colonel how he had a Message from Lydius to bring the Cayuga Chiefs in Twenty-Five Days to his House, but the Colonel proposing the shameful Act of some of the Six Nations concerning that Affair, the Indian dropped it immediately and promised the Colonel as a good Friend of his to be as much against it as in his Power.

I here enclose your Honour a Copy<sup>2</sup> of a Title of a Sasquehannah Share, which Lydius sells as fast as he can.

I remain with my humble Respects,

Honoured Sir, Your most humble Servant,

DANIEL CLAUS.

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<sup>1</sup> The Half King.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 6:293.

## ACCOUNT WITH DAVID QUACKENBUSH

A. D. S.

43.. 5.. 7½

David Quack —

8.. —

Dr. £43..13.. 7½

Per Contra —

Cr. 27.. 4.. 4

Ball due to me

£16.. 9.. 3½ this 16<sup>th</sup>. Day of  
Febr<sup>y</sup>. 1753 —Ballance due to me this  
27<sup>th</sup>. Day of Janr<sup>y</sup>. 1755

by David Quackenbush

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

## INDORSED:

Davie Quacks  
 Last time of  
 Ballanceing of  
 Accounts with S<sup>r</sup>  
 W<sup>m</sup> Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>  
 Janr<sup>y</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1755

TO VOLCKERT P. DOUW

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*New York Thursday Febr<sup>y</sup>. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1755 —*

DEAR SIR

After five Days passage I got Here, where I found the Assembly ready to break up, after haveing allowed Six thousand Pounds for Albany Fortifications three thousand Pounds for Schenectady, & one thousand for Kinder Hook, £20'000 for

<sup>1</sup> From an autotype facsimile in New York Historical Society, New York City. Miscellaneous Manuscripts. Original owned by Mrs Morris Patterson Ferris.

New York. the rest of the Forty five thousand pounds which is to be Struck is left in the Treasury for other Services. We have no Acc<sup>t</sup>. yet here, of the Troops arrivall in Virginia, there is a report that Some of the Store Ships arrived. As for raising Men, or Companys as was talked of I find nothing of it Here. If there was be assured I should not be backward in doing what I promised

As I am Your  
Sincere Freind  
& Hearty Welwisher

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

the Assembly broke up yesterday and Sett of this Day for their respective Homes after passing 3 Bills Viz<sup>t</sup>. one for the £45,000 another to prevent provisions being Sent to Cape Breton or Elsewhere on this Continent to the French the 3<sup>d</sup>. is the Militia Act wh<sup>h</sup>. is verry full & Strict —

Adieu In Haste —

TO RICHARD PETERS

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*New York March the 17<sup>th</sup>. 1755*

SIR

Scaroooyady arrived here three Days ago, with a Couple of Young Mohawks, & three Oneidaes, who are going to See their freinds living that way.

The Old Man pressed me much to let You know his desire, which is, that M<sup>r</sup>. Weiser, or Montour, may be there, to interpret what he has to Say to Your Government. He allows Davison to Understand y<sup>e</sup>. language as well as any Man, (and I realy

<sup>1</sup> In collection of Horace S. Van Voast, Schenectady, N. Y.



think he does) but says He is foolish, and unguarded in his Cups. which is a pitty, as otherwise He might be a verry usefull Man at this time.—

I find Lyddius has been endeavouring to Currupt, & tempt the Old Man, haveing (as he says) offered him 50, or 60 Dollars if he would sign a Deed w<sup>h</sup>. he laid before him with above 20 Seals to it, He would not agree to it, however took 17 Dollars of Lyddius for travelling expences.—

Mr. DeLancey (on receipt of Gov<sup>r</sup>. Morris's letter, which he had the advice of Council upon) has consented to my conveneing as Many of the Six Nations at my House, as may be thought proper. I intend to leave this place in two or three days, and as Soon as I get Home, will let you know When the Meeting will be. In the mean time, Conclude with all due regard, S<sup>r</sup>. Y<sup>r</sup>. Most Obedient

Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

Excuse the inaccuracy of  
these lines, being in great Haste

ADDRESSED:

To

The Honr<sup>ble</sup>. Richard Peters Esq<sup>r</sup>.

att

Philadelphia

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

19<sup>th</sup>. March 1755

S<sup>R</sup>

Your Favour of 2<sup>d</sup> December I received by M<sup>r</sup> Shuckburgh. I made the proper Use with my Friends of those Remarks concerning Indian Affairs, which you sent me, and imagine that they were approved of here, by a Commission (which if I am

<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

rightly informed could not be disagreeable to you) being sent to you by General Braddock, upon which I heartily congratulate you, as That must appear a plain Indication of the approbation of your Conduct by the Ministry here, and, at the same time, be the greatest Chagrin to that meanspirited Set of Rascalls, the Faction at New York.

I am vastly pleased that the villainous endeavours of those Albany Scoundrell's are dissappointed by the Settling of several German Families on your Patent, on the Mohawks River, and heartily wish you a dayly increase, for as such Settlements must advance your Property, it must also be a very additional Security to the Province as well as the Interest of the Crown, all which I shall represent in the best Light I can for your Interest with my Friends (among which I can not reckon L<sup>d</sup> Ha—l—f—x, for there is at present no manner of connection between him and me) but, However, if you will send me a proper Representation of your Case, I will make the best Use of it with those Friends I have in the Ministry, and in that Representation you may make mention of the Destruction of the Pines, which might be of so inestimable Value for His Majesty's Fleet, and also the Affair of the two great Patents, which gives so great Grievance to the Indians, as very probably, at this critical Conjunction, it may be the means to get them dissolved, in order to ingratiate the Indians to a firm Alliance with us and the only method to preserve the whole Continent from the artfull Designs and dareing Encroachments of the French upon His Majestys American Dominions, so justly His undoubted Right.

I am equally sensible with you of the severe Treatment you have received from the Assembly, in relation to the large Summs you have expended (on their Credit and entirely for the good of the Province in general) and should be glad if any Method could be found out to reimburse you.

The Death of Mr Pelham, the Choice of a New Parliament, the Continued Hurry the Duke of Newcastle has been embarrassed in, and the present prospect of a War has engrossed all my Friends time, that in short I have not been able to dispatch

my own business; But you may depend S<sup>r</sup> that I shall always take the greatest pleasure, by every Action in my power to demonstrate to you how much I have your Interest at heart I have been almost pulled to peices with the Gout Since my arrival which is not quite off at present just make shift to hobble but as the Spring comes on hope to be better M<sup>rs</sup> Clintons Compliments & sends by Kit a Thrush & a Cock & a hen Canarybird according to promiss If I can gather up any thing between this & Shogboroughs going I shall writte to you & am

Your faithfull friend and  
very humble Ser<sup>v</sup>

G CLINTON

M<sup>rs</sup> Clinton is vastly sorry that she is dissappointed in the Canary Birds but will do her utmost to send them by D<sup>r</sup> Shuckburgh

ADDRESSED:

To  
The Hon<sup>ble</sup>: Col<sup>l</sup>. William Johnson  
at  
Mount Johnson

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

March 19<sup>th</sup>. 1755

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Admirall Clintons letter

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*

[ ]  
[ ]  
[ ] expecting Convoys for [ ]  
[ ] the Artillery w<sup>ch</sup> may be dispatch[ed ]  
[ ] You will acquaint 1<sup>st</sup>. Charles Hardy [ ]  
] <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> Lines burned off.

[            ] this your Appointment, & apply to him [            ]  
 [            ] in his Interposition may be necessary ———  
 [            ] ll Officers of any of the Reinforcements [            ]  
 [            ] raised for this Expedition are to supply such  
 [            ] ards & Convoys as may be needful for the good  
 [            ]<sup>1</sup>

INDORSED:

[            ] Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
 [            ] Johnston  
 [            ] rel and  
 [            ] in Cheif  
 [            ] Lake  
 [            ]

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY<sup>2</sup>

A. L. S.

*Hartford Connecticutt May 10. 1755*

SIR,

Upon looking into the Minutes of the Council at Alexandria<sup>3</sup> since my last to you dated the seventh of May from North Harson, w<sup>ch</sup>. I hope you have reciev'd, I find it expressly mention'd that the design of the General's advancing Money to you, was that you might have an immediate Supply to purchase every thing necessary for ingaging the Indians of the six Nations in the present Service, and it is there undertaken by the Gov<sup>r</sup>. that the Colonies will repay it in two or three Months time; There can therefore be no possible doubt but that the sole End of lodging this Money in your hands, is for a fund to provide everything necessary in *present* for ingaging the Indians, and

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> William Shirley, colonial governor of Massachusetts; commander in chief of the forces in British North America at the opening of the French war in 1755.

<sup>3</sup> April 14, 1755; See *Dic Hist. N. Y.*, 2:248-51; Q. 2:378-79.

there is no other use for it, and this was done for fear ready Money be wanting, if the Colonies supplying it was to be trusted to: You will not therefore make the least hesitation abt. making this use of the Money — If any delay in the Indians engaging in the service should happen for want of doing it, it would be an irretrievable mischief — Gov<sup>r</sup>. de Lancey, as I told you before, insists that his Brother Oliver hath orders to supply you with 2000<sup>li</sup> Stirg. for this purpose; Oliver himself (as I understand him) tells me, he hath supply'd you with 1500<sup>li</sup> of it, and is ready to let you have the remainder; and he hath signify'd the same to the Governour of Connecticut, and I am satisfy'd no other fund will be provided to defray the Expence of ingaging the Indians by the Colonies, whom the several Gov<sup>rs</sup>. must immediately call upon to reimburse the 2000<sup>li</sup> to the Crown in due time; as to whatever the General hath order'd you to draw upon me for, you may depend upon your Drafts being answer'd, as I told you in my last; and I hope there will be no mistake in this, occasion'd by any Scruple in your self to apply the Money advanc'd to you by the General for the Service herein before mention'd

This will be deliver'd You by one James Johnson, who was taken Captive either the last Year, or the Year before that with a Wife and Children by the Indians, and carry'd to Canada from whence he was sent to New England last Year to endeavour to get Money for the redemption of his Wife and Children: This he accordingly did some months ago, and was on his Journey to Albany in order to proceed to Canada; but was stop'd by the Massachusetts Governm<sup>t</sup>. on acc<sup>t</sup>. of the several motions now in agitation ag<sup>t</sup>. the French, and for fear they should get some intelligence out of him: He now presses me hard to give him a line to you, to engage one or two of the Indian Mohawks to go to Canada to bring his Wife and Children from thence, being persuaded it may be effected, and says he will be at the Expence of it: If you think Indians may be safely sent to Canada at this Conjunction upon this Errand,

without the least risque of the French's gaining Intelligence from them, of what is doing in New England, I desire you would assist him in this Affair; But I would not have the least risque run of the French's getting Intelligence thro' the Indians.

Be pleas'd to let me hear from you in answer to this, by the New York post.

Connecticuts Governm<sup>t</sup>., I believe, will do everything that I shall recommend to them.

I am,

Sir,

Your Faithfull Humble  
Servant,

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

ADDRESSED:

On His Majesty's Service

To

Major General Johnson

at

Albany.

by James Johnson.

INDORSED:

Hartford in Connecticut

May the 10<sup>th</sup>. 1755 —

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Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirleys letter

Sent Extracts to y<sup>e</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>.

May 18<sup>th</sup>. 1755

FROM EDWARD BRADDOCK

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Will's Creek May 17<sup>th</sup>. [1755]*

SIR

The Bearer Cap<sup>t</sup> Air's<sup>2</sup> is the Person I have named to assist you as Engineer. He this day join'd me from an out Detachment or I would I have sent him sooner and I did not choose to send an Officer who had not seen Service I hope he will answer my Intentions I wish you all imaginable Success.

I hope to hear soon the Event of Your Conference.<sup>3</sup> I am

Sir

Y<sup>r</sup>. most obed<sup>t</sup>. Servant.

E. BRADDOCK

To COLL. JOHNSON

SPEECHES TO INDIANS AND REPLIES<sup>4</sup>*Copy<sup>5</sup>**May 17, [1755]*FIRST SPEECH<sup>6</sup>

To the Six Nations from General Braddock.

My brethren and allies of the Six Nations, I have already called you several times to treat with you about different affairs, which I knew nothing of before I had been with you, and which are not yet come to the knowledge of your father the Great King of England, of which I shall be careful to inform him,

<sup>1</sup> In possession of Amsterdam University Library, Holland.

<sup>2</sup> William Eyre; later, lieutenant colonel and chief engineer in America.

<sup>3</sup> Conference with Indians, lasting from May 21st to July 4th, 1755.

<sup>4</sup> These speeches were made and delivered to the Indians "by the order and under the inspection of Colonel Johnson."

<sup>5</sup> Printed in *The Olden Time*, 1:242-48.

<sup>6</sup> Though this speech was the first in General Braddock's Register, it was probably delivered after the following speech, *The Olden Time*, 1:242. (ed's note.)

and to offer you by his orders the presents which are here before you, and which he gives you as a testimony of his paternal affection.

I have detained you and your wives and children for some time, hoping in a few days to see your brethren the Delawares,<sup>1</sup> but seeing it is uncertain that they have yet arrived, and as I know you love to be in action, moreover as the service of the King your father requires your speedy assistance, I propose to you to take up the hatchet, and that you may the better exercise your warlike dispositions, I promise you to send your wives and children to Pennsylvania; I have recommended to the Governor of that province, in the King's name, to take particular and fraternal care of them.

A fine Belt of Wampum.

My brethren and allies of the Six Nations, I have a real concern to find how much you have suffered by the abuse and deceit of your perfidious neighbors the French, as well as by some of your brethren the English. The French have insinuated unto you, that we who are your faithful brothers, had designed to drive you out of all your lands of hunting and game, and to seize on them for your own proper use. You have been much deceived when you assisted the French to execute the horrid design with which they have charged us, in putting them in the real possession of these very lands which we had designed to secure unto you for your use alone and particular interest; I declare unto you in the presence of your chiefs and warriors here assembled, and according to the instructions I have received from the great King your Father, that if you will unanimously grant me your assistance, I will put you again in possession of your lands, of which you have been dispossessed by French deceit and cheating tricks, and secure unto you a free open trade in America, from the rising unto the setting of

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<sup>1</sup> The Delawares, also called the Wolves, quitted the English side after the assassination of M. de Jumonville.



the sun. It is very well known that I have no particular views nor design, but that of serving mutually the interests of the King of England your father, and of the Six Nations and their Allies, and I promise you to be your friend and brother, as long as the sun and moon shall last.

#### A grand Belt of Wampum.

I have been told that as upon the foregoing occasions, you had some presents from us, some were idle enough to excite your young people to drink, and by that means made no account of what they gave you. To prevent for the future such like proceedings, I have given orders, by threatening with death all those that shall be found convicted of that crime; I beg you'll send me your complaints against all such as will act in the like manner, and as a friend and brothers, I shall render you ample justice.

I have no more to desire, but to see you receive with pleasure the presents which are before you, and to see you divide them amongst you, according to your custom and natural equity. I hope they will be agreeable. You may depend upon great rewards from time to time for your services. I have ordered arms, powder and shot, to be delivered to such of your warriors as want them.

My brethren, I have been informed of the perfidious conduct of the French towards our deceased brother the half King; and to convince you how far I am sensible, as well as you, of his ill-treatment, in hopes that you would willingly join with me to revenge him, I cover his death with this belt.

My brethren, Delawares and Chauanons, you are to blame for following the counsel of the French last autumn, to murder a number of your brethren the English in their habitations in Caralina. I am very well persuaded that it did not happen from an inclination natural to you, but only by the instigation of the French; therefore if you acknowledge your fault, and that you are openly and voluntarily resolved to join with me, I shall freely forget the unhappy transgression, and receive you still

as brethren. This I confirm unto you, in the name, and as the deputy of the King your father, with this string of wampum.

Signed, JOHNSON.

#### SECOND SPEECH

The speech of the Honorable William Johnson, Esq., superintendent of Indian affairs, to the warriors of the upper and lower castle of the Iroquois Indians, in the presence of Lieutenant Butler, of Rutherford's company, of Captain Matthew Farral, of Lieutenant John Butler, of Messrs. Daniel Clause, Peter Wraxall, Secretaries for Indian affairs William Printup, Jacob Clement, interpreters.

My brethren of both castles of the Anies.

I wipe away all tears from your eyes, and clear your throat, that you may hear and speak without constraint. I rejoice to see you, and salute you with all my heart.

Gives a string of wampum.

I desire you to conform to what I demanded of you, in a letter which I wrote to you from New York, as soon as I returned from Virginia, wherein I prayed all your chiefs and warriors to wait my coming home, to hear news, and be informed of the orders which I have received from his Excellency General Braddock, (the great warrior) whom the King our common father, has sent to this country, with a great number of troops, of great guns, and other implements of war, to protect you, as well as his subjects upon this continent, and defend you against all the usurpations and insults of the French.

I have been to wait upon this great man, along with the Governors of Boston, New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland; we had also there, the Governor of Virginia, and another great man, who in this part of the world, commands all the men of war belonging to the King.

In the grand council many important affairs have been deliberated among which, the interest and safety of our brethren

the Six Nations and their allies, were considered with great attention.

My brethren, the tree which you and the rest of the Six Nations, have so often and earnestly desired, that it should be replanted, is grown by such a mighty hand, that its roots penetrate unto the bottom of the earth, and its branches are a refreshing shade to cover you and your allies; as I am to acquaint you that agreeable to the instructions which the King your father has given to General Braddock, I am nominated to be alone superintendent over all the affairs that shall concern you and your allies in this part of the world; I invite you and your brethren the Six United Nations and your allies to assembly under this tree, where you may freely open your hearts and heal your wounds, and at the same time I transport the shade of that fire which was in Albany, and rekindle the fire of council and friendship in this place; I shall make it of such wood as shall produce the greatest light and greatest heat; I hope it will be serviceable and comfortable to all those who shall come to light their pipes at it, and that the sparkling and flaming coals thereof, will burn all those who are or shall be its enemies.

I hope that you and all your brethren would be glad to increase the lustre and splendor of this fire, in minding and keeping it always up, applying yourselves to it with that diligence and zeal as may derive a blessing from it not only upon you, but upon all your posterity. To obtain and ascertain that salutary end, it is absolutely necessary that you extinguish all the fires kindled by means of deceit and fraud and not natural, which light but to deceive and destroy you and yours.

A belt.

My brethren, by this belt of wampum, I cleanse the council chamber, to the end that there be nothing offensive therein, and I hope that you will take care that no evil spirit creep in among us, that nothing may interrupt our harmony.

Gives a string of wampum.

My brethren I am concerned to see at my return, that many of the two villages desire to go to Canada; I should be much surprized that you who have been our most faithful friends and nearest neighbors would upon any occasion show your desire to be deceived by the wicked artifices of the French, who are so well known, and of whom you have had such fatal experience, especially when that restless and perfidious nation breaks the most solemn treaties, and violates all the obligations of honor and justice; this would be the most surprising thing in the world; but I hope, that what I have been told upon that subject, has no foundation. I desire and insist that none of you upon any pretence whatsoever have any correspondence with the French, nor receive any of their emissaries, nor go to Canada without my knowledge and approbation.

Upon this condition I give you a belt.

I intend immediately to call your other brethren of the Six Nations to this present fire, I hope that you'll come here along with them, I shall deliver a speech of his excellency General Braddock, accompanied with presents for you, which the great King your father has sent by that warrior.

After some moments of consultation between them, Abraham, one of the Chiefs of the upper village, got up, and spoke thus for the two.

My brother, you have called us to let us know the tidings you have brought with you, and we have understood all that you have said, we defer until the Six Nations are all assembled here to give an exact account of all affairs.

Gives a string of wampum.

My brother, we thank you for being so willing to wipe the tears from our eyes and to cleanse our throats and this floor. We do as much with this string of wampum.

Gives a string of wampum.

My Brother, to comply with your request we have here met together, and with great attention heard all you have said we thank you for your kind information; we are charm'd to see you again once more, and greet you with the String of Wampum.

They give it.

My Brother, we have often represented to our father the Great King that the tree advanced, we are very glad that our father has comply'd with our demand, and thank him for it most sincerely; we have had the greatest satisfaction to have all that you have said concerning that tree, we sincerely wish that it may continue such as you described in your speech, and we are very sensible of all you said upon the subject.

My Brother, you have told us that the tree which shaded us, is now replanted here, you made it the shade of Albany, and you have rekindled here the fire of prudence and friendship, which must be made of good everlasting wood, so that it shall be always clear, and give comfortable and salutary heat, to all that will approach it, as friends, whilst it shall burn and inflame against its enemies; our first fathers had kindled this fire first at Onontague and carried the small coals of it to rekindle another at the habitation of Quider.<sup>1</sup> This fire never burnt clear and was almost extinguished; we are very well satisfied to hear that you have rekindled it.

My brother, you have invited us all and our brethren the Six United Nations and their Allies to come and sit under that tree you spoke of, there to light our pipes at the fire of prudence, and that we and they should endeavour to preserve it, we don't doubt but that they would be glad to see it, but we must delay until all the nations be assembled here in a body for to answer that article of your speech.

My Brother, we thank you for having cleansed this council chamber, and for removing all that might be offensive therein,

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<sup>1</sup> The Indian name for Peter Schuyler.

you may assure yourself that we will do all we can to answer your intention and avoid all that might tend to trouble or disturb our mutual harmony.

My Brother, you have told us that you had been informed that some of us were going to the French, and you put us in mind of their conduct towards our ancestors, whom we remember very well, for their bones are false and deceitful, they have given us very fine words and their letters were sweet, but their hearts were full of poison for us; you know our affairs, my brother, as well as we, and that the rest of the Six Nations are jealous of us, because we used the hatchet last war against the French, shall we be now accounted false and deceitful? no, you may be assured, that we will not go to Canada upon any request of the French, because we are not so much in their friendship; also, my brother, do not believe all the reports that may be made to you upon that subject.

My Brother, we thank you yet once more for all that you have told us, we have already said that it was necessary the Six Nations were assembled here to give a positive answer, we thank you for the invitation you gave us to come here with the rest of our brethren, we will not fail to meet them here.

The Chief Mohowck (Anies) of the upper village having required to have a conference with Colonel Johnson, in the presence of the secretary for Indian affairs, and the two interpreters, Abraham spoke in the name of the chief, and said:

My Brother, when you were at New York, you told us that our Chiefs and warriors should rest on their mats, and wait there until your return; which we have done: ————— and why should we not, seeing we have at all times appeared ready to oblige you? and we are the more, since you tell us that you are a tree replanted, in order to put us under your shade, and we don't doubt but that our brethren of the other five Nations are all disposed to obey you.

My Brother, It is very true that we have been always obedient and obliging to you and seeing you have told us that you would

have us rest in the cabin, our young men being ready to go a hunting, being detained by your orders, have nothing to subsist upon, they have begged our Chiefs to represent their condition to you, they want every thing, not having been a hunting and to pray you to give them some powder and shot, to kill some game for their subsistence, as it will be some time before the arrival of the other five Nations, and all of us receive the presents sent us by the King our father; whilst we wait we pray you to give us what is purely necessary for us.

My Brother, as we foresee the hard seasons are approaching, we renew the prayers to you we often made to the safety of our wives and children, we hope you will actually execute it.

#### COLONEL JOHNSON'S ANSWER

Brethren, I am perfectly well convinced of your good dispositions for me, and of your complaisance at all times to listen to my words, and to do what I demand of you; it is that which has engaged me to take your affairs in my consideration: the fresh proofs you give me of your friendship and regard towards me, will enable me to serve your interests effectually and to my own satisfaction. I am sensible I have done you great hurt, as also to your young men, for detaining them at the time upon their mats, wherefore I readily grant you what you require of me, and will give you powder and bullets.

Before I left New York, I represented before your brother the Governor, the necessity of building a safe retreat for your families, and I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that he hath given me a full power to do it, and the workmen shall go about it as soon as possible.

Signed, JOHNSON

## CONCERNING TROOPS FOR CROWN POINT

D.

[May 31, 1755]<sup>1</sup>

Hints upon drawing off 500 Men from the Troops destined for Crown Point

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1.

The Votes of the Legislature of Massachusetts for this measure are under the three following Instructions.

Q.	1. the Concurrence of the other
have R. Isl <sup>d</sup> . New	Gov <sup>ts</sup> . concerned.
Hampshire &	2. that they be Volunteers.
Connecticut	3. that y <sup>e</sup> Crown Point Troops be
Concurred?	not diminished under 3700.—

The Vote of the Assembly of New York confirms the 3 aforesaid Conditions & add a 4<sup>th</sup>. Viz that Gen: Johnson has no Exception to this Measure.

It is hereupon observed That y<sup>e</sup> Crown Point Troops now rendezvoused near Albany are far short of 3700 Men and the others are said to be on their way here, till they do arrive the 3<sup>d</sup>. Condition stands against any diminution.—

2.

In the general Review already made numbers appeared to be unfit for the Service & when a Review is made by Com-

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<sup>1</sup> Undated: listed in Johnson Calendar, p. 33 under date of May 31, 1755.



panys of those now here, & the others who are expected, tis not to be doubted but many will be discharged as unfit for the Service.

N.B. the N. Hampshire Troops by the route they have taken cannot be received here & tho 500. were voted to be raised, yet it may be supposed when joined by the main Body they will be many short of that number.—

## 3.

Allowances must be made for Desertion, discharge, & Deaths in the Present Numbers before they arrive at their Grand rendezvous at y<sup>e</sup> carrying Place.—

## 4.

It is judged that the methods w<sup>ch</sup>. may be taken in the Scheme of drawing off Volunteers from the Force originally enlisted upon one Expedition to go upon another will will<sup>1</sup> create an Uneasiness among the remaining Troops w<sup>ch</sup>. may be of ill consequence, and that it will tend to abate that Ardor & Confidence with w<sup>ch</sup>. these Troops are at present Animated.

## 5.

It is judged that several of the French Fleet have escaped from the Attack of the English landed their Men in the River S<sup>t</sup>. Laurence & hurried them up to Canada, w<sup>ch</sup>. Troops will be in time to march to the

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<sup>1</sup> Repetition in the manuscript.

Reinforcement & relief of Crown Point & cannot to that of Niagara &c. therefore our Addition rather than any Diminution of the Crown Point Forces is necessary.

## 6.

Since the Defeat of the French at Fort Beau sejour &c. tis highly probable their Troops posted at these Places will march back to Canada & be employed against our Operations at Crown point w<sup>ch</sup>. is another reason against diminishing the s<sup>d</sup>. Troops.

## 7.

It is well known that experienced of: ficers with few Troops are of greater Consequence in Military Enterprizes than a Superior Number of Troops with unexperienced officers. It is a certain Truth with very few Exceptions that the officers of Crown Point Troops do not claim to themselves much regular Military Experience. Whereas most of the officers und<sup>r</sup>. Gen Shirley have been regularly bred & many long in

## 8.

the Army. It is apprehended that from the best & latest Intelligence, the Enemy at Niagara & Cadaraqui are in no condition to resist a much inferior Force & much less formidable Preparations than Gen. Shirley already has without any draughts from the Crown Point Troops.

## 9.

That the French from their long possession of Crown Point Fort do consider it as the Key to Canada on this side & it really is so. It must therefore be supposed that they will defend it with their utmost Force that they have before now Intelligence of our Designs that way, that they will therefore be able to reinforce it with Cannon, with Troops, with works, &c. cannot be doubted.

## 10.

The Resolutions of the several Gov<sup>ts</sup>. to reinforce the Crown Point Troops if found necessary, is intended to take place either after the reduction of Crown Point or when the Troops may lay before it, & Circumstances may call for additional Forces.

It is reasonable to suppose the Enemy will make formidable Attacks or an Attack before our Troops will reach Crown Point. And it is clear from Experience that before these resolutions can be effected & Reinforcements arrive there a great deal of time will elapse, besides the Resolutions of these Assemblies are not designed, tis a replacement of the Men proposed to be now drawn of & is therefore no fixt Argument in favour of that Measure. —

## 11.

For these & various other reasons too tedious to mention, It is supposed that General Johnson, General Lyman & the Majority of all the other officers concerned in the Crown Point Expedition, are against any Diminution of their Forces

## 12.

It is on the whole therefore presumed that a measure w<sup>ch</sup>. seems not to be well Supported & w<sup>ch</sup>. affects so many Lives & the Success of so considerable a part of the present General Plan will not or ought not to take Effect —

TO ARENT STEVENS<sup>1</sup>

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

[*May, 1755*]<sup>3</sup>

According to the instructions given to General Braddock by his Majesty, he has been pleased to entrust me with the sole direction and management of Indian affairs, to wit, for the Six United Nations, and their allies; you are therefore to give attention and follow the orders you shall receive from me on that head.

I send you this letter by James Clement, with two Belts of Wampum, both for the five upper Nations, which you are to give them in my name, and acquaint them that the troops who are now on their march, and those who may march hereafter

<sup>1</sup> Indian interpreter for the province of New York.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *The Olden Time*, 1:248-49.

<sup>3</sup> Letter not dated.

for Chouaguen, are to reinforce that garrison, and to protect it against any act of hostility from the French, who said that it belonged neither to us nor to the Six Nations, and that they would pull it down.

At my first arrival I sent a String of Wampum, but lest that should not be sufficient, I now send this belt. If you find that the Indians are disquieted or alarmed at the march of these troops through their country, should it proceed from their jealousy, or the deceitful insinuations of French emissaries, you shall assure them in my name, that they are destined for the safety and advantage of the Six Nations and their allies: you shall exhort them to give no heed to any lies which the French might tell them on that account, whose aim and desire is to take both us and them while we are asleep, to cut us from the face of the earth; that they know very well the only means to obtain their said desire, is to trouble and destroy the brotherly love and confidence which have so long and so happily subsisted between us, you shall make use of arguments to that purpose, as such like circumstances will require.

The other belt which I send you, is to inform them of the commission which the King their father has given me, granted at their repeated instances; and that in execution of General Braddock's order by this belt I invite and call the Six Nations to come to me, together with their allies, that I have kindled at my house a fire on council and friendship and replanted the shady tree, which shall shelter them and all those who will come under it; that I have a present to make them from the King their father, much good news to tell them, and a council to hold concerning several affairs of the greatest consequence, relating to their happiness and well being. If you find that any French emissary has been tampering with them, in order to dissuade them from coming to me; you shall insist upon their obedience, and upon the condescension due from them to us. If they say they are planting their corn, and should they come now, they would lose their harvest and want provisions; you shall assure them that I will take care of them, and will make

good to them all their loss occasioned thereby: but be sure to act with prudence upon that article and promise with precaution.

I have had a conference at both the Mohawk towns, they were satisfied with the two belts, and have promised to join me here whenever the other nations come down; wherefore urge them to it as much as you can.

I have sent you some goods by Mr. Clement, make use of them as you see cause: and when you have brought the Indians to the German flats, you will find provisions at my house, of which I desire you to keep account.

I am yours, &c

Signed WILLIAM JOHNSON

A true copy of what was done by the honorable William Johnson, Esq.; and Peter Warpall<sup>1</sup> secretary for Indian affairs.

I the subscriber of the superior council of Quebec, do certify, that I have translated, &c.

ROBERT ORME TO RICHARD PETERS

*A. L. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*June 9<sup>th</sup>. 1755*

MY DEAR SIR

I am very happy to have an Opportun<sup>y</sup>. of commencing a Correspondence and confirming an Acquaintance with a Gentleman greatly esteemd and beloved by my aimiabl Friend Go<sup>v</sup>. Morris and whose ability and Integri<sup>y</sup> make it desirable for every Man to call his Friend. I receivd your letter relative to the Road and as I saw in many Instances your Regard for the publick Service and Knowledge of the Country I cannot think any body will contriv more or epedit faster for thet purpose. Be assured Sir whatever may happen with us deserving of your Knowledge I shall inform you of and I assure you nothing can give me more Pleasure then from time to time to be acquainted

<sup>2</sup> Should be "W<sup>r</sup>axall."

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.



CAPTAIN ROBERT ORME

From the painting by Sir Joshua Reynolds in the National Portrait Gallery, London, England





with the Transaction of your Province and the general News My dier Friend Shirly is well and desires his Compliments he readily excuses your parting with out leave but [h]is verry busyness preventing him from seeing you.

I am glad an Affair of no less Consequence than our Subsistance is lodged in the Hands of so good a Subject and well wisher as you & I assure the great Apprehensions I should have layed under are remov'd by your interesting yourself in our behalf

The General greatly desired to send an Engineer to direct and perfect the Road but our own miserable march and other necessary Employment for them puts it out of his Power, I am

My dear Sir

Y<sup>r</sup>. most hum<sup>bl</sup>. & obed<sup>t</sup> Sev<sup>t</sup>

ROBT ORME

To

RICH PETERS Esq<sup>r</sup>

INDORSED:

Robert Orme 9 June

1755

FROM EDWARD BRADDOCK

*L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Cumberland*

*Wills Creek June 9<sup>th</sup>. 1755*

SIR

I have receivd you Letter by M<sup>r</sup> Butler, informing me of the present situation of Indian Affairs, by which I discover they seem much inclind to the French Interest, I can in some measure account for this by the conduct of our Governments. to these Nation's for some Years. I am therefore determind as far as in me lies to promote and forward in every respect his Majesty's

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Service, and as I find the tardyness and absurd Oeconomy of many of the Governments, I do empower you to draw upon Governor Shirley for such Money as shall be necessary to carry on your negotiations in acquiring and preserving them in his Majestys Interest.

I have for this purpose written to Governor Shirley to answer your Draughts for such sums as you shall find necessary for the Service, in which you are engag'd and in which charge you was named by me for your general good Character and influence with the Six Nation's, and therefore as I make no doubt by your proper and seasonable Oeconomy, you will in every respect answer the good opinion I have of you, and shew your regard for the Publick Service.—

You may be persuaded as I have engag'd in the Indian Affairs from the advantage they seem to be to his Majesty's Colonies, I will support and confirm you in all proceedings consonant to your Instructions, and will not suffer you to be injur'd by your undertaking this business, and you may also assure the Indians they shall not be neglected, in case they engage with us, in the manner they have been on former occasion's

If the Colonies will not equal the Pay of the Indian Officer's to the Regimental subsistance of Officer's of the same Rank not exceeding that of Captain I will make up the dificiency of their Pay and this you may inform them of with my promise for the performance I am very sorry the Expedition to Crown Point which was begun with the general consent of the Northern Colonies shoud flag when it is so near carrying into Execution, I have written and recommend the Utility and indeed necessity of this attempt, and used my utmost persuasions to forward it as much as possible and to exert themselves at the present Crisis for his Majesty's Service.

I am Sir

Y<sup>r</sup>. most H<sup>ble</sup>. & Obed' Serv<sup>t</sup>

E. BRADDOCK

WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq<sup>r</sup>.

I have sent Cap<sup>t</sup>. Ayres<sup>1</sup> an Engineer to join you a Month agoe

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

June 9<sup>th</sup>. 1755

General Braddocks  
Letter Per Lieu<sup>t</sup>.  
John Butler

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

Copy<sup>3</sup>

The 22. June 1755.

Colonel Johnson having given Orders to the Interpreters to take an Acc<sup>t</sup> & give in a return of the Number of Indians of each Nation Men, Women & Children come down to this Meeting they this day gave the following Acc<sup>t</sup>.

Senecas .....	67	} of which there are more Men than were ever before known to come to any Meeting
Cayouges .....	103	
Oniedas .....	200	
Tuscarores .....	64	
Onondagas .....	100	
Tiederigroenes .....	9	
Schanadarigroenes .....	19	
DeLawares .....	101	
Upper & Lower Mohocks.....	408	
<hr/> Total .....	<hr/> 1071	

<sup>1</sup> Captain William Eyre (Ayre, Ayers).

<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>3</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4. This is part of the proceedings of the conference printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:966-989. From the printed proceedings, however, this section is omitted.

## INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

Copy<sup>1</sup>

Mount Johnson 26 June 1755

One Mr Smith acted as an Interpreter & was retained by Colonel Johnson for that Purpose in order to let him know what Colonel Johnson had said to the Nations pres<sup>t</sup>.

Since the Acc<sup>t</sup>. of the Number of Indians  
taken the 22<sup>d</sup> Inst vide pag 27. amount-  
ing to ..... 1071. have come  
in at Different times..... 35.

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Total Amount this day..... 1106. Men, Wom<sup>n</sup> & Chi

FROM ROBERT ELLISON

A. L.. S.<sup>2</sup>*Albany Saturday two o Clock June 28<sup>th</sup>. 1755*

SIR

Inclosed I send you a Letter from Maj<sup>r</sup>. General Shirley: as Colonel Schyler was a going to Schenectady I take y<sup>e</sup> Liberty to sending it by him; as I am an intire Stranger in this Country; I must be guided by y<sup>r</sup> & Col<sup>l</sup>. Schylers advice; & shoud be Extreemly obliged to you; if you woud give us a meeting at Schenectady; in Order to Consult together y<sup>e</sup> most properest way of Conveying y<sup>e</sup> Generals Reg<sup>t</sup>. w<sup>th</sup> Their Stores to Oswego. I shall Certainly be at Schenectady either Monday or Tuesday at furthest. I am Sir

Your most Obed Ser[ ]

ROB<sup>t</sup> ELLISON

as I am this moment arriv<sup>d</sup>  
& Col. Schyler wait<sup>g</sup> for this  
I hope you will Excuse hast.—

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 4. This extract is part of the proceedings printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:964-89, but is omitted from the printed record.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

ADDRESSED:

To Maj<sup>r</sup> General Johnson  
at  
Mount Johnson.

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

June 28<sup>th</sup>. 1755 —

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Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Coll<sup>o</sup>. Ellison's  
Letter from Albany

TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>2</sup>

(Copy)

Mount Johnson  
4<sup>th</sup> July 1755

SIR

I have had a Meeting with the Sachems & leading Men of the Oneida Nation, & they have at my Request consented, that two Magazins Shoud be built at the Carrying Place.

But Sir I must earnestly recommend to you that all Persons who are under your Command either as Soldiers or Workmen behave with Civility & good Humour to the Ind<sup>s</sup>. And that no ill Usage whatsoever be given them,<sup>3</sup> and pray prevent any Rum from being Sold to them;

If these things are observed, Matters may go on Smoothly, but if not Confusion may arise, which will not be in my Power to remedy, I am

Y<sup>r</sup>. Humble Servt

W: J:

To CAPT WILLIAMS  
of Maj<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup> Pepperils<sup>4</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter Wraxall.<sup>3</sup> See Johnson's letter to the Commanding Officer of Sir William Pepperrell's Regiment, June 21, 1755.<sup>4</sup> Sir William Pepperrell.

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Onidas Carrying Place July 4. 1755.*

SIR

I arrived here 7. days ago find these Indians disaffected to our tarrying here very long — They want Exceedingly to hear from their Bretheren with you whether they consent to our tarry or not — I should think an Express by one of their own People would be requisite; twas with Difficulty that I obtained Leave of them to clear and mend the Road which by the great Travelling of late, wanted it Exceedingly I have for Two Miles down the River Moved the Stones & Gravel so as to thro' what little water there is more into a Chanel and hope by tomorrow night to finish the Road one Half the Way to Canada Creek — I lay Still in open camp dare not cut a pickett, nor brake ground to intrench for fear of giving umbrage to my Jealous Neighbours — I exceedingly want to hear what Success you have met with in your most arduous undertaking — as also to receive your farther Commands — My Compliments to Capt<sup>n</sup>. Raxall<sup>2</sup> & the Gent<sup>n</sup>. with You — And beleive me to be with the Highest Esteem & respect

Sir

Most Obedient

and

Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. WILLIAMSGEN<sup>L</sup>. JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Peter Wraxall.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Hudson's river July 9<sup>th</sup>. [1755]**½ an hour after 12 o'clock.*

SIR,

I am now within another Tide of Albany, and expect to Land there early to morrow Morning.

As there are several points for us to settle before I leave that place, I should be glad if the service and your own conveniency would permit you to give me a meeting there as soon, as may be, after you shall recieve this; and that you would favour me with an Answer by the return of the Express, w<sup>ch</sup>. carries it.

I am

Sir,

Your Obedient, Humble Servant

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON.

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>July 9<sup>th</sup>. 1755 —Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirleys letter

DANIEL CLAUS TO RICHARD PETERS

*Copy*<sup>3</sup>*Canajoharre, July the 10th, 1755,*

HOND. SIR:

I hope Jamey Kelley delivered the Letter I sent by him to y<sup>r</sup>. Honour when he left this. A few Days after I went down to General Johnston's to be present at the Congress of the

<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>3</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 6:468-75.

different Nations of Indians, which indeed was the greatest Convention that ever was known. The 7 united Nations with the Onhaghquagy Indians, Some of the Diahoga, and a Party of Missisagas, made out a Number of almost 1,100; Many of the Sachems of the Nations came down that this many years past refused to meet the English Governors at Albany. Two speeches were prepared for them, the Contents of which I will undertake to give your Honour a Brief Detail of, and as I have not the English Original I must make it out (as near as I can) of my Indian Translations: The first Speech was an Introduction to the Treaty, and contained the Journey of General Johnson w<sup>th</sup>. the different Governors to General Braddock; His being appointed to the sole Management of their Affairs; And what Troops and Armaments the King their Father had sent to these Parts in Order to recover their Hunting Grounds again, which the French their antient Enemies had taken from them without their Consent; Then the Tree of Shelter and Friendship for all the United Nations, their Allies and Dependants, was raised, to come and seek their Protection under its Shadow. The Council Fire was lighted with such Wood as never wou'd burn out, and the Embers removed from Albany and brought to Mount Johnson to burn there forever; a Continual Unity, Concord, and Brotherly friendship, was recommended to all the united Nations, &<sup>ca</sup>. To all these Propositions they answered very thankfully, and showed a great Joy to have General Johnson for the Management of their affairs.

The second and Chief Speech contained the following Belts:

Belt 1st. A General Rehearsal of the first acquaintance with the English and the Six Nations, and how the Chain of Friendship took its Original, now almost an Hundred Years ago. At the same time they were reminded of the inveterate Enmities, Cruelties, Treacheries, and Deceits of the French committed among their People, and how their forefathers, seeing themselves near such a dangerous Enemy, gave all their Lands under Protection of the King of England their Father by a Deed signed by all the Sachems then living.



Belt 2d. They were exhorted sincerely to consider and to ask themselves in their Hearts who had been and who were yet their truest Brethren, the English or the French? which to consider they cou'd not be one Moment in doubt if they were the true Posterity of them honest People their Forefathers, And as long as they wou'd confess themselves to be such they might be sure of the everlasting Brotherhood and Amity of the English; wherefore they ought to take this well to Heart and make an Open Confession of it to every Body.

Belt 3d, of Union. They were admonished not to listen to any Reports the French might Disperse among them; they were commonly false and only intended to make them Enemies with the English. It has always been their only Maxim to have the upper Hand in these Parts, wherein if they once obtain'd their End they the 5 Nations wou'd soon discover their Ruin, which at present the French kept hid in their Heart, as every-thing they make them believe came only from their Lips. Genl. Johnson then by taking the Almighty to his Witness that neither He nor any of their Brethren the English had any ill Design against them the Six Nations, & promis'd that if they wou'd be as true Brethren to the English as their Forefathers had been neither wou'd any more keep any underhand Treaties with the French to the Detriment of the English. He was now ready with this Belt of Wampum to renew and make more strong and bright then ever the Chain of Friendship with all the English upon this Continent and them the United Nations, their Allies, and Dependants.

War Belt 4. They shou'd not imagine that the English were afraid of the French or any of their Enemies, no! But these Engagements were only made to them because their Father the King had such a Regard for them in remembering their honest Forefathers; he was able and willing to defend them from the Enmities of the French, and fully resolv'd to drive the French to Canada, their own Country, ffor which Reason all these Preparations were made among the English. If they, therefore, wou'd shew that Respect and Love to him their brother

which they always professed, and Who never deceived them yet in any thing, They shou'd listen to His Proposal as it was intended for their own Interest, which was that he wou'd hereby desire them to assist their Brethren the English at this present Occasion, and not to break the Chain of Friendship subsisting so many Years between them and the English Nor listen to french Boastings and Lies. It was true the English had been long asleep, but now they were thoroughly awaken'd. They were slow to Spil Blood, But when they once begun to rise they were like a furious Wolf, and wou'd drive the french Men afore them like Deer; wherefore they ought previously to consider how to act. It was tending to their future Happiness and Welfare.

N. B.—Here a Speech was inserted w<sup>ch</sup>. Skaronyade sent from Awkwick, wrote by George Croghan, wherein he paid the Complim<sup>t</sup>. to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson of his having the sole Management of their Affairs, And that He with his People was upon the March to join Gen<sup>l</sup>. Braddock, under the Command of Mr. Croghan; Also that a great Number of the Western Indians were daily expected to join the Army, &<sup>ca</sup>.

All this was clearly explained to them, and this Reflection made, that if they alone after all these Admonitions were to shew themselves cool and inactive on this Occasion and not join their Brethren the English, every Body wou'd doubt the good Character they ever sustain'd, and they openly must be charg'd with breaking the Chain on their Side.

Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson then continued and sayd, That he was in a short Time going out against the french with a great Body of Men given under his Command, taking along with him Great Guns and other Warlike Implements, intending to drive the French from the Encroachments on their Hunting Grounds in this Province, If, therefore, they had yet any Esteem for the King of England their Father, and also were true Brethren to him, and at the same time wou'd consider their own Interest, They shou'd take up the Hatchet, go along with him, and assist

their Brethren against their Enemies the French. Gen<sup>l</sup> Johnson added and said: Brethren, I know the Caghnawagies are your Flesh and Blood, and have lately declared themselves our Brethren also. To shew you, therefore, what Regard I have for them, and how I have their Safety at Heart, if they will hear me (at the same time I expect your Advice), I am going to send a Message to them, whereby I will take them by the Hand and lead them aside, that their Blood may not be shed.

He proceeded and said, That as many as wou'd join him he wou'd treat like Brethren, also take Care of their Families in their Absence, And they might already see the King their Father's Care in sending so many Troops to Oswego to defend them from the Attacks of the French. After all this if they yet wou'd be insensible of his sincere Promises, and like blind Men wou'd not see their own Interest, He was fully determined to drop the Management of their Affairs and leave this Country.

Sir William threw down the Belt of Wampum.

After this a Speech of Gen<sup>l</sup>. Braddock's was delivered to them written upon Parchment, with the General's Seal fixed to it, and directed to the Chief Men and Warriors of the 6 Nations, And runs thus:

Belt 1st. That the King their Father was firmly resolved to punish the French with the Utmost Severity for invading their hunting Grounds in so unjust a Manner; Also, That He did intend to punish those Indians who dared to take up the Hatchet against the English and join the French. As the King of England knew well the French were too treacherous to be confided in and too weak to support their Indians, Wherefore He was sent with a great Body of Men, and also all Sorts of Warlike Instruments, to recover the Lands the French had taken from them the Six Nations, And to drive them from their Hunting Grounds; And that as they knew what Friendship and Love ever subsisted between them & the English, and how often the French had tried to break that Friendship, he now was resolved to renew and brighten the Silver Chain of Friendship in such

a Manner that its Lustre might endure as long as the Sun and Moon shall give Light.

Belt 2d. That the Amity and Friendship now proposed shou'd last as long as Mountains remain and Rivers run.

War Belt 3d. This Discourse was directed to the Head Men & fighters of the 6 Nations, and they were desired to remember and take Notice of what he was going to say. That he expected they wou'd immediately take up the Hatchet against the French and those Indians that shou'd join them, and Assist their Brethren the English as their Forefathers had done, which wou'd please the King their Father whenever it shou'd come to his Ears, And they might be assured he wou'd soon enough be inform'd of their Behaviour; And that He for his Part promised that as long as he continued in these Parts they might be assured of his Protection, Wherefore he expected they wou'd have a good Will towards him; And as he was thoroly inform'd of their Character He hoped they wou'd not consider long but immediately join their old Friends the English in defeating their Enemies.

Belt given.

The Chiefs Answers upon these Speeches will be seen in the following made to them:

Brethren:

Belt 1. Yesterday You engaged to assist us in this present Difference with our Enemies the French. You have acted like Dutiful Children to the King your Father; also, you do like your Forefathers have done. I hope you will stand firm to y<sup>r</sup>. Engagements, otherwise you will be detested by all the World.

Belt 2d. I expect you will acquaint your Friends and Allies wherever they may be of this Your Engagement, and desire them to do as you have done.

3. As You requested to go home and settle your Families, afore you go out I won't be against it; at the same Time I desire some of you will immediately go to Ohio and join your Brethren there with General Braddock. Also, some of You will join

General Shirley, who is going to Niagara in order to intercept the French from going to Ohio or carrying any Provisions there, and to open the Road for the southern Indians that they may come and trade at Oswego. I myself shall be ready in a short Time to go to Crown Point; I therefore desire that a Party of every Nation will follow Me; and in Case I shall want more afterwards I expect them that stay at home may be ready at a Call.

Whereupon they answered "That as to Ohio there was some of their People gone already to join Skaronyade, And at Niagara there wou'd be a sufficient Number to join General Shirley, as the Place was near their Habitations. And as for him there wou'd be Time enough, as he was a heavy Body that cou'd move but slow (meaning the Army); and he might be assured that all the rest of their People wou'd learn where the Tree lean'd (Meaning General Johnson)."

Then they desired a Letter might be wrote to the Skaniadaradighronos, Who engaged them to send 300 of their Men at the first Call, w<sup>ch</sup>. was promised to them.

They concluded the Treaty with the following Complaints:

1st. That no Rum shou'd be brought in their Towns as it was their total Destruction.

2d. That no Land shou'd be desired to be bought of them any more.

N. B.—It happen'd Lidyus was present, who is to go with General Shirley to command the Indians he is to take with him, but there was inclined to go under Lidyus.

The 3d Complaint the Speaker begun as follows:

That Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson promis'd them in his introductory Speech that the Room where the Council Fire was kindled shou'd be kept free from any venomous or base Creatures; But they must see that one crept in Notwithstanding, which was Lidyus (naming him), who like an evil Spirit intended to Steal their Lands at the Sasquehannah by an unfair and Cheating manner,

pulling their people slyly by the Blanket, and by the Witchcraft of Dollars got one Nation after the other to sign a Paper which several of them hardly knew what it was for; and as they never intended to sell that land, nor cou'd it be done without a full Meeting of the United Nations, they, therefore, must break that unlawful Deed and recall their Land.

The Governm<sup>t</sup>. of Pennsylvania bought a large Tract of Land of them last Year and paid the half of the Consideration Money. They also hereby wou'd recall so much as is unpaid yet. This is in the Consequence of a Message sent among them by the French last Fall,—That they should recall that Land Onas bought of them near Ohio.

But they were answered,

That as to Rum none shou'd be brought in their Towns.

The Bu[y]ing of Land shou'd be brought to another Footing, and none be desired to be brought without their ffree Consent.

As for Lidyus, he was not called to the Meeting But came of his own accord, and as it was not to be doubted he dealt with them according to their Complaint. They might depend upon it That he wou'd represent the affair in its proper Light at home, and he did not doubt but they wou'd be redressed in their Grievances.

But as for the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania having bought that Land last Year, He was satisfied It was done in a solemn and public Manner, and as they desired Justice to be done to them he expected the same from them, and therefore wou'd advise them to take the other half of the Money and resign the Land according to the Deed they signed. To which they consented and cried out (“etho nujawau”)— It shall be so.

Thus have I bravissimo given your Honour a general Detail of what was transacted with the United Nations. I don't doubt but if you ask Mr. Wraxall for a true Copy of the Whole, when his busy Time is over he will send it. It wou'd make my Epistle too long if I was to give you an account of every inconsequential Thing.

People were scalp'd below Albany, and we had twice alarms of the French Indians. Some of the 6 Nations went after them but did not discover them.

After the Presents were given and all the Indians were gone, the General went to Albany in order to Dispatch a Party of his Troops to march towards Crown Point. He told me that the Canj<sup>e</sup>. Indians desired him to send me to their Castle again in order to receive his News and Orders, that I might bring them down when wanted, and at the same Time acquaint him of every thing of Consequence. After my Return here I was told that an Onondago Indian was killed by two Oneido's who live at Oswegatsy, being sent by the Priest to hear what was going on at the Treaty, And the Onondago accusing them of their being Spies, and both Parties being something in Liquor, they struck him and murdered him miserably.

All the French Indians except the Cayknawagies are out a scalping, and a great Party of them in the County of Albany. They've committed already several Murders. General Johnson sent out a Party of white People which killed an Anahunko Indian and scalped him.

There is now about 1,000 Men at Oswego, and the Rowe Gally and Sloop finish'd. There was a Report that 3 French Sail and a Camp was discovered by the Rowe Gally on Oswego Shore opposite Cataraghque.

A great many Stores and Armaments are going up this River to Oswego, and General Shirley is preparing in Schenectady to set off with the rest of his Army.

I wish to God the Report was true we had from Ohio that Gen<sup>l</sup>. Braddock took the French Forts with the Loss of only 500 Men, and the French lost double the Number. If once this will be the Case all the Indians will flock over to the English, and the rest of the Expeditions won't want of Success. As to Niagara, the Indians think it no Difficulty at all about its being taken; But Crown Point they say was the strongest Fort in Canada.

My Commission is not given to me yet, but I am told I shall get it when I bring the Indians down.

In my Letter by Skaronyade I mention'd to your Honour about some Cloaths he and his Company had out of Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson's store, they being quite naked, And I don't doubt but they will have acquainted You of it, and this Debt being charg'd to me I shou'd be glad you wou'd write to Mr. Stevenson to ballance the same. It amounts to £4 13. I also enclose a Receipt of John Davison for a Shirt and Cash lent to him.

Hendrick gives his hearty Salutation to the Governor and your Honour, and lets you know that he himself is a-going to Crown Point. He thinks the upper Nations are in good Humour at present with the English, tho' the Certainty of it will be seen when they send their Fighters down. He advises your Honour to see the half of the Ohio Consideration Money paid as soon as possible, as there may be Enemies to the Province of Pennsylvania who may breed Mischief among the upper Nations. He says They were resolv'd to have that false Deed from Lidyus, and wou'd have had it now if he had been at home.

Before I set off for Crown Point shall let your Honour hear from Me again, which will be in ab<sup>t</sup>. a fortnight hence. In the Interim I am, with my humble Respects to the Governour,

Honoured Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

DAN<sup>L</sup>. CLAUS.

To RICHARD PETERS, Esq<sup>r</sup>., Secretary for the Province of Pennsylvania.

P. S.—I was just closing up my Letter when a Cayougo Indian came down here with a Letter to General Shirley from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Bradstreet to hurry the Troops up, as they were apprehensive of an Attack at Oswego from an Army gather'd at Oswegatsy. The Indian in his discourse say'd, That the Priest told some of the upper Nations that he expected the English early in the Spring, and had been ready for them, but now they came drawling on like Turtles, so that at last he fell asleep, And in Case they was to disturb him in his Sleep He cou'd



in the twinkling of an Eye flye away. At the same time he warned the upper Nations not to mix with the Flies for fear he might crush them to Death unknown.

The Indians here observed it was true enough that the English had fallen asleep in their Undertakings and Expeditions.

TO EDWARD BRADDOCK

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 15 July 1755*

SIR

I am honoured with Your Excellencys favour bearing date y<sup>e</sup>. 9 June [*the day before my last publick conference with the Indians*]<sup>—</sup>

The Assurancy of your favour & the continuation of your Patronage, are extreamly pleasing to me & I return Your Excell<sup>y</sup>. my grateful Acknowledgements for them. I have & I always shall endeavour by my Conduct to justify the Distinction you have favoured me with.

Now I have your Excel<sup>s</sup>. Letter I shall settle it as to the Pay of the Indian Officers, to their Satisfaction.—

Herewith Your Excellency will receive Authentic Copies of all my public Transactions with the Confederate Nations from first to last at the late Meeting with them.<sup>2</sup>—

I found all the Nations except the Mohocks extreamly averse to taking any part with us in the present Active Measures against the French. this Arose from two Principal Sources; the Most prevalent was their Fear of the French, owing to our long passiveness & their Activity, & the shameful hand we have always made of our former Expeditions. The other was, from a real attachment in many of their most leading Men to the French Interest, I am morally certain they had entered into

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<sup>1</sup> In Harvard College Library, Sparks Mss. XLIX (2), Cambridge, Mass.; in handwriting of Peter W<sup>r</sup>axall.

<sup>2</sup> From May 15th to July 4th.

private Engagements with the French & as many of their Relations & Friends had really gone over to & are living amongst the French, [and] I am fully persuaded had not this Meeting taken place there would very speedily have been a defection of the Major part of the Upper Nations.

Besides the Transactions w<sup>ch</sup>. I send your Excellency Copies of, I had private & seperate Conferences with all there Leading Men whom I found most disaffected to our Interest, at w<sup>ch</sup>. I laid before them those Arguments w<sup>ch</sup> I thought most conducive to Change their Judgments & gain them in our favour, I made presents & promises to draw their Affections towards us. And except in One or Two Instances, I am persuaded my public & my private Endeavours have been really successful. And I think I can now take upon me to assure your Excellency & the Administration at home that all the Confederate Nations who have Attended at this meeting are gone away Affectionately disposed to the British interest & sincerely wishing that in the present Contests the English may get the upper hand of the French. And if our Future Conduct towards these Indians be consistent with the measures now laid down at this Meeting, And that the present Plans of Operation against the French are carried into effect with Vigor & Spirit, I Question not but these Nations will remain firm & unshaken to the public & united Declarations they have made, that the British Interest on the Continent of America with regard to the surrounding Indians in general will in a very little time greatly over-balance the French.

Tho they have evaded sending any Assistance to your Excellency at present, yet I despair not if y<sup>u</sup> stand in need but I shall by & by be able to prevail on a number to join you. But I must beg leave to inform your Excellency that the Chief Indian of those whom I sent to you with Mr. Butler returned the Day before I received an Answer to that Speech in w<sup>ch</sup> I desired a Party might immediately accompany Cap<sup>t</sup> Stoddert to assist & receive your Commands. He informed the rest, that you had received them very kindly & that M<sup>r</sup> Croghan had informed them You had ordered a handsome present for them,

but when they went to Col. Innes<sup>1</sup> to receive it, he would give only one Indian Gun to them, offered to another a Soldiers Musket w<sup>ch</sup>. to them is useless, & a Pistol apeece to the other Two, & gave them but a single suit of Cloathing apeece whereas Mr Croghan told them you had ordered each double Cloathing. They were greatly disgusted at Col. Innes's. behaviour & displeased with the whole of his treatment of them. As they were not before much inclined to go towards the Ohio, this Indians Representation [*put it quite out of my power to prevail with them*] added to their unwillingness. From the Acc<sup>ts</sup>. I have received, I fear Col. Innes is not well acquainted with the Nature of Indians nor much versed in the Arts of Manageing them. Without Generosity, patience & a winning Civility of Behaviour Nothing can be done with them when Compliances on their side are wanted. I think it my Duty to speak out on this Occasion to prevent future Disappointments.\*

I dare say they will give Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley as much assistance as he will really stand in need of. He wont I am of Opinion find that any great Number will be [*immediately*] necessary to him —

The Colonies proposed & [*I believe*] have made Provisions for 300 for the Crown Point Expedition, and I beleive I shall not want of that Number.—

You will find they expect to have their Settlements secured, and it is not without Cause they dread the Indignation of the French. I am building Forts for the Two Castles of the Mohawks with Money appropriated for that purpose a year ago by the Assembly of this province.<sup>2</sup>

I have promised to do the same for the Onondagas, and I must perform it. The French have used every Art in their power to Obtain this Liberty & would stick at no Expencc for it. but the

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<sup>1</sup> Col. James Innes, manager of Indian affairs in Virginia. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:23.

<sup>2</sup> For opposite assertion, made by Shirley, see *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:998.

upper Nations have ever been jealous of either their or our doing it. I do not know of a more Effectual Method to Secure & Strengthen our Interest with them than to have Forts & Garrison them in their respective Counties. And I think no one Measure will be more Judicious & Advantageous than to [*take an Advantage of*] improve by their present Fears & erect these Forts. As they will be only Wooden Ones they will not be very Expensive. I beg your Excellency will be pleased to give me your Opinion & Directions herein as soon as you conveniently can.—

I have reviewed the Provincial Troops encamp't near this City raised for the Crown Point Expedition; Officers & Men with very few Exceptions are not only Strangers to Military Life but show an averseness to Discipline & Regularity w<sup>ch</sup>. gives me no small trouble & uneasiness. I have ordered Returns to be made me of the Effective Men now here but they are not yet delivered, so that I cannot give your Excellency the exact number, if I get them before the close it shall be added to my letter.

I perceived few of the [*Companys were*] reg<sup>ts</sup> compleat, & except 600 of the New York Reg<sup>t</sup>., all their Musketts of diff<sup>t</sup>. Bores & sorts. I have ordered also returns of the arms to be made, but have not yet got them. None have more than 3 lb of powder ¶ Man allowed & some but a Pound & a half. [*Ammunition*] Powder for the Artillery is also short, but I have applied to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Shirley who is now here & he has promised to let me have some from his Store w<sup>ch</sup> is very plentiful.

Five hundred Men raised by the Province of New Hampshire their Gov<sup>r</sup>. writes me are to march cross the Country & join us near Crown Point, a measure w<sup>ch</sup>. I wrote the Gov<sup>r</sup>. might be fatal to them. However there are Letters in Town w<sup>ch</sup>. say those Troops will not be able to join us, & w<sup>ch</sup>. I always feared would be the Case. Besides they carry Provisions only for their March, & how they would be supplied when they join us, I know not. I have no Funds to provide for them, & the other Colony Troops have none to spare A Strange System of Conduct theirs!

I expect on the whole not more than 3200 Men will rendezvous at the Carrying Place about 54 miles from hence & about 70 from Crown Point, which together with the Indians if we meet with no considerable Body of Regular Troops, I hope will be sufficient to carry our Point. But if any of the French Fleet have got up the River St Laurence with any of their regular Troops we may expect they will be sent to relief of Crown Point.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Ayeres has acted & continues to act as Quarter Master General & Adjutant, his Skill & Activity has been very useful to the Service, & as the continuance of it will be very necessary when his Department as Engineer will permit, I have applied to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Shirley & he has given him a Commission for the Post of Quarter Master General, the Colonies would provide no Establishment for any such officer tho I warmly recommended the importance of it.

Mr. Wraxall is my Secretary & Aid de Camp & must be also Judge Advocate when Occasion requires, he has offered me his Service in these Capacities, tho there is no Establishment for either of them & he will give future time Credit for his Reward. If constant & cheerful Application in a way pleasing to me & necessary to the public Service claims Merit he has it.

I send y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency herewith a Copy of some Queries I have laid before General Shirley, to w<sup>ch</sup>. I have not yet his Answer, but he promises me I shall. they may serve to give you a more particular Light into the present Situation of the Military Affairs under my Direction both as they relate to the public & myself.

I hope soon to hear News of your Excellencys Proceedings.

I kept the Presents for the Westward Indians for Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley to carry with him as he will be there at the proper Season & he is very well pleased that I have done so.

I propose to transmit by the first Ship bound to London such a Copy of my Proceedings with regard to the Indians as I now send your Excellency.

Very much do I long to hear news of your Operations & I hope the Event will distinguish Your Excellency in a manner

equal to your Merit.<sup>1</sup> I beg leave to assure You of my most sincere Wishes that every Species of Felicity may Attend you & that I am

Sir  
Your Excellencys  
Most Obliged & Obed<sup>t</sup>  
Hum Serv<sup>t</sup>.

\*However In a private Conference I afterwards had with some Indians, they have told me, their prevailing reasons for declining to Attend your Excellency, were that as Mr. Dinwiddie had many Nations of Indians living around his Gov<sup>t</sup>. with whom he was in Freindship, they did not doubt but his Interest would procure as many as you woud know what to do with, & as there were some Differences subsisting between them & those Indians if they met together it might be fatal to One another & the common Cause.

In a day or two I expect Maj<sup>r</sup>. General Lyman will march from hence with ab<sup>t</sup>. 1200 Men to clear y<sup>e</sup> Roads & build Magazines at the Carrying place.

INDORSED:

Copy of Col. Johnson's Letter  
to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Braddock  
Alb<sup>y</sup>. 15 July 1755

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<sup>1</sup> Gen. Braddock died Sunday, July 13th, of a wound received on the 9th in the battle on the Monongahela.

FROM PHINEAS LYMAN<sup>1</sup>A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>*Stillwater 25<sup>th</sup>. of July 1755*

S<sup>R</sup>. yesterday Col<sup>l</sup> Ruggles arrived all in helth but tired with ye fateigues of Rowing up the River which is very Low & Rapid & Battoes are of but Little Service our men are all orderly & Eager for Action I think I have Suppressd every kind of disorder Shall allways endeavour to Keep up the Authority of every officier: I have Sent out Severall Parties to build Bridges & Clear Roads they Tell me they have Prepared y<sup>e</sup> Road 3 miles South & 2 miles North and Expect by monday next Shall be Ready to set out for Saratoga if you would be Pleased to order the Troops at y<sup>e</sup> Flatt to Clear y<sup>e</sup> Road as far as the half moon which will Doubtless be agreable to them & for their helth & very much forward the Service for if we must wait here untill we send back & Clear to the Flatts we Shall not be Ready for y<sup>e</sup> wagons on their arrival with y<sup>e</sup> Remaining part of Col<sup>l</sup> Ruggles Stores & So must either keep 'em in pay & they Ly Still or dismiss 'em & then Shall be delaid to wait for 'em again & Since those Troops have nothing to do I hope your Hon<sup>r</sup>. will order them to perform that Service & we will Soon have a good magazene at the Carrying Place I would Propose to your Hon<sup>r</sup>. Whether if we make a good wagon Road & Clear ab<sup>t</sup>. 30 feet wide for y<sup>e</sup> men to Travel it will not be Sufficient which may be done with vastly more ease than to Cut down all y<sup>e</sup> Trees & Small bushes which if we do we must make Such a Pile or heap of Timber in the Thickest Places in y<sup>e</sup> woods that will be a Compleat fort for

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<sup>1</sup> Major General Phineas Lyman served under Sir William Johnson at the battle of Lake George, and, after Johnson was disabled, conducted the engagement to victory; under Abercrombie in 1758; with Lord Howe when he was killed; at the capture of Crown Point and at the surrender of Montreal.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

y<sup>e</sup> Indians to Ly behind & fire on the army & by Cutting y<sup>e</sup> Small Low bushes Which grow but ab<sup>t</sup>. 3 feet high the Troops will be more Exposed by the Stubs than by Leaving them Standing & if you Should think that y<sup>e</sup> Preparing the Roads & Bridges So that y<sup>e</sup> wagons may well Pass & y<sup>e</sup> men march 30 feet in front tho' Some Trees & Small bushes pray inform by the wagoner & your orders Shall be Complied with you must undoubtedly depend on Wagons to Transport your Artillery & Baggage for y<sup>e</sup> water is So Low & Rapid it Kills y<sup>e</sup> men waded up & work So hard as they must To do it

We have made no discovery of the enemy Except Some paths they have made but I endeavour to be as Carefull as if I Knew they were Round us we Long for your Arrival with the army Time glides So fast we fear we Shall not have Time to perform y<sup>e</sup> business

I Percieve there is a number of Women Comeing up with y<sup>e</sup> York forces & Rhod Iland which gives a very great uneasiness to y<sup>e</sup> New England Troops and will be if allowd the most Effectual Stop to the Raissing more men in New England that Can be tho't of which I think would be very impolitick at this Time and it would be the Sacrificeing all our Carracter in the Places where we Live & Some officers Tell me they believe Soldiery will either mobb or privately destroy 'em I think they are of so Little use in the army or Rather none at all that I cant doubt but you will order 'em all to be Left behind I had Rather Two Soldiers Should be dismissd with every woman than y<sup>e</sup> women Should go & am in Truth your Hon<sup>rs</sup>. most obedient Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

PHIN<sup>s</sup>: LYMAN

We hear there is news from Gen<sup>l</sup>. Braddock but Can't hear what it is pray Let me hear by the waggoners & am as above

LYMAN



ADDRESSED:

To  
 the Hon<sup>ble</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Jonson Esq<sup>r</sup>:  
 Maj<sup>r</sup>: Gen<sup>l</sup>. & commander in chief  
 of y<sup>e</sup> forces for Crown Point  
 at  
 Albany

INDORSED:

Maj<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Lyman's Letter  
 from Stilwater

## INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Albany 27 July 1755.—*

John, Cornelius & Joe, Three River Indians having applied to the Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>. Sole Superintendent of Indian Affairs, & laid before him a certain Paper, signed by several of their chief Sachems, setting forth that certain Lands therein described, do belong to the above named Indians & was never sold by true Owners thereof and which they the above Indians also Affirmed, and further said, that the greatest part of said Lands were in the possession of Colonel John Rentzelaar of this City and were taken up & occupied by him & some other Persons, without any Deed or payment having been made for the same to the right Indian owners thereof. And the said Indians did require & insist, that a proper Consideration should be paid them in Money by the Persons now in possession of their aforesaid Lands when they would assign over to them their right & Title.

hereupon the Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>. sent to the s<sup>d</sup>. Col. Rentzelaar & desired his Attendance.

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<sup>1</sup> These proceedings are part of those of the Indian Conference, the proceedings of which are printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:964-89. This section, however, is omitted from the printed record.

This Day he came & there were present as follows

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Will. Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Col. John Rentzelaar<sup>1</sup>

Peter Wraxall Secre<sup>ry</sup>. for Indian Affairs  
and The Three above named Indians.

Colonel Johnson read the Paper above mentioned to Col. Rentzelaar, when the said Rentzelaar declared, that no one Foot of those Lands were in his Possession of Sundry Persons living about Kinderhook & Claveroot.

The Indians then asked Col. Johnson's Advice, whether if they could sell their Title to any white Persons, he would advise them to do it. The Colonel told them, that he could not pretend to determine upon the Justice of their Claim, but that if any Persons who would examine into the matter, were willing to purchase their said Title, and they were satisfied to dispose of the same, he thought they were at liberty to do it, and that white People would settle the Dispute better amongst themselves than the Indians could do with them.—

*Albany 27. July 1755.*

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Johnson

Peter Wraxall<sup>2</sup> Secre<sup>ry</sup>.

William Printup Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Carighwage a Tuscarore Sachem, he says, that he came down in a Battoe to Schenectady with a white Man, that on His Arrival he was dispatched hither to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson with a Letter from Arent Steevens Interpreter. he further says that his Grandfather

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<sup>1</sup> Lieutenant Colonel John Van Rensselaer of Greenbush and Albany.

<sup>2</sup> On April 15, 1755 (the day preceding the dating of his commission as Major General) Johnson wrote Wraxall from Alexandria, Va., asking the latter to serve as his secretary. Wraxall was then secretary of the Albany commissioners that had charge of Indian affairs. Until his death July 11, 1759 he served as Johnson's secretary.

told him to tell the General, that the Promises he made to him at Mount Johnson should be faithfully fulfilled.

The said Indian also says, that when he came to Arent Steevens, he asked him the s<sup>d</sup> Indian how it would now go with the Indians as Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley was offering them so much money to go with him and whether General Johnson was to be left to go by himself after all the Promises made him at Mount Johnson. he further says, that the white Man who came down with him in the Battoe took him immediately on their arrival at Schenectady to Arent Stevens & told him if he did not make haste, General Shirleys Agents would lay hold of him & tempt him with money to go to Oswego. he replied that it was agreed in the Council of the 5 Nations, that as he was now appointed Sachem he must take care of the News at his Castle & not go to Oswego.

He asked General Johnson what all this working with the Indians meant, for by what he had told them at Mount Johnson they looked upon him to have the sole Direction of their Affairs, and that these Proceedings had caused great Confusion amongst the Indians

That he met several Indians in his way down in Battoes going to Oswego and that if these Methods of giving sumes of Money to the Indians were pursued, he was of Opinion they would delude all the Indians as they went along

General Johnson replied

That these Proceedings were very contrary to his Inclinations & Opinion & done without his Consent or Knowledge. That he had wrote to Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley about it & hoped it might help to put a Stop to them, And that he was sensible these Methods would raise great Confusion amongst the Indians, who left Mount Johnson fully satisfied & well inclined. That he expected the Promises made to him at Mount Johnson would be fulfilled & gave him a String of Wampum to carry this Message to the Confederate Nations.

## AN INDIAN CONGRESS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Albany 29 July 1755.*Pres<sup>t</sup>.Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Will<sup>m</sup>. Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>.Peter W<sup>r</sup>axall Sec<sup>ry</sup>. for Indian AffairsWilliam Printup Interp<sup>r</sup>.Otrowanaa Chief Cayouge Sachem & Six Sachems and  
Warriors of Oneida Tuscarore & Messasaga

Otrowana spoke as follows.

Brother

When I & the rest of my Bretheren here present came as far as where Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley<sup>2</sup> now is at Col. Glens<sup>3</sup> near Schenectady, the Gov<sup>r</sup>. Called me to him & said, "You Cayouges w<sup>ch</sup> way are you going. I replied I was going to Albany to see my Brother Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson; the Gov<sup>r</sup>. said come turn back again & go with me, I am going to Niagara. But I left Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley & went over the River to Schenectady. While I & my Company were Securing our Canoe, several Persons who I understood were employed by Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley, laid hold of the Messasaga Sachem who was one of my Company & were ready to pull him to peices pressing him in such a manner as if they would force him to go to Niagara. I spoke to them & said, dont stop us here, if you have any thing to say let us have a Meeting in Town. Then several Persons laid hold of them & carried them to Justice Fishers<sup>4</sup> & as soon as they got into the House a great many People employed by Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley joined the Company. When they were all met Col. Lydius<sup>5</sup> came & brought a large Bag with

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Governor William Shirley of Massachusetts.

<sup>3</sup> Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Glen of Schenectady.

<sup>4</sup> The English equivalent of the Dutch name Visscher.

<sup>5</sup> Colonel John Henry Lydius.

many Belts of Wampum. he & Justice Fisher spread them out before them, & told him that the King their Father had employed both General Shirley & Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson to go out & fight their Enemies. that Gen<sup>l</sup>. Shirley was going to Niagara & Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson to Crown Point, if God spared their Lives. Then Lydius spoke to them as follows.

Bretheren

hear well what I am going to say, My Heart aked within me for the Loss of a great Oneida Sachem called Conochquanie. You Oniedas are Elder Brothers to the Cayouges, & the Pain will never get out of my Heart, till I have got a Scalp or Prisoner to put in the room of that Sachem, upon w<sup>ch</sup>. he gave us a very large Black Belt of Wampum

Lydius then laid down a much larger Belt of Wampum & said to pray inform me how I am to proceed in fulfilling this my Intention. Brother I beg you will put me in the right way how I shall mannage.

Upon w<sup>ch</sup> I told him, the Method he had now taken was the same I always followed when I wanted to get People to go out a fighting with me. After I had spoke with one large Belt I then flung down another, went away & waited to see who would follow me, this Method you have made use of & it is Customary amongst us.

Lydius then said, What I have now done I do both for the Oneidas & Cayouges because both have lost a great Sachem & Warrior & I intend it as much out of regard for yr. Nation as for the Oniedas. I hope youl put me in the right way to get fighters to follow me, for I am fully detirmined to go afighting to Niagara, & some of us will go to one Nation & some to another in order to get the Indians to go with us & if we meet any Indians on the road we shall take them along.

I asked Lydius whether his Proceedings were with General Johnson's Consent & Approbation. Lydius replied no. They were acting for themselves & going a diff<sup>t</sup> way from General Johnson

Brother

After this was all over the Belts of Wampum were put again into a very large Bag, then we were pulled & hauled by one & another telling us, "Come now you must turn back & go along with us" & urged us in so strong a manner that we had much ado to get out of their hands.

Albany the Fourth day of August 1755.

The foregoing Proceedings of this  
Record from Page 1, to page 83

I Attest

PETER WRAXALL

Sec<sup>ry</sup>. for Ind<sup>n</sup>. Affairs.

FROM MOSES TITCOMB<sup>1</sup>

L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Albany Aug<sup>st</sup>. 2nd 1755 —*

S<sup>r</sup>.

In obedience to y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>rs</sup>. orders Rec<sup>d</sup>. this Day Having Perrused the Same; Shall Duly observe the Contents Having Made Inquirey Into the State of the Rigements Detach<sup>t</sup>. My Division, & find that I Shall Not be Able to March Untill Munday Next by Reason following

1<sup>st</sup>. It Will Take Some time to Inquire and Examin Into the State of the fire Arms and Accutrements &c

2<sup>ndly</sup>. The Battos Will Not Be finished untill to Morrow after Merid<sup>n</sup>., & then Shall have them to Load

I am Your Hon<sup>rs</sup>. Most Humble & ob<sup>dt</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>.

MOSES TITCOMB

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel Moses Titcomb; major at the capture of Louisburg, 1745, where he was of great service; killed in the battle of Lake George, Sept. 8, 1755.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

P:S I this Day Rec<sup>d</sup>. a Letter from  
 Mr Eyer the Indionear Desireing Me  
 to Send him one Hund<sup>d</sup>. Men for order  
 to Lode the Large Artilary Boats With  
 Store Which I find is Not advisable  
 for by the Best acc<sup>ts</sup>. I have the Water is  
 So Lowe that it is almost Impracticable  
 for the Large Boats to Pass Even Quite Lite  
 yet Leaveing it to y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>rs</sup>. Discretion  
 M. T —

ADDRESSED:

To  
 Maj<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson

INDORSED:

Col. Titcombs Letter & reasons  
 for not being ready to march.

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 8 August 1755 —*

Three Warriors of the lower Mohock Castle were sent to General Johnson by the Sachems & Warriors of said Castle with the following Memorandum of Canadagayea the Chief Sachem of said Castle & also to inform Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson of the proceedings of General Shirley & his Agents.

“Memorandum taken from Canadagayea who desired that Deposition should immediately be sent to Warraghiyagy, which was the following, and concerned Yohahoane, (Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley) he spoke in the presence of several of the Lower Mohock Castle at Mount Johnson Aug<sup>t</sup>. 6 1755. and said.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

“That when Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley came to the Castle he applied to him to be his Speaker to w<sup>ch</sup>. he hardly would agree & told Lydius who spoke to him for it, that he would serve him that day but not the next.

Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley then with a Belt of Wampum condoled the Losses of their People & passed some other Ceremonies according to Custom

then gave the Belt.

Then with another large Belt, he told them that when he parted [from] General Johnson he asked him how many Indians of the lower Mohock Castle was to join him, when he answered, that 20 Men were to set off with him immediately.

laid down the Belt

Whereupon the Mohocks said they knew nothing about it, after which he took a Paper out of his Pocket & told them that these doings of General Johnson seemed very Strange to him, as it was him raised Gen Johnson to the Post he was in now.

Then Governor Shirley further asked them, whether General Johnson did not allow them 10/ a day for going upon the out scout, and also if he had not told them that those Indians who would serve the Crown in this Expedition were to have £5 apeice after their return if Successful, and that it should not be lossed upon them that might happen to be killed as their Family was to receive the said Sum.

The Indians said it had not been told them — (when John Fisher & the rest looked at one another & smiled)

Then Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley further acquainted the Indians that he lodged now £5000 Ster<sup>g</sup>. in General Johnson hands for the use of the Indians.

At parting he told them that he must take the People along that was working on the Fort, as he wanted hands in the Battoes as they were in his Employ.

Canadagaye also said that they heard Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley stopped all the Waggon that was pressed for General Johnson upon the River.



All these doings he said appeared strange to them & should be very glad to have their Brother Warraghiyagys answer to it, especially concerning the Fort as no Body was working at the Fort & they soon leaving their Families.

Deposed in the presence of

ARENT STEVENS

General Johnson's Answer to the Three Warriors  
who brought the foregoing Memorandum

Pres<sup>t</sup>

Peter Wraxall secr<sup>y</sup>

Arent Stevens Intr<sup>r</sup>.

Bretheren

I told Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley according to what you agreed on when I saw you last at my House — that there were Six of your People who were ready to Attend him — I promised him no more — I wrote no such Letter to him as I am informed he showed you, nor sent any Belt of Wampum by him.

Bretheren

It was not Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley who raised me up, it was as I told you at our Public Meeting, by the King your Fathers directions to General Braddock. Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley has lodged no Money in my hands — the Money I received for manning your Affairs, was put into my hands by General Braddock, he having a Power from the King your Father for so doing. If Gov<sup>r</sup>. Shirley told you I had orders to Allow you 10 Shillings  $\text{¶}$  day or to give you £5.  $\text{¶}$  Man after your return, he imposed on you, for I never had any such Orders

All my Promises I will faithfully fulfill to You, as I have always done, and you may depend upon it, that those who remain true to their Engagements & go with me, I will always remember & do everything for them in my power and I am sorry to hear that the Workmen were taken away from building your

Fort,<sup>1</sup> I will write to Justice Fry<sup>2</sup> to press Men to finish it as soon as possible?

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Copy<sup>3</sup>

Head Quarters                      *Camp at the Great Carrying Place*  
21 Augt. 1755.—

Four Mohock Indians sent some time ago by General Johnson with a Message to the Cagnawaga Indians in Canada & a Belt of Wampum in order to prevail on them at least to stand Neuter between the French & us. returned & joined Gen<sup>l</sup> Johnson this day at the Camp. They reported the following Answer of the Cagnawagas to them & to General Johnson's Message.—

Bretheren

Last Year we opened a Road for you & us to trade to Albany, but find the Annogongues have Stopped it up by Killing the English. We sent to their Sachems & expressed our uneasiness at it. We sit still & do no harm. however our said Road is now shut, & we leave it to you to find another

gave a Belt.

Bretheren

the French Priests by throwing Water upon our Heads, subject us to the Will of the Governor of Canada — but as you are a free People be careful of your safety & do not engage Your selves in the Quarrels between the English & French.

a Belt.

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<sup>1</sup> This Fort was building by Directions of the Lieut. Govr. of New York (upon Genr. Johnson's Application) with a Fund raised by the Govr. of New York. [Note in the manuscript]

<sup>2</sup> Hendrick Frey, justice of the peace.

<sup>3</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

Brother Warragheyagy

We have received your Message desiring us to stand out of your way lest you should tread upon us. Bro<sup>r</sup>. we return you thanks for your warning, but it is not in our power to comply with it, for the French & we are one Blood, & where they are to dye we must dye also. We are linked together in each others Arms & where the French go we must go also.

Gave a Belt for General  
Johnson & returned that he  
sent to them.

Vide pag 90. the Conference there  
recorded should have followd, but  
by Mistake the following  
they were entered from the rough  
Minutes in these Records before the  
Error was discovered

P. WRAXALL, secr<sup>y</sup>.

WILLIAM EYRE'S LIST OF ARTILLERY STORES

D.

[*Lake George, Aug. 26, 1755*]<sup>1</sup>

Train & Stores for y<sup>e</sup>. Second Division

Shot	Guns		
400	2	32 p <sup>drs</sup>	} 200 Barrels of Powder
500	2	18 p <sup>drs</sup>	
400	2	10 p <sup>drs</sup>	
400	4	6 p <sup>drs</sup>	

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two Lieut<sup>s</sup>. of Artillery with 28 Men, the  
Deputy Commsserry of Stores & 30 Carpenters  
with their Tools

<sup>1</sup> Date supplied from Johnson Calendar, p. 47.

- 1 Smiths Forge compleat
- 100 Shovels
- 30 Terpaulin
- 50 Wood Axis
- 1 Cask of Spedes
- 106 Handles for Ditto
- 36 Bags for Grape Shott
- 4 Casks for Wadding
- 3 Whip Saws
- 12 Sheep Shirs
- 1 Gyn with compleat furniture
- 2 Coyl of White rope
- Lead for aprons

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Cap<sup>t</sup> Eyre's List of  
Artillery & Stores  
for 2<sup>d</sup>. Division

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Camp at Lake George 4 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1755 A. M.*

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

General Johnson  
Maj<sup>r</sup>. General Lyman  
Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Col. Whiting  
Colonel Ruggles  
Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Col. Pitkin

Peter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>. for Indian Affairs &<sup>c</sup>.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Butler }  
Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Claesse } Int<sup>rs</sup>.  
W<sup>m</sup>. Printup }

Sachems of the several Nations of Indians at this Camp  
Hendrik Speaker

<sup>1</sup> In Peter Wraxall's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

Brother Warraghijagy Sole Superintendent of our Affairs.

When you went from the carrying Place you left a Message to acquaint the 5 Nations that you were proceeding to this Lake, & desired we would join you with all possible speed. We received this Message & have accordingly joined you here, & are exerting ourselves to assist you in all matters within our power.

You know a Message was sent to the Cagnawagas to keep out of your way with which they would not comply. We are now resolved to send once more & our Messengers are here present ready to set off and we now return you your Belt<sup>1</sup>

And now Brother you will wait till they return when you shall know what Answer we receive

Brother

It is our way upon these Occasions that the head Man we send, takes the People he goes to meet by the hand & desires they will come along with him to their fire place, but as it is not now a peceable time, we imagine they will appoint some other place where you & some of your chief Men may meet with them & us in Council.

Brother

As our People are always out on the Scout & their Eyes & Ears always open they heard Yesterday 3 Guns fire at the place where we expect to meet the Cagnawagas & we are pretty certain they are now waiting for us there, as no Guns have been heard at any other place.

Brother

this is all we have to say now, we choose to be short as we are in haste to dispatch our Deputies

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<sup>1</sup> A Belt Genl. Johnson left at the Great Carrying Place for the Indians to join him at Lake George. [Note in the manuscript]

When the foregoing Speech was ended Hendrick desired the General and the rest of the Company would sit a little longer; because they had something to say upon another Subject he then spoke as follows<sup>1</sup>

FROM JOSEPH BLANCHARD<sup>2</sup>

A. L. S.<sup>3</sup>

*At the Fort at the Carrying place*

*Sep<sup>r</sup>. 5, 1755.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR

I arrived here the 3<sup>d</sup>. Instant at night. Yesterday & today made up the number of about 350 of my Troops. The remainder by order left to guard up about one hundred Waggons, the Comissarys informed me they expected Yesterday to load at Albany; Expect them tomorrow night or next day here.

The Occasion of my Troubling You with this Express is the Attempts of the Waggoners to pass us (who having no written orders I stopped) and the Complaints of others who pretended they only Came with the Carriages for the Artillery, had no Waggons & their Horses worn out, & Solicited their Liberty, who I informed I had recieved no orders that left it within my Province — Many of the Artillery Horses are Yet in good plight, which may recruit Waggons & be usefull. Shall delay them till Your further orders.—we are fitting the Waggons, & loading the Battoes with all possible dispatch —

& As I am but just arrived, & a Stranger to the business here, if it be Your pleasure, request that Col. Bagley may be Con-

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<sup>1</sup> The speech that follows is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Colonial Hist. N. Y.*, 6:998–99.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel Joseph Blanchard, 1705–1758; judge of the Supreme Court of New Hampshire; received commission in a New Hampshire regiment in 1755.

<sup>3</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

tinued here for the present, till I obtain Your favour to Join You, which is the Constant application of my Regiment.

I am

Your Hon<sup>rs</sup>.

Most Obedient

Humble Servant

at Command

JOSEPH BLANCHARD

ADDRESSED:

On his Majesties Service  
To  
The Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
Major General Johnson  
at  
Lake George

Express. ☉  
Adam Froman

INDORSED:

Sept<sup>r</sup>. 5. 1755  
Col. Blanchard Letter

TO JOSEPH BLANCHARD

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Sunday afternoon 4 aClock [7<sup>br</sup>. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1755]*

SIR

a Quarter an hour ago I sent you an Express a horse back to acquaint you that I have just now Intelligence that a considerable party of the Enemy how many we cannot learn but the Indian Scouts discovered 3 great bands a little beyond South Bay & they are of opinion the enemy design an Attack at the Great carrying Place & that at furthest they will be upon you this Night. You will if the Enemy have not already attacked

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<sup>1</sup> In collection of Norman B. Nash, Cambridge, Mass.

you make the necessary Dispositions to defend the Troops under your Command & preserve (?) the Provisions & Stores. You will all retire into the Fort w<sup>h</sup> I hope you will be able to maintain & I make no doubt but you the Officers & Men will acquit Yourselves properly.

I am Sir Y<sup>rs</sup>.

WM. JOHNSON

If you discover the Enemy before they are upon you send off a brisk runner with the news hither or at any rate as soon as you can

ADDRESSED:

to Colonel Blanchard<sup>1</sup>

INDORSED:

Letter to Coll Blanchard

7<sup>br</sup>. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1755 —

with Intelligence

FROM STEPHEN HOPKINS<sup>2</sup>

A. L. S.<sup>3</sup>

*Providence Sept. 8. 1755*

SIR

I am now to acknowledge your Favours of the 15<sup>th</sup>. 20<sup>th</sup>. and 24<sup>th</sup>. of August. The Weakness of the English Army, and the Numbers, with which it is likely to be opposed occasions a Concern, visible in the Countenance of every Man of Consideration in New England. They look on the present Time, as that remarkable and long expected Crisis, when one important Blow must determin the Rivalship of the English and French, for the Empire of North America.

<sup>1</sup> Col. Joseph Blanchard, commander at Fort Edward.

<sup>2</sup> Colonial governor of Rhode Island from 1755 until 1764, with the exception of two years.

<sup>3</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.





Stephen Hopkins

From *Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography*



As the Honor of conducting this decisive Enterprize is conferred on you, I doubt not but your Vigor, Caution, and Prudence in carrying it into Execution, will justify the Wisdom of those, by whom you were appointed, and set your own Accomplishments in an amiable Light, among all, who know any Thing of America. And altho I dare not advise, yet permit me to say, since so much depends on the Success of this Undertaking, it may be best not to put the main Point to Tryal, before you have such a Number of Men, that the Strongest Probability of carrying it, may be on our Side: For I think the Colonies convened are determined to make you Strong Enough, to bring that Probability in your Favor; even tho France should think fit to employ all the Forces they have, and can possibly muster in America, to oppose you.

The Colonies convened seem determined to push their whole Force, if it should be wanted, and will not on this Occasion measure what they do by their Abilities, but rather proportion their Assistance, by the Value they set on their Religious and Civil Liberties, and the Freedom of themselves and their posterity.

The Colony of Rhode Island have raised 150 Men, who will come to you with Col: Harris. Provisions and other Stores for them, and as many Cloaths of various Kinds, as Col: Harris thinks will be wanted in our Regiment, are sent. The Assembly here will meet on Monday next, when, I make no Doubt they will order more men to be raised, and will continue to raise from Time to Time as many Men in Proportion to the Numbers we have in the Colony, as any one of the Provinces concerned.

When the Several Colonies have raised all the Men they Design for this Service, if you still find yourself over-matched by Numbers; it may be adviseable to let it be known as soon as possible; for Should that be the Case, You would find yourself very Soon recruited by a Large Number of Men of another Sort who will enter into the Service Voluntarily; and at their own Expence, will chearfully assist their Brethren to defend their native Country.

Whatever may be necessary for the Men in the Service of this Colony, to make them Comfortable to themselves and usefull to their Country; Be kind enough to Signify to me, and due Care Shall be taken to Supply them

I hope the Necessity of Affairs may not constrain Me to make you a Visit in your Camp, yet should such a Step become needfull, no one could undertake it with more Zeal and Chearfulness than will. Sir

Your most Obedient  
and most Humble Servant.

STEP HOPKINS

INDORSED:

Govern<sup>r</sup>. Hopkins Letter  
dated 8 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1755  
rec<sup>d</sup>. 5 Oct<sup>r</sup>.  
Ans<sup>d</sup>. 1 Nov<sup>r</sup>.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Camp at Lake George 9<sup>th</sup>. Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1755*

SIR,

Sunday Evening the 7<sup>th</sup>. Inst. I received Intelligence from some Indians Scouts, I had sent out, that they had discovered Three large roads about the South Bay, and were Confident a very Considerable Number of the Enemy were Marched or on their March Toowards our Encampment at the Carrying Place, where were Posted about 250 of the New Hampshire Troops, and five Companies of the New York Regiment: I got One Adams a Waggoner, who Voluntarily and Bravely Consented to Ride Express with my Orders to Colonel Blanchard of the New Hampshire Regiment, Commanding Officer there; I Acquainted him with my Intelligence, and directed him to withdraw all the Troops there within the Works thrown up.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

about half an hour, or near an hour after this, I got Two Indians and Two Soldiers to go on foot with Another Letter to the Same Purpose.

About 12 OClock that night the Indians And Soldiers returned with a Waggoner who had Stole from the Camp with about 80 others their Waggon and horses without orders; this Waggoner says he heard and saw the Enemy about 4 miles from this side the Carrying Place; they heard a Gun fire, and a man Call upon Heaven for Mercy, which he Judged to be Adams; the next morning I called a Council of War, who gave it as their opinion, and in w<sup>ch</sup> the Indians were Extreemly Urgent, That 1000 men should be detached, and a Number of their People would go with them in order to Catch the Enemy in their Retreat from the other Camp, either as Victors or defeated in their Designs. The 1000 men were detached under the Command of Col<sup>o</sup>. Williams of one of the Boston Regiments with Upwards of 200 Indians. They Marched between 8 & 9 OClock in about an Hour And a half afterwards we heard a heavy firing, and all the Marks of a Warm Engagement, w<sup>ch</sup> we Judged was about 3 or 4 Miles from us: We beat to Arms, and got our men all in readiness; the fire Approached nearer, upon w<sup>ch</sup> I judged our People were Retreating, and Detached Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Col<sup>o</sup>. Cole with about 300 men to Cover their Retreat: About 10 OClock some of our men in the rear, and some Indians of Said Party came running into Camp, And Acquainted us that our men were retreating, that the Enemy were to Strong for them; The Whole Party that escaped returned to us in large Bodies. As we had thrown up a Breast Work of Trees round our Encampment, and Planted Feild Peices to defend the Same, We Immediately hawled Some heavy Cannon up there to Strengthen our Front, Took possession of some Eminences on our left Flank and got one feild peice there in a very Advantegious Scituation; the Breast work was manned throughout by our People, and the best Disposition made thro' our whole Encampment w<sup>ch</sup> time and Circumstances would permit; about half an hour after 11 the Enemy appeared in Sight, And

Marched along the road in very regular order, directly upon our Center; they made a Small halt about 150 Yards from our breast work, when the regular Troops (whom we Judged to be such by their bright and fix't Bayonets) made the Grand and Center Attack; The Canadeans and Indians Squatted, and Dispersed on our Flancks; The Enemy's fire we received first from their regulars in Platoons, but it did no great Execution being at too great a Distance, and our men defended by the Breast Work; Our Artillery then began to Play on them, and was Served Under the direction of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Eyre during the Whole Engagement in a manner very Advantageous to his Character, And those Concerned in the Management of it: The Engagem<sup>t</sup>. now became General on both Sides: The French regulars kept their ground and Order for Some time with great resolution and good Conduct; but the Warm and Constant fire from our Artillery and Troops Put them into Disorder.— their fire became more Scattered and Unequal; and the Enemy's fire on our Left grew very faint; they moved then to the right of Our Encampment, and Attacked Col<sup>o</sup>. Ruggles, Col<sup>o</sup>. Williams And Col<sup>o</sup>. Titcomb's Regiments, where they Maintained a very Warm fire for near an hour, Still keeping up their fire in the other Parts of our Line, tho not very Strong. The three reg<sup>ts</sup>. on the Right Supported the Attack very resolutely, and kept a Constant and Strong fire upon the Enemy: This Attack failing, and the Artillery Still Playing along the line, we found their fire very weak, with Several Intervals. This was about 4 OClock, when our men and the Indians Jump'd over the breast Work, Pursued the Enemy, Slaughtered numbers, and took Several Prisoners, Amongst whom is the Baron De Dieskau, the french General of all the Regular forces lately Arrived from Europe, who was brought to my Tent about 6 OClock, Just as a Wound I had received was Dressed; The Whole Engagement and Pursuit ended about Seven O'Clock.— I don't know whether I can get the returns of the Slain and Wounded on our Side to transmit herewith, but more of that by And by; The greatest loss, we

have Sustained, was in the Party Commanded by Col<sup>o</sup>. Williams in the morning, who was Attacked And the men gave way before Col<sup>o</sup>. Whiting, who brought up the rear, Cou'd come to his Assistance; The Enemy, who were more Numerous, Endeavoured to Surround them; Upon w<sup>ch</sup> the Officers found they had no way to Save the Troops, but by retreating; w<sup>ch</sup> they did as fast as they Could: In this Engagem<sup>t</sup>. we Suffered Our greatest Loss; Col<sup>o</sup>. Williams, Major Ashely, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Ingersol and Cap<sup>t</sup>. Puter of the Same Regim<sup>t</sup>., Cap<sup>t</sup>. Farrell, a Brother in Law to the General, who Commanded a Party of Indians, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Stoddart, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Magin, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Stevens, all Indian Officers, and, the Indians Say, near 40 of their People, who fought like Lyons, were all Slain. Old Hendrick, the great Mohawk Sachim, we fear is kill'd.

We have abundant reason to think we killed a great Number of the Enemy, Amongst whom is Mons<sup>r</sup>. St. Pierre, who Co<sup>m</sup>anded All the Indians; the Exact number on either Side I cannot Obtain; for tho': I sent a Party to Bury our Dead this afternoon, it being a running Scattered Engagement we can neither find all our dead nor give an Exact Account; As fast as these Troops Joined us, they formed with the rest in the Main Battle of the Day, so that the Killed and Wounded in both Engagements, Officers Excepted, must Stand upon One return.

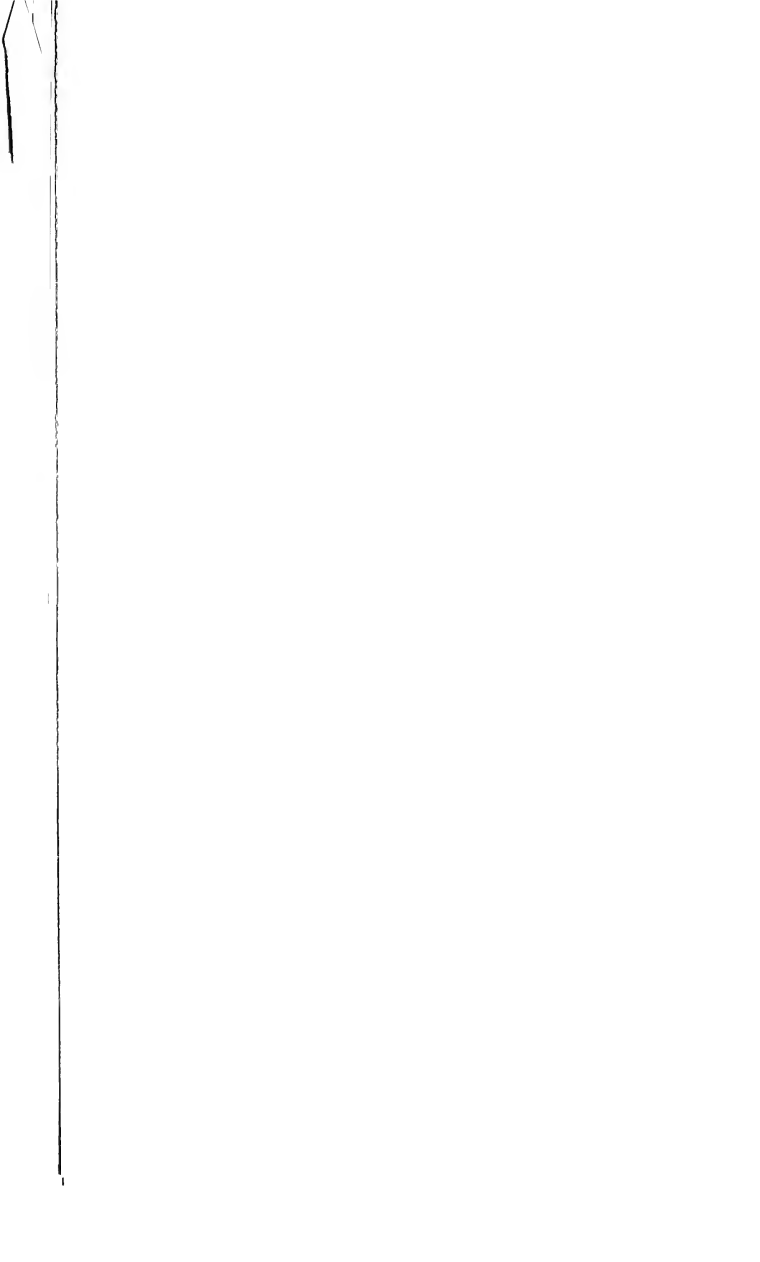
About 8 O'Clock last night a Party of 120 of the New Hampshire Regiment, and 90 of the New York Regim<sup>t</sup>., who were Detached to our Assistance under the Command of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Maginnes from the Camp of the Carrying Place to reinforce us, were Attacked by a Party of Indians and Canadians at the Place where Col<sup>o</sup>. Williams was Attacked in the morning; their Engagement began between 4 & 5 OClock; this Party, who, our People say, were between 3 & 400, had fled from the Engagem<sup>t</sup>. here, and gone to Scalp our People killed in the Morning; Our Brave men fought them for near 2 Hours, and made a Considerable Slaughter amongst them; of this Party 2 are Killed, 11 Wounded, and 5 Missing; Captain Maginnes,

who behaved with the Utmost Calmness & Resolution, was brought on a Horse here, and I fear his Wounds will Prove Mortal; Ensign Falsam, of the New Hampshire Regiment, Wounded thro the Shoulder.

I this Morning Called a Council of War, a Copy of the Minutes of which I send you herewith.

Monst. Le Baron De Dieskau, the french General is badly Wounded in the Leg and thro': both his Hipps, and the Surgeon very much fears his Life; He is an Elderly Gentleman, an Experienced Officer, and a man of high Consideration in France; from his Papers I find he brought under his Command to Canada in the men of War lately Arrived at Quebeck 3171 Regular Troops, who are partly in Garrison at Crown Point, and Encamped At Ticonderogo, and other Advantageous Passes between this and Crown Point; he tells me he had with him Yesterday morning—200 Grenadiers, 800 Canadeans, and 700 Indians of Different Nations. His Aid De Camp Says (they being Seperately Asked) their Whole Force was about 2000; Several of the Prisoners say about 2300.—The Baron Says his Major General was killed, And his Aid De Camp Says the greatest Part of their Cheif Officers; also he thinks by the Morning and afternoon Actions they have lost near 1000 men, but I can get no regular Accounts; most of our People think from 5 to 500. We have about 30 Prisoners most of them badly Wounded; The Indians Scalped of their Dead already near 70,—And Were Employed after, the last night, and all this Morning, in bringing in Scalps; and great numbers of French & Indians yet left Unscalped; they Carried off numbers of their Dead and Secreted them: Our men have Suffered so much Fatigue for 3 Days Past, and are Constantly Standing upon their Arms by Day, half the Whole upon Guard every Night, and the rest Lay down Armed and Accoutered, that both Officers and men Are Almost wore out; The Enemy may rally, and we Judge they have Considerable reinforcements near at Hand, so that I think it Necessary we







be upon our Guard, and be Watchfull to Maintain the Advantage, we have gained; for these reasons Don't think it Either prudent or Safe to be sending out parties in Search of the Dead.

I don't hear of any Officer kill'd at our Camp, but Col<sup>o</sup>. Titcomb, and none wounded but myself and Major Nicoles of Col<sup>o</sup>. Titcomb's; I cannot yet get a Certain return of our dead And wounded; but from the best Accounts, I can Obtain, we have lost about 130 who are Kill'd, about 60 Wounded, & Several Missing from the morning and Afternoon's Engagements.

I think we may Expect very Shortly another, and More Formidable Attack, And that the Enemy will then Come With Artillery; The late Col<sup>o</sup>. Williams had the Ground Cleared for Building a Stockaded Fort; our men are so harras'd, And Obliged to be so Constantly on Watchfull Duty, That I think it wou'd be both Unreasonable, and, I fear in Vain, to Set them at Work upon the Design'd Fort.

I Design to order the New Hampshire Regiment up here to reinforce Us, and I hope some of the Designed reinforcements will be with us in a few Days, When those fresh Troops Arrive I Shall Immediately set About Building a Fort —

My Wound w<sup>ch</sup> is in my Thigh is very Painfull, the Ball is lodg'd and Cannot be got out. by which means I am to my Mortification Confined to my Tent.

10<sup>th</sup>. This letter was begun and Should have been Dispatched Yesterday, but we have had Two Alarms and Neither time nor Prudence would permit it. I hope Your Excellency will Place the Incorrectness hereof to the Account of our Situation

I am Most respectfully &c.

A true Copy Ex<sup>a</sup>. by

W<sup>m</sup>: ALEXANDER Sec<sup>y</sup>.

His Exc<sup>y</sup>. GEN<sup>l</sup>. SHIRLEY

## INDORSED:

Copy of a Letter from Major  
General Johnson to Major  
General Shirley  
dated Sep<sup>r</sup>. 9<sup>th</sup>: 1755.

N<sup>o</sup>. 1

Dup<sup>e</sup>.

in M. G. Shirley's Letter  
of Oct<sup>r</sup>. 5. 1755

RETURN OF KILLED, WOUNDED AND MISSING IN BATTLE OF  
LAKE GEORGE

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>

Return of the Killed, Wounded & Missing in the Provincial Troops under the Command of Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson after the Engagements of the Morning & the subsequent Attack on the Camp the 8 Sep<sup>r</sup> 1755 between the said Troops & the French Regulars, the Canadians & Indians, under the Command of Mons<sup>r</sup>. Le Baron Dieskau General & Commander in Chief of the French Kings Troops in Canada

Return of the Killed, Missing & Wounded from the Several Reg<sup>ts</sup>. at this Camp after the Engagements of the 8 Sep<sup>r</sup> 1755.

Col. Tim<sup>o</sup> Ruggles' Reg<sup>t</sup>. of Massachusetts

	Commiss <sup>o</sup> . officers	Non Commiss <sup>o</sup> .	Private	Total Killed & missing	Total Wounded
Killed or missing . . . . .	5	13	15.	33	
Wounded . . . . .	1	1	13.		15.

<sup>1</sup> In Williams College Library. This return somewhat condensed, and in slightly different form, is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 6:1006-7, under date of Sept. 11, 1755.

Col. Titcombs Reg<sup>t</sup>. Massachusetts

	Killed	
The Colonel	1.	Missing 2 Serg <sup>ts</sup> 3 Corp <sup>s</sup> . 1 } Drum <sup>r</sup> & 19 privates } <hr style="width: 80%; margin: 0 auto;"/> is 25.
1 Lieut.	1.	
1 Serg <sup>t</sup> . & 9 privates	10.	

	Wounded	
Major Nicholls	1.	Returns of the Killed, Wounded & Missing after the Engagement in the Morning & the Subsequent Attack on the Camp between the Provincial Troops under the Command of Major General Johnson & the French Regulars, Canadians & Indians under the Command the Baron Le Dieskau Com- mand <sup>r</sup> . in Chief of the French Kings Troops in Canada
Lieut <sup>s</sup>	2	
Ensign	1.	

Major General Johnson  
wounded in the hip

---

1. Col Massachusetts Reg<sup>t</sup>.

Commanded by Col. Tim<sup>o</sup>. Ruggles

Killed | Wound<sup>d</sup>. | Miss<sup>g</sup>.

Cap <sup>t</sup> . Solomon Keyes	}		}	
Lieut Nathan Gilbert		..... 5		
Lieut. Joshua Williams		Lieut. Thompson..... 1		
Ensign John Fitzdale		13 Non Commiss <sup>n</sup> . Officers		
Ensign Joseph Brentnal		& 15 private Men.....		

<sup>1</sup> To this point the contents of the manuscript are crossed out.

	Killed	Woundd.	Missd.
2. Massachusetts Reg <sup>t</sup> . Commanded by Col. Moses Titcomb.			
	Killed	Woundd.	Missd.
Col. Moses Titcomb..	1		
Lieut.....	1		
1 Serg <sup>t</sup> . & 6 Privates..	7.		
Major Nicholls.....		1.	9.
2 Lieuts & 1 Ensign..		3.	27.
Privates.....		23.	25
2 Serg <sup>ts</sup> . 3 Corp <sup>s</sup> . 1 Drum <sup>r</sup> . & 19 Private			
3. Massachusetts Reg <sup>t</sup> . Command <sup>d</sup> . by Col. Eph <sup>m</sup> . Williams			
	Killed	Wound.	Missing
Col. Eph Williams...	1.		
Major Noah Ashly...	1.		
Cap <sup>t</sup> . Moses Porter...	1.		
Cap <sup>t</sup> . Ingersol.....	1.		
Lieu <sup>t</sup> . Dan <sup>l</sup> . Pomroy..	1.		
Lieut Nath <sup>l</sup> . Burt....	1.		41.
Ensign John Stratton.	1.		26.
Ensign Reuben Wait.	1.		3
Serg <sup>ts</sup> Corp <sup>s</sup> . & Privates.....	32.		
Cap <sup>ts</sup> . Simon Davis & Elisha Hawley.....		2.	
Ensign Josiah Williams		1.	
Serg <sup>ts</sup> . Corp <sup>s</sup> . & Private.....		23	55.
Missing.....			54
			56
	41	26	3

1. Connecticut Reg<sup>t</sup> Commanded by Maj<sup>r</sup>  
Gen<sup>l</sup> Lyman

Lieut. James Jones...  
Serg<sup>ts</sup> Corp<sup>s</sup>. Drum &  
Privat.....  
Serg<sup>ts</sup> & private....  
Private.....

Killed	Wound <sup>d</sup> .	Miss <sup>g</sup> .
1.		
8.		
	3.	2

Killed	Wound <sup>d</sup> .	Missing
9.	3.	2-

2<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup>. do Commanded by Col. Goodrich

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup>. Barnham.  
Serg<sup>ts</sup>. Corp<sup>s</sup>. Drums &  
Private.....  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> Ruggles.....  
Privats.....

Killed	Wounded	Miss <sup>g</sup> .
1.		
28.	1.	
	15.	
29	16	

29.	16.	—
-----	-----	---

Rhode Island Reg<sup>t</sup>.

4 Serg<sup>ts</sup>. 2 Corp<sup>s</sup>. & 14  
privats.....  
Privates.....  
Missing.....

Killed.	wound <sup>d</sup> .	Miss <sup>g</sup> .
20		
	6	1
20	6	1

20.	6.	1-
-----	----	----

3. Connecticut Comp<sup>ys</sup>. of New York Reg<sup>t</sup>.

Private.....  
".....

Killed	Wound.	Miss <sup>g</sup> .
7		
	1	3

7.	1.	3
----	----	---

Total	120	801	62
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Of the British Allied Indians Killed & Missing among w<sup>ch</sup>. is Hendrik the Great Mohock Sachem & another great Sachim of the said Castle, Killed in all 32 — Wounded 12. The upper Mohock Castle sustained the Greatest Loss. many chief Warriors were Killed & others wounded. Cap<sup>t</sup>. Farrel<sup>1</sup>—

In the Engagement toward the Evening between the Detachm<sup>t</sup> of the New Hampshire & New York Reg<sup>ts</sup> from the Camp at the Great Carrying Place & the Canadians & Indians from the best Accounts yet obtained 2 Killed 11 wounded & 5 Missing The Brave Capt Maginnis who Commanded this Party died Two days after of his Wounds in this Camp.

The French General the Baron de Dieskau taken Prisoner & very badly wounded. His Aid de Camp surrendered himself the same night. The Baron says his Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. was killed as was Mons<sup>r</sup>. St. Pierre<sup>2</sup> who Commanded the Indians, many other of the Enemies Chief Officers reported by the [ ] to be either Killed or Wounded.

P. W.<sup>3</sup>

A. D. Camp to

Gen Johnson

Capt Stoddart.<sup>4</sup> Capt Magin<sup>5</sup> & Capt Stevens<sup>6</sup> Indian officers all Killed in the Morning Engagement.

INDORSED:

Return of the Killed, Wounded  
& Missing of the Troops in  
camp at Lake George  
after the Actions on the  
8 Sep<sup>t</sup>. 1755 —

<sup>1</sup> Captain Matthew Ferrall (Farrell).

<sup>2</sup> Legardeur de St Pierre.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Wraxall.

<sup>4</sup> Captain Benjamin Stoddert.

<sup>5</sup> Captain William McGinnis (Maginnis, Magin).

<sup>6</sup> Captain Jonathan Stevens (Stephens).



FROM THOMAS POWNALL

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>NYork Sep<sup>r</sup>. 13. 55.

MY DEAR SIR.

We have heard strang an Imperfect Acc<sup>ts</sup>. but all to your Honor & to y<sup>e</sup> Honor of y<sup>r</sup> Officers & Men of y<sup>e</sup> Affair of y<sup>e</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Instant. Every Bodies heart is with you. The Gov<sup>r</sup> is coming up to Albany to morrow. y<sup>e</sup> L<sup>t</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> goes with him. Cap<sup>t</sup> Rutherford goes too:—All is right in Your favor.—The Governor has receiv'd from *Your freinds* all y<sup>e</sup> Impressions in Your Favor That Your Virtue Deserves. There are two things upon which every Man must rest his Merits, one his own Right Conduct y<sup>e</sup> other the Reality of his Freinds. y<sup>e</sup> First is in your own Breast & You will command it.—The Other give me leave to assure You off, Your Interest in this latter is & shall be secured. I have receivd such Acc<sup>ts</sup> from England as will putt it into my Power to be of Service to You. if I go home I can more particularly. if I stay here I shall have Instructions to appear at y<sup>e</sup> next Congress as a Principal for y<sup>e</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> of NJersey. to which it has pleasd His Majesty to appoint me L<sup>t</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup>. with a Destination (at y<sup>e</sup> same time) to y<sup>e</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup>. on a Vacancy. Do not Lett Your personal Courage carry You beyond what is y<sup>e</sup> Duty of a General. tell Cap<sup>t</sup> Ayres, He Shall find & will find good freinds. My Service to Cap<sup>t</sup> Wralax.—I beleive if You have Success I shall carry y<sup>e</sup> Acct of it with me to England, do therefore write Yourself by me, & refer to me for further Information it will give an Opportunity of saying & doing for You what I wish to do

Your's most Sincerely

Affectionately T POWNALL

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<sup>1</sup> In New York Public Library, New York City.

## STRENGTH OF FRENCH ARMY

Copy

Copy		
[            ] Milices .....	[            ]	
[Cann]oniers .....	[            ]	
[R]eserve .....		362
Sauvages .....		659
Canoetiers & 2 Domestiques.....		67
Officiers & Cadets des Sauvages.....		14
		<hr/>
[            ]		
Interprete et Aumonier .....		4
Nos Domestiques .....		8
Chirurgiens .....		6
		<hr/>
		18
		3099
		<hr/>
		3117
Recapitulation <sup>1</sup>		
2 Battaillons .....		774
Milices .....		1393
Troupe de la Colonie.....		192
Cannoniers .....		67
Officers & Cadets de Sauvages.....		14
Sauvages .....		659
		<hr/>
		3099

Copied from a Paper of the French General

<sup>1</sup> The portion of the document from this point is inclosed in a letter from John Rutherford to William Shirley; printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:71-72.

INDORSED:

[                      ]  
[                      pa]per of the  
[French] Generals

FROM BENNING WENTWORTH

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Portsmouth Septemr 25<sup>th</sup> 1755*

SIR

Coll<sup>o</sup> Peter Gilman the bearer hereof has my orders to Joyn your Army, with a Small regiment of three hundred men, as a reinforcement to the Provincial forces under your Command, & altho<sup>h</sup> from our distant Situation he may be the last, that may Arrive at your Camp, yet I am hoping it will be made up in their usefullness in the Army,— I have taken great care in Levying the men, & if they prove as usefull, & Equal to the Forces from the other Governments, my intentions For the good of the Service will be fully answered.

The urgent Necessity of this reinforcement, the measures I have taken; that the regiment should Speedily Joyn your Army, together with the Route assigned For their March to Effect it, will not admit of Subsistance & all Necessary Stores being Sent with the regiment, or being ready at Albany by the time I expect the forces will be there, I shall therefore rely on your orders for Subsisting them, both officers & men, out of the General Stock, which shall be replaced out of the New Hampshire Stores, when they Arrive, which cannot Exceed ten days after our forces Arrive at Hoosuck, & if the winds prove Favourable it

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

will be earlier, wishing you Further Success, & a Speedy recovery, I am

With great Respect & Esteem

Sir

Your most Obedient

Hum<sup>le</sup> Servant

B WENTWORTH<sup>1</sup>

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Gov<sup>r</sup>. Wentworth's Letter

Portsmouth. 25 Sep<sup>t</sup>.

Recd 30 Octo<sup>r</sup>

Ans<sup>d</sup>. 4 Nov<sup>r</sup>.—

FROM TIMOTHY RUGGLES

*A. L. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Edward 29<sup>th</sup>. Sept<sup>r</sup> 1755*

S<sup>R</sup>.

the works here are going on as fast as our Numbers & tools will permit the Carpenters are now Employ'd in getting timber for Barracks & y<sup>e</sup> 2 Saws are Cutting boards we have Sixty men gone on y<sup>e</sup> Road to Saratoga & a number getting up y<sup>e</sup> battooes which is Slow work maj<sup>r</sup>. Fitch's men are 193 & mine 194 fit for Duty & if you Should think it best to augment y<sup>e</sup> Numbers with a hundred new Recruits till y<sup>e</sup> works are got forward I Should be glad of it as I apprehend y<sup>e</sup> Sooner y<sup>e</sup> barracks &c. are done the better for y<sup>e</sup> mens health I would beg leave to Reco<sup>m</sup>end it that y<sup>e</sup> waggoners be order'd upon their Return from y<sup>e</sup> Lake Every day to take upon y<sup>e</sup> Road about five Mile from here a moderate Load of Stone which are very good & would be very Serviceable in y<sup>e</sup> works for Chimneys & if it be

<sup>1</sup> Benning Wentworth, colonial governor of N. H., 1734–67.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

agreeable to you I hope you will be pleased to order an officer  
that will See y<sup>e</sup> order Executed

I am

Y<sup>r</sup>. Most Ob<sup>t</sup>. & Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

TIM RUGGLES<sup>1</sup>

ADDRESSED:

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
William Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Maj<sup>r</sup>. General & Co<sup>m</sup>ander in Chief  
of y<sup>e</sup> Forces Against Crown Point  
At Lake George

INDORSED:

Col. Ruggles' Report  
Fort Edw<sup>d</sup>. 29 Sep<sup>t</sup>.

ALBANY COUNCIL TO CHARLES HARDY

L. S.

[Albany, October 1, 1755]

[ ]  
[ ] and Stores for which he says he [ ]<sup>2</sup>  
[ ] Excellency to take such Care of those [ ]  
[ ] near necessary not only to do the [ ]  
[ ] ere the Forts and Magazines [ ]  
[ ] untill his Majesty's Pleasure be known [ ]  
[ ] dered of the same, and are h[ ]  
[ ] t your Excellency may signi[fy ]  
[ ] t he may have the four [ ]  
[ ] ordered for that S[ ]  
[ ] are already [ ]  
[ ]  
[ ] only reflected [ ]<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Timothy Ruggles, brigadier general in the French and Indian War; delegate to the Stamp Act Congress.

<sup>2</sup> Lines burned off.

[ ]ing the Ground maintained by [ ]  
 [ ] Enemy, and be a lasting B[ ]  
 [ ]duct and Courage. And there [ ]  
 [ ]on that a Strong Fort upon M[ ]  
 [ ] about and finished as soon [ ]  
 [ ] present posture of Affairs, and [ ]  
 [ ] on in America, we have [ ]  
 [ ] soon be declared. In [ ]  
 [ ] tenable Fort at the [ ]  
 [ ] towards the F[ ]  
 [ ]  
 [ ] Canada [ ]  
 [ ] concerted this W[inter], an[d ]  
 [ ], practicable and without grea[t ]  
 [ ], may interfere with the present Design [ ]  
 [ ]nch this Season, which we would by no [ ]  
 [ ]retarded, and there may not be time to [ ]  
 [ ]less we think should be taken as early as [ ]  
 [ ]  
 [ ] which is nevertheless humbly Submitted  
 By your Excellency's most obedient [ ]  
 Servants

JAMES DE L[ANCEY]  
 DANIEL HORSMANDEN  
 [ ]

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

[Albany October 2, 1755]

[ ]  
 be tryed, and [ ]  
 the best must be [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

To tell you the Tru[th ]  
 Account is an Impor[ ]  
 correspond with the ge[ ]  
 the Army rather than to promo[te ]  
 of the Service. This [ ]  
 were all returned, & [ ]  
 have done so too h[ ]  
 that the Party Rogers [ ]  
 committed only [ ]  
 omit which [ ]  
 asked this Mor[ning ]  
 [ ]  
 [ ] sent to you by Sr. Charles —  
 [ ] that he belonged to a Party  
 [ ] ted at Tionderoga from whence a  
 [ ] about 70 were sent once in three  
 [ ] themselves at the Carrying Place  
 [ ] little of the Battle, or the less of  
 [ ] on their numbers before or after the  
 [ ] what is most to my purpose  
 [ ] is the practicability of taking  
 [ ] Post at Tionderoga where the  
 [ ] Mans Account is true, hence  
 [ ] ment but have no  
 [ ] set off so as to [ ] in  
 [ ] Night or just before  
 [ ] french Men will no  
 [ ]  
 You will [ ]  
 the Conseq[ ]  
 these I think — We may [ ]  
 [ ]  
 next Spring before will pos[ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

any great numbers [ ]  
 Fort will be encouraged to [ ]  
 may be so easily effected & [ ]  
 it will give you an opportu[nity] [ ]  
 too whether it be proper [ ]  
 Not. and it will tend to [ ]  
 where you are ag<sup>t</sup>. whi[ch] [ ]  
 French may [ ]  
 have only a mile or [ ]  
 & we can co[ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] thing may be [ ]  
 [ ] Field officer were how  
 [ ]ing to wait on the Gov<sup>t</sup>. & express'd  
 [ ]phize that such numbers  
 [ ]red from the Army, they want to go  
 [ ] possible, and I fear that the Back  
 [ ]of the Men may be [ ] in  
 [ ] arrive to the like Temper in  
 [ ]ers. If the Examination is sent  
 [ ] the same Information I  
 [ ] make use of it in  
 [ ] rouse up both officers & M[en]  
 [ ] know any disposition  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] this will shew a disposition to go [ ]  
 [ ] he'l be treated as a Spy, if he's not [ ]  
 [ ]

Yrs

GW BANYAR

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.



TO BENNING WENTWORTH

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Camp at Lake George 6 Octbr. 1755*

SIR

As Col. Blanchard<sup>2</sup> is now obliged to return with his Regiment, I take this Opportunity to inform Your Excellency of his and their good Services done us, as he and they have ever since they joined the rest of the Troops been verry alert and Actove in every Respect, Particularly in Scouting which greatly contributed to our safety, and as good Intelligence will still be of the utmost Consequence to the Security of our Camp, I proposed that Col. Symes and Cap<sup>t</sup>. Rogers with a few of their Men should continue here, which they agree to. I hope your Excellency and the Government will approve of their staying as they will be of a good deal of Service to us in the Scouting Way.

I dispatched Capt<sup>n</sup>. Wraxall my Secretary and Aid de Camp a few days ago with all the Papers Shewing the Scituation and State of the Army and other things necessary to be known to the Governments conserved, which I doubt not will be brought to You by him, or transmitted by Sr. Charles Hardy before this falls into Your Excellencys hand, which makes it needless to say anything now, and more so as Col. Blanchard can Satisfie Your Excellency in most things relative to the Army.

---

<sup>1</sup> In Collection of Stephen H. P. Pell, New York City; facsimile in Avery's *A History of the United States and Its People*, 4:90; draft in New York State Library destroyed by fire.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Blanchard, colonel of a New Hampshire regiment.

We are going on with a Fort here which I hope will answer the Intentions proposed

I am

Most Respectfully  
Your Excellencys  
Most Obed<sup>t</sup>. Hum<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

WM. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

GOVERNOUR WENTWORTH

INDORSED:

[ ]  
6 Octo<sup>r</sup> 1755  
Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnsons Letter

PETER WRAXALL TO ROBERT RODGERS

L. S.

[*Camp at Lake George October 7, 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
[ ] Islands in this Lake tow[ard]  
[ ] & then send our 3 or 4 proper Persons  
[ ]tre the Enemy thereabouts & make what  
[ ]t they can, you are [ ] birch canoe as a Bait  
for the Enemy & to remain with the [ ]  
Party in order to Succor & assist them [ ]  
around or to circumvent the Enemy for w<sup>ch</sup> purpose  
[ ] to be in constant readiness with your  
[ ] ba]ttoes & keep a good lookout.—

By the General Com[ ]

PETER WRAXALL

[ RO]DGERS<sup>2</sup>—

A. D. [ ]

INDORSED:

[ ]  
[ ] Scouting Orders [ ]  
Rodgers. 7. Oct[ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Rogers.

PETER WRAXALL TO COMMANDING OFFICERS OF CONNECTICUT  
REINFORCEMENT

L. S.

[*Camp at Lake George October 7, 1755*]

[  
[ ] commanded by Major General Jo[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
[ ] to order 2 Cap<sup>ts</sup>. 6 Sub<sup>s</sup> & 200 Men [ ]  
[ ] cements posted at or near Albany to repair [ ]  
[ ] said City to Saraghtoga. You will please to go [ ]  
[ ] Commanding officer of the party, that he [ ]  
[ ] this work performed as compleatly & as cap[ably] [ ]  
[ ] possible, tis not only intended for the Benefit of [ ]  
[ ] but for the 4. Eighteen pounders w<sup>h</sup> are at Albany [ ]  
[ma]de as good as possible & y<sup>e</sup> Bridge very Strong. apply to  
[ ] Gov<sup>r</sup>. of New York now at Albany & he will [ ]  
[ ] who is well acquainted with the road to [ ]  
[ ] Business particularly in finding & m[aking] [ ]  
[ ] th aCross the River at Saraghtoga [ ]

PETER W[RAXALL]

PETER WRAXALL TO TIMOTHY RUGGLES

A. L. S.

[*Camp at Lake George, October 7, 1755*]

[  
[ ] agreable to yo[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
[ ] your request of makeing a [ ]  
[ ] B]oston, he would wish you to give it [ ]  
[ ] w]riting with your reasons for it, when [he]  
[will] give you his Detirminate Answer.

I am

Sir

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup>. [ ]

PETER WRAXALL

[T]IMO. RUGGLES

\_\_\_\_\_

A. [D.C.]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

The General desires you will keep an [ ]  
 [ ] at the Pass near Fort Edward [ ]  
 [ ] & examine all Soldiers [ ]  
 [ ] be discharged from hence [ ]  
 [ ]

PETER WRAXALL TO ROBERT ROGERS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Camp at Lake George,  
 7 Oct'r, 1755.*

You are to embark with the party under your command, and land with them on one of the nearest and most convenient islands in the lake toward the carrying place and Ticonderoga and then send out three or four proper persons to reconnoitre the enemy thereabouts and make what discoverys they can: you are then to send out the Birch Canoe as a bait for the enemy, and to remain with the rest of the party, in order to succor and assist them if pursued, or to circumvent the enemy, for which purpose you are to be in constant readiness with your Men and Battoes, and keep a good lookout.

By the General's Command,

PETER WRAXALL,  
 A.D. Camp.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

*A. L. S.*

*[Albany October 7, 1755]*

[ ]<sup>2</sup>  
 [ ] with y[our ]  
 [ ] in the Concern your pr [ ]  
 [ ] hour suspected it since a few days [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Journals of Major Robert Rogers*, ed. Hough, p. 30; draft in New York State Library destroyed by fire.

<sup>2</sup> Lines burned off.

[ ] know it was irremediable. But [ ]  
 [ ] not think this adds much to the merit of  
 [ ] W-r and the Army, who seem to me to have  
 [ ] no inclination to proceed since the Battle —  
 [ ] ways they would have finish'd their Scons  
 [ ] pr]epared every thing else for a March in Case  
 [ ] prov]isions had arrived Which they could not be  
 [ ] certain would fail them. Instead of this what ha[ve]  
 they done. Your Scons and Fort at the Lake too might have  
 been finished by this time, had your New England Men been  
 actuated by that noble Spirit they had so amused the world  
 with so long. I may be in an Error but dont believe [a]  
 single Syllable of Rogers Explanation. The Liv[es]  
 of the deserters are in our Power, who might [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] *Tionderoga* at three miles [ ]  
 [ ] ha]ve done every thing in your Power [ ]  
 in your Inclination & Reputation will [ ]  
 to persevere on that disposition to the last [ ]  
 leaving Garisons in the two forts which I supp[ ]  
 think of doing whether the Regulars be ordered [ ]  
 [ ] they are ordered, a few of your best & active [ ]  
 [ ] ton should be left as Rangers. Your Credit [ ]  
 [ ] much interested in securing the Footing your [ ]  
 [ ] on see the opinion of the Council about dismissing so [ ]  
 of your Troops, It is a measure I see You'l quickly [ ]  
 [ ] to, and I hope when done, that it may not  
 [ ] courage the rest who may be left behind. Cant  
 [ ] spur on those wretches By representing to them [the]  
 danger they are in of loosing the Credit [of] their Victory as  
 well as of that Name they sustain in the World, unless they  
 secure their Conquest [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

FROM SOLOMON PAGE

A. L. S.

[Camp at Lake George October 9, 1755]

[  
 [ v]ery willing I shou[ld  
 [ ] and now that y<sup>r</sup>. health [ ]  
 [ honor]able life lengthned out in [ ]  
 [ ] and to our whole Land is and [ ]  
 [pra]yer of y<sup>r</sup> Hon<sup>rs</sup>. hum<sup>le</sup>. & obedient Se[rv<sup>t</sup>]

SOLOMON PAGE

ADDRESSED:

To

The Honour<sup>l</sup> William Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 Maj<sup>r</sup>. General of the Troops  
 Encamped by Lake George

FROM THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:700-2; Q. 2:408-9 is a letter from the Lords of Trade to Johnson written at Whitehall, October 9th, 1755, expressing their pleasure at Johnson's appointment by General Braddock to the sole superintendency and management of the affairs of the Six Nations, their allies and dependents as recommended by the Lords of Trade, expressing surprise at the recent Indian congress at Mount Johnson, remarking on the transactions at Albany relative to the difficulties connected with the Kayoderasseras and Conojoharry patents, the redressing of Indian complaints, the regulation of Indian affairs in general and the increase of salary of Peter Wraxall<sup>2</sup> by General Shirley.

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> On April 15, 1755, the day preceding the dating of his commission as major general, and immediately after receiving his commission to superintend and manage the affairs of the Six Nations and their allies, Johnson wrote Wraxall from Alexandria, Va., asking him to serve as his secretary. Wraxall at that time was secretary of the Albany commission that had charge of Indian affairs. He served as Johnson's secretary until his death in the summer of 1759.

TO MOSES EMERSON ET AL.

*Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>[*Camp at Lake George Oct. 10, 1755*]

[  
 [                   ] the 100 Broadaxes tha[t  
 [                   ]g that you purchase & sent [  
 [           ] of the best Heart & Club Steel. In case [  
 [           ] be had, then to send only half a hundred [  
 [           ]aid Steel a Hogshhead of Sea Coal.

You will please to take the proper notice hereof.

I am

Gentlemen

Your very humble

W. J.

[           ] MOSES EMERSON

[           ot]her Provincial

Commisaries at

Albany —

## COURT MARTIAL PROCEEDINGS

*Contemporary Copy*[*Camp at Lake George Oct. 10, 1755*]

[  
 [                   ] conversation with the Pr[isoners]  
 [                   ] Col<sup>o</sup> Gridley —  
 [           ]ter Noon —  
 [                   ] that conversation —  
 [           ] Prisoner call'd to me and desired me to grind up  
 [           ]et, and said he had been confin'd Nine days, and  
 [           n]o Stomack to his Victuals, and said he would have,  
 [           des]ired nothing more, than so many drops of Blood

<sup>1</sup> Signature not in Johnson's hand.<sup>2</sup> Lines burned off.

[ ] the Ruler of this Fort: and also said that he Shou'd [not] be Ruler of this Fort much longer.

Examined and Sworn before the Commanding officer of the Fort in presence of Lt. Col<sup>o</sup>. Gilbert, Lt. Col<sup>o</sup>. Thw[ ] & Cap<sup>t</sup>. Richmond; the Prisoners Acknowledg'd the truth of the above; except the last Paragraf (Viz<sup>t</sup>, that he sh[ould] not be Ruler of this Fort Much longer; which the Prisoner [ ]ly disowned

Attest EBEN<sup>R</sup> DYAR

MEMORANDUM OF LIEUTENANT SAWYER'S DESERTION

*D.*

[*Camp at Lake George Oct. 10, 1755*]

[ ] Lymans Reg<sup>t</sup> & Cap<sup>t</sup> Savages Com[panys] camp last Thursday, without leave from Y[our] honor or General Lyman, & is deserted.

TO BENNING WENTWORTH

*Df.*

[*Camp at Lake George October 10, 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] & under the [ ]  
 [ ] of New York, who if he [ ]  
 [ ] convey them to you would [ ]  
 [ ] readily do it.

A few Days ago I sent a Deserter [ ]  
 the French Camp at Tionderogo, the [ ]  
 one we have had from them, down [ ]  
 Albany. he said, [ ]  
 enemy at Crown Point he fers their [ ]  
 [ ] Tionderoga consisted of about 6000 [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.



[ ] on the return of the remainder of [ ]  
 [ ] wh attacked our Camp, the w[ ]  
 [ ] moved to Crown Point  
 [ ] Tionderoga 70 as [ ]  
 [ ] Scouting at the Na[ ]  
 [ ]  
 [ ] Sergt. [ ]  
 [ ] reinforcements arriving [ ]  
 the fit for Duty abt. 3000 [ com]  
 missaries returns & a calcu[lation ]  
 thereon last night at the Coun[cil ]  
 we had not above 10 or 12 days [ ]  
 By a violent Inflammation in the [ ]  
 Head & Ear, I have been for some days [ ]  
 mostly confined to my Bed wholly [ ]  
 Tent. I therefore summoned a Coun[cil of] War to meet  
 Yesterday After noon [ ]  
 a letter to General Lyman to lay [ ]  
 [ ] and to refer to them before the Co[uncil]  
 [ ] that Letter & the Minutes of [ ]  
 [enc]lose you herewith, also [ ]  
 [ ]  
 in camp it will be [ ]  
 [ ]ance here, that you at least [ ]  
 [considera]ble Degree put into immediate [ ]  
 [yo]ur Scheme of speedily providing a[gainst ]  
 [ ]ad & w<sup>ch</sup>. was promised at the Council  
 [ ] to be recommended to you by the Com-  
 [mandi]ng Officer from your Govt.  
 I would have sent you a [ ]  
 [co]py of the Minutes of the Council of War for [y]our  
 perusal & transmitting to your Govt. [bu]t as that must have  
 delayed my Letter [I t]hought it most advisable in our present

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> Words crossed out.

[c]ircumstances, to send one to Sr. Charles Har[dy ]  
 you to take a Copy, and as I also send one [to Ge]neral  
 Shirley who I expect by my advi[ses wi]ll be at Albany by  
 the time this [ reaches] you.

I am respectfully

Sir

Yo[ur ]

[ ] be dispatched  
 [ ]ite Govr. Phipps  
 [ ] to Seal &  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>

PHILIP JOHN SCHUYLER TO PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Camp at Lake George 11<sup>th</sup>. Octor. [1755]*

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] knowle]dge that [ ]  
 [ ] ] fell in the Ditch which did [ ]  
 him, that then I pull'd three times at [ ]  
 before he woke, he then Disputed his [ ]  
 Me, which I took from him, and Carry[ ]  
 him a Prisoner to the Guard

Sr Your Hu Servt

PHIL<sup>L</sup>. JN<sup>O</sup> SCHUY[LER]

PETER WRAXALL Esq<sup>r</sup> A. D. Camp

FROM JOHN DEPEYSTER

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Albany y<sup>e</sup>. 11 Octr. 1755.*

S<sup>R</sup>/

Yours of the 7<sup>th</sup>. Instant, directed to the Commiss<sup>rs</sup>. of the  
 Severall Govern<sup>ts</sup>. have Rec<sup>d</sup>. And According to your Direc-

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> In New York Historical Society, New York City.

tions I now Send you by the Wagenor Sam<sup>l</sup> Gardinier 17  
Broad axes. in A Cask Mark<sup>d</sup> N. Y. I am With due resp<sup>t</sup> Sr.

Your Most Humb Sarv<sup>t</sup>

JN<sup>o</sup> DEPEYSTER

ADDRESSED:

To  
General W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson  
att  
Lake George  
By Sam<sup>l</sup> Gardinier —

INDORSED:

Commissary De  
Peysters Letter with  
Broad Axes.

MINUTES OF COURT OF INQUIRY

*Contemporary Copy*

[*Camp at Lake George October 11-15, 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
[ ] a Number of officers [ ]  
[ ] thing done to Lessen their Authority [ ]  
[ ] Ayers & Glasiers) that they woud Leave the Camp  
[ ] the Tent away & Left Capt Francis there  
[ ] ask'd Cap<sup>t</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup>. Angel if he ever heard Capt Peirce  
offer [ ] aspeirce the Characters of Capt Ayres or  
Mr. Glasiers — The Answer was this. Nothing more than  
what he had before [ ] Capt Abra. Francis who being  
Sworn Says

Last monday Cap<sup>t</sup> Peirce was at my [ ]  
Com<sup>y</sup>. with Capt Angell and Capt Babcock, and that he was  
Glad to see [ ] the Rhode Island Officers there, that he  
woud Invite us to a Meeting they [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

that Afternoon of abt. forty or forty five Commission'd Officers belonging to the Boston Regm<sup>ts</sup>: I asked him on what Occasion he Answered it was [ ] that Ayres & Cap<sup>t</sup> Glasier might be Remov'd from the Stations they [ ] [ ] I told preemtorially that I woud not, that it was enough [ ] and not to pretend to Govern Gen<sup>ls</sup>. in their ways or Maners [ ] what objections he had Against these Gent<sup>n</sup> (meaning Capt Ayres [ ] [ ] Intended by the Government to which he [ ] [ ] ond have any Command over 'em or words to th[at ] [ ] that the S<sup>d</sup> Capt Glasier was a Murd[ ] [ ]<sup>1</sup> [ ] ask'd Capt Babcock what [ ] fellow —

Answerd — that he was an Ignoramus and [ ] And further That if Capt Ayres or Capt Glasiers [ ] This winter, that rather than any of his men Should S[ ] rather see 'em Dead that unless they where remov'd from [ ] they then held, in the Army, y<sup>e</sup>. Camp Shoud be too hott for them [ ] Saturday Night and that he woud march off with this own men [ ] and if he coud not go himself he wou'd Hyer Somebody to Carry all that those Gent<sup>n</sup>. was to make to the Gen<sup>ll</sup>. Assembly of Connecticut [ ] Proceedings of Capt Ayres and Capt Glasier— Capt Peirce ask'd Capt Babcock whether he did not Remember that he had taken advice from his Coll<sup>o</sup>. and that the Bigest [ ] of the Officers belong<sup>g</sup>. to Connecticut & Boston was [ ] Proceeding of these Gent<sup>n</sup>. and that our meeting was [ ] Petition or prayer to his Honour y<sup>e</sup> Gen<sup>ll</sup>. to Lay on [ ] him in order to be eased from the Burden we [ ] [ ] Babcock — — Yes — — But that he did not under [ ] was uneasy But that he advised them to Proceed [ ] if they was [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ]  
 [ ] that Capt Esekial Peirce [ ]  
 [ ] to his Charge of being a Prom[ ]  
 [ ] and Speaking Disrespectively of his Superior [ ]

W<sup>M</sup>: COCKCROFT

REPORT OF OFFICERS OF THE GUARD AND DAY

D. S.

[Ca]mp Lake George }  
 October 12<sup>th</sup>. 1755 }

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] are unfit for [ ]  
 [ ] who must soon Inevitably [ ]  
 [ ] inca]pable of Duty thro' want of Proper [ ]  
 [ ]ding Watch Coats, other Necessaries against [the]  
 Inclemency of the Weather, to which they are [ ]  
 Exposed, in Camp Duty; in Building the [ ]  
 Mending the Rodes, Advanced & Scouting [Parties ]  
 in all which Different Services they cannot [ ]  
 use of Fire

As to the Grand and important poin[t ]  
 Provisions it is Notorius, from Returns of [ ]  
 Several Commissaries, from Time to Time [ ]  
 in; The army in Gen<sup>l</sup>. has never at any [ ]  
 Since their Encampment at Lake George [ ]  
 possessed of two Weeks Provisions Ad[ ]  
 particle of meat) Notwithstanding [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] to proceed, the [ ]  
 while it wou'd be morally [ ]  
 the Rigger of the Weather —

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

The Above Consideration [ ]  
 is humbly Submitted to the Hon<sup>b</sup>. Members [of]  
 the Council of Warr,

By their

Most Obedient humble

W<sup>m</sup>: COCKCROFT

ELIPH<sup>t</sup> DYER

JONATHAN BA[GLEY]

CHRIS CHAM[PLIN]

REPORT OF JOHN LINSKOM

D. S. (?)

Report of the Artillery Guard

[*Camp at Lake George October 12, 1755*]

[Thi]s Morning Going to Examin the Cannon [I]  
 found the brass Six pounder in [ ]  
 [ ]t of the Camp Drawn With the Shott [ ]  
 [ ] of the Powder Laying under the [ ]  
 [ ] Ground and I Believe there Was [ ]  
 [ ]hes of Powder Left in the Cannon [ ]  
 [ ]edately Blowed Her off and Loa[ded] [ ]  
 Camp at Lake George

[ ] [ ]

AN INDORSEMENT<sup>1</sup>

L.

[*Camp at Lake George October 14, 1755*]

Capt. Syms' report  
 sent off by Express  
 from his Command  
 recd 14 Octo<sup>r</sup>. ab<sup>t</sup>. 9 a

<sup>1</sup> Only the indorsement is contained in the Sir William Johnson papers in New York State Library. The report is missing.



PETER WRAXALL TO TIMOTHY RUGGLES

A. L. S.

[Camp at Lake George October 14, 1755]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] and not more [ ]  
 [ ] repair by the great rainy [ ]  
 [ ] Waggon[s] will be retarded in bringing  
 [ ] ent, the Commissaries are to deliver no  
 [ ] than a bare Sufficiency, strict orders given  
 [ ] ed that there be no Waste. Constant parties  
 [ ] t to mind the Roads &c. and as strong as Your  
 [ ] will furnish.

The General gives his Consent for your going [to Bos]ton  
 and with this Letter Col. Pitkin will give You [ ]  
 Gov<sup>r</sup> Phipps, which if You cannot carry with the [ ]  
 [ ] dispatch You are to send forward by Express.  
 The [ ] referred Gov<sup>r</sup> Phipps to you for such  
 particu[lars ] not conveniently be conveyed by  
 Letter, and for [ ] general.  
 [the Genera]l sends You his best Wishes as do

Sir

Your [ ]  
 [ ]

---

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.



## DEFICIENCY OF MILITARY SUPPLIES

D.

[Camp at Lake George. October 14, 1755]

[Account]t of the Deficiency of Arms  
[and A]mmunition in Coll<sup>o</sup>. Elihu Chaunceys Regiment

1	Arms	Powder	Led	Flints	
		12 <sup>lb.</sup>	17	30	
		24 <sup>lb.</sup>			
		20 <sup>lb.</sup>	46	111	
	1 Gun	15 <sup>lb.</sup>	50 <sup>lb.</sup>	36	
		—	—	—	
		12 <sup>lb.</sup>	12 <sup>lb.</sup>	36	
	1 Gun	20 <sup>lb.</sup>	50 <sup>lb.</sup>	60	
		103 <sup>lb.</sup>	175 <sup>lb.</sup>	273	

FROM CHARLES HARDY<sup>2</sup>A. L. S.<sup>3</sup>*Albany Octo<sup>r</sup>. 15 1755*

SIR

I have just time to own the Reciept of your Letter with the Resolves of the Council of War, by which I observe they have

<sup>1</sup> Words in this column destroyed by fire.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Charles Hardy, colonial governor of New York, 1755-1757; vice admiral; second in command at the capture of Louisburg in 1758; took part in Hawke's victory of Belle Isle in 1759.

<sup>3</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Recomended the Flatt Bottom Boats to be lay'd aside, & the whole Number of Carpenters to be Imploy'd on the Fort —

In my last to you which will be deliver'd by the same hand as this I have Acquainted you with the Meeting I held with the Collonels of the new Levy, come from the Massachusetts, by which you will find they have great Numbers of Carpenters among them, & I hope Sufficient as to be Imploy'd on the Flatt Bottom Boats, as well as the Fort, a Matter I must Recomend to your Consideration<sup>1</sup>

This day I have had a very troublesome meeting with some Indians, who I fear have been brought here by some busy people, as they sent me word they would not Come to me if I judged it Inconvenient. They requested of me that I would Order Captain Peter Canine with his party to remove from the Kings Fort, into the Block houses within their Stockades. I told them I would Recoñmend it to you and as they seem to think it will be a greater Security to their Familys, I must recomend your Complying with their Request

I am Sir your most  
hum Serv<sup>t</sup>.

CHA<sup>s</sup>. HARDY

I inclose you Some Letters the Baron Deskiaiu sent me, with one for yourself, desiring you will if possible find means to forward them. if you can find a proper person to go it may furnish you some good Intelligence, But I would Recomend your sending a very good & Carefull Man, with a Letter demanding a proper Escort for his safe return, & at the same time to demand the Commissions of the General and his Aid de Camp. That we may have better assurances of their Rank in the Armys of France; you must use your discretion in this Bussiness. Coll Dunbar Arrived here last Night, and most of his Troops are got here.

Your very humbl Serv<sup>t</sup>.

CHA<sup>s</sup>: HARDY

<sup>1</sup> At this point is the following note in Johnson's hand: "this I would have mentioned in Council as from myself W. J."

I would have you mention  
to the Council my desire of  
haveing Carpenters fall to  
Work on the Flatt Bottom  
Boats imediately, as there  
are a considerable Number  
Now among those Troops  
last come from Massachusets<sup>1</sup>

Y<sup>rs</sup>

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Sir Charles Hardys

Letter Albany 15 Octo<sup>r</sup>.

Rec<sup>d</sup> 17 d<sup>o</sup>.

1755

Ans<sup>d</sup>. 22 d<sup>o</sup>

MINUTES OF COUNCIL

*Contemporary Copy*

[*Albany October 16, 1755*]

[<sup>3</sup>]  
[ ] their [ ]  
[ ] possessed of two Weeks [ ]  
[ ] except in the Article of Meat; and [ ]  
[ ]ed when the Army is joined by [the]  
reinforcements it will be impossible to supply it at this Season  
with a Sufficient quantity of Provisions even for their Subsistence.  
On which considerations the Council of War had judged it proper  
that Copies of the Minutes should be sent to the Several  
Governments concerned, in order [that] they might give Orders  
as to future Proceedings.

<sup>1</sup> This note and signature in Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>3</sup> Lines burned off.

His Excellency then desired the opinion of the Council —  
 Upon which the Council observed that as his Excellency had  
 taken and is still ta[king] all the Measures in his Power for  
 the sending [of] Provisions to the Army and had recommended  
 sending Flour instead of Bread, as a m[uch] greater weight of  
 Flour could be stowed [ ] and not so  
 liable to be d[amaged] [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>

PETER WRAXALL TO THOMAS GILBERT

L. S.

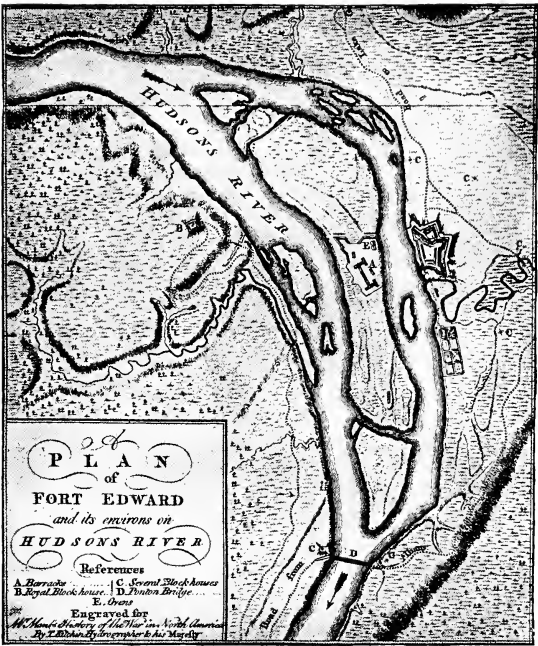
[*Camp at Lake George October 16, 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] insisted on my [ ]  
 [ ] co]mmanded by the General to [ ]  
 [ ] ting characters w<sup>ch</sup> were given in [ ]  
 [ ] stating to the officers in Col. [ ]  
 [ ] no longer to take place, & that as to the Feild  
 Officers [ ] Reg<sup>t</sup>. they are all upon their former footing, &  
 consequently You as Lieu<sup>t</sup> Colonel to Col. Ruggles's Reg<sup>t</sup>.  
 are to take the Command of the Garrisons at Fort Edward.

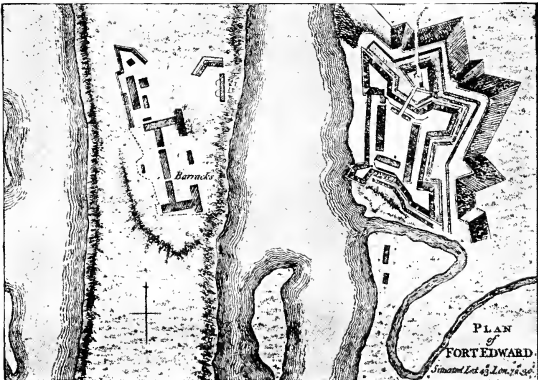
Cap<sup>t</sup> Eyre goes this day to Fort Edward to give Directions  
 about what remains to compleat [ ] The Gen<sup>l</sup> expects  
 that every thing relating thereto w<sup>h</sup>. depends upon you to do, be  
 done. As also that his Orders of Yesterday about the roads be  
 put into Execution.

Col. Ruggles was to let the Gen<sup>l</sup> know [ ]  
 [ ] ank Commissions would be necessary to [ ]  
 [ ] he has not done, & left the Garrison with [ ]  
 [ ] Line, w<sup>h</sup>. the General [ ]  
 [ ] lar & disrespectful. The General dir[ects] [ ]  
 [ ] to me the Names of the [ ]  
 [ ] ed to the vacanci[es] [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.



PLAN OF FORT EDWARD AND ITS ENVIRONS



PLAN OF FORT EDWARD

These two pictures reproduced from Winson's *Narrative and Critical History of America*, 5:512-13



FROM BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Copy<sup>1</sup>Philad<sup>a</sup> Oct. 16. 1755.

MR JOHNSTON

SIR

I have settled Col. Hunters Acct. and find a Ballance in my Hands of £835. .0. .3½ Pensilv<sup>a</sup>. Currency, which shall be paid to your Orders, if you find it necessary to draw on me.

I enclose you a Copy of a Letter I have just received from General Shirley, with a Copy of his Warrant to you for the Payment of such Sums to me as the Waggon Affair may require. Col. Hunter is expected here in a few Days, I suppose on his Way to meet you at New York according to his Appointment. This will delay my Journey down till he comes, as I want to see him, & fear I might miss him on the Way, not knowing on which Side of the Bay he purposes to travel. I hope when you meet, some Method will be found of transferring the Cash, for Payment of these poor People without much Trouble or Risque to him or you.

I am with much Respect, Sir,

Yours most hum Serv<sup>t</sup>.

B FRANKLIN

WILLIAM EYRE'S PLAN<sup>2</sup> AND DIRECTIONS FOR  
COMPLETING FORT EDWARD

A. D. S.

[*Camp at Lake George October 17, 1755*]

The Eastern Pile of Barracks should be [     ] 160 feet long divided into eight Rooms, that on the West 110, or as much as the Place will allow and they are to be carried up so as to make One story above the ground floor, the Breadth to be 18 feet in

<sup>1</sup> Printed in Smyth, A. H.: *The Writings of Benjamin Franklin*, 3:289; original draft in Franklin's hand is in the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, Pa.

<sup>2</sup> Plan destroyed by fire.

the Clear at least, And to have the Chimnys in the Corners of the Room According to the Plan, the other building to be done after the Same Method. the height of y<sup>e</sup> ground floor to be 6 feet 10 inches & y<sup>e</sup>. Second 6 feet 6 inches

WILLIAM EYRE Engineer

Directions for [	]
The Ditch to be deepened [	]
6 or 7, opposite to the Bastions [	]
before the Curtains on the Same Side. The [	]
the Water, the Banks [	]
Sloped of from the [	]
Edge, and the Earth [	]
of the Parapet to [	]
As Well as the [	]
this Side is not [	]
or thereabouts [	]
raised about [	]
Ramp [art	]
the [	]
[	']

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Eyre's Directions for  
Compleating Fort Edw<sup>d</sup>. 17 Octo<sup>r</sup>.

PETER WRAXALL TO THOMAS GILBERT

A. L. S.

*Camp at Lake George*  
*18 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1755.*

The General rec<sup>d</sup> y<sup>r</sup> Letter of the [ ] and directed me to fill up the Commissions [acco]rding to the List therein sent & w<sup>ch</sup> you [ ] herewith

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.



If the French Deserters are not [ ]wn  
 you are to send them by the first [ ]ad  
 that goes

I am  
 Sr

&c.

[ ]

TO SAMUEL HOWE

*Df. S.*

[*Camp at Lake George October 18, 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] place you are to open mend [ ]  
 [ ] b]ye ways & Bridges where they ma [ ]  
 [ ] every other kind of repair which may  
 [be necessary] to make the Road between this Camp [ ]  
 safe & good for Waggon as also for [ ] which are  
 expected from Albany. You are [ ] out 4 whole  
 days upon this Duty unless [ ] finished in less & see  
 that these Orders be executed as you will answer for the same  
 W. J.<sup>2</sup>

INDORSED:<sup>3</sup>

Road Orders to  
 Cap<sup>t</sup>. How

FROM SYBRANT G. V. SCHAICK

*A. L. S.*

*Albany, the 18<sup>th</sup>. October 1755.*

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] Whether You have [ ]  
 [ ] the Ten pounders to be sent up [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> Initials not in Johnson's hand.

<sup>3</sup> In Johnson's hand.

[ ] and the Governor desires You will [ ]  
 [ ] commanding officer here know if You [ ]  
 [ ] Eighteen pounders sho'd be sent up. And [ ]  
 [ ] shall be ready Immediately,

I am

Your Honour's

Very humble Servant

SYBRANT G. V. SCHAICK

FROM THOMAS WILLIAMS

A. L. S.

[*Camp at Lake George October 18 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] obsti]nate Cough [ ]  
 of Medicines [ ] wearing off,) it Seems  
 [ ] at]tended with Something of a [ ]  
 his Breast, which I fear [ ] is running into a  
 Consumption [ ] be in the Use of proper means  
 [ ] believe y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. Saddle would be  
 [ ] another means of making y<sup>e</sup>. Medicines more  
 [effica]cious & indeed without riding, fear Medicines [will]  
 avail little or nothing. which is all

y<sup>t</sup> is needful from Your Hon<sup>rs</sup>. Most

Obed<sup>t</sup>. & Very Humb<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>.

THO<sup>s</sup>. WILLIAMS

GEN<sup>l</sup>. JOHNSON Esq<sup>t</sup>.

PROCEEDINGS OF COURT OF INQUIRY

*Contemporary Copy*

[*Camp at Lake George October 18, 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] swered No. [ ]  
 But

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

Benj<sup>m</sup>. Squires Sworn

Agrees with the foregoing [ ]  
 that he did not hear the Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Say that he would bear the [ ]  
 [ ] That Should follow him to the Camp Neither did he  
 hear [ ] Say they would follow him.....

David Hag Sworn

Says that he heard Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Davis ask [ ]  
 [ ] To go on a Scout, And Said he would be back about  
 D[ ]tain Replied that then It would be too late  
 to Remove [ ] as they had fires they might be  
 Discovered by the [ ] Added That If It Stormed  
 he must Back in [ ] to Return to the  
 Camp

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 Joseph Davis [ ]  
 [ ] when Ordered on a [ ]  
 [ ] the Adj<sup>t</sup>. General on Complaint [ ]  
 [ ] dsen.....

The Court being Sworn, Proceeded to Examine the [ ]  
 Sam<sup>l</sup>. Hobbell being Asked, wether he Confess'd the  
 Accusation Answered, Yes. But begged Leave of the  
 Court [ ]

[ ] Sundry Articles in Justification thereof  
 Leave was Granted Accordingly

Joseph Davis being Asked whether he Confessed the Accusation  
 Answered. Not

[ ] Sworn  
 Says that in the Night of the Day on [ ]  
 [ ] that the Next Morn[ing] [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] Davis Says [ ]  
 [ ] that It was so bad in the Rain [ ]  
 [ ] he would,  
 [ ] the Question being put whether or no Lieu<sup>t</sup>. [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

[ ] of Returning from a Scout Contrary to Ord[ers ]  
 Agreed in the Negative —

Joseph Sheldon Confin'd on Complaint of Adjutant  
 Richardson who being Sworn Says that he ordered [the]  
 Sergt. Major to take two men from the Company of [ ]  
 Hitchcock to Mount Guard, the one of which Came  
 The other Said he would Come Soon, that then Ensign  
 Sheldon Came and ordered him out of the Ranks, Until [it]  
 was his Choice to Mount Guard, upon which the o[ne]  
 Fell out of the Rank, But the other Never Came  
 Ensign Sheldon said that whilst he bore a coman[d]  
 [in] the Regiment he Should not mount Guard un[til]  
 [he had tw]o or three Nights In Bed.....  
 Agree that the man was put [ ]  
 [ ] Sheldon Came then and [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Proceedings of Court of  
 Enquiry on Cap<sup>t</sup> Horace  
 Lieut Davis & Ensign Sheldon

AARON HITCHCOCK TO EBENEZER NICHOLS

A. D. S.

*Camp at Lake George Octor. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1755*

Reports of the Gard at the Head of General [Lyman's]  
 Rigment for the Last 24 Hours Said Gard Consisted of a Cap<sup>t</sup>  
 three [ ] ens thre Sarg<sup>t</sup>. two Corporiels Eightten thre  
 Sentil, [ ] belevies By Day & two by Night the Rounds  
 from S<sup>d</sup>. [ ] acc]ording to the Orders the other Roundes  
 Excepting [ ] Round at the Time as usal. Connecticutt  
 the Prisonars Committed to the Said Goods Christofar [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.

Fiering of His Gun at Night In the Campe [ ] Poter  
for not teling Cornall Cole When Asked who [ ] of  
Con<sup>ll</sup>. Harries Ridgment; Joel Bradley of [ ] Comp—  
Corn<sup>ll</sup> Gudrielles Ridgment & Elihu etwater for sleeping When  
upon Senterrey——

[ ] of the Gard in the Night Contararey to orders James  
Cros: both of Cor<sup>ll</sup>. Harrises Ridgment [ ]  
Comp. Henerey Van: of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fails Comp & Cor<sup>ll</sup>. [ ]  
W<sup>m</sup>. Smith: of Cap<sup>t</sup> Whipels Comp. [ ] Adg<sup>t</sup>. George  
Bliss Cap<sup>t</sup>. Gardnors Comp & [ ] regi]ment Edward Luis  
Elixander Petigree [ ] & Cor<sup>ll</sup>. Gudriches Ridg-  
ment — [ ] Homar of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Leuis Comp. & Cor<sup>ll</sup>.  
[ ] Seth Grigerey of [ ]  
[ ]<sup>1</sup>

INDORSED:

[ ]  
[ ] Guard  
[ ] Octo<sup>r</sup>. —

FROM PETER GILMAN<sup>2</sup>

A. L. S.<sup>3</sup>

*Albany Octobr 18<sup>th</sup>. 1755*

May It Please YOUR HON<sup>R</sup>.

I am Inst arived at The flats with a Regiment of Newhamp<sup>c</sup>.  
Troops Consisting of Near three hundred; Excepting Two Com-  
panys which I expect In to morrow, Our Stores are not yet Come  
To Albany. But I Expect them Every Moment; We not have-  
ing any Stores at Lake George I tho<sup>t</sup> It my Duty to Acquaint  
your Hon<sup>r</sup>. of my being arived. and am Ready To Pursue Such

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel Peter Gilman, Councillor of New Hampshire; colonel of a  
New Hampshire regiment in French and Indian War.

<sup>3</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

orders as I Shall Receive from your Hon<sup>r</sup>; from Time to Time & am with Most Dutifull Regard, your Hon<sup>rs</sup>.

Most Obedient

Most Humble. Serv<sup>t</sup>

MAJ<sup>R</sup>. GEN<sup>L</sup>L. JOHNSON

PETER GILMAN

ADDRESSED:

On his Maj<sup>ties</sup> Service To  
The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Johnson Esqr  
Maj<sup>r</sup> Generall and Comander  
In Chief of the Provinciaall  
Forces — at Lake George  
at The Camp —————

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Col. Gilmans Letter  
Albany 18 Octo<sup>r</sup>.  
Rec<sup>d</sup> 20 d<sup>o</sup>.  
1755 Ans<sup>d</sup>. 23 d<sup>o</sup>

TO CAPTAIN DOOLITTLE

*Df.*

[*Camp at Lake George October 20, 1755*]

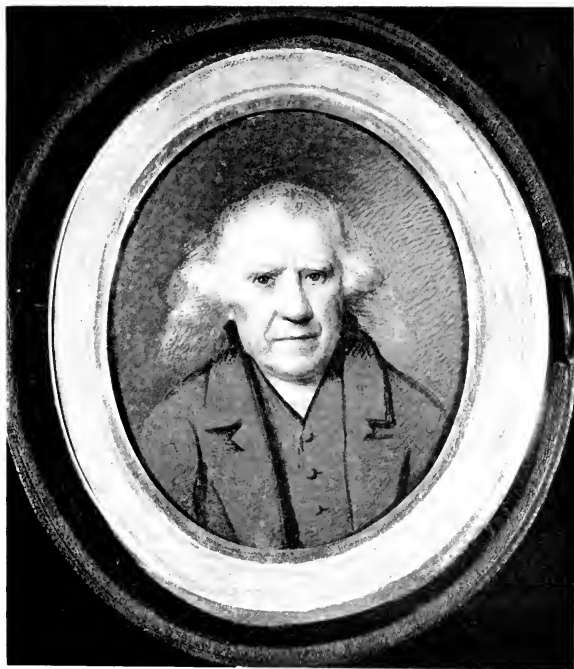
CAPT DOLITTLE

You are to proceed from this Camp [in] order to discover the Posture of the Enemy [reconnoitre] on this side the Carrying Place & take the best & fullest View of them you prudently & [ ]bly can & to put down in writing the particulars [of you]r Discovery. You are then to proceed to [Tionde]roga & reconnoitre them there, taking the [ ]tine of the Ground & Situation of their [ ]ment you possibly can committing your [report] here as soon as you have an Oppor[tunity in wr]iting, for all other particulars [ ] your Discreet & good Man[agement.]

[ ]<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> Conclusion burned off.



GOLDSBROW BANYAR

From a painting by an unknown artist, owned by Mrs Banyar Clarkson  
of New York City





## CERTIFICATE OF PELETIAH BLISS &amp; AMOS PUTNAM

D. S.

[Camp at Lake George 21 October, 1755]

[ ] subscribers certifie that Col<sup>o</sup> Seth Pomeroy [has b]een sick more than a month, was first exercised with a [ ] cold, & inveterate cough, which continuing & increasing [ ] a Violent pain in his breath, which Continues, with Con[siderable] Fever, & if not removed speedily, will be likely to [ ] Consumption; the most probable method to remove [ ]tion we Judge is riding, & conveniencies not poss[a]ble here —

PEL<sup>H</sup>. BLISS  
AMOS PUTNAM

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. L. S.

Albany October 21, 1755

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
[ ] permit [ ]  
[ ]udge has sent an Express to [ ]  
[ ] already desired I beg you'd fo[ ]  
[ ] account of what Indians have [ ]  
[ ] will give me great pleasure to [ ]  
their being so employed that they [ ] the  
French Settlements to the very [ ] the River St. Lawrence,  
and I wish they had a Reward promised them equal [to the]  
Merit of Such a Service. When we [ ] leave this  
Place is as uncertain as the future Operations of the Army under  
your Command. It may serve to keep up their Spirits during  
the cold weather to tell them the Regulars are encamped, &  
will continue so till Gen Shirley's Arrival. It was the 6 p[ ]  
were sent away 'tother day. Coll. Ellison who [was] thought

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

to be at the Point of death is n[ow] better. If I do not hear soon from [ ] conclude it's your Indisposition pre[vents] [ ] will be a sensible Con[clusion] [ ]<sup>1</sup>

TO OLIVER PARTRIDGE

*Df.*

[*Camp at Lake George 22 October, 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] Ins<sup>t</sup> I laid [ ]  
 [ ] a Council of War the Copy of [which]  
 [I trans]mit you herewith. A few days ago [ ]  
 [ ] surrendered themselves to a Guard of our [ ]  
 [ ] Fort Edward. I sent for the most Intell[igent]  
 [ ] examined him. he said they were of the Adva[nced]  
 [ ] 6 Miles on this side the Carrying Place. that [ ]  
 [ ] 70 & 80 men were kept there, & between 4 & 5 O[fficers]  
 [Ti]onderogo. the rest of the Army at Crown Point. [ ]  
 [ ] strangely contradicts the repeated Acc<sup>ts</sup> from ou[r]  
 [ow]n Scouts, that the Council of War purposed giving [no]  
 opinion on my Proposal till we got further [in]telligence. Cap<sup>t</sup>  
 Rodgers & 2 other officers with a Scout were then a[t] Crown  
 Point. I sent the next Morning a Cap<sup>t</sup>. a[nd] p[icked]  
 Men with written Instructions to ta[ke the b]est & most exact  
 View they possibly could of the [ ] of the Enemy  
 at Tionderogo & their advanced [ ] when] they  
 return I shall probably renew my [ ] Council of  
 War. The Battoes are burned [ ]  
 Caulking.

[I] inclose your Honour the M[ ]  
 [ ] I summoned the [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

[            ]er Sick & [            ]  
 [            ] & wet w<sup>ch</sup> I am Affraid w[            ]  
 we have not more than 4 days Br[e]ad  
 Camp. The Roads almost impassible, the [            ]  
 I have ordered Parties to mend the Road [            ]  
 Albany hither, but I fear the nature of [            ]  
 as will elude that if much rain con[            ]  
 Consequence & our Fort goes on Slowly.—

I am

Sir

Your Honours

Most Obed<sup>t</sup> [            ]

[I] inclose this Open to  
 [Co]l. Partridge to Seal  
 & forward.—

CERTIFICATE OF PELATIAH BLISS & TIMOTHY WARNER WITH  
 GENERAL LYMAN'S PERMIT

D. S.

[*Lake George October*] 23<sup>d</sup>. 1755

[This certifies that Leu<sup>t</sup>. James  
 [Tracy of Captain] Peirce's Comp.  
 [is unfit] for Douty — Prob'ly  
 [            ] So —

PEL<sup>H</sup>. BLISS

TIMO<sup>TH</sup>. WARNER

[            ]ing Lt. Tracey should  
 [            ]ho]me

P LYMAN<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Permit and signature in Lyman's hand.

FROM JAMES BROWN

A. L. S.

[*Bridge Hampton, L. I., Oct. 23, 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] of the [ ]  
 [ ] your Hearty F[ ]  
 [ ] others who have as a Testimony [of their]  
 Regards to you and the Army [under your] Command: Sent  
 you by the Bearer A Small [present] of about Twelve Cattle:  
 together [with] others in this and the neighbouring Tow[ns]  
 [The] number we Hope will be Increased [by] other Towns  
 in the western part of [the] County: we wish that Divine Provi-  
 dence may so order it that the Cattle may sa[fely] arrive to you:  
 and be a Benefit to you [and] the Army: and Desire to Bless  
 God f[or] the late victory Granted to you in the terrible Engage-  
 ment at Lake George: and [ ] that God would Direct  
 and prosper you and Crown all your further Attempts with  
 Success and Victory over the Enemies of Great Briton: we  
 Humbly Desire that if you think proper, to Signify our Hearty  
 Respects to the young Moohawk prince the Surviving Son of  
 Henrick: and let Him and His people Share in our Small present  
 —The Business of s[ecuring] the Cattle Has been managed  
 with the [m]ost Confusion and Interruption: but [as] Some  
 False Reports about th[ ] Supposed  
 to arise [ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] I have erred [ ] in not giving you  
 y<sup>r</sup>. proper [ ] please to impute it to my [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Lines and signature burned off.

## RECEIPT OF THOMAS GILBERT

D. S.

*Fort Ed[ward October 24, 1755]*

[            ] Cannon of a Number of Wagg[ons]  
 [for the us]e of this Garioson With thair Cariadges.

THO<sup>s</sup>. GILBERT

## CERTIFICATE OF THOMAS WILLIAMS

A. D. S.

*[Camp at Lake George] Oct<sup>r</sup>. 25<sup>th</sup>. 1755*

[        This certifies that ] Ebenezer Moulton, Oliver [Cole and  
 Sergeant Hill of] Col<sup>o</sup>. Pomeroy's Regiment [            ]  
 are in a bad state of [            ] likely to be of  
 any Service in [            ]

Att<sup>t</sup>. THO<sup>s</sup>. WILLIAMS Surg<sup>n</sup>.

## COURT MARTIAL PROCEEDINGS

*Contemporary Copy**Lake George, October 26, 1755*

[            ] the proceedings of a [            ]  
 [            ] of prisoners s<sup>d</sup> Court was Ca[lled]  
 [            <sup>1</sup>] was Called to Answer the above Enditement  
 [            ] and Colonel Gilbert Came and took the prisoner  
 [            ] it was the order of Colonel Gridly that he Should  
 [            ] Court proseeded no farther

A True Copey of the proceedings Test

[            ] STREETHALL president

---

<sup>1</sup> Abraham Loucket.

FROM JELLES FONDA AND PHILIP LANSING

D. S.

[Camp at Lake George] October 27, 1755

Return of the Battoes now

[ ] here 85 in all amoung which their

[ ] fitt for Service

JELLES FONDA

PHILIP LANSING

[ ] None

## MINUTES OF COURT OF INQUIRY

*Contemporary Copy*[Camp at Lake George 27 Oct<sup>r</sup>, 1755][ ] Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Wells[ ] Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Linscomb[ ] Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Vanscoike[ ] rrish Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Isacks

The Court being duly Sworn proceeded to the [trial of the] said Asa Noble upon a Complaint Exhibited [ ] as follows Viz —

That the said Noble has conducted himself in a Mutinou[s] [ ]nd and further charges the said Noble of converting Plunder to his own use in a private manner which was delivered into his care and charge by Col. Pomroy —

The Court ask'd the said Noble whether he was guilty of the above Complaint. To which said Noble pleaded not guilty —

The Evidence of Lt. Simeon Davis being duly sworn Testifies and says the above mentioned Asa Noble has gone directly contrary to the order of his superior Officers in [ ]ering a Soldier upon Guard contrary to the order of his [ ] at two several times. —

Jacob Hines a Serjeant testifies to the above Evidence and further says that there was three Guns committed to his charge by Col. Pomroy and that there is one of them missing.

The Evidence of Joseph Lyman a private soldier being duly [sworn] Testifies that the above S<sup>d</sup> Noble declared that the gun [was car]ried home by Insignh Pickslee ———

The Evidence of W<sup>m</sup>. Wheeler being duly Sworn Testifies & Says [that the a]bove S<sup>d</sup>. Asa Noble ordered the above S<sup>d</sup>. Wheeler off of [            con]trary to the order of Lt. Davis ———

[            ] David Gibbs being duly Sworn Testifies [& says]  
 [            ] Private Soldier upon Gaurd Con[            ]  
 [            ]  
 [            tha]t there was a man [            ]  
 [            ] ordered Lt. Asa Noble to Comple[            ]  
 [            ord]ered Benjamin Chapin upon Gaurd up [            ]  
 [            ] Mr. Adjutant ordered him to confine him and [            ]  
 [            ] in his place —

The Court upon hearing the Evidences are of opinion that Asa Noble is Guilty of the Facts alledged against him by Cap<sup>t</sup>. House

EBEN<sup>R</sup>. NICHOLS Pres<sup>dt</sup>.  
 a true Copy from the Original  
 Examined by me  
 PETER WRAXALL  
 A. D. Camp

INDORSED:

Proceedings of [a Court of]  
 Enquiry upon [Lieu<sup>t</sup>.]  
 Asa Noble

---

<sup>1</sup> Line burned off.





FROM THOMAS POWNALL<sup>1</sup>A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>Albany 27. [Octo<sup>r</sup> 17]55.—

MY DEAR SIR.

I arrived to day at noon at this place I was in hopes to have found Sr Charles Hardy, accompanied or escorted by a Detachment from y<sup>e</sup> Regulars, preparing to go to You, with whom, I came here on purpose, to go — But since my arrival here I have seen y<sup>e</sup> Difficulties that arise to y<sup>e</sup> Minds of Your Council of War in the shape of Reasons; the true Spirit of Courage is saied to be, *Possunt quia posse videntur*, the Reverse of this maxim was thro' all of Reasoning of the Council of War And so y<sup>e</sup> Lord have mercy upon us for there is none other that fighteth for but only Thee & God. & thus we are brought to our last prayers.

I then proposed had any party of Men, for I find there is scalping by y<sup>e</sup> Way, being going up to You to have come up to You myself, For there are many matters relative to Indian Affairs & y<sup>e</sup> manner of Your Establishment over them which I want greatly to talk with You upon I have already sent You & plagued with many Questions (I know how troublesome I am) but by getting answers to them & y<sup>e</sup> reasoning that such answers will lead me to, I mean to Serve You & y<sup>e</sup> Common Cause in You.

Give me leave to add one more to y<sup>e</sup> many — You see y<sup>e</sup> Confusion that y<sup>e</sup> Virginian Politics in joining y<sup>e</sup> Catawbas against y<sup>e</sup> Kenunetions, make, is it impossible to manage matters so as to Gett an Alliance formd & the Catawbas taken into y<sup>e</sup> Alliance, on Equall Terms, with y<sup>e</sup> Three Elder Nations, of y<sup>e</sup> Kenunetions so as to form a Sixth Principal Nation? —

As to Your Establishment over Indian Affairs it shoud be I think twofold. The Civil as to y<sup>e</sup> Administration of Council

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Pownall, colonial lieutenant governor of New Jersey in 1755; governor of Massachusetts, 1757–1760; governor of South Carolina, 1760–1761.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

*Matters.* The Military as to y<sup>e</sup> Command in all War matters, & in this Second Light I shoud imagine you shoud be appointed Col of an Indian Reg<sup>t</sup>. with Colonel's Rank, I have talked with some officers of Rank in the Army & it wou'd not be disagreeable to them which is no small point. — I cou'd wish for y<sup>e</sup> sake of Address & that nothing might be misunderstood by y<sup>e</sup> Lords of Trade, that Your Letter had been more explicit (nay I coud even wish for an explanation) on that Point, where You say it is necessary that in y<sup>e</sup> Administration of Indian Affairs You shoud be intirely Independent of all Governors. There is a great deal of difference betwixt being Independent & Uncontroleable & having a Department of Buisness intirely within itself so as not to be interfere'd with. If You have leisure bestow a thought on this.

If I can possibly contrive it, I will come up to You If I cannot, as I must be at NYork y<sup>e</sup> Tenth of Next Month to give my Attendance on y<sup>e</sup> Part of NJersey at a Congress to be held then, I will still hope either to see You here before I go down, or will depend on Your being down at NYork, which is (I give it You as my Opinion as a Friend) absolutely necessary You shou'd be as soon as You return if You can possibly be down I will propose that You be at y<sup>e</sup> Congress. If no Letters or Orders from England prevent my going to England I shall go as soon as y<sup>e</sup> Determinations of y<sup>e</sup> Congresses can be known so as to be sent home. If I may not hope to see You & am disappointed of that pleasure. Lett me hear from You by Letter or by such Hints Recommends and Minutes as any of Your Freinds can write from your word of mouth —

I am Dear Sir  
yours most truely  
& affectionately T POWNALL

I beg my Service to Cap<sup>t</sup>  
Eyres & all Freinds —

P:S: I receiv'd a Letter Oct<sup>r</sup> 13. 1755 from M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Franklin acquainting me of Vote of y<sup>e</sup> Assembly of Pensylvania for Cloathing & Provisions for Your Army, y<sup>e</sup> Vote was founded

on a Letter of Mr Hutchinson's & y<sup>e</sup> Abstract of y<sup>e</sup> Council of War which I sent y<sup>e</sup> speaker, they have in consequence of that Vote raised £2,000 & are raising y<sup>e</sup> Rest but at a loss to know in what manner the Money can "be best Applied after it is raised, for if (say they) we should send them Blanketts, Flannel Jackets, Milld Stockings, & Other things suitable for a Winters Campaign, & they should not stay y<sup>e</sup> Winter, it would be so much thrown away"

Now I do not know what answer to make to this. —

ADDRESSED:

General Johnson.—

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Pownalls Letter  
Albany 27 Octo<sup>r</sup>—  
Recd 30 d<sup>o</sup>  
1755  
Ans<sup>d</sup>.

PETER WRAXALL TO MOSES EMERSON

A. D. S.

Camp at [Lake George]  
28 Octob[er, 1755]

I am instructed by the General to desire [you] to send by the first Opportunity [ ] of this Service One Cask of 10d Nails.

I am Gentlemen

Your very hum servant  
PETER WRAXALL

[To Mos]es Emerson  
[and other] Provincial  
Commissaries at Albany —

A. D. Camp

INDORSED:

Order to Commissaries  
at Albany for Nails —  
28 Octo<sup>r</sup>. 1755

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

## MINUTES OF COURT OF INQUIRY

*Contemporary Copy*[Camp at Lake George 28 Oct<sup>r</sup>, 1755]

[ ]

Cap<sup>t</sup>. SchuylerCap<sup>t</sup>. GageCap<sup>t</sup>. Gerrish

[ ] being duly Sworn proceeded to the Trial  
[of Doc]tor Middleton upon a Complaint Exhibited [by]  
[Eliphalet] Dyar Viz as follows —

[Ebenezer] Nickols President of a Court of Inquiry held at Lake  
[George on] the Complaint of Eliphalet Dyer Sheweth That  
whereas [ ] Midnight on the night following The  
26<sup>th</sup> day of Instant [ ] he being desired by Sundry  
Soldiers of the Guard to go to the [ ] house to  
Suppress a Tumult & Disorder then there being and  
[ ] upon went to S<sup>d</sup> Gaurd house where he found present  
Cap<sup>t</sup>. [B]abcock Cap<sup>t</sup>. of the Gaurd L<sup>t</sup>. Vanschaack L<sup>t</sup>. Hunter  
officers of the Gaurd Doctor Middleton & others and Applying  
to the Cap<sup>t</sup>. & other officers of the Gaurd to know the meaning  
of S<sup>d</sup>. Tumult noise & [di]sorder & of a Certain Abuse Said to  
be offered to one Clerk in Imposing Strong Liquor upon him.  
Indeavouring to make him drunk &c. Upon which the Said  
Doctor Middleton it was Said by [ ] Informer were a  
pack of Dam'd Liers Challenged me to produce them. Upon  
Calling on one & another Standers by to Speak what they knew  
[ ] upon their Speaking D<sup>r</sup>. Middleton Sundry times  
repeated by God you [ ] upon which I desiring he would  
use me with no Ill Language [ ] treat me Ill, nor use such  
vile Language when I was Inquiring [about] the Disorder; the  
Doct<sup>r</sup>. replied it was none of my Business [ ]  
would Swear I informed him the Same was against the [ ]  
[ ] but he said he cared not for that. I undertaking  
Sundry [ ] the Cap<sup>t</sup>. of the Gaurd & others to  
prevent an [ ] Doc<sup>t</sup>. Middleton

would at all times [ ] Cursing &  
 Daming the Sold[iers ]  
 [ ]  
 [ ] Soldiers Sundry [ ]  
 [ ] him &c together with others in [ ]  
 [ ] many other Enormities Contrary to Law [ ]  
 The Court askt Dr. Middleton wether he [ ]  
 [ ] the Accusation Exhibited by Coll Dyer —  
 To which he pleaded Guilty

EBEN<sup>R</sup>. NICHOLS

INDORSED:

Proceedings of Court  
 of Enquiry upon Dr.  
 Middleton  
 28 Octo<sup>r</sup>.  
 1755.

REPORT OF NATHAN WHITING

A. D. S.

[Camp at Lake George] 28 Oct<sup>r</sup> 1755

Report of the State of the Regiment under my Com[mand.]  
 Want of powder for forty Men, fourteen of Whom [have]  
 [suffer]ed a Loss by the burning their Barrack two Nights  
 [ago. They] lost at the Same time Seven Guns four Swords,  
 four [ ] horn & 1 drum — there is in the Connecticut Stores  
 [ ] ba]rrels of lead in Small bars. I am

S<sup>r</sup>

Your most Humble Servant

NATHAN WHITING

[GENERA]L JOHNSON Esq<sup>r</sup>.

INDORSED:

Col. Whitings Return  
 of Ammunition  
 28 Octo<sup>r</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

TO ROBERT ROGERS

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>*Camp at Lake George 29 Octo<sup>r</sup>. 1755.*[To CAP<sup>t</sup>.] RODGERS —

[You are to emb]ark in the Battoes with the party [under] [your com]mand & make the best of your way [down the lake] to within about 6 Miles of the Advanced [guard of the Enemy, & make the best Disposition w<sup>ch</sup>. [circums]tances will permit to intercept any Scouting [part]ies of the Enemy who may be sent on this Lake [for] Discovery & take as many Pris<sup>rs</sup> as you possibly [ca]n.

INDORSED:

Generals [orders to]

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Rodgers1755. 29 Octo<sup>r</sup>.

FROM PETER MIDDLETON

*A. L. S.**[Camp at Lake George Oct<sup>r</sup> 29, 1755]*

When I was called upon to answer [the accu]sation of Coll: Dyer against me to the [Court of] Enquiry, I desired that my Vindication [should] be taken down in writing as I delivered [it as] by comparing it with the Complaints [made] against me, you might be better [able to] form a proper judgment of our Dispute. [The presi]dent refused to grant this by saying [none of] the Members could remember the [ ]it.

I must therefore beg that either I may [be permi]tted to give in my Defence in writing [ ] or that the Affair may

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<sup>1</sup> Missing sections supplied from a copy printed in *Journals of Major Robert Rogers*, ed. Hough, p. 33.

again be [brought before] the Court and their Report made [with Im]partiality.

I am Sir

Your most obed<sup>t</sup>. Servant

[PETER MIDDLETON]

FROM PETER MIDDLETON

A. L. S.

[Camp at Lake George 30 Oct<sup>r</sup>. 1755]

[<sup>1</sup>]  
 [ ] I refused to answer to a [ ]  
 [ ]d, unless to what passed betwixt [ ]  
 [ ] this I can prove by several [ ]  
 [ ] Examination. I indeed told the Pres[ident] [ ]  
 [ ] the whole Affair more fully, & to him [ ]  
 [ ] G]entlemans Name being called in Question [ ]  
 [ ] Complaint, I would give them an Account [ ]  
 [ ] f]rom the first Sentence in the Accusation to [ ]  
 [ ] which accordingly I did. These Gentlemen [ ]  
 [ ] take the Advantage of what I [ ]  
 [ ] a further Satisfaction to them, to represent [ ]  
 [ ] a Crime which ever Col: Dyer's utmost [ ]  
 [ ] prove the least Shaddow off, when called upon [ ]  
 [ ] to the Court what he saw us doing when he [ ]  
 [ ] among us, which looked like Tumult, Riot, [ ]  
 [ ] ities &c, As to what passed while Col: Dyer [ ]  
 [ ] have owned, nor do I yet refuse. I must own [ ]  
 [ ] our of these Gentlemen has greatly inter[ ]  
 [ ] esting my Cause to their Judgement. I the [ ]  
 [ ] ma]y be again heard before such as will [ ]  
 [ ] more Impartiality. I am  
 [ ] Sir  
 Your [ ]  
 [PETER MIDDLETON]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

FROM PETER MIDDLETON

A. L. S.

[Camp at Lake George 30 Octor. 1755]

[ ]

Having applied to Col. Nicholls [President] of the Court of Inquiry for a Copy of my [ ], he told me that he had given it into [ ] he had none other. I beg youll order a [copy] sent to me & of the Proceedings & Report [ ], that I may be satisfied how far these [ ] have represented a true State of the [ ] I am respectfully

Sir

Your very h<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

[ ] day forenoon

PETER MIDDLETON

ORDERS TO COMMANDING OFFICERS AT ALBANY

Df.

[Camp at Lake George October 31, 1755]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] Pownall Esq<sup>r</sup> His Majestys officers at [ ]  
 [ ] should come to Fort Edward [ ]  
 [ ] please to order a proper Guard [ ]  
 [ ] this Camp

I am

Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> &c

[ ]

[ ]  
 [ ] of  
 [ ] Fort Edward

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<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.



TO SAMUEL ANGELL

*Df.**Camp at Lake George**31 October 1755.—*

To CAPT. ANGEL —

You are to endeavour with the reconnoitring [par]ty under your Command to make the nearest & most [dis]tinct Discovery you can of the Posture & Number of the [En]emys advanced Guard on this side the Carrying Place [and] make Memorandums of the Situation of the Land thereabouts the Lake near where they are posted. particulars I must leave to your Good Conduct & Discretion. I would have as many of the Party as Prudence will permit to join in the [ ] you take.

INDORSED:

Orders to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Angel  
31. Octo<sup>r</sup> — 1755

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.**[Camp at Lake George]**[Octo<sup>r</sup>. 31 1755]*[To COL<sup>o</sup>. GRIDLEY]

You are to Order a Cap<sup>t</sup>. Two Subs & 50 Men of the [re]inforcements under your Command to march &c [ ]et themselves at Seraghtoga on the West side [of] the River at the House of Hans Heerhard [w]here the ferry Boat is making in order to [m]eet & expedite such Waggons Horses or other [carr]iages w<sup>ch</sup>. may be dispatched from Albany [ ]ter. The Officer is to keep out small Scouting [parti]es every day for a Mile or two round, & take [care to] keep a proper Guard & number of Sentinels [ ] his Command from any Surprise or insults

[	]	at the same time that he [	]
[	]	Is not unnecessarily [	]
[			1]

INDORSED:

Generals orders to  
Commanding Officer  
of Massachusetts  
Reinforcements  
at Albany 31 Octo<sup>r</sup>.

CADWALLADER COLDEN TO PETER COLLINSON

*Extract*<sup>2</sup>

[October, 1755]

The last favour I have from you is of the 5th of June by Garritson in which you seem to be under some concern for me and my family at this time while this part of the Country is in the scene of War. You may be as well informed as I am of what has happened in the other Provinces How every thing has succeeded in Nova Scotia & no doubt you have heard of the Shamefull defeat near the Ohio Col Dunbar with the remains of those forces is now lately come to Albany No doubt you have likewise heard of the Success the Army of irregulars under M<sup>r</sup> Johnson have had near Lake Sacrament. There was no great inequality in the number of men in either side M<sup>r</sup> Johnson it seems probable had the greater number but then they were no way disciplined & ill armed perhaps there was not one man in his Army that had ever been in Action before. Where as the French were commanded by experienced officers & one third of them consisted of the best troops in France & the Canadiens were all picked men the choice of all their Militia After our men retired within their works they

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<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Collections of New York Historical Society*, 1921, *Colden Papers*, 35-36; copy unaddressed and undated.

had the advantage of a Breast Work & their artillery did great execution The French had no artillery. It is not certainly known what number of the French are killed but there loss must be great by their retreating in such confusion as to leave their general in the field wounded. A French Capt<sup>n</sup> of Militia taken prisoner says that most of their officers were killed before they retreated The wounded men taken prisoners have the same care taken of them that is taken of our own wounded tho it be said that all the wounded left in the field at Ohio were murdered by the French or their Indians The Baron de Dieskau was attended to Albany & at Albany by the Principal Physician & Surgeon of our Army but it is thought his wound is such that he cannot recover tho' he may live for some time. This Action at Lake Sacrament clearly demonstrated the different spirit of the Northern Colonies & the Southern When our men about eleven before noon on the Munday were beat into their works Mr Johnson sent an express to Albany to inform them of his state. From thence it was continued by Messengers to the nearest parts of the Province Connecticut & Massachusetts Bay so that the account of it reached my house early on Weddensday morning By Friday Morning I am confident 20,000 men at least were on their March from their several provinces towards Albany for its defence in case Mr Johnsons Army had been defeated. By Saturday Albany was so full of men that it became necessary to send to stop those who were on their march

FROM ABRAHAM LANSING

A. L. S.

*Fort Edward Nov [1, 1755]*

[ ]

[I ha]ve w<sup>th</sup>. some Difficulty obtain<sup>d</sup>: the within [ ]  
 [proceedi]ngs of the Court martial, held concerning my M[ ]  
 [ ] for and hope I shall be able to prove the Con[ ]  
 by some of the Gentlemen of said Court, and at length  
 have some Satisfaction for the scandalous Treatment

with: I have been used — Shall intirely depend upon yr:  
Hon<sup>rs</sup>: Partiality,

I am Sr: Y<sup>r</sup>: sincere Friend &  
hum<sup>e</sup>: Serv<sup>t</sup>:

ABRAHAM LANSING

FROM GEORGE MUIRSON

A. L. S.

[*New York, 2 Nov., 1755*]

[  
[ ] Your Officers and Soldiers; Joy[ ]  
[ ] happy for You; and happy for Us —  
[ ] of Suffolk County (A County) on Long Island  
[ ] You and Your Army; A present of Sixty [fat]  
[Cattle] three of which got away from the drivers [ ]  
one Yoke of good Oxen may be given in [ ] As A  
present to (the late famous) Handrik<sup>s</sup> [ ] his Indian  
Adherents.

Write to Mr Oliver Delancey and the Commissary  
[ ] any to desire their favour and care that the Cattle  
[ ] be got to you in the best Adjudged manner  
[I] have given A particular Charge to Our drivers that  
[ ] and drive Slow; that you may get them in  
[the] best Order So great A length of driving Will Admitt  
the people of South Hold An Eastern town of Our  
[ ] intend to Send You Some Sheep Acrost the  
[ ] d to be drove through New England the Wommen  
[ ] Knitting Some Stockins And Mittens to be sent  
[ ] the porer Soldiers of your Army (Soon) I Wish you  
[ ] and All Your Officers; All the Honours and Success that  
[ ] Attend A Soldier; In A Just War pray give My  
[re]gards to Mr Wraxall with whom I have the pleasure  
[to be] Acquainted; I am Sr Your very Well Wisher  
and very Humb<sup>l</sup>e Serv<sup>t</sup>

GEO. MUIRSON

## WARRANT FOR REHEARING THE CASE OF PETER MIDDLETON

D.

[Camp at Lake George 4 Nov<sup>r</sup>, 1755]

[ ] they were sent [ ] from him, in w<sup>ch</sup>. he de[ ] guilty, related to any p[ ] laid in the Charge against him, con[ ] Altercation between him & Col. Dyer [ ] the Court Misunderstood his said [ ] Clerk Whereupon he de[ ] me for a rehearing.

As the Accusations in the Said Proceedings, contain [ ] exceedingly prejudicial to said Dr. Middletons [ ] ter, and also affects sundry officers in this Army [ ] as to Injuries received, & a Violation of Discipline [& orde]r. I being desirous to have all Matters relating [to] this Affair & the Conduct of all the Persons therein [con]cerned set in so clear a Light that I may be able [to] do Justice to the best of my Judgment, & make use [of] the Authority devolved upon me for the good of this Service. I think [it ne]edful for these Purposes, that the said Court of [Inquir]y do sit again, summon the Parties before them, [hear] all Evidences upon Oath, & appoint a Sworn [ ]ry not being a Member of the said Court to take [the mo]st exact & distinct Minutes possible of their [proceed]ings, & that the said Dr. Middletons Defence [ ]ess any, be a part of the said [ ] and that an Exact & Authentic Report of the [ ] me Signed by the President [ ] the Members of the said [ ] Secretary.

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

Df.

[Camp at Lake George 4 Nov<sup>r</sup>., 1755]Peter Wraxall Secr<sup>ry</sup>.

The General laid before this Council of War, the [ ] of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Rodgers Cap<sup>t</sup>. Putnam & Ensign Grant [with] regard

to their Party Sent by him to intercept some [of the] Enemy's Advanced Guard on this side the Carrying [pla]ce, and as we are not likely soon to have any more [disti]nt Intelligence of the Enemy at that Post & Ticonderoga ([Cap<sup>t</sup>.] Angel whom the Gen<sup>l</sup>. sent to gain Intelligence having made no Discoveries)—he now desires this Council of War woud give him their Opinion & Advice upon the Article formerly proposed in the Minutes of a Council of War held the [18] & 19 Ult<sup>o</sup>. and afterwards renewed in the Council of War [of] the 30 d<sup>o</sup>.

[The] General also laid before the Council of War his [ ] to Mr Emerson & the other Commissaries at [Alban]y sent by Express the 2<sup>d</sup>. Inst and desires they woud take the Quantity of Bread & Bread kind now [ ] Camp under their serious Consideration & give him [ ] Advice what further Measures he can [ ] [ ] our present Circumstances wh<sup>h</sup>. may be [ ] [ ] best & advisable in this Affair for the [ ] [ ] Interest & the good of this Service.

[The] General also laid before [ ] [ ]<sup>1</sup>

FROM PETER MIDDLETON

A. L. S.

[Camp at Lake George 5<sup>th</sup>.] Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1755

[ ]

The Court being met by your Order [to exam]ine my Accusation, it was moved by [the] Members that the Evidences should be [exami]ned separately. Col: Dyer opposed it. Whereupon [it was] put to the Vote whether the Evidences should [be exa]mined separately or all together, & carried [that] they should be all examined together. I then [thin]king this Resolution highly prejudicial to [me] protested against the Proceedings of y<sup>e</sup> Court [&] therefore begs you'll please to

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

call a New [Cour]t before whom the Affair may be enquired  
[in]to. I am Sir with all Respect

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

PETER MIDDLETON

REPORT OF ICHABOD PHELPS

A. D. S.

[Camp at Lake] gorge November y<sup>e</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 1755 —

Sir, yester Day thar was Cometed to my [ ] gard  
one William Woleck for Desarting [ ] Belonges to  
[Carll Hares of Rodiland his Regement [ ] of Cap<sup>t</sup>  
Ramon also y<sup>e</sup> Rowenes<sup>1</sup> Went acorder [ ]

ICHABOD PHELPS Cap<sup>t</sup>

REPORT OF CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

A. D. S.

Report of the Camp Guards Near Lake George

Novem<sup>r</sup>: 6<sup>th</sup>: 1755 —

Parole

Blenham —

Main Guard

Report herewith Inclosed as I cannot  
Read it —

[Fr]om the other Guards all's Well, Rounds passed  
[as] Usual —

[ ] JOHNSON Esq<sup>r</sup>

· p<sup>r</sup>. CHRIS CHAMPLIN

INDORSED:

Maj<sup>r</sup>. Champlins

Report —

<sup>1</sup> Spelling doubtful.

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.*[*Camp at Lake George, 7 Novr, 1755*]

[ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ Lieut] Col. Gilbert<sup>2</sup> [ ]  
 [ ] untill further Orders. [ ]  
 [ ] express wh. delivers you this must not  
 [delay] longer than to bait his Horse, during [ ]  
 I desire you will transmit to General [ ] Albany  
 a General Return of the Garrison u[nder your] Command,  
 also of the Provisions & Mili[tary store]s. if it cant be done  
 very exactly you [mu]st make an Apology to him & send more  
 [com]pleat ones by the very first Oppertunity.

I hope your Health is mended & that you are able to walk  
 out & see how matters go on, the speedy completion of the  
 Fort is a matter of the utmost Consequence. Ours goes on here  
 pretty briskly. I have named it William Henry after two of  
 the Royal Family.

I am Sir

Your very hum

Serv<sup>t</sup>.

[ ] GRIDLEY

TO THOMAS POWNALL

*A. L. S.*<sup>3</sup>*Camp at Lake George Novbr. 7th 1755*

DEAR SIR

Your kind favour of the Second I had the Pleasure of receiv-  
 ing last night by Express together with a Packet from Generl.

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.<sup>2</sup> Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Gilbert.<sup>3</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



Shirley, who I find has debarred me the pleasure of Seeing you here, as also of writing you so fully as otherwise I should had I not his Orders (wh. were pritty peremptory) to Observe & fulfill. I got an Indian who I have here to draw a sort of Sketch of the Country, & Rivers between this, & the Mohawks, Imperfect as it is, it may Give you a better Idea of it, than Evan's<sup>1</sup> Map, from the Mohawks to Sacondaga River, I know is right, haveing been there myself Sevrall times, from thence, to Where that River falls into the Hudson River is verry good navigation for Boats, Some of my Indian Officers came that way lately wth. a Canoe & tell me So. then for 8 Miles down Said River is also Navigable, then you meet wth. Falls from whence or above them they tell me is a good Road to be made, to that leading from Fort Edward to Fort William Hennery there, (wh. name I called it, in Honour to the Duke & his Nephew Prince Wm. Hennery.) and will be much nearer & easier to Either Fort, than from Albany, besides the Grain purchased for the use of Both Garrisons in that part of the Country, (vizt. the Mohawks) will be much Cheaper there than at Albany as it Saves ye Farmers so much Carriage. then the building a tollerable Fort at Sacondaga would contribute much to the Settlement of that great extent of good Land lying to the Northward of Us. and greatly ease the fears of the Mohawks our best friends who always (for their attachment to Us) dread the French wth. their Indians will give them a Blow from that Quarter. I could give many Reasons to shew the usefulness of a garrison there if time would permit, but the Want of that, must apolgize now for not being as full in this or other points as I could wish. Oh! that I could now have the happiness of Seeing You here, and giving You any intelligence my small share of knowledge Could allow. for be assured my Dr. Sir None can, or ever will be readier to Serve You at all times. than Your most Sincere welwisher, & Humble Servt.

WM. JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup> Evan's map of America.

P. S. if I should not be so lucky to See You at York before You embark, be assured I shall as Soon as may be write You fully on what You desire to know, or anything else that may be of any Service to You. I must confess I look upon Sir Charles Hardy's<sup>1</sup> generous friendship to me (who have not the honour of his Acquaintance) in a verry kind light.

In our Hurry after the Action, and indeed to Save their Lives I sent down Severall french prisonners to Albany, whom I now wish to have again, in order to give them in the Room of those Indians killed, as it is much expected by them, and will ease their Minds a good deal, they gave our People whom they took no Quarter, I find. I should be glad you would mention this to Sr. Charles Hardy, & that they were Sent up to Albany as Soon as possible. I would not have Mr. Shirley know anything of it, at least he might overset it, as he has tryed to do Severall other measures of mine relative to Indn. affairs. I would not give you this trouble had I time or matter to write Sr. Charles. the few Indians I have here know verry little about the Lakes, or back Country I asked them what the word Scanihaderady Signified they told me it Meant the other Side of any Lake. Lake Ontario they call Oswego Lake. Sometimes Cararaghqui & Lake Erie, Niagara Lake. I am certain those fellows here knowing nothing of their former, or proper Names, but I shall enquire (if I live to return) of some of the oldest & Wisest Indians, what they are properly called. I should be glad you would (if time will admit of it) let me know a little of the Poloticks passing there now with You, for I am much in the Dark here, & expect to be kept so By Genrl. Shirley & some others.

I am Yrs. Sincerely

WM. JOHNSON

excuse Blunders & Inaccuracy,  
the Post waits wth impatience

Honrble. THOMAS POWNAL Esqr.

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<sup>1</sup> See *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:37.

## MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D.

[Camp at Lake George 8 Novr, 1755]

[Peter Wraxall ] Secr<sup>y</sup>.—

[The Gene]ral laid before this Council of War a Let[ter] fro[m] Gov<sup>r</sup>. Fitch of Conecticut with the Resol[ution] of the Legis]lature of that Colony relative to their Tr[oo]ps [ ] in this Service, & desired the Opinion of this [Council of War] thereupon & their Advice as to his future Proceedings [in the] Affair, As also what Measures they would adv[ise] in regard to the New Hampshire Troops at A[lbany].]

The General laid before this Council of War [ ] [ ]ors Information who went with a reconoitring Party [to] discover the posture & Motions of the Enemy's & advanced G[ ]ty side the last Narrows on this Lake, Desires they will [ ] take into Consideration the Subject of an Attempt of [ ] Advanced Guard formerly proposed to them & give him [ ] Opinion & Advice thereon.

The General laid before this Council of War the Retur[ns] of the Prov]isions in this Camp made him Yesterday by [the Sev]eral Commissaries, & desires their Advice what fu[rther] Measu]res he can pursue, than those already taken, to p[re]vent [ ] fatal Scarcity & the Consequences of absolute Wan[t ]nt speedy Supplies must be the Case both [ ] Fo]rt Edward.

[ ] the first Article, the Question was put wh[ ] [provinci]al Troops at Albany should be dism[issed] [ ] [ ] the Negative.

[ ]

INDORSED:

Minutes of Council of  
War 8 Novr. 1755

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

## REPORT OF PHILIP LANSINGH

A. D. S.

[Camp at] Lake George, 9 Novr. [1755]

[Report] of the Generals Guard

Parole Blaney

All Well

George Rainer, Confined By order of the General  
for Sleeping on his post.—Adam M<sup>c</sup>Glohlen, Confined By order of the  
General for being Drunk on Guard—To Co<sup>L</sup>. WILL<sup>M</sup>. COCKROFT }  
field Officer of the day }

PHILIP LANSINGH

TO MOSES EMERSON

Df.

[Camp at Lake George, 10 Novr., 1755]

I received Yours of [ ]  
 [ ]ant of the Massachusetts Troops [ ]  
 [ ]par]ticularly pointed out in my [Letter [ ]  
 [ ] the Complain of want for those Tr[oops [ ]  
 [ ]w]ere particularly reported to me. As [ ]  
 [ ]hat lendings have been between the [Co]mmissaries  
 here is a matter not within my [c]ognisance.

Eleven large Padlocks are wanted for the use of the Fort  
 here with Staples & Furniture. Two of them for the Gates are  
 to be larger & Stronger than the rest. You will please to  
 acquaint the other Commissaries with this & let care be taken  
 that they are sent as soon as possible

I expect all the Commissaries will [*continue their Attention to*] supply us even with bread. New York has no Meat but a few barrels w<sup>ch</sup> I understand are not eatable

I am

Sir

&c

Commissary EMERSON  
at Albany

TO COMMANDERS AT ALBANY

*Df.*

[*Camp at Lake George 11 Novr., 1755*]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
[ ] to bring with [ ]  
[ ] Speedily march with [ ]  
[ disp]atch possible hereof you [ ]

I am

Gentlemen

Y<sup>r</sup> &c.

[ ]mmanding  
[ ] Provincial  
[ ents] at Albany

FROM CHARLES HARDY

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Albany Novr. 11: 1755.*

SIR./

Mr. Van Schaik Recorder of this City, has by my directions taken the Examination of one Jacob, an Cayuga Indian, who has had severel Conversation with one of the Onondagas, who

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

is lately Come from Canada, as it Contains Information necessary for your Knowledge; I have judged it proper to send you the Accounts this Man gives by Express, that you may be prepared against any attempts of the Enemy. the Inclos'd is a Copy of the Accounts this Man gives. I have Ordered some Muskett Bals and Flints to be sent you, which you will take Care to have Accounted for, by those you may Supply.

I have wrote to Collonel Gridley to send me a particular State of Fort Edward & when the Barracks, Magazine, & Stores will be in readiness, to receive their Garrison, with provissions & Stores for them. I desire you will hasten this Report to me, & I must likewise desire you will transmitt to me the like Acc<sup>t</sup>. of the Fort at Lake George. I am Sir

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup>.

humble Servant

CHA<sup>s</sup>. HARDY

MAJOR GEN. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Sr. Charles Hardy  
Albany 11 Nov<sup>r</sup>.  
Recd 15 d<sup>o</sup>  
Ans<sup>d</sup>. 16 d<sup>o</sup>

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL OF WAR

D. S.

[*Camp at Lake George 13 Nov<sup>r</sup>., 1755*]

[ 1]

Peter W<sup>r</sup>axall Sec<sup>ry</sup>.

[The General de]sired the Advice of this Council [of ]  
[ ]ired advice in consequence of our [ intel]ligence  
concerning the Enemy. [The questio]n was put whether an

<sup>1</sup> Section containing list of names of those present destroyed by fire.

Entrenchment [should be ma]de round Fort William Henry.  
 [It was reso]lved Unanimously in the Affirmative.

[The qu]estion was put whether a number of Men [shoul]d go to work upon the said Entrencht. immediately [to]morrow Morning at Four aClock.

Voted at 4 aClock tomorrow Morning.

[It] is the Unanimous Opinion of this Council of War [tha]t the General send off as soon as possible an Express [to] Albany to Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirley with an Acc<sup>t</sup> of this After noon Intelligence & to notify the same to the Commanding Officer of the Reinforcements.

PETER WRAXALL

Sec<sup>ry</sup>.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*

[Camp] at Lake George  
 13 Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1755.

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] with Battoe down the Lake upon receiv<sup>g</sup> the Indian returned [ ]st now our usual Scout towards [ ]  
 [ ]urned, they say they went 25 Miles w[ ]  
 [ ] Lake & made no kind of Discovery.  
 [ ]ter a Party whom I dispatched Yesterday [ ]  
 [ ]two Battoes are returned, they say, They [ ]  
 [ ]flag hoisted at Sunrise this Morning abou[t ]  
 [ ]ine from them on a point of Land on the East [ ]  
 [ ]Lake about 16 or 17 Miles from hence, & also saw a [ ]  
 [ ] oak rise beyond said Point of Land. Immediately [ ]  
 [ ]nd Two Battoes with several Officers & some of the Party to make the most distinct Discovery they p[ossibly] [can.] I have sent out Scouts every way by Land.

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

By advice of a Council of War I dispatch your h[onor]  
 [an] Express who waiting permits me to add no [more]  
 than that I am

Sir

Your Excellen[cys]

Most Obedt. [ ]

[ ] Beef & Bread & unless a  
 [ ] once we shall have none left.  
 [ ] ment is still suspended notwithstanding  
 the above Intelligence.—

[ ] SHIRLEY &c.

ORDERS OF JOHNSON TO REINFORCEMENTS

*Df.*

*Camp at Lake George*

*13 Novr. 1755.*

*Thursday M[orning]*

We have further Intelligence this [morning of] the Enemy's  
 Approach and I am desir[ous of] a Council of War to hasten  
 you with [ ] Troops up hither, I therefore desire that  
 you will make all possible Dispatch [to joi]n us

I am Gentlemen

Your very hum servt.

[To the] Commanding Officer  
 [of] the Provincial  
 [Re]inforcements  
 [on] their March —

INDORSED:

[ ]  
 to hasten the [ ]  
 13 Novr 1755



FROM RICHARD GRIDLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Edward Novemb<sup>r</sup>. 13. 1755.*

SIR

I am favour'd with Yours of Tuesday night & yesterday and Observe the Contents.— I have not had an opportunity to send the Weekly returns till this opportunity indeed there were some horsemen that arriv'd here last evening but they did not let me know their intention was for the Lake last night so I miss'd that opportunity, I now send the returns of the Troops and Provisions, by which you will Observe our poor Supply, I have wrote in the most pressing terms to Comissary Emerson for a Supply especially Rum which is quite necessary for carrying on the Barracks & the groundsills of which were not laid when I arrived & the first Story is now up, Yesterday being a fine day I had a Review of the Forces to examine them, their Arms, & ammunition & prepare 'em for Action & they made a better figure than I expected I was out all day myself & find no disadvantage from it Yet, I find it quite necessary to be with 'em to forward the works & I hope in a few days to let you know how Strong we are, I judge the security of this Garrison is of the utmost Consequence & I intend if I have my health spar'd, to give it my utmost attention, I forgot to acquaint you Sir that I thought it quite convenient to fire a morning Gun with the damag'd powder we have, & shall continue to do it unless I have Your orders to the Contrary I do not care to write the reasons for doing it I think you will not be at a Loss for the reasons, nor the propriety of it, tho'. I am inform'd Cap<sup>t</sup>. Eyre told you it was a very improper thing; I believe that Gentleman had not consider'd it.— I rec<sup>d</sup>. with yours of ye 11<sup>th</sup>. Novemb<sup>r</sup>. a Letter sign'd by one J: C: Maine a fellow that thinks himself a knowing fellow he is inlisted Clerk in Cap<sup>t</sup>. Johnson's Company in

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Col. Plaisted's Regim<sup>t</sup>. by the name of Whitmore no person here can give any Account of him, & from his changing his name & from his Impudent behaviour I suspect his Loyalty, I have sent the proceedings of a Court of inquiry upon him for Your directions upon it: I do not like his behaviour nor any of the Company he is in & shoud be glad they may be shifted from this Garrison & be under the inspection of their proper Colonel which is Col<sup>o</sup>. Plaisted & as I mov'd for my companys w<sup>ch</sup>. are at the Lake that they might be joind with the rest of my Regiment at this Garrison; the Objection then was, that the officers had considerable Baggage which cou'd not be transported to the Lake, but with great inconvenience; the Fact is they, the two Companys of Col<sup>o</sup>. Plaisted's & three Companys of Col<sup>o</sup>. Browns have little more than a Gun & Blanket to Transport I think my three companys now at the Lake might be shifted without any prejudice or inconvenience to the Service & they woud be much better pleas'd with their own officers as they call it; what makes me press it the more is because the companys or Cap<sup>ts</sup>. wa[nt] to have their station in the Regiment settled.— I forwarded Your packet to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Shirley in a few minutes after I rec<sup>d</sup>. it by Lt. Bradford on horseback an Active man.— I am Sir w<sup>th</sup>. Respect

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup>. Humb<sup>l</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>.

RICH<sup>d</sup>. GRIDLEY<sup>1</sup>

SIR

You'l excuse me for sending the duplicate of yours of tuesday night instead of Copying of it.—

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<sup>1</sup> Major General Richard Gridley, chief engineer in the reduction of Louisburg in 1745; colonel, under Winslow at Crown Point, and with Wolfe at Quebec; wounded at Bunker Hill; commissioned Major General by the Massachusetts provincial Congress, Sept., 1775; commissioned in the continental artillery; superseded by Knox in Nov. 1775.

ADDRESSED :

On His Majestys Service  
To Major General Johnson  
at the Camp  
at  
Lake George

INDORSED :<sup>1</sup>

Col. Gridleys Letter  
Fort Edw<sup>d</sup> 13 Nov<sup>r</sup>.  
Recd d<sup>o</sup>.  
with Proceedings of  
Court of Enquiry —

FROM ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>*Phila., 15th November, 1755.*

SIR

I have the Honour to Congratulate you on the Success of his Majesty's Arms, under your Command. I take part in the Glory you have acquired, and now the Campaign is brought to a close I hope you will enjoy Ease & Leisure enough to give you an Opportunity of perfectly re-establishing Your health.

The unhappy defeat of Gen<sup>l</sup>. Braddock has brought an Indian War upon this and the neighbouring Provinces, and from a Quarter where it was least expected, I mean the Delawares and Shawanese, from whom we thought there was no danger, as they had the very last Year given us assurances of their continuing Quiet and taking part with us when we should ask them to do so; and they made the same promise to the Six Nations, so that we depended on them not only to remain neuter but to prevent other Indians from joining the French. But to our

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<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 6:700-1.

great surprize they have in breach of their Treaties & in Defiance of the Six Nations, to whom they are subjects, fallen upon our back Inhabitants and exercised on their persons the most shocking Barbarities, killing their Cattle and burning their Houses, and destroying all before them. You cannot conceive what a vast Tract of Country has been depopulated by these merciless Savages. I assure you that all the Families from Augusta County in Virginia to the River Delaware have been obliged to quit their Plantations on the North side of that Chain of Hills which is called the endless Mountains, that take their Rise in New England, and that the Indians are expected to Continue their Ravages into the Governments of New York and New Jersey.

As I know not the State of the Six Nations, nor where an Application can be best made to them, I must take the Freedom to desire on the part of this Government that you would be pleased to send a Message to the Six Nations to inform them of this Defection of the Delawares and Shawonese both from us & them, with all its horrid Circumstances, and assure them that it is without the least Provocation from us, but that as they say themselves it is to shew the Six Nations that they are no longer Women, by which they mean no longer under their Subjection; they have the further Imprudence to say they will come & attack such of the Six Nations as have taken up the Hatchet against the French. It will, therefore, be right to warn the Six Nations in your Message not only against any attempts that may be made on their Castles, but to require them to send Messengers to all the Indians under their Dependance not to assist or join the French or their Indians, but to take up the Hatchet & assist the English, and to let them know that if they go out a fighting against the English the Six Nations will consider them as Enemies & treat them as such.

You will see by the enclosed Papers that these French Shawonese and Delawares have offered the French Hatchet to the Sasquehannah Indians but they have refused to take it, and

have sent a Message to this Government that they have done so, & will fight with us if we will support them, and they shall be ordered to do so by the Six Nations. Be pleased, therefore, in your Message to inform the Six Nations of this, and desire they will send a particular Message to these Sasquehannah Indians, commanding them to assist the English against the French.

I intend to build a Fort at Shamokin this Winter, of which be pleased likewise to acquaint the Six Nations, & I doubt not they will approve this measure as absolutely necessary to protect the Indians for the common Security of them and us.

I have enclosed you the minutes of Council containing what passed between this Government & Scarrooyady, & likewise some secret Intelligence, which you will make your own use of, concealing the name of the Author.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

ROBERT H. MORRIS.

To GEN<sup>L</sup>. JOHNSON.

FROM JAMES MINOT ET AL.

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 16 Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1755*

SIR

We are Authorized as Commissioners from the Government of the Massachusetts Bay among other things to enquire into the State of the sick in the Army Under your Command belonging to S<sup>d</sup> Government, in order that we may do every thing Necessary for their Comfortable Accomodation, And for our better direction we Apprehend it Necessary that we be Informed & we desire your Hon<sup>r</sup> will as soon as may be inform us, of the Names of those persons that are Sick the Towns they came from, and those whose Circumstances are such that they are not likely to be of future Service in the Army to be specially Noted; and such of them as may be Conveniently Sent down to Albany

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<sup>1</sup> In New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.

we desire may be sent from time to time as the Waggon's are returning.

We are Sir your Most Humble  
 Servants

JAMES MINOT  
 JOHN CHOATE  
 OL<sup>R</sup>, PARTRIDGE  
 SAMUEL LIVERMORE

MAJ<sup>R</sup>. GEN<sup>L</sup>. JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:

On his Maj<sup>s</sup> Service

To

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> William Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
 Major General of the Forces

at

Lake George

INDORSED:

Letter from the Massachusetts Commis<sup>ts</sup> at Albany

16 Nov<sup>r</sup>

Rec<sup>d</sup>. 20 d<sup>o</sup>

1755 Ans<sup>d</sup>.

FROM WILLIAM ALEXANDER

A. L. S.

[Albany, Nov. 17, 1755]<sup>1</sup>

[  
 Daniel Horsmanden  
 James Minot  
 [John C]hoat Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
 [Oliver] Partridge Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
 [ ]Severedge Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
 Benjamin Hall Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
 [ ] Hubbard Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
 ]

Commissioners from  
 the Province of the  
 Massachusetts Bay

Commissioners from  
 the Colony of Connecticut

That it be recommended as the Opinion and Advice of the  
 Members of the Meeting, that the [ ] the Command

<sup>1</sup> Date supplied from Johnson Calendar, p. 67.

<sup>2</sup> Lines burned off.

of Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson, do advance [ ] Enemy, and Attempt to remove them from their [ ]s as far as they are able at this Season.

[A] true Copy from the Minutes

W<sup>m</sup> ALEXANDER Sec<sup>y</sup>.

[ ]  
 [ ], and to acquaint the [ ]  
 [ ]ation hereupon, and the rea[ ]  
 [ ed] I am  
 Sir

Your Most Humble Serv[ant]

W<sup>m</sup>: ALEXANDER

GEN<sup>l</sup>. JOHNSON

FROM RICHARD GRIDLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Edward Novem<sup>r</sup>. 17. 1755*

*Monday Morn*

SIR

I am favourd with Yours (as I suppose, it not being sign'd) of Yesterday afternoon; the post being Fatigu'd for want of Sleep could not go till this morning; I have orderd a Guard with him, to Saraghtoga & given Your Orders to the Commanding Officer there, to send a Guard with him from thence. I have constantly sent out partys of 12 men to range from the place or near it you now direct, to the road to y<sup>e</sup>. Lake & shall order an Augmentation according to Order & shall take all proper precaution so as not to Fatigue the men too much for what with Constant partys of Guard up & down, Guards & Workmen of the Garrison & Constant scouts we are Considerably employ'd. I had like to have forgot your favour of Saturday; I sent a party to Guard the dispatches immediately to Saraghtoga, I observe your Scout discovering a Track of 4 coming this way, &

<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

have forwarded the intelligence to Saraghtoga, & believe our Scouts have discoverd the Track of the same, One of the scouts thought they saw two of the enemy, our Forces seem to be greatly animated, & I hope ere long to get some Game. Col<sup>o</sup>, Ruggles's regiment though small have a Considerable number of officers & considerable Baggage, Doctors Chest &c that it will be difficult to get 'em up to the Lake but I wou'd not direct if it is your Orders, I shall obey I shoud be glad to know if I must send up Col<sup>o</sup>: Gilbert (who is still in Confinem<sup>t</sup>.) with the regim<sup>ts</sup>. I have Cap<sup>t</sup>. Dakin of Col Browns regim<sup>t</sup>. With his Comp<sup>s</sup>. except about 9 Sick men which must remain here till they are better

I am Sir with Respect

Your Most Humb. Serv<sup>t</sup>.

R. GRIDLEY

ADDRESSED:

On His Majestys Service

To

Major General Johnson

at

Lake George

INDORSED:

Col. Gridley Fort

Edward 17 Nov<sup>r</sup>.

Rec<sup>d</sup> d<sup>o</sup>

TO INHABITANTS OF SUFFOLK COUNTY

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

[*Camp at Lake George*]

18 [*Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1755*]

GENTLEMEN:

Last night came to this Camp 47 of the 60 head of Cattle (10 being stopped by the Commandant of Fort Edward as the

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<sup>1</sup> A portion of this letter is printed in *The New York Mercury*, Dec. 29, 1755.



Proportion of that Garrison 3 being lost by the Way) and 16 Oxen which in lieu of the Sheep were sent by the Inhabitants of your County for the Army under my Command.

This Morning I summoned a Council of War [to suggest Measures for an equitable Division of the same] [ ] Copy of the Minutes whereof I herewith [ ]

Your Generous Present arrived at a period of [the ] distress. for many days past this Army hath [ ] allowance of Meat & Bread & were reduced to their [ ] Your well timed humanity hath revived us; may [the Blessings of the hungry be upon you & yours & all [that you have] and may the Smiles of Heaven accompany [the Applause] of Men.

Major General Lyman joins me, in gratefully acknowledging the Letter wrote us by the Reverend [James Brown]<sup>1</sup> of your County; both we & the whole Army are extremely obliged to them for their pious Sentiments & good wishes [ ] this Letter to George Muirson<sup>2</sup> [ ] County & I have desired him [ ] the same —

[ ]<sup>3</sup>  
[ ] to myself in particular [ ]  
[ ]al are gratefully acknowledged [ ]  
[ ] begs you to accept of his thanks for [ ]  
remembrance to him.

I am respectfully

Sir &c

INDORSED:

Generals Letter to the  
Inhabitants of Suffolk  
County & Geor Muirson.

18 Nov<sup>r</sup>. —

<sup>1</sup> See letter of James Brown to Johnson, October 23, 1755.

<sup>2</sup> See letter of George Muirson to Johnson, November 2, 1755.

<sup>3</sup> Lines burned off.

TO ROGER BILLINGS

*Df. S.**Camp at Lake George  
18 Novr 1755*

[CAPTAIN BILL]INGS

[            t]ake under Convoy with this [            ]  
 [            ]mand the returned Waggon[s] [            ]  
 [            ] & carefully guard the same to A[lbany]  
 You are to keep your Men from sc[at]tering [            ] out  
 proper flank Guards & march w[ith            ca]ution against  
 any attempts or Insul[ts] of the Enemy.

On your Arrival at Albany you [are] to apply to the Com-  
 missaries & if a Guard [            w]anted for waggons or  
 Horses hither to supply [the] same without delay or with further  
 orders.

W. J.

TO CHARLES HARDY

*Df.**Camp at Lake George 18 Novr. 1755*

[            ]  
 I wrote your Excellency this Morning & have n[ow]  
 [            ] to inclose you a Copy of the Minutes of [a]  
 [Council of W]ar I called this day & refer you to [            ]  
 [            ] Whitcomb by whom I send this.  
 [            ]y

INDORSED:

Generals Letter to Sir  
 Charles Hardy 17 Novr.  
 1755

FROM J. CLAUDIUS MAINE

A. L. S.

[Fort Edward 18 Novr.]  
[1755]

[ ]

It is with the greatest Submission [that I] presume to address you w<sup>th</sup>. this, most hu[m]bly entreating you, Entirely relying on your gen[erous] humane Character, to Pardon me all my fo[rmer] Errors, occasion'd by a too unhappy hasty temp[er.] Yet I do assure your honour no real bad intention in the Main. If a Sincere repentance w<sup>th</sup>. a Strict care of my future Conduct can make an Attonement to a generous breast, I herein promise your honour to perform the same, so that I once more beg your honour to overlook w<sup>th</sup>. an Eye of Compassion what I have unguarded [been] guilty of and not acquaint his Excellency [ ] and remain honour'd Sir w<sup>th</sup>. the [most prof]ound respect —

your honour's most humble

Obedient Servant.

J. CLAUD<sup>s</sup>. MAINE

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

*Df.*[Camp at Lake George]  
[18 Novr. 1755]

[ ]  
[ ] yesterday. We seem now to have [ ]  
[ ] Enemy near us, so that I think you [ ]  
[ ]ose only from that Alarm, all those G[uards] [ ]  
[ ]nece]ssary. I doubt not you will keep up [ ]

<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.

[ ]ng Col. Ruggles<sup>s</sup>. Officers & his Apolog[y ]  
 [ ]in with You. Major Hoare was to lay hi[s ]  
 [ S]hirley, and give him an Account of Col. G[ilbert ]  
 [ ref]erred Mr. Shirley to the Major & expect I shall [ ]  
 [ ] that head till when I expect Col. Gilbert rem[ains ]  
 [under arr]est

TO GEORGE MUIRSON

Copy<sup>1</sup>

*Camp at Lake George, 18th November 1755.*

SIR,

Your Favour of the 2d Instant I received last Night, with the Present of Cattle from the Inhabitants of *Suffolk* County, to the Army under my Command.

I desire you will communicate in the most extensive Manner possible, the Minutes of a Council of War herewith and my Letter to our generous Benefactors.

Your kind Wishes to myself in particular, and to the Army in general, are gratefully acknowledged by us.

I am respectfully, Sir,

Your most humble Servant,

WM. JOHNSON.

To

GEORGE MUIRSON, Esq;

FROM JAMES MINOT

A. L. S.

*Albany 19<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1755*

[ ]  
 [ ] apprehend it absolutely Necessary you Send [ ]  
 to Albany a Sufficient guard for the [wagons] going up.

<sup>1</sup> Printed in *The New York Mercury*, Dec. 29, 1755.

otherways they will be greatly [ ] upon y<sup>e</sup> Gov<sup>ts</sup>  
Expense In Hast

[In] the Name of the Mass Co<sup>m</sup>issioners  
Y<sup>r</sup> Most Humble Ser<sup>t</sup>.

JAMES MINOT

INDORSED:

Letter from Ja<sup>s</sup> Minot

Albany 19 Nov<sup>r</sup>.

Rec<sup>d</sup> 21 d<sup>o</sup>

1755. Ans<sup>d</sup>.

MINUTES OF A COUNCIL OF WAR

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Camp at Lake George, 19th November, 1755. A.M.*

At a Council of War held by General Johnson,

Present,

The General,	Col. Bagly,
Major General Lyman,	Col. Browne,
Col. Harris,	Lieut. Col. Whiting,
Col. Cockroft,	Col. Plaisted,
Col. Dyer,	Col. Thatcher,
	Peter Wraxall, Secretary.

The General laid before this Council of War, a Letter directed to him from George Muirson, Esq; High Sheriff of the County of Suffolk, on Long-Island, and Letters from several Reverend Gentlemen, Ministers of the Gospel, in the aforesaid County, with a Present of Oxen and Sheep from the Inhabitants of said County: Also a Letter from *Oliver De Lancey*, Esq; from *Albany*, wherein he writes the General, that the Drivers of the Sheep acquainted him it was impossible to drive them

<sup>1</sup> Printed in *The New York Mercury*, Dec. 29, 1755; draft in the New York State Library badly damaged by fire.

up to the Camp; that he had therefore sold them for 14 Oxen, the Sheep being reduced in their Numbers by the Carlessness of the Drivers.

The General desired the Opinion of this Council of War, relating to the Division of the Cattle.

It is the Opinion that a Field Officer from each Regiment, be appointed to make a Division of the Cattle, in Proportion to the Numbers of their respective Troops.

The General is desired to write a Letter to the Inhabitants of Suffolk County, on Long Island, with the grateful Acknowledgments of this Army, for their generous Present.

PETER WRAXALL, Secretary.

TO PHINEAS LYMAN

*Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>

[*Camp at Lake George 21 Novr. 1755*]

[                    ]

As what I have to propose to the [Co]uncil of War is I apprehend not only of great Consequence to the present Service but necessary for me to have the Opinion of this Council of War relative to it with all possible Dispatch, I must request your Attendance unless there is any unavoidable Impediment against it

I am Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> very humble [

]

W. J.

The Council of War are  
met & wait

To MAJ<sup>R</sup> GEN<sup>L</sup> LYMAN

---

<sup>1</sup> In handwriting of Wraxall.

FROM GOLDSBROW BANYAR

A. D. S.

*Albany 22<sup>d</sup> November 1755.*

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy being [about] to embark for New York hath directed me to recom[mend] in his Name that you would give the necessary orders to collect together and secure all the Battoes belonging to the army that can be found, and to preserve them for Service against the next Season.

I am also to Signify his desire to see you in New York as soon as possible after you have met and conversed with the principal Sachems and leading men of the six Nations, or such of them as you judge necessary to inform you of their present Temper and Disposition, that you may be able to give him full information on this head and of such Facts as he shall think proper to lay before his Majesty's Ministers to this end that you bring with you all Papers that may give any Light into Indian Affairs.

I am Sir

your most obedient  
humble Servant

G<sup>w</sup> BANYAR

[            ]m the)  
[            ] {  
[            ] {  
[            ] }

TO RICHARD GRIDLEY

Df.

[Camp at Lake George 22 Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1755.]

[ ]<sup>1</sup>  
 [ ] were sent [ ]  
 [ ] public or Provincial [ ]  
 [ ]ted were not to deliver them [ ]  
 [ ] they are accounted for. If you will [ ]  
 [ ] give a Receipt in behalf of your Pra[ ]  
 [ ] what you may want for the use of your  
 Reg<sup>t</sup>. I will send the Quantity you desire [ ]  
 for the other Troops in y<sup>r</sup> Garrison w<sup>ch</sup>. May [ ]

As to Mayne if you judge putting him in Irons necessary for securing him I would have it done, for I suspect him capable of going over to the Enemy. I propose to have him sent a Prisoner to New York but can not give the necessary Orders at present

The Sentence upon the other Prisoners I think full Mild, however there is no help for it. if not inflicted pray let it be done.—

Please to dispatch a Cap<sup>t</sup>. 2 Subs [ ] men with orders of the Tenor inclosed.

[ ] to the Cap<sup>t</sup>. the Letter herewith w[ ]  
 [ ] his Arrival at Albany immediately  
 [ ] to General Shirley. In case [ ]  
 [ ] Waggon [ ]  
 [ ] want a Guard [ ]  
 [ ]<sup>1</sup>

COLONEL GRIDLEY

INDORSED:

Generals letter to Col.  
 Gridley 22 Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1755

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<sup>1</sup> Lines burned off.



OLIVER PARTRIDGE TO \_\_\_\_\_

A. L. S.

[Camp at Lake George, 22 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1755]

[ \_\_\_\_\_ ] of the Several Guard  
 [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] you would furnish th[ \_\_\_\_\_ ]  
 [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] 25 men at the least if you cannot furnish  
 [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] a Guard to go thro to Fort Edward you must [ \_\_\_\_\_ ]  
 [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] this Night Send a Man or two up to Col Gridley  
 [ \_\_\_\_\_ ] Send a Strong Guard to meet us tomorrow There  
 is not only the [Com]missioners but a Number of Wagons  
 going up

In the Name of the Commiss<sup>rs</sup>I am your Ser<sup>t</sup>. \_\_\_\_\_

OL, PARTRIDGE

SAMUEL NICHOLAS NELSON TO \_\_\_\_\_

A. L. S.

[Undated]<sup>1</sup>

SIR

the Reason of my not Sending a gard with those Gentlemen  
 Is my haveing So few Men and Sum of them are Sick and Y<sup>e</sup>.  
 Rest upon Duty Night and Day which obliges me to Begg  
 for your asistance.

Sir

I am yours to Sarve

SAM<sup>EL</sup>. NICHLS NELSON

---

<sup>1</sup> Inclosed in letter of Oliver Partridge, Nov. 22, 1755.

FROM JONATHAN BAGLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>Fort W<sup>m</sup> Henry Nov<sup>r</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1755S<sup>R</sup>

After you Left the Camp I Musterd the forces Left to Garrison fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry and Could Muster But 116 Left of the Massachusetts of Which

Col <sup>l</sup> . Plastard	Left.	26 his Propotion..	33
Col <sup>l</sup> . Brown	Left.	28 his D <sup>o</sup> .....	33
Col <sup>l</sup> . Thacher	Left.	— his D <sup>o</sup> .....	32
Colo. Gredley	Left.	— his D <sup>o</sup> .....	50
Col <sup>l</sup> . Whitcomb	Left.	23 his D <sup>o</sup> .....	23
Col <sup>l</sup> . Pomeroy	Left.	29 his D <sup>o</sup> .....	42
Ruggells	Left.	— his D <sup>o</sup> .....	10
Col <sup>l</sup> . Bagley	Left.	10 his D <sup>o</sup> .....	10
		<hr/>	
		116	233
		Deduct	116
		Remains Wanting	<hr/> 117
of Col <sup>l</sup> . Gillmans Reg <sup>t</sup>	Left	} 32 his propotion.	95
Listed by Cap <sup>t</sup> . Rogers out of	other Reg <sup>ts</sup>		
		Remains	<hr/> 63 63
of Col <sup>l</sup> . Harris Reg <sup>t</sup> .	Left	60 his Propotion	76 16
			<hr/>
		Remains Wanting	196
		in the Whole	

S<sup>r</sup>. by the Scrall above you Will See that the fort is Left 196 Men Short of What was appropriated Which was 402 A Great Number to be Wanting at this Critical Junture Which I Begg You Will order to be Drafted out to Morrow Morning at fort Edward & Sent here under Proper officers, for if the forces

<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Get on there March in the Morning or not Drafted & Sent from there before you March I fear I Shall be Left here With So Small a Number that the fortress may become an Easy Conquest to the Enemy Should they attempt. to attack us — Maj<sup>r</sup>. Glasure joyns his Comp<sup>ts</sup>. to you Cap<sup>t</sup>. Eyre and Cap<sup>t</sup>. Wraxsell.—and Am S<sup>r</sup> Your Most Humble S<sup>t</sup>.

JONATHAN BAGLY

I hope you will Consider and  
Excuse Blots Paches and Erases<sup>ts</sup>

if Cap<sup>t</sup>. Nixson of Col<sup>l</sup> Ruggells Reg<sup>t</sup>. Should be there you Will oblige Me to Send him up With one of the Comp<sup>s</sup> — I also Desire Col<sup>l</sup>. Gredly to Send up a Good Drumer of Which I Will make a Drum Maj<sup>r</sup> & 2 Drummer More if to be had

ADDRESSED:

To Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson at fort  
Edward

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Fort Will<sup>m</sup> Henry  
Col: Bagleys Letter  
Nov<sup>r</sup>. 27<sup>th</sup>. 1755.

ORDER FOR REINFORCEMENTS AT FORT WILLIAM HENRY

*Df.*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Edward Fryday 28 Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1755*

It is the Generals Orders that Colonel Gridley give or draught out of the Reg<sup>t</sup>. under his Command for the Garrison at Fort William Henry 50 Men inclusive of Officers, And Lieu<sup>t</sup> Col. Gilbert out of Colonel Ruggles' Reg<sup>t</sup>. 10 Men. That Col Plaisted give or draught out of his Detachment 7 Men more, Colonel Thatcher 11 Men Officers included, D<sup>r</sup>. Williams out

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

of Col Pomroys Detachment 13 Men more Col. Harvy out of his Detachment 16 Men more These being the proportions or the deficiency of the Proportion of these several Reg<sup>ts</sup>. for the Garrison of Fort William Henry

PETER WRAXALL TO WILLIAM COCKCROFT

*A. Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Edward Fryday 28 Novr. 1755*

TO COLONEL WILLIAM COCKCROFT

It is The Generals Orders that You give or draft out of the Reg<sup>t</sup>. under your Command 154 Men officers Included for the Garrison at this Fort

P. W.<sup>2</sup>

A. D. C.

FROM MYNDERT WYMPER

*A. L. S.*

*[Senecas' Land 5th Decr. 1755.]*

[		<sup>3</sup> ]
[	]aept nae haer [	]
[	]ten een toen gave[n	]
[	]n sloegen daer 3 Vaen d[oot	]
[	] genomen een deer est oep [	]
[	] noemmende gagnawage [	]
[	Dee Droenkert een sieck del[	]
[	] syn oefgehalt [5] <sup>4</sup> 4 syn Weer tuy[s]	

<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., draft written on back of Bagley's letter of Nov. 27, 1755.

<sup>2</sup> Peter Wraxall, aide-de-camp.

<sup>3</sup> Lines burned off.

<sup>4</sup> Crossed out in manuscript.

[ ] seey heebeen myn Veersoekt oem [u]  
 te sch[r]yuen hyeer yes gen nus meer oem [te]  
 [schryve]n als Voor yaan aabel dat hy  
 [de] batoes met roem gekregen hebt [daer]  
 [do]or syn aelle dagen droncken yes  
 hier heel Slym

[Niet] meer aels yck Weens uE geluk een

[ ] yen ael uE Voernemen  
 [ ]or gots genaden noch gesont  
 [ ]N]iet meer aels

MYNDYERT WYM[PEL]

### TRANSLATION

[Seneca's Land 5th Decr. 1755.]

[		]
[	] to them [	]
[	] and then they gave [	]
[	] killed three of them [	]
[	] and took them with them [	]
[	] and there is one calling himself Caghnawaga [	]
	The drunkard and sick [	]

are carryed away [5] 4 are home again.

They have asked me to  
 write to you. Here there is no further news to write  
 except to say for Yaan Aabel that he has  
 received the battoes with rum.

Consequently they are drunk every day. It is  
 very bad here.

No more, except that I wish your honor luck  
 and prosperity in all your undertakings.

Through God's grace I am still well.

No more than

MYNDYERT WEM[PEL]

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>Copy<sup>2</sup>

Fort Johnson, Decemb. 7. 1755.

The Speech of the honourable major-general Johnson at a meeting of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Tuscaroras and Senecas.

Arent Stevens, interpreter.

Brethren of the Mohawks, Senecas, Oneidas, and Tuscaroras,

I Am glad to see you here at the meeting-place of all the nations, after the dangers and fatigues of the campaign. The reason of my sending for you immediately on my return is very pressing.

Your brother the governor of New-York wrote me a letter, dated nine days ago, which overtook me at Skenactady, acquainting me, that the Shawanese, Delawares, and River-indians were committing hostilities in the southern parts of this province, as well as in the Jersies and Pennsylvania; that they had burnt several out-settlements in those provinces, and killed many of our people who never offended them: as those Indians are looked upon by us as allies and dependants of you the six nations, and living within the limits of your country, I must desire you will, without loss of time, reprimand them for what they have already done, prevent their doing any more mischief, and insist on their turning their arms with us against the French and their Indians; both your and our common enemy, and that without loss of time. This is what you engaged to do at the general meeting last June at my house: I am surprized you have not done it before, and I expect you will now do it without loss of time; if not, we will endeavour to put a stop to their barbarities, and do ourselves that justice the law of nature allows.

A belt.

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<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in: *An Account of Conferences held and Treaties made Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours* . . . , 3-5.

Brethren of the confederate nations,

I desire you will send me, from time to time, what news you receive from your allies to the southward and westward, as at all times it is very necessary for me to know it, and more particularly so at this time: in return, you may depend on my giving you all the news among us, which may be useful to you.

A large Belt.

Their answer.

Brother,

We are obliged to you for the welcome you give us, and assure you we are equally rejoiced to meet you here at our fire, after your great fatigue and danger; and congratulate you on your success over our common enemy.

It gives us the greatest concern, to hear of the barbarities of our cousins the Delawares, to our brethren the English; and we assure you we shall, without loss of time, forward your message through all the nations, and use all arguments in our power for their exerting themselves on this important occasion.

A belt.

Brother,

We will also recommend it to them to keep up a constant correspondence with you, as we are sensible it is of the utmost consequence at all times, but more so at present.

A belt.

FROM JOHN WATTS

A. L. S.

[*New York, Decr 9, 1755*]

[ ]

[ ] on, was got safe [ ]

[ ] proving an agreable Companion, my hearty Comp<sup>ts</sup>.

[ ] imagine stay all the Winter so far North

You have inclosd Gilbert Marseillis Receipt for £1936:

[ ] was afraid to Venture the whole Sum in one hand,

'tis a confounded [ ], the next Conveyance whether

Skipper or private, shall carry the Balla: [ ]opose charging 2. <sup>79</sup> Ct. Com<sup>s</sup>. for the transaction, which still shall stand the l[ ] of [ ] approbation, if you choose it less or nothing I am perfectly satisfy'd if it in the [ ] serves you — You have inclosd a Letter from Wraxall, he has not yet been [ad]mitted to the presence of the Grand Seignior<sup>1</sup>, I reckon he'll meet with a dusky [coun]tenance —

As soon as he is at leisure I shall be glad of an hour or two's Chat, [to] have the particulars of your campaign, there must be a great Variety in it I dont [dou]bt, & such a Variety as has been productive of no small tryal of your patience, [ ] perseverance wins the World —

I hope the Sons of old Oliver<sup>2</sup> as they call themselves [wo]nt shamefully quit their posts to the Enemy, twill be such a lasting Disgrace, as [no]thing will wipe off — but whats that to us youl Say if the French gets possession, [ ] sorry Comfort

I heartily congratulate you on your return to sweet peace [and hope that], at least for a Season, may your enjoyment prove equal to your own desire [ ] of your best friends — I allways am &c.

Y<sup>r</sup> Affectionate

Humb. Serv<sup>t</sup> —

JN<sup>o</sup>. [WATTS]

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

Copy<sup>3</sup>

Fort Johnson, Dec. 16, 1755.

SIR,

Your Excellency's Paquet I received this instant together with a Commission or Warrant from you for the Management of

<sup>1</sup> William Shirley, commander-in-chief of the forces in British North America.

<sup>2</sup> Possibly the New Englanders.

<sup>3</sup> New York papers in the Library of Congress. Printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist., N. Y.*, 6:1027, and *Correspondence of William Shirley*, ed. Lincoln, 2:342–43.



Indian Affairs, also a Letter<sup>1</sup> and other Papers from Gov<sup>r</sup>. Morris of Philadelphia concerning the Hostilities committed and still committing by the Indians on the Frontiers of that and the Neighbouring Provinces, desiring I would use my utmost endeavors to put a stop to it.

On my return from Lake George I received an account of the cruel proceedings of the Indians in them parts of an express from Sir Charles Hardy and as soon as I got home, despatched Messages to all the six Nations, and also to the Susquehanna Indians, Delawares and Shawanese acquainting the former of the Behavior of those Indians and insisted on their immediate Interposition. To the latter who are the people concerned, I sent a very smart reprimand for their unnatural and unjustifiable Behaviour to their Brethren and Neighbours the English; giving them a strong and warm Invitation to join us, and turn their arms this way against the French and their allies. What effect it will now have upon them I can't pretend to say with any certainty, but this much I make bold to say, that if I had not been so much employed otherwise this Time past and for some other Reasons I shall defer mentioning now Indian affairs would be in a much more favorable and prosperous way, and this perhaps not have happened.

I have this long time been told there was a Commission from His Majesty for me, and that it was sent by the late General Braddock, but I never received any, nor pay for the one I had of him, alltho' I have neglected all my own business, on account of it and suffered much thereby. I shall soon write your Excellency more fully and let you know my inclinations regarding the Commission.

I proposed ere I received yours to have a meeting of all the Nations I could assemble at this Season of the year, in order to settle matters with them in the best manner possible, and prepare them for service in the Spring. It will take some time to get them

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<sup>2</sup> See Robert Hunter Morris to Johnson, Nov. 15, 1755.

together, so that I may go to New York for a Fortnight and settle affairs, and be back ere they are assembled.

I am Your Excellencys

Most obedient and most humble Servant

WM JOHNSON

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*At a meeting of the Mohawks, Oneidas, and  
Tuscaroras, December 26. 1755.*

Squareefere, a chief of Tuscarora, spoke.

Brother Warraghiyage,<sup>3</sup>

We return you our hearty thanks for the care you take of us in supplying us with ammunition, large guns and paint; as we do not know how soon the enemy will come upon us: we have been speaking to our eldest brothers these four years, about having a place of defence made against the French, but could never bring them to a conclusion until now, having promised to join and assist our brothers the English against any attempts which the French shall make upon them.

A string of wampum.

Canaghquayeson spoke.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We join with our brothers, the Tuscaroras, in returning you our hearty thanks for advising us to be upon our guard against the malicious designs of the French, and that you would supply us with ammunition, large guns, paint, &c.

A belt.

<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held and Treaties made Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, 5-7.

<sup>3</sup> The name given by the Mohawks to Johnson.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We own we have been lost or drunk these several years past, in not listening to you and our youngest brothers in joining the two castles together; but we have now opened our ears which have been stopped, and are determined to live and die with you.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You acquainted us some time ago, of the designs of the French in encroaching upon our hunting-grounds, and advised us to be on our guard against them, or otherwise they would come and dispossess and destroy us all; it seems to us now that they had blinded our eyes, and it is plain to us as the sun that rises in the morning, that they had it in view.

No doubt but you have heard that the French had invited us to meet them at Swegatsy; but we have taken a firm resolution never to listen to any but yourself: we don't speak this from our lips only, but it comes from the bottom of our hearts.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You blame us for not taking care of our allies to the southward, but we assure you we have some time ago sent four large belts to them, desiring they would not join with any but whom the five nations joined; and since we are informed [*sic*] that the belts and messages we sent were directly made known to the French. Now, brother, we have sent another message, desiring that they would come and speak with us; and be assured we will do our utmost endeavours to put a stop to any more bloodshed that way; and we hope, that you will desire the governors to do their utmost in bringing them over to us, as we are sure there is nothing draws them from us but the large presents which the French makes them.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have sent to the River-indians and Shawanese to come to our castle, to hear from their own mouths what they have to

say for their killing so many of our brothers; and if they should not come upon our message, we the Oneidas, and Tuscaroras Sachems, are determined to go to them and know the reason of it.

Governor Shirley promised to have a fort built for us, and men to garrison it; and not hearing any thing about it since, we think he will defer it until spring; so hope that you will have a fort built immediately, and men to garrison it, as we are certain the French only wait a favourable opportunity to fall upon us.

A string.

FROM GIDEON HAWLEY

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Copy of a letter of the Rev. Mr. Hawley at Onehughquagey, to the honourable William Johnson, dated *Onehughquagey, December 27. 1755.*

VERY HONOURED SIR,

The Sachems who went from hence with your message to the Delawares, just now returned from Tiaogo, and desire me to pen the following letter to your honour; in which you have a brief account how the quarrel between the English and Delawares began, and what has happened since, according to the account which we have from Tiaogo. In which also your honour has the answer of the Delawares to the message you sent them by the bearer hereof, and a short speech which those Indians desired me to pen relative to the affairs. Your honour will pardon me if I am not so particular in my narration as the Indians are in telling a story. The letter which I am desired to write, except abbreviations, is as follows:

BROTHER JOHNSON,

We have been to Tiaogo upon your affairs. In the first place we relate what news we hear; the Indians there inform us that

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, 10-14.

about two months ago, there was a party of English at Tsineanke, alias Shamokin, upon a scouting design; and that while they were there, news came that there was a party of French and Indians from Ohio about there; and Skaronyade advised the English party to return back, and by all means to keep on the east-side of the river: they took his advice, 'tis said, and returned, but went the west-side of the river, and that before they had gone far a French party came upon them, fired, and drove them into the river, where four of the English were drowned. Not long after this, that an Englishman came to Skahandow-ane alias Wayoming, and as he used to trade upon this river, the Indians asked him whether he brought any goods with him; he said no, but I have brought my body, my flesh, and you may do what you please with me: 'tis you, said he, and the six nations, who killed our people the other day, I was there, I know your language, it was certainly you that did the mischief; and now, said he, you and the English will fight; may be you think that you and your uncle the six nations are able to stand the English: I tell you, said he, that we can pinch you between our fingers; I don't cheat you, and act in the dark and underhanded, as you do, but tell you plainly that the English are going to fight you: in six days more the English will set out from all points against you. The Englishman returned to the white people, and informed them that a great multitude of Indians of all nations were gathered at Wayoming, &c. Then the English that way made it their business to take as many of the Delawares who lived among, or near the white people, and made them prisoners, as they could lay hands on; the number they took, 'tis said, is 232 in all; one old man they took, who heard the account which the Englishman brought from Wayoming, made his escape with much difficulty, and carried the news back to Wayoming, and gave an account of the English taking the Delawares who lived near the white people, &c. &c.

The Indians of Wayoming, 'tis said, were much concern'd after the Englishman had been there, and kept scouts out to see if any English were coming against them; at last they saw a

single man coming, the Indians went to the white man, and asked him whether he was alone; he told them, that three more, who were gentlemen, were coming to have a treaty with them: they soon arrived, and called the Indians together, and informed them that they were sent to treat with them about building a fort there, that their squas and children might be protected from the French. The Indians desired to see their commission, they produced a certificate of it in writing; the Indians objected against their not having wampum; with that they produced another paper. Now the old man, who had been taken by the English, and made his escape, said to the Indians, don't you believe these men, they only mean to deceive you, and make you prisoners, or put you to the sword.

At that the Indians took their hatchets, and knocked them all on the head, except the Indian trader, who came there before, and was now with these gentlemen that made his escape.

Thus, brother Johnson, we have given you an account how the quarrel began between the English and Delawares, and what has happened since; and if they have told us a pack of lyes, we cannot help it.

Now, my brother, we give you the answer of the Delawares to the message you sent by the bearer; this is the answer our nephew gives.

BROTHER JOHNSON,

We desire to know what is the reason of the quarrel between us and our brethren the English; you say you are ignorant of it, so are we; we don't know the cause of this quarrel.

'Tis true, brother, as you say, we are not at our own command, but under the direction of the six nations; we are women, our uncle must say what we must do; he has the hatchet, and we must do as he says. 'Tis true, brother, we have not the hatchet, we are poor women, and out of temper: we are much obliged to you, brother, that you tell us to stop, and leave off that which we have begun to do; we hear you, we stop and repent.

But, brother Johnson, some of our young men, a few days ago, went out against the English; we can't help it, though we have sent after them as soon as we heard from you, brother, to stop them, and call them back. Now, brother, you must take care of your side too; many of our people are now captives among the English, we must see every one of them return again, or else it will not be well. We shall wait two months to see whether our captives are given up, and if we don't see them then, we don't know what we shall do; when we see our people again, then we shall contrive to make up the matter, and settle affairs, and not till then.

Thus, brother Johnson, you have the answer of my nephew to your message.

Now, brother, we that are young ones here would say a few words; by and by you shall hear from our heads; we ask leave for once, according to the English custom, to use paper instead of wampum.

#### BROTHER JOHNSON

Be strong, do all you can on your part, and we will do all we can on ours: let us, both of us, be engaged to pursue to the things that make for peace and harmony; you'll not doubt, brother, but that the six nations will make it their business to set things to right again, and make up the unhappy quarrel between our brethren the English and the Delawares our nephews.

Be strong, brother, be engaged and we will assist you, and we need not doubt but we shall gain the point.

We would inform you, brother, that the Delawares tell us that two companies of their men set out not long ago against the English; but they have now sent after them to bring them back. They say that there were 80 in one and 40 in the other company; and that a number are set out from Ohio lately against the English frontiers.

Thus, honoured Sir, I have wrote all that the Indians desired, I have wrote in haste, and not correct as I might, had I had

leisure; the Indians from Tiaogo arrived just at sun-set, and the bearer designing to set out early in the morning, I must send this rough account just as it is, I rely on your honour's candour.

If I can serve your honour in any thing in your public affairs, I am yours at command,

GIDN. HAWLEY.

P.S. I propose to your honour's consideration, whether it would be well for the English to build a fort and keep a garrison. I don't at all think that the Delawares design to be peaceable; a fort here perhaps will be necessary to keep the rest of the Indians on the river in good order.

To the honourable WILLIAM JOHNSON.

FROM NATHAN WHITING

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Edward, Dec., 1755*]<sup>2</sup>

SIR,

By The assistance of the Carpenters & Wagons from Albany with those I employed out of the forces here, I have got the Barracks in Some Considerable forwardness, Shall have them Covered And two Stacks of Chimneys out this Day, have a few floors Laid, & hope in a few days more if the weather holds good to have the other Chimneys & Several rooms floored fit to Live in, And As Soon As possible to get all the Men under Comfortable circumstances, they at present Suffer much from their uncomfortable circumstances with respect to their Laying in tents, Which gives them bad Colds, & makes many unfit for Duty, though there is not many very Sick & two only have died That belong to the Garison; the things were in a bad Situation, I hope they will grow better.

<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

<sup>2</sup> The letter is not dated. But a comparison with Whiting's letter to Johnson, Jan. 8, 1756, shows it to have been written shortly before.



I have not the most Agreeable time of it; Shall be very glad of a Little respite & beg the favour you will grant it me if in your power, & flatter my Self from my knowledge of you & your former favours done me, you will use your Influence with Those In Who's department it may be, if not in your's, to procure me a Little relaxation from my present fatigue, I Could use An Argument that I am Sure would Appear to be a moving one, Which is that I have a fine Charming Girl that I have been Long absent from & you know Sir that Cap<sup>t</sup>. Wraxwell & I, would have Nothing to do with Variety for the World. Another favour I must Ask Which is Should my pay be Setled by the Commissioners, you would do me What Service you can in getting it in Some measure equal to the trouble And expence.— Col Bagley & Maj<sup>r</sup> Mathews are now about going Home, the Col Lives at Such a distance that I doubt it will be Long before he returns, the Maj<sup>r</sup> is near, I must tell you he has Always treated me Like a Gentle<sup>n</sup>. & his Company have always been quiet & ready to do Duty as I desire & no manner of Contention between them And the other Troops but a Good Harmony, as there has as yet been Among all The Garison—I have already informed you of our deficiencys in Number, the State of the Garison you well knew, & how I was furnished with a Train or rather that I was not furnished with Any. I have According to your orders, Acquainted General Shirley & S<sup>r</sup> Charles Hardy with that As Well As the Whole State of the Garison.

Col Bagley told me you were so Soon hurried Away from Albany you had not time to make out the Commissions but would Soon do it And forward them to me — I have constantly Sent out Small Scouts toward the Wood Crick And South Bay, but they have made no discovery, not even the Track of a Small party — I have rec<sup>d</sup> your orders forwarded from Albany, Which I Shall be carefull to observe As far As is in my power, As I ever Shall be Any you will please to give, While I have the

Honour to Serve under you. In Assurance of Which I Subscribe with due Esteem

Sir

your most Obedient  
humble Servant

N WHITING<sup>1</sup>

MAJ<sup>R</sup> GENERAL JOHNSON

ADDRESSED:

To  
The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Maj<sup>r</sup> General Johnson  
Att  
Mount Johnson

INDORSED:

Col: Whitings letter

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DIRECTIONS<sup>2</sup> FOR HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS

*L.*

*Fort Edward*<sup>3</sup>

[		4]
[	] be done at Supper [	]
[	] always clean, with Candles fitted [	]
[	] Chamber maid to make all the beds [	]
[	] lighted up in the Bedchambers at Supper time [	]
[	] with Water & a Towel be placed in each lodging [	]
Slippers & a Chamber utensil —		

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<sup>1</sup> Nathan Whiting, lieutenant colonel of the 2nd Connecticut regiment in the expedition against Crown Point in 1755; succeeded in command Colonel Ephraim Williams killed in the engagement near Lake George; made colonel in 1756; served at Ticonderoga and in Amherst's campaigns.

<sup>2</sup> The Johnson Calendar states that these directions were not intended for the camp.

<sup>3</sup> Listed in Johnson Calendar, p. 71, at close of year 1755.

<sup>4</sup> Lines burned off.

The H. to be washed Twice a Week beginning at Daylight [ ]  
parlours, & proceed<sup>s</sup> to the Bed Cham<sup>rs</sup> after the Family [ ]  
The Laundry Maid beside the Family Linnen is to see that [ ]  
in readiness, a proper set of Table Linnen, Towels [ ]  
&ca

COUNCIL MINUTES

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

At a Council held at the City of Annapolis on  
Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January in the fifth year of his  
Lordships Dominion Annoque Domini 1756.

Present as Yesterday

His Excellency is Pleased to lay before this Board the fol-  
lowing Extract

Extract from the Record of the Proceedings of the Honourable  
William Johnson Esq<sup>r</sup> with the Confederate Nations of Indians  
at the publick Meeting at Mount Johnson in June and July 1755.

Brother

We have taken into Our Confederacy our Children the  
Schanadarighroones and they are desirous you will look upon  
them as your Brethren, there are many of them who at Present  
live in Maryland and want to come and live near to Us, that  
both our Strength and theirs may be increased. We have Sent  
for them by Belts of Wampum, but they are not effectual, for  
there are three Colonels in Maryland near whose houses they  
live who in conjunction with three Chief Men amongst those  
Indians who will not let them Ccme away. We desire you  
will interpose & write to those Persons to let them come away

Give a String

They named the three Colonels Viz<sup>t</sup> Col Scarborough Col  
Henry and Col Hooper the three Chiefs they also Named Viz<sup>t</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Archives of Maryland*, 31:100-101.

Jemikakonick in Locust Neck Lane Sam in D<sup>o</sup> and Geeko in Pocomoke

A True Copy from the original Records Extracted by me  
PETER WRAXALL Sec<sup>ry</sup> &c for Ind<sup>n</sup> Affairs

FROM JOHN VAN SICE

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Onondago, 23d of Jan<sup>y</sup>., 1756.*

SIR:

This is to acquaint you of the News<sup>2</sup> that the Indians brought here a Belt of Wampum which is come from Niagara, and desires our Indians that they should stand aside, that they would go to Oswego to take it within 10 or 12 Days; the French is to set out from Niagara to-day or to-morrow, as the Indians told me, and they desire me to write it to your Honour to acquaint you with all Speed. The Indians are to go from here within 4 days; so no more at present, but remain

Your humble Servant,

JOHN VAN SICE.

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. MAJOR GEN<sup>l</sup>. JOHNSON.

FROM ROBERT ADAMS

*Copy*<sup>3</sup>

*Fort Johnson, Jan<sup>y</sup>. 28th, 1756.*

SIR:

Just now came here Two Oneidas Express from the Senecas, and brought with them a large Belt of Black Wampum, 14 Rows broad and 2½ Foot long, who made the following Speech.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 7:43-4.

<sup>2</sup> See Robert Adams to Johnson, with inclosure, Jan. 28, 1756.

<sup>3</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 7:42-3.

<sup>4</sup> This speech is contained in "Extract of Indian Proceedings" that follows this letter.

There is about 20 of the Oghquagy and Tuscororas here these eight days past, and about 30 more expected; the Express says there will be a vast Number of the Five Nations down; this goes by Express, which the Indians insisted on. I am,  
Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

ROBERT ADAMS.

EXTRACT FROM INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Extract from the Records of Sr William Johnsons  
Indian Proceedings.

Last January whilst Sr William was on his Way home from Newyork, the Senecas Sent an Express to him with a Belt of black Wampum, with the following Intelligence which was brought to Fort Johnson by two Oneida Indians, and forwarded by the Deputy Secretary to Sr William. It met him at Albany the 20. or 29 of January, when he immediately dispatched Copies of it by Express to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Shirley and Sr Charles Hardy.

The Seneca Message

Brother Warraghiyagey

About 3 Weeks ago, came a large Vessell to Niagara, with a french Officer on Board, who enquired where his Childeren were who allways kept there, for that he could not see any of them.

The French Officers Speech  
to the 6. Nations

Childeren

The English have been threatening us all last Summer about taking Niagara and Cadaraghqui Forts, which I dreaded very

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

much, especially Niagara which is to be compared to nothing else than a decayed Tree, which if a Small Blast of Wind came would blow it down.

Children. I have been at the defeating of the English at Ohio, and hearing of General Johnsons coming to Crown Point, I immediately set off to meet him. When I first met his People, the smoak of my Guns made such a Darkness before my Eyes, that I could not see my Childeren, but in Marching a little further discovered Numbers of them laying dead in the Road which made my heart bleed, as I heard Gen<sup>l</sup>. Johnson had said he did not want his Brothers to fight, but to look on and See him fight.

Children

I now tell you that I am going to steal Oswego from the English, and my Army thats coming is very numerous and makes a great Noise.

I dont intend to listen any more to my Children who are about my Ears, for I will do now as I please, and Children you have never heard me promise anything, but what I allways fulfilled and I desire you Children to keep from that Place called Oswego”

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Sachems of the 5 Nations now assembled at Onondaga, do let you know that we See Death before our Eyes, and that we Send this Post, to desire that there may be Men ready to Send to the Relief of Oswego, for you may assure yourself, the above is nothing but the Truth.

N:B; a Copy of this Intelligence was transmitted  
by Sr. William Johnson from Albany

by Express to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Shirley and S<sup>r</sup> Charles  
Hardy the 20 or 29. January 1756.<sup>1</sup>

A true Extract from the  
Records Exam<sup>d</sup>. by

PETER WRAXALL

Sect<sup>ry</sup>.

INDORSED:

Extract from Indian Records  
of Indian Intelligence  
about Oswego

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*A. Df.*<sup>2</sup>

*Albany Janry. 29th, 1756*

SIR

On my Arrival here the 27th, after a tedious and fatigeing Journy, I recd. a Message from the Sachims of the Six Nations by Express, that the French are determind to attack Oswego verry Soon, I refer You to what they sayed at my House about it, which I inclose to You, also a Cobby of a Letter from John Van Seice.<sup>3</sup> much to the same purpose, but more incorrect. I also Send You Cobby of a letter I recd. yesterday from Collo. Whiting<sup>4</sup> who Commands at Fort Edward.

I think if the French design attacking Oswego, they will not come from Niagara to do it as by the way of Cadarachqui would be much nearer & more convenient even at any Season of the Year. I propose Setting of to Morrow Morning for my House, Where I understand there are a good Many Indians from

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<sup>1</sup> This note is crossed out in the manuscript. A copy of the intelligence was sent by Hardy to Gov. Morris of Pennsylvania.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>3</sup> Van Sice to Johnson, Jan. 23, 1756.

<sup>4</sup> Nathan Whiting.

Susquahana Mett, the Five Nations are not yet arrived, they are verry much alarmed at the Menaces of the French. and I expect will be asking great things to be done for them. As Men Arms Amunition &ca I should be glad to have Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellencys directions should that be the Case. also how to Act with regard to the Indian Officers whether they are to be disbanded, or continued, and how I am to pay them, as they are daily demanding their pay, and indeed want it most of them. as we have lost Severall of the best of them in the late action should be glad to know whether I may Give Your Commissions to Such as I think worthy of them. I am much hurried, So hope You will excuse My inaccuracy,

I am Sr. &ca

GENERAL SHIRLEY

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Boston 5<sup>th</sup>. Feb<sup>y</sup>. 1756*

SIR

I have received your favour of the 29<sup>th</sup>. January with Copys of the Message from the Sachems of the Six Nations and a Letter from John Van Sise<sup>2</sup> containing an Account of the Threats of a French Officer in relation to Oswego.

I intirely join with you in Opinion that if the French design to attack Oswego, they will not come from Niagara to do it, therefore must Conclude that those Menaces of the French are made with a design to induce the Indians of the Six Nations to remain neutar and to prevent their making any Engagements against them, at their next Meeting at your House.

I am glad to find that you are like to have so General a Meeting of the Indians.— You may Assure them that I shall the next Campaign employ a great Army in the defence of

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> John Van Seice (Van Sice) to Johnson, Jan. 23, 1756.



their Country and recovering such parts of it as have been encroached upon by the French and that in the mean time his Majesty's Troops in the Province of New York shall be held in readiness to defend them against any Attempts of the French before the Opening of the Campaigne, And I hope you will prevail on them to have a Number of their Warriors in readiness to fall on the French in any March they shall Attempt to make. As to Arms and Ammunition &c I leave it to your prudence to supply them with such Quantities as you shall judge necessary.

As to the Indian Officers I also leave it to your prudence to disband or continue such of them as you think proper And to pay them according to the Settlements sent you by General Braddock.

I am with great truth

Sir,

Your most Humble  
Servant,

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

[February 2-16, 1756.]

February 2, 1756.

At a meeting of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Chugnuts, and Mahickanders, I made an answer to their Speech in the presence of,

The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Mr. Daniel Clause,
Lieutenant Miller,	Arent Stevens,
Mr. Reed,	William Printup,
Three Interpreters,	

<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the Chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 16-22.

Canadagaye a Mohawk chief, my speaker, stood up and answered to their speech as follows, viz.

Brethren of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Mahickanders, Chugnuts, and Shawanese.

I approve much of your openness of heart to me on this occasion, and as that is the surest way of having your grievances redressed, I would advise you (as I have often your brethren of the six nations) always to follow that method, and you may be assured I will endeavour to ease your minds, and do every thing in my power to contribute to your happiness. As for the idle surmises of, or reports spread by any ill minded silly people, who know nothing of your sentiments, or the state of your or our affairs, I must desire you will not give ear to, nor be in the least uneasy at them, for their words are like wind and not to be noticed. If at any time your minds are disturbed, or that you labour under any difficulties, let me know it immediately, you may depend upon relief. The strong assurances you now, and always have given me of your attachment to your brethren the English, and of your gathering together, gives me the greatest pleasure, and will animate me to take more care of you, which you may depend upon as long as you continue stedfast friends to the English, which you will ever find it your interest to do.

A belt.

Brethren of the several before-mentioned nations.

Your case I have considered, and agree with you in opinion, that your present situation is far from being safe, having so dangerous and deceitful an enemy, as the French are notoriously known to be on the one side, and their blindfolded, rash Indians (who know not their own interest) on the other. Wherefore, agreeable to your request, I shall immediately have a fort built for the safety of your old people, children, and friends, living round about there; I will also supply you with arms, ammunition, &c. to defend the said fort, against any attempts the French, or their Indians, may make upon you: keep a good look out, and if

at any time you find a design against you, let me know it, and I will come immediately to your assistance. This I confirm by this belt of wampum.

A belt.

February 2, 1756.

The answer of the Aughquageys, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Mahickanders, Chugnuts, and Shawanese.

Adam, Speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the several nations of Indians living at and about Susquehanna river and its branches, here present, return you our most hearty thanks for your kind compliance to our requests, as well as for the great regard you shew for our safety, by promising to come in person to our assistance, should there be occasion at any time for it: this convincing proof of your love for us, at this critical time, lays us under the greatest obligations; and be assured we and ours shall never forget it as long as the waters of Susquehanna run.

A belt, and finished, giving six shouts of approbation.

Friday 6th, I sent an Indian express, with a belt of wampum, to know the reason of the six nations delay.

Monday 9th, Not hearing from them yet, and all the other nations waiting here impatiently, dispatched Jacobus Clemont, one of the interpreters, to bring them down speedily.

Wednesday 11th, Three Onondaga warriors arrived at my house, with three strings of Wampum from the Sachems, acquainting me that their nations Cayougas, and Senecas, were making all the haste possible, and would be here tomorrow in a body: in the afternoon the Onondagas and Cayougas arrived, and told me that fifty Senecas would be here to-morrow.

The Mohawk Sachems came to me with an express from their brethren the Canajoharees, acquainting them and me, that the

Oneidas and Tuscaroras, were to be on Friday at their castle, in order to condole the death of the great Hendrick, and the other chiefs of that castle, who were slain at Lake George, and desired theirs and my attendance at the ceremony; I gave them the proper belts of wampum on that occasion, and desired they would act for me, as I could not possibly attend, there being so many Indians at my house, which they readily agreed to, and set off.

Thursday 12th, The Senecas arrived and told me, that the Oneidas and Tuscaroras would not be here until Saturday or Sunday, for the above-mentioned reason.

Friday 13th, Some more of the Senecas arrived, when I performed the necessary ceremony on that occasion.

Saturday 14th, I had an express sent me by the Canajoharees, that a great number of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras and Mohawks, were met there, and would finish their condolence that day, and set off the next; which they accordingly did; and on

Monday 16th, The Oneidas and Tuscaroras arrived here, when I received them, and performed the usual ceremony on that occasion.

After that Canaghquayeson, an Oneida Sachem, stood up and spake:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We doubt not but you have been uneasy at our staying so long after our brethren of the other nation; the reason is this, we have been clearing up the road of our fore-fathers, as is customary among us (meaning the condoling of the loss of several of their people, who died and were killed since they travelled that road before) particularly at Canajoharee, where we have lost two great men, in whose stead or room we have appointed others. Our brethren of the other nations have passed by and neglected this, which we think wrong. Now we are here complete, and beg you will be easy in your mind.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Hoping we have now quieted your mind, we beg you will think and speak coolly, otherwise it may be of ill consequence to us, as our welfare depends greatly on your cool deliberations.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As this is the council room, where all the affairs of the six nations are transacted; and as you told me you would keep a white wing hanging in it to sweep it clean with, we now take this fan down, and sweep all dust and dirt out of it, so as nothing may interrupt us in our councils and deliberations.

Three strings of wampum.

February 16th, 1756.

My answer to the Oneidas and Tuscaroras Speech.

Brethren,

On your arrival yesterday you expressed your concern, lest I might be uneasy at your staying so much longer than the rest of your brethren, and than the time appointed. The reasons you have given for it are a sufficient apology; I am very glad you have done every thing necessary on your part, agreeable to your customs, and the rules laid down to you by your wise ancestors. So many of you appearing here now at this council, and at so bad a season of the year, gives me great pleasure, as it plainly demonstrates your regard to my invitation

A belt.

Brethren,

I thank you for the prudent and kind steps you have taken to quiet my mind at this time; I assure you it is quite settled, and my thoughts fixed upon nothing so much, as what may tend to your welfare, and that of all your brethren in general.

A belt.

Brethren,

I have had this council room (on my inviting you and the rest of the nations to it) well cleansed; but as you imagined it

might have (by your staying so much longer than the time appointed for meeting) gathered some dust; I am glad you have taken down the fan, and swept it, so that nothing might in the least impede our consultations.

Three strings of wampum.

Ended this affair.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>

Copy<sup>2</sup>

My answer made *February 17, 1756.*

Arent Stevens, interpreter.

Brethern [*sic*] of Tuscarora,

I received the friendly speech<sup>3</sup> which you made at my house when I was at New-York, together with your acknowledgments for the arms, ammunition, &c. I gave your nation; I heartily wish they may answer the end they were designed for, which was to enable you to secure yourselves against any attempts of the French, or any other enemy. I highly approve of your wisdom and timely advice to your elder brothers the Oneidas, and am extremely glad that you and they have at last agreed to build a place of defence, and to join your brethren the English against any attempts of your and our common enemy the French.

A belt.

Brethren of Oneida.

It highly pleases me to find you so grateful for the advice I have given you, and the assistance I promised you should have, as well as your brethren the Tuscaroras; and I expect you and they, together with the Skaniadaradighronos, will live so com-

<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 7-10.

<sup>3</sup> See Robert Adams to Johnson, Jan. 28, 1756 and speech that follows.

pact, and have your castle fortified in such a manner, as may enable you to make a bold defence, should any attempts be made against you.

If you do this, and have a good officer with a party of men there, nothing can hurt you.

A belt.

Brethren,

Nothing can give me greater satisfaction, than to find you have at last come to your senses, and to the use of your hearing, of which you have acknowledged to have been bereft some time.

As I have a great regard for you, I most sincerely wish you may continue in your senses, that you may follow the wholesome advice which your brother the Tuscarora, although younger, has given you, and that which I shall from time to time give you.

Brethren,

Had you been in your right senses, and your eyes open when I timely acquainted you with the designs of the French encroaching on your hunting-grounds, and destroying you, and had followed my advice, the French would not have been now in possession of the best part of your country, and bid you defiance as they now do.

Shake away then that infatuation, which has so long had the better of you, and exert yourselves now in conjunction with your Father the King's troops, and you may still recover your lands and be a happy people, which is the sincere wish of your Father and all your brethren.

Your not complying with the governor of Canada's invitation to meet him at Swegatsy, was quite right; and I am glad you have taken so firm a resolution of adhering to your engagements: had you acted otherwise, it would have been a breach of the many solemn promises you have made to me on that head.

A belt.

Brethren of Oneida and Tuscarora,

I am heartily pleased to hear from you, that you have not been so remiss as I imagined, with regard to the Delawares

and Shawanese; and that you are determined to have a conference with them. I must press you in the most strenuous manner to exert your authority at said meeting, and let me know the result thereof as soon as possible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I heard general Shirley say, that he had ordered a fort to be built for you some time ago: why his orders have not been complied with I cannot say; but this I may venture to affirm, it was not his fault: however, as you now desire it may be built, I will order proper persons to go about it as soon as possible.

A belt.

Ended.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

At a private meeting of the upper Mohawk castle,

*Wednesday the 18th. [February, 1756]*

Present all the sachems and warriors,

Abraham, Hendrick's brother, stood up and spoke.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you our hearty thanks, for the care you have taken in fortifying our castle last summer, agreeable to our desire, and also of garrisoning it in our absence, for the security of our old people and children. And as we look upon it as necessary now as ever (from the many reports we daily have, of the French's intentions of attacking us for our attachment to you) we earnestly desire there may be an officer, and a proper number of men, posted there, as soon as possible for our defence.

A belt.

<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 22.



Brethren of Canajoharee,

As I am fully convinced of your sincerity and attachment to his Majesty's interest, I readily comply with your request, not doubting it will be very agreeable to your Father the great king, who has nothing more at heart than the safety and welfare of you his faithful children; as an assurance of what I say, and now promise to you, I give you this belt of wampum.

A belt.

So this meeting ended.

#### AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, Feb. 18-19, 1756*]

At a meeting of five hundred and eighty-six of the Six nations and their allies, at Fort Johnson, February the 18th 1756.

Present,

The honourable William Johnson, sole superintendant of their Affairs,	Lieut. Pottinger,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie, <sup>2</sup>	Lieut. Mills, <sup>3</sup>
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Lieut. Lottridge,
Capt. Beckwith,	Capt. Butler <sup>4</sup> , and other Indian officers,
Lieut. Miller,	Several gentlemen,
Lieut. Dunbar,	The deputy secretary,
	And four interpreters,

<sup>1</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 23-25.

<sup>2</sup> "Missionary, stationed among the Mohawks." [Ed's note.]

<sup>3</sup> "A brave English-man, Lieutenant of the independant companies in the province of New-york." [Ed's note.]

<sup>4</sup> "An Irish gentleman, in the same rank with Mills, and has resided among the Mohawks above 20 years." [Ed's note.]

I, (viz. Gen. Johnson) spoke as follows:

Brethren of the six united nations,

I have heard with great concern that a war-party of the Senecas, the most remote nation of the confederacy, have had a considerable misunderstanding with their brethren the English to the southward, which has been fatal to some of that nation. I am extremely unable to express my concern for that unhappy affair; and as the hatchet remains fixed in your heads, I do with the greatest affection and tenderness remove it thence.

A belt.

Brethren,

With this belt I cleanse and purify the beds of those who fell in that unfortunate affair, from the defilement they have contracted.

A belt.

Brethren,

I am informed that upon that unhappy occasion you have lost three of your principal warriors; I do with this belt cover their dead bodies, that they may not offend our fight any more, and bury the whole affair in eternal oblivion.

A belt.

Brethren,

I have now agreeable to your antient customs scattered those clouds that looked with so dark and threatenng an aspect; the sun now shines bright again, therefore let us under its enlightning and cherishing influences, proceed upon our important business with our usual chearfulness and unanimity.

A belt.

The remaining part of the ceremony of condolence, jointly in the name of General Johnson and Governor Morris, whom Skaronyade the half king, and Mr. Montour, represented.

Brethren of the Cayougas and Toderighronos,

By constant experience we discover, that the life of man is as the flower of the field; in this transitory scene, therefore,

resignation becomes us under the loss of our nearest and dearest friends: comfort yourselves, therefore, under the losses you have sustained, as becomes reasonable creatures. With this belt I cover all your dead, that they may no more offend your fight.

A belt.

Brethren of the Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradi-ghronos, Aughquaygeys, and the Mohawks of both castles,

I perform the same ceremony to you. After the ceremony, six French prisoners, some of those who were taken at the late battle, near Lake George, were delivered with great ceremony to the Indians, in order to replace the following Indians, who were killed in that battle, viz. Tayanoga, alias Hendrick Tarraghiyoris; Waniacoone of Canajoharee; Skahyowio Onienkoto of the Mohawks; Nica-anawa Skaronyade's son; and Cayadanora, a Tuscarora.

They received the prisoners with the greatest marks of gratitude and satisfaction; every nation giving the shout of approbation, and then carried off the prisoners to their respective families.

Thus ended the ceremony necessary on those occasions, agreeable to their customs.

The answer of the Six nations and their allies,

February 19th 1756.

Red Head, speaker,

Present,

The hono. William Johnson,	Lieut. Dunbar,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	Capt. Butler, and other Indian
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	officers,
Lieut. Miller,	Three interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the sachems and warriors of the Seneca nation, return you our sincere and hearty thanks, for the great affection in

drying our tears, and driving sorrow from our hearts; and we in return perform the same ceremony to you with the like hearty affection.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are sensible of your goodness, expressed to us in removing the cause of our grief, and tenderly taking the ax out of our heads.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are thankful to you for cleaning the blood out of our fight, agreeable to the antient custom of our forefathers.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are thankful likewise for covering the graves of those who were slain in that unhappy [*sic*] affair.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We acknowledge your goodness in thus settling our minds, which were so much discomposed, and that you have so seasonably reminded us of that harmony, that has always subsisted between our fore-fathers and our brethren the English, an account of which has been handed down, to us by tradition, from father to son. We promise due attention to your advice, which we are convinced tends to our welfare; and assure you, that we bury that unfortunate affair in eternal oblivion.

A belt.

The Cayougas and Toderighronos, return their hearty thanks to the General, for his affectionate and public condolence, with a belt.

A belt.

The Onondagas acknowledge the same with a belt.

A Belt.

The Oneidas do the same.

A belt.

The Tuscaroras and Skaniadaradighronos the same.

A belt.

The two castles of the Mohawks the same.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

The six united nations, as one body, do with the greatest thankfulness acknowledge your brotherly affection, in thus effectually cleansing and purifying all our habitations from all the blood and defilement, which they had contracted by the death of so many of our principal men.

A belt.

The speaker then took up a large belt, which the general gave, with an emblem of the six nations joined hand in hand with us, and spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Look with attention on this belt, and remember the solemn and mutual engagements we entered into, when you first took upon you the management of our affairs; be assured, we look upon them as sacred, and shall, on our parts, punctually perform them as long as we are a people.

A prodigious large belt!

The speaker then took up another very large belt, which was given them by the governor of New York some years ago.

He then repeated the solemn promises, that were then made them by the representatives of all the governments then present, and said,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We hope our brethren the English will seriously remember the promises made by us by this belt, and exactly perform them; and we promise to do the same, though we have no records but our memories.

A very large belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As you, and the governor of Philadelphia, have asked us, what reason we can possibly assign for the barbarous behaviour of our nephews the Delawares; all we can say at present is, that they are deluded by the craft and subtilty of our old and perfidious enemy the French; but we promise on our part, we will try all means to stop their proceeding further in their hostilities, and beg you will do the same.

Three strings of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We earnestly entreat, that you will immediately acquaint all the governors concerned, that we the six nations have not been inattentive to this important affair, but have already sent some of our people to take the hatchet out of the hands of our nephews the Delawares; and we should be glad that you would draw your troops from the frontiers; then we will endeavour to bring our nephews the Delawares to deliver up all the prisoners they have taken from their brethren the English, and to make the best acknowledgment in their power for their base and treacherous behaviour.

A belt.

Brethren of the six nations,

I am extremely pleased with your kind and friendly acknowledgements of my public condolence yesterday. And as all causes of uneasiness to either of us are now removed, I propose tomorrow to deliver you a speech relative to our present circumstances, which I hope you will be properly prepared to hear.

Ended.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>Copy<sup>2</sup>

February 19. 1756.

At a meeting of Several principal warriors, from the most remote parts of the Seneca's country, who never came down before to any meeting, the chief man named Kayandagaron, alias Kendorondy, Spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

I, with my party of warriors from Canuskako, the door of the six nations, embrace this first opportunity of shaking you by the hand, and of assuring you, that nothing but my regard for you, and my desire of hearing your sentiments from your own mouth, could have induced me, and my young men, to take such a journey at this time of the year, as we had several of our sachems attending at the meeting. We are now here at the fire-place of all the nations, and assure you we are heartily glad to see you.

Brethren of Canuskako.

As I have nothing more at heart than the welfare of the six nations, and their allies, it always gives me the most sensible pleasure to see, or even to hear from any of them, and more especially you, whom I never saw before, as it affords me an opportunity of commencing that acquaintance and friendship with you, which is natural among brethren, and which my inclination will always lead me to improve, especially with so brave a people as your nation has always been deemed.

Here I ended.

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<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 29.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>Copy<sup>2</sup>

[Feb. 20–24, 1756]

February 20. 1756.

Present at the following public speech

The hon. William Johnson,	Lieut. Pottinger,
sole superintendant of their	Lieut. Lee,
affairs,	Lieut. Kennedy,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	Lieut. Mills,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Ensign Penington,
Capt. Beckwith,	Several Indian officers, and
Lieut. Miller,	other gentlemen,
Lieut. Dunbar,	Three interpreters.

Brethren of the six united nations, your allies and dependants,

It always gives me the most solid pleasure to meet you here, that we may felicitate ourselves in the cherishing warmth and light of that fire, kindled here for our mutual good; may it ever burn bright as the sun that illuminates and guides the day, that you and your posterity, to the latest generations, may rejoice in its benevolent influence!

A belt.

Brethren,

It gives me a particular satisfaction to meet you here at this time, for two important reasons. The first is, that it affords us an opportunity of a friendly interview under the shade of that tree, which was lately so solemnly and judiciously planted; and of calmly consulting and maturely deliberating matters of the utmost consequence, and which nearly concerns our mutual safety, welfare and honour.

A belt.

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<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 30–50.



The second is, that it gives me an opportunity of shaking you by the hand with a brotherly affection, and in the name of the great King your Father, congratulating you upon our late happy success, which I make no doubt must give you the most sensible pleasure; and I flatter myself from your late repeated protestations of fidelity to your brethren the English, it will prove a means of animating you, and all your faithful allies, to stand forth with your usual bravery upon all future occasions.

A belt.

How much greater might our success have been! how much more sensibly would it have been felt by our treacherous and common enemy, had more of your warriors appeared in the field on that important day, had all our force been united? If the bubbling or drops of our war-kettle did so much, how great would have been the consequence, had it boiled with its usual fury! It would, like a mighty torrent, have carried all before it; and it would have sounded the fame of our victorious arms far and near, and spread universal terror all around us!

I, now, in the name of the great King your Father, in this public manner return you thanks for joining our arms last summer, and for your gallant behaviour in that Action. This gives him reason to expect the like fidelity and courageous conduct from you all for the future, and greatly endears you to him, and to all his loving subjects your affectionate brethren.

A belt.

This animates me with fresh pleasure and affection at this important conjuncture of affairs, to brighten and strengthen the covenant-chain, that has so long linked us together, in mutual friendship and mutual affection, which, I hope, will continue inviolable and sacred, as long as the sun shines, or the rivers continue to water the earth, notwithstanding all the intrigues of our old and perfidious enemies, who have left no means unessayed, and especially at this time, to weaken and

divide us, that so they may in the event root out the remembrance of your name and nations from the face of the earth.

A large covenant-belt.

Brethren,

On my arrival from lake George last December, I had from your brother the governor of New York, and since from the governor of Pennsylvania, the shocking news of (your nephews) the Delawares and Shawanese falling upon your brethren of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia in the most cruel and treacherous manner, killing and barbarously butchering the innocent defenceless people, who lived on the frontiers of the said governments; burning and destroying all they had, and that without any just cause or reason, as I understand. This I communicated to you by one of your own people, a Seneca, with a belt of wampum, desiring you would, without loss of time, put a stop to your nephews spilling any more of your brethrens blood; and that you would enquire into, and let me know the reason of such their wicked and unparalleled behaviour to the King's subjects, your brethren and friends. I now repeat the same, and expect to hear what you have done in consequence of said message and desire.

Brethren, I tell you with concern that I plainly foresee, unless you, the six nations, who have always maintained a superiority over the Indians, will now exert yourselves in this case, you will not only lose that authority which they hitherto acknowledged, but will have them your enemies.

A large black belt.

Brethren,

I told you before the governor of Pennsylvania had acquainted me with the base behaviour of your nephews the Shawanese and Delawares, and has also sent your friend Skaronyade, and Andrew Montour to you with his message, and to know your sentiments thereon: I desire and expect you will pay a just regard to his message, and afford him all the

assistance you can, in bringing that unhappy affair to as good an issue as possible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I am now to acquaint you, that the great King of England, your Father, on the death of the late general Braddock, has committed the command of all his forces raised, and to be raised upon the continent of North America, to general Shirley; and has in a particular manner commanded him to protect your country, and the lands which your forefathers have conquered, and are of right your territories, against all violence and attempts of the French our common enemy; and to cultivate a strict friendship between him and you; he takes the first opportunity of communicating this to you by me, and of assuring you of his intentions, fully to follow his majesty's instructions herein.

A belt of black wampum.

Brethren,

General Shirley also desires me to acquaint you, that he is to have a great army this ensuing spring for the defence of your country, and the recovery of such parts of it as have been encroached upon by the French; and that in the meantime his majesty's troops in the province of New York, shall be held in readiness to defend you against any attempts the French may make before the opening of the campaign.

A belt.

Brethren,

On my return from New York, I received your kind message and information of the design of the French attacking his majesty's garrison at Oswego: I am extremely obliged to you for your friendly notice, which I immediately acquainted general Shirley and governor Hardy with, by express from Albany, who by their answers to me, are also greatly pleased with you, for the concern you shew for our mutual safety; and I expect you will not only continue your vigilance, but will also be ready (like unalterable friends and brethren) to use the ax which I gave you last summer, in conjunction with his majesty's troops, when-

ever called upon, either at Oswego, or any where else they may be employed, to the utmost of your power, as it is his majesty's intention to stand by you, and protect you, as well as his own subjects, against the insults or attempts of any enemy whatever. Believe me, Brethren, this is the proper time to convince your Father, the great King of England, and your Brethren, of your sincerity and attachment to their interest, by your acting vigorously with his troops, which I most heartily advise you to do, as it is of the utmost consequence to our mutual interest.

A large belt.

Brethren,

I must now acquaint you, that I propose meeting you at Oswego next spring, and desire you will join with me in the invitation I shall send to your friends and allies, far and near, to come to said meeting; when and where you and they shall receive a handsome present from your Father the great King of England, who is very desirous of bringing all nations worthy of his and your alliance, into the covenant-chain at that meeting. I hope, we shall then be able to make such an alliance, and settle matters in such a manner, and so much to our mutual advantage, as will give reason to all concerned, and their posterity, to bless that happy day we met together.

A belt.

The answer of the Six nations, the 21st  
of February 1756.

Red Head, Speaker.

Present

The hon. Will. Johnson,  
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,  
Capt. Buckworth,

Lieut. Miller,  
Lieut. Dunbar,  
Three Interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We meet you with the greatest pleasure at this fire-place, and heartily join you in your wishes, that it may burn bright

to the latest posterity; let us mutually endeavour to collect such materials for the use of this our fire, as may tend to support it in its full strength, as long as the sun and moon endureth.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We acknowledge that this tree was solemnly and judiciously planted for our mutual welfare, its roots reach to the remotest habitations of the confederacy, and its branches afford a friendly retreat to us and all our allies and dependants. Brother; take a tender care of it, see that it be fed plentifully by friendly streams, that it may increase and spread its branches so far, that it may be a sufficient shade, not only for us, but also for all other nations, which may hereafter come into our alliance.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We heartily rejoice with you upon our late success, and assure you it gives us a solid pleasure.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are extremely well pleased, that our late conduct was so highly acceptable to the great King our Father.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We assure you, that we, on our parts, do with equal pleasure and friendship join with you at this time of public commotion, in brightening and strengthening the covenant-chain, that has so long united us together. Let us mutually and steadfastly adhere to our engagements, notwithstanding the crafty intrigues of our perfidious and blood-thirsty enemies. Let us vigorously endeavour to frustrate all their treacherous designs, that so we may reap the good effects of this our union, which has long been the object of their envy. With this belt we do most solemnly renew the engagements of the antient covenant-chain.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We always look'd upon the Delawares as the more immediate care of Onas,<sup>1</sup> that they were within the circle of his arms; we therefor are of opinion, that he has not taken that friendly care of them as he ought to do, and therefore our common enemy hath taken the advantage of his neglect; for we can't but think, that if there had been proper measures taken, they would have still continued faithful friends to the English Interest.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are sensible of the care of the great King's appointing general Shirley to succeed general Braddock; and we are extremely thankful for the particular instructions he has given him, to cultivate a strict friendship between us and him, and to protect our lands, and recover those encroached upon by our common enemy: we hope and expect, that he will strictly adhere to his majesty's incursions of our treacherous enemies, and use his utmost endeavours to recover those lands which they have clandestinely wrested out of our hands.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are very thankful for the assurance he gives us, that the soldiers posted in this province are to hold themselves in readiness to defend us upon any sudden emergency; for we assure you, we are apprehensive, that as the French find, that all their delusive and wheedling arts have not had their desired effect, they may throw off their disguise, and rush in upon us with a voracious fury, like the wolves of the wilderness.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are pleased that the information we give, with respect of the designs of the French against Oswego, has been acceptable to you,

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<sup>1</sup>"by Onas, they, here, mean governor Morris." [Ed's note.]

and our Brethren the English; and we promise, for the future, to keep up a strict vigilance. The ax has been frequently put into the hands of our forefathers, by our brethren the English, and they always used it with the utmost vigour, till it was taken out of their hands. We assure you, that we intend, punctually, to conform to the bright and brave examples they set us; and we hope, this will be a sufficient proof of our sincerity and fidelity to the great King our Father.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Your proposal of taking a few embers from the fire at Onondago, to kindle a fire at Oswego, and meeting us there this spring, is highly acceptable to us, as we have good reason to think that the light and warmth of that fire, will invite many nations to meet us there; and, we make no doubt that the things you will propose to their consideration, will carry such light and conviction with them, as will be sufficient to engage them to join in our confederacy; and we promise, to use the utmost endeavours to accomplish that great event; and we doubt not, but that our childrens children will have reason to remember that happy day.

Brother, we very chearfully concur with this your proposal, as we are convinced you will propose nothing but what is for our mutual interest.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have now opened our minds with freedom and sincerity, and we understand each other clearly; let us mutually remember our engagements, which we have again so solemnly renewed; and if at any time, our enemy should attack us, prove, by your readiness to support and assist us, that you really love us; and we assure you, we shall not be wanting on our parts, to give proofs of the fidelity and friendship.

A belt.

At a meeting of the Six nations, February  
the 23<sup>d</sup>. 1756.

Present

The hon. Will. Johnson,	Capt. Butler, and other Indian
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	officers,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Three interpreters.

Brethren,

As it was very cold and late when I delivered you my speech on Friday night, I told you, I would then postpone some things I had further to say; I now take this opportunity of communicating them to you.

In the first place I must recommend to you, in the strongest manner, as his majesty's troops will be passing and repassing to Oswego next spring, that you endeavour all in your power to keep open the road thither, and not suffer any obstructions or stoppages to be thrown in the way by the enemy, as there is the greatest necessity, for our keeping that road clear and open, it being for our mutual interest and safety.

A belt.

Brethren,

Now is your time, to have forts or trading-houses built in your countries, while your Father the great King of England has your interest so much at heart: if at any time you incline to have such built in any of your castles, only let me know it, and it shall be done.

A belt.

Brethren,

Governor Hardy desired me to acquaint you, that he had a present from your Father the King for you, which he intends to deliver to you here, as soon as possibly he can, and expects your attendance.

Three strings.



Brethren,

The one great end proposed in calling you here, at this season of the year, was, to have that affair of the Delawares and Shawanese settled; but I am sorry to find you are not so hearty in the affair, as I expected you would, or as, at this important time, you ought to be; I must therefore urge you, most strenuously, to fall upon and settle this affair, before you leave this place, as there is no time to be lost; besides, your brethren of the several governments, with impatience, wait the result of this meeting, on which, let me tell you, much depends.

A large belt.

Brethren,

It is my kind concern for your welfare, that leads me to propose the following advice to you. I have your happiness very much at heart, and most zealously wish your prosperity; therefore I conjure you, to observe and follow the friendly hints, I am now going to give you.

1st. Endeavour to bring as many nations of Indians into your alliance as possibly you can; and try all means, without loss of time, to settle the minds of all such as are wavering, and those who are now ready to rebel against you. If you can accomplish this, let your study be, ever after, to keep up that correspondence faith and friendship with them, which is absolutely necessary between friends and allies, and without which, neither friendship or alliance can long subsist.

2dly. I would have you to adhere, inviolably, to all the engagements you have, or shall enter into, with your brethren the English; who have always been your steady friends, and are determined ever to continue such: besides, they are the ablest, and will be the readiest to protect and defend you against any attempt of an enemy; and moreover, can, and will supply you, and all your allies, with the necessaries of life at a cheaper rate, than the French can.

3dly. Be not any longer wheedled, blindfolded, and imposed on, by the artful speeches of the French; for their tongues are

full of deceit; do not imagine the fine cloaths, &c. they give you, are given out of love or regard to you; no! they are only as baits to catch fish; they mean to enslave you thereby, and entail that curse upon your children, after you, who will have reason to repent the day you begot them; be assured they are your inveterate, implacable enemies, and only wish, for a difference to arise between you and us, that they may put you out of their way, by cutting you off the face of the earth.

4thly. Fall upon a method of collecting each nation into a compact body: where you have good land, and a good situation, there fortify your castle in such a manner, as you may be able to defend yourselves, against any number with small arms: above all things, be unanimous in your councils, and also in the field.

5thly. If at any time your brethren the English, or any of your Indian allies, are injured or threatened from any quarter, the whole body of the confederacy should rise, and endeavour to bring about an honourable accommodation; but if your enemy should not hearken to reason, but still persist in acting unjustly, then the whole body should, as one man, join their arms against the enemy; by which means, you will always be able to bring them to what terms may be thought proper: you will, in that state, be a terror to the French, who now, well knowing your unsettled, divided disposition, at every turn of the wind, use threats and menaces against you. Be not afraid of them; cleave to your brethren the English, and they cannot hurt you.

6thly. If you duly observe these wholesome admonitions, you will again become numerous, and retrieve your pristine fame. Then, the very name of the six nations, and their allies, will be a terror to their enemies! and their arms will carry conquest with them, as heretofore.

7thly. But, brethren and friends, if you continue any longer in your past, lethargic and supine state, and neglect this my friendly advice, and earnest desire, I greatly fear you will, sooner or later, have cause to repent it, and wish too late you had followed it. Let all your youngest people hear what I

say, and your men and women seriously consider it; and let your and their memory witness for me, that I have given you all this timely and wholesome advice.

Take this pipe to your great council-chamber at Onondago, let it hang there in view; and should you be wavering in your minds at any time, take and smoke out of it, and think of my advice given with it, and you will recover and think properly.

Gave the largest pipe in America, made on purpose.

As it is now late, I shall deliver you the present I have got, made on purpose for you, to-morrow morning; by which time, I hope to have your definitive answer, to the points I now spoke to you upon.

Ended here.

The answer of the Six nations, February 24th, 1756.

Red Head, speaker.

Present,

The hon. William Johnson,	Capt. Butler, and other Indian
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	officers,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Three interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have very seasonably put us in mind of that superiority which we, by a series of conquests, have obtained over the Delawares, Shawanese and other; we are sensible of it, and therefore, no sooner did you send us the shocking tidings of their treacherous and barbarous behaviour, but we looked upon ourselves nearly concerned to interpose; we immediately dispatched a message to them, to enquire into the cause of this their unparelled conduct; we backed this with a second message, with equal warmth; both proving abortive, we obtained an interview by the means of our brethren of Oneida. At this meeting, we reminded them of their subordination, we shook them by the

hand and demanded the reasons of their conduct; we put them in mind how contrary this behaviour was to the covenant subsisting between the confederacy and the English; we told them, that our latest posterity would have reason to curse their action, and that it would give our brethren reason to suspect us all of treachery, while we so basely abuse the confidence they repose in us; we again and again desired they would immediately change their behaviour, at least, that they would suspend hostilities, 'till they heard from us at our return from this meeting: they seemed sensible of their fault, and promised they would cease committing any further hostilities.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We look upon you as one of our own body, and, therefore, as you have out of sincere regard to our common welfare, pressed upon us to put an effectual stop to the ravages and devastations made by our nephews the Delawares and Shawanese; we solemnly promise in the name of the sachems and warriors of the five nations, that we will use our utmost endeavour, to put a speedy and effectual stop to those unhappy proceedings; and it is the firm resolution of the whole confederacy, to conform themselves entirely to your reasonable request in this important point; but, as the Mohawks are the head of our confederacy, we leave the management of that affair entirely to them. We sincerely wish, that the great Spirit, who governs all things, may succeed them in this important undertaking, as it will greatly contribute to our mutual happiness and strength.

This confirmed with a large belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

The Missisagas acknowledged a message sent them by General Shirley last year, giving them an invitation to meet him at Oswego: they answer, that the season of the year was too far advanced to admit of a meeting then; but that, they promise to

come early in the spring, and be attentive to what their brethren the English have to say.

They desired that this string might be kept at Onondago, lest it might be intercepted by the French; for, should they be acquainted with their design of meeting the English, they feared they would fall upon and destroy them.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Be attentive to what I now propose, they are the real sentiments of the five nations, not merely the sounds of their breath, but the genuine resolutions of their hearts. Look upon this belt<sup>1</sup> as a pledge of our inviolable attachment to you, and of our unshaken resolution, of joining you in all your measures: our determinations are founded upon clear conviction, as clear as that sun that now shines in the firmament. We shall send this belt to the Senecas, that from thence it may be conveyed to the remotest nations, as an emblem of the happiness we enjoy by our union; at the same time kindly inviting them to come in and join our covenant chain.

Brother, you may depend upon this as our resolutions, which we will put into immediate execution.

What you have said, in regard to the trade, we look upon as a convincing proof of your love and affection to us, and it gives us pleasure that it now becomes a matter of serious consideration with you; we are sensible of your ability to supply us with all the necessaries of life cheaper and better than the French can possibly do: indeed, brother, there is nothing you should more seriously attend to, as it would greatly tend to cement that friendship that subsists between us, and would be

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<sup>1</sup>“This belt was the largest ever given! upon it was wrought the sun, by way of the emblem of light, and some figures representing the six nations; it was intended to signify, that they now saw objects in their proper light, and that they were fully convinced of the truth of every thing proposed.” [Ed’s note.]

the most likely means of bringing in the most remote nations to an acquaintance and union with us.

A prodigious large belt!

The general had frequently insisted upon knowing their resolutions, with respect to the ravages committed by the Delawares &c. This paragraph is intended as an apology, for their not making their answer sooner.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have most earnestly and frequently pressed us to accommodate that unhappy breach, between the Delawares and our brethren the English; our delay did not proceed from any backwardness on our part, but from the great sense we had of its importance: we hope you have received satisfaction upon that head, by the great belt we just now delivered with so much solemnity and sincerity.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have acquainted us, that the great King, our Father, is firmly resolved to defend our country, and recover such parts of it, as the French have encroached upon; also, to protect us to the utmost of his power, by erecting forts for our safety and defence; we are grateful for this insistence of his goodness; but have not yet concluded any thing with regard to the latter.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have informed us, that the governor of New York has a present for us, from the great king, our Father, we are thankful for it; but are afraid, that as it comes so soon upon the back of this meeting, it will be inconvenient for our aged people to attend; but our warriors shall come upon that occasion.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As you have given us a large pipe, to be a constant memorial of the important advice you have given us, when you are dead

and gone, and to smoke out of it, at our public meeting-place, when we jointly and maturely reflect upon our engagements; we assure you, we shall hang it up in our council-chamber, and make proper use of it upon all occasions; we likewise beg, that you on your part, will likewise seriously consider your engagements, and faithfully perform them.

The general concluded with the following words:

Brethren,

I do not think you have been so explicit, with regard to what I proposed to you, concerning your keeping open a clear road to Oswego, as I could wish.

They made the following apology:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

With respect to the article relative to the keeping open the road to Oswego, we imagined our answer was contained in our general reply, wherein we assured you, we would support and assist each other, upon all occasions; but as you did not look upon that sufficient, we now assure you, that we shall punctually conform to your desire, herein.

The General added:

The present waits your acceptance. As there has been frequent complaints, with respect to the division of the presents given at these public meetings, it is my earnest desire, that they may be so divided, as to prevent all jealousy and complaints.

He then delivered them a very handsome publick present; which, together with the private gifts, to the several chiefs and sachems, amounted to,

York currency  $^1$ £1085 9 8½.

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<sup>1</sup> "Upwards of £620 sterling." [Ed's note.]

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

At a private meeting of the Oneidas nation,

*February 25th, 1756*

Canaghquaeson their speaker, spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, some time ago, applied to General Shirley, to have a fort built, for the security of our castle; we now acquaint you with our unanimous resolution of having one, and should be glad it could be accomplished as soon as possible, and that you will be particularly careful, in the choice of those you employ in that work; and to charge them strictly, by no means, to bring any spiritous liquor among our people, as they are very ungovernable and turbulent when intoxicated by liquor.

A string of wampum.

Brethren,

As I have general orders to build forts, for the safety and protection of any of our brethren of the six nations; I do, with the greatest cheerfulness comply with your request, and shall immediately employ proper persons to that purpose: I am convinced it must be the fault of those people, whom General Shirley employed, that it was not done sooner, for he had given orders for that purpose so long ago as last October.

Then the Tuscarora chief spoke,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have some time since set up stockadoes for the defence of our castle, as we were, and are still, apprehensive of the

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<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 50-52.



French acting against us in a hostile manner; we as yet want some blockhouses, to make it the more defensible, and some soldiers to garrison it, which we hope will be readily granted us we acknowledge the receipt of the swivels and ammunition, you so seasonable sent us; for which, we return you our hearty thanks.

Brethren,

I shall represent your case to General Shirley, who, I doubt not, will readily grant you a sufficient number of men to garrison your fort; and as to the blockhouses you desire, when I go to Oswego, I shall point out a proper situation for them, and then order them to be built.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

[Feb. 25-26, 1756]

At a meeting of the Kanuskago-Indians, February 25th, 1756.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the warriors of the Kanuskago, upon our arrival, informed you, we were come down merely to see you, and hear your words at this publick meeting; as we are young and unexperienced, and have never been at any meeting with the governor, we hope you will make a kind allowance, for our want of ability in speaking; and we beg leave to assure you, that the reason of our never attending the meetings before, was not the want of affection to the English, but was entirely owing to our remote situation, which prevented a timely and proper notice.

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<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 52-55.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As goods are vastly dear and ordinary in our parts, upon our determination to come to this meeting, we thought proper to bring some skins and furs with us, in order to purchase some necessaries for ourselves and families; and we beg you will, as a brother, direct us where we may be supplied with the best, and upon the most reasonable terms.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We beg leave to assure you, nothing can give us more satisfaction than the speech we heard you deliver to the six nations, on our arrival; as it contained nothing but what is quite right, and has a direct tendency to our welfare, we think our time well spent in coming down; for, if we had not, probably we should not have heard all you have said, for we are convinced, from what we now heard you say, that our sachems heretofore, have smothered the greatest part of your former advices; and we assure you, we shall now spread your advice among all our people, who are considerably numerous.

Threw down a pack of skins.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As we are warriors, we are not acquainted with the ceremonials of publick meetings, and, therefore, express what we have to say, in a narrow compass; we have no more to offer at present, and hope, you will excuse the trouble we have given you on this occasion.

And so ended.

Brethren,

I have given attention to your words, and shall seriously consider your desire; but cannot give you an answer until to-morrow; I chuse to deliberate maturely upon every thing that I say, because my word once given, is as binding as cement to a stone.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you thanks, for your kind promises, of considering our desire, and as we see you are crowded, and full of

business, of more importance, we shall with patience wait your leisure.

February 26th, 1756.

Brethren,

I told you last night, that I paid due attention to what you had said, and would consider your request, and give you answer this day. In the first place, I assure you, it gives me no small pleasure to hear, that my speech was so agreeable to you, and that you would acquaint all your nation with the contents of it. I beg you will not fail in this particular, as it points out, what will make you a happy people, if duly attended to; which, from your unanimity and zeal at this conference, I have no reason to doubt. I am sorry you have not been duly invited to former meetings, agreeable to my orders, and promise that for the future you shall have proper notice; and I hope you will be always ready to assist us, both in the council and the field, with all the chiefs and warriors of that castle, who shall be treated as friends and brethren.

Brethren,

In the next place, as I have no goods to sell myself, I will take all possible care that you are not imposed upon in your trade, at Schenectady. I shall give directions to Mr. Stevens, the interpreter, to assist you, and see that justice be done you, in every respect, for I have a great regard for your castle, and as a proof of it I present you with these goods.

Giving them at the same time a handsome present, and three silver gorgets to three of their principal warriors, viz. Tarrowariax, Tahononsaronwe, and Kindarundy, who was the chief.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you our hearty thanks, for all your kind expressions of affection, and love shewn to us at this time; and we in return assure you, that you may depend on our sincerity and

readiness to serve you, whenever you call upon us; and you know very well, that whatever warriors promise is sacred.

Brethren,

I return you thanks for your sincere professions of friendship.

And so parted.

#### AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

At a meeting of the Six Nations, *February*  
*26th, 1756.*

Brother Warraghiyagey,

It was yesterday agreed upon by us, that our eldest brother, the Mohawk, should take upon him, to settle that unhappy affair, between the Delawares and our brethren the English; but, on more mature deliberation, having the thing so much at heart, we have now, unanimously agreed, that the several delegates, from the six nations, should use their utmost endeavours to accommodate that difference; and, depend upon it, we shall lose no time, for we shall immediately dispatch a messenger to them by the Skaniadaradighronos and Oneidas, and desire them, to meet us at Otsineange, where the council is to be held.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have, agreeable to your repeated desire, kept a good look out, and daily watch the motions of the French; we must acquaint you, that they have lately sent a message to our brethren, the Cayougas, to let them know their resolution, of attacking Oswego, and desiring their opinion upon it: hereupon, three of their sachems, and seven of their young men, are gone to Niagara, with a design to forbid the French attacking Oswego, of any

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 52.

Indians, they may see, joining them; we daily expect their return, when you shall immediately hear what they have done.

A belt.

Brethren of the six nations,

I greatly approve of the alteration you have made, in the method of accommodating that unhappy breach between the Delawares and your brethren the English, as it must certainly have greater weight now, as it is the act of the whole body, and the more likely to succeed; I look upon this, as a very considerable proof of the unanimity and zeal, that you have expressed at this present meeting.

A belt.

Brethren,

I must repeat to you, that I am extremely pleased at, and much obliged to you for the kind intelligence, you have given me, of the designs of the French attacking Oswego, and desire you will continue that vigilance, and let me have every information you can, relative to the proceedings and motions of the French; as nothing can contribute more to the defeating all their designs, than our having constant and good intelligence. I wish your brethren of Cayouga, may succeed in their intentions, of indeavouring to prevent any Indians, they may see, joining the French; but as they can do nothing without their assistance, I doubt of their success; however, it is good to try what can be done in that case; but be that as it will, we do not fear what the French can do, neither should you, after the strong and many assurances, we have given you, of his Majesty's protection and friendship.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are now ready to return home, as all affairs, for which we came here, are settled to our satisfaction, and we hope to yours; we shall finish, with assuring you, we will strictly act up to every thing agreed upon at this meeting, and hope you will do the same.

So ended the congress.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

February 27. 1756.

At a meeting of the Onondagas.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the Onondagas, very readily embrace this opportunity offered us, of having a fort built for the protection of our castle; and upon our return home, shall chuse a proper situation for it; as soon as the season of the year will permit, we beg you will not delay to send proper workmen to build it. As we have for some time past had an acquaintance with lieut. Mills, we should be glad to have him as our officer. And as William Printup understands the Indian language well, it would be agreeable to us to have him reside with us, as a smith, and at the same time to serve as an interpreter between the officer and us.

Brethren,

I shall acquaint general Shirley with your desire, and make no doubt he will comply with it. The fort shall be built with all possible expedition; and whatever officer is posted in it, will no doubt have particular orders, to be careful of your safety, and to treat you with all the marks of affection and friendship.

Ended.

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<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart, and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 55.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*London Hill Street 27<sup>th</sup> Febr<sup>y</sup>. [1756]*

DEAR SIR

The last letter I had from you was by Doct Shugborough,<sup>2</sup> which I answered, and have from time to time Since continued my repeated recommendations of you to the Ministry. In consequences of which you obtaind your appointment by Gen<sup>l</sup>. Braddock, from my representing that No Man in North America was equal to your power and abilities to make the Indians hearty in the cause of the Crown, and I am Extreemly glad to find that my Endeavours for your Service have Succeeded So well, and that the Ministry have not rested them, But as a reward for your late conquests at Lake George, have not only Complimented you with Honours, but have in the most publick manner granted you £5000 by way of compensation for that, and former Services among the Indians, from my informing them you had Expended a very considerable Sum on that acc<sup>t</sup>. for which the Assembly of New York woud make you no kind of Satisfaction tho' it was justly their Debt.

I have also the Satisfaction to hear, that the Governm<sup>t</sup>. have granted you £600 a Year as Superintendant and Commissary of the Indians and that you are to have a Commiss<sup>n</sup>. as Col<sup>o</sup>. of those Nations, which altogether must make you perfectly Easie, and gives me great pleasure as it does in Some measure make amends for your Uncles Severe treatment.

I cannot pass over unobserved the close connexion I see you have had with Wralax; who has been the worst and most ungrateful of all Men to me, and I thought you had known enough of his base conduct not to Employ him upon any

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

<sup>2</sup> Dr Richard Shuckburgh.

occasion, for it made me Stare when I Saw his Name Subscribed to a Letter as your Secretary and Aid de Camp, and I hear he has taken to himself almost all the honour & Merit of y<sup>e</sup> Victory which Still Showes him that Sort of Man, and the worst of Men, and I find he is Still playing me off with your General by reporting Roseboom mad and unfit for Duty, in order to make me refund what he gave for his Commiss<sup>n</sup>. but the pitifull fellow will be disapointed in all his malicious attacks upon me.

I hear M<sup>r</sup> DeLancy has lately become one of your partisans against Shirly, and tho' I have no Sort of regard for Shirly, yet I woud have you cautious of the others Scincerity from what has already past between you, as I know him to be of a very unfor-giving temper, and Nurses resentment in his heart. But I hope your Character is So well established now, that neither he or any other in the province can hurt you, from y<sup>e</sup> proofs of your conduct and bravery at Lake George, which has given you also Such a Character here, that your Name is up on every occasion in the House of Commons, and I am as ready to give it a Sanction whenever I am referred to for an account which is pretty often and therefore I hope your health will enable you to continue your pursuit in the Cause of the Crown, and the Honour of your Country, Indeed from things I have been asked about and very often repeated to me which is the Number Indian Con-cubines you had and as many Children they had fixed upon you as the late Emperor of Merocco Muli Ishmale which I think was 700, and one Swoar he knew you in the Emperors Service and under his Command, and Severall other most obsurd ridiculas Stories that had no fundation, and has been cleared up in all Comp<sup>ts</sup>. by myself, Harry, & Catherwood, that I think now every prejudice is removed from Envy and Malice against you, and we all joyn in wishing you further Success, and if you have any thing that you think I can be of further Service tho I have no manner of Connexion with L<sup>d</sup> Hallifax nor indeed do I concern my Self about him as he has behaved himself to me out



of Character as a Gentleman, but will mention any thing to others that may have as good an Effect as if to him, as I remain your Scincere friend

and very humble Servant

G CLINTON

S<sup>R</sup> WILL<sup>M</sup> JOHNSON Bart.

ADDRESSED:

To

S<sup>r</sup> William Johnson Bart.

INDORSED:

London Hill Street 27 Feb<sup>y</sup>.  
1756 —

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Gov<sup>r</sup>. Clintons Letter

Forwarded By Sir Your Huble Servant<sup>1</sup>  
A. KENNEDY

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>2</sup>

Copy<sup>3</sup>

February 27. 1756.

At a meeting of the Senecas.

Takeaghsado, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Our brother, the governor of New York, was so good the last year, as to promise us a smith to mend our arms and tools, and that he should reside among us until the corn was a foot high; but he labouring under the misfortune of a sore leg, was obliged

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<sup>1</sup> This note and the letter are in the same handwriting.

<sup>2</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>3</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 56.

to leave us some time sooner. We acknowledge, you sent us a smith last summer, with whom we are well pleased, and beg you will continue him with us till the corn is a foot high; then he may come down for the necessaries he may have occasion for, and then we hope, he will soon return to us.

Brethren,

I was present when the governor of New York last year, promised to send you a smith, which he accordingly did, and one agreeable to you; if he did not stay there the time appointed the governor was not culpable, as he could not be supposed to know any thing of his coming away. I am very glad, you are pleased with the smith I sent you last year; and, as you are desirous he should remain there, until your corn is such a length, I very readily agree to it, and shall order him accordingly, to stay that time.

Ended.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the warriors of this castle, look on ourselves as under obligation, always to be ready at a call, upon any emergency; and therefore, as we cannot at present fall upon any means of retrieving our loss, we look to you for support: our fences have also suffered much, in our absence; we beg your assistance in repairing them.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As soon as you informed us, that you were ready for war, we gave you a sufficient proof of our regard for you, in our readiness to attend you; we have also, at your request, stopp'd all our warriors, for some years past, from making any excursions against the Flatheads,<sup>1</sup> and turned our weapons against our common enemy, agreeable to your desire: in short, we hope we

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<sup>1</sup> "Who live several hundred miles from the six nations, and with whom they have been at war time immemorial." [Ed's note.]

have, upon all occasions, given you reason to think, that we have a sincere regard for you.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Our spirits are now pretty much sunk, at the loss of so many of our principal sachems and warriors, who fell at Lake George; we look to you, to raise them up agreeable to our customs.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

At the request of the upper nations, without our consent, the selling of strong liquor is entirely forbid; we have no design to contradict any thing they do, but only request, that we may have leave to procure a little for our comfort.

Three strings of wampum.

Brethren,

It gives me great concern, with you, that the person who had the care of your fort and castle, had, in your absence, neglected the charge I gave him of both; but as he was your own choice, there is the less to be said; however, I shall reprimand him for it, severely. As I am fully convinced of your loyalty to his Majesty, and readiness at all times to follow my direction, you shall not want any assistance in my power, to supply your wants, and to contribute to your happiness; as a proof of which, I shall now order you three hundred skipples of corn, for your support; and should that fall short, let me know it, and you shall have a further supply, until you are able to raise your own grain. I shall also give orders, that your fences be immediately repaired; and as for your warriors, I shall send you a present by the first opportunity, worthy the singular services you have done your country, with me last campaign.

Three strings of wampum.

Brethren,

As I have nothing more at heart, than the welfare and happiness of the people of your castle, who have always been our steady friends, I am sensibly affected, and sincerely sympathize with you, upon the great loss you have sustained, by

the death of two of your principal sachems, and likewise some of your young men at Lake George; we should comfort ourselves with the thoughts, that those friends of ours, who dropped that day, died bravely in their country's cause, and that their memory will be honoured to the end of time.

As it is necessary for us to supply as well, and as soon as we can, the place of the two great sachems lost that day, I hope you have considered of proper persons for that important trust; if you have, I should be glad you would produce them, that I may give them the proper marks of distinction, and enter their names among the rest of the sachems.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors of the Canajoharee-castle, are much obliged to you, for your friendly and good opinion of us; we assure you, we shall daily endeavour to merit it more and more, by convincing proofs of our loyalty on any occasion.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors, return you our most hearty thanks, for your kind and well-timed supply of corn, and promise of a further supply, if necessary; the repairing of our fences, will be likewise of the greatest service to us, as without them, we can raise no grain for the ensuing year. This care of us, in our distress, adds greatly to the many obligations we already lie under, and can never be forgot.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the warriors of Canajoharee, are extremely pleased with the favourable opinion you have of our behaviour in the late action at Lake George, which alone animates us much, and greatly elevates our minds, notwithstanding they were so much depress'd: we are extremely obligated to you, for the present you intended us, and shall receive it with the greatest gratitude.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We take your anxiety, for supplying the place of the two great sachems lost, who chiefly managed our affairs, as a singular

mark of your regard for our welfare: we present you one of our most capable men to succeed our deceased brother, Tarraghioris, of the tribe of the Turtle, and hope, our choice may meet your approbation. We have not as yet fixed upon one to succeed the great Hendrick; when we do, we shall immediately acquaint you.

Three strings of wampum.

Brethren,

As a proof of my regard for your choice, I now in the presence of your whole castle, invest him with all the powers of a sachem, and put on him those marks of distinction, which I wish him long life to wear.

Ended.

The Oghquagoe Indians, before they parted, made the following Speech.

Adams, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are now ready to return, having heard all you had to say; which, we assure you, has made so deep an impression on our minds as not to be forgot. We would only beg leave to desire one favour of you, before we go; that is to have a trading-house built in our country, and a constant supply of goods; which would not only add greatly to our happiness, but would also increase our numbers, as it would draw Indians from all parts within 100 miles of us, to settle among us; if you will gratify us in this, you will greatly add to the many favours already received.

A belt.

Brethren of Oghquagoe,

I have so good an opinion, and so many convincing proofs, of your loyalty to the great King your Father, and affection to your brethren the English, that I have not the least reason to doubt your sincerity, nor the least objection to building you a trading-house, as soon as that unhappy affair is settled, between

the Indians of the lower settlements on your river and your brethren the English, which I hope will be very soon.

They returned their hearty thanks, and so parted.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*February 27. 1756.*

At a private meeting of the Sachems and warriors  
of the Canajoharee-castle.

Abraham, the great Hendrick's brother, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors of Canajoharee, take this opportunity, to say something to you, relative to our own affairs; as your great trouble is now mostly over.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

When first we were alarmed with these public commotions, you was so kind, at our request, to promise us a fort for the protection of our castle. We acknowledge you have punctually performed your promise, so that, at the time when the confederacy was coming down last summer, it was completely finished. Mr. Fry, on hearing of our application for men to garrison it, applied to you on behalf his son, that he might be the commander thereof; you answered, that you would consult the Indians, whether he was agreeable or no, which you did. In answer to which, we declared, he was agreeable to us, and, that it would be more acceptable to have those, with whom we were acquainted, than strangers.

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<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 57-62.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We were mistaken in our choice; for alto' he made us the fairest promises, that he would, during our absence, take care of our lands and the crops then in the field, he was altogether deficient in the performance, by which neglect, we entirely lost our crops! In this melancholy situation, we make our application to you, assuring you, that without your assistance, in this article, we must greatly suffer.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE<sup>1</sup>

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson, February 29, 1756.*

At a meeting of the Aughquagey's, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradihronos, Chughnuts, Mahickanders and Shawanese, Thomas their Speaker Stood up and went through the ceremony of condolance for the loss of my Sister and brother-in-law,<sup>3</sup> and then proceeded as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We will now open our hearts to you, and throw off the burthen which lays so heavy upon us; it grieved us much to hear it was suggested, that all the nations living upon the banks of Susquehanna, even as far as Aughquagey had joined the French. We assure you it is a false report, and we appeal to you, brother, whether we have not (since your acquaintance with us) always

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<sup>1</sup> At Fort Johnson.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 15-16.

<sup>3</sup> Captain Matthew Ferrall, Johnson's sister's husband, killed in the battle at Lake George, September 8, 1755. See Johnson's letter in *London Gazette*, 28 October, 1755; and *The Calendar of Sir William Johnson Manuscripts*, p. 48.

proved true brethren to the English, and strictly adhered to the agreements made so long ago between them and our fore-fathers; and depend upon it we ever shall, notwithstanding all the temptations of the French. What we now say comes not from our lips only, but from the very bottom of our hearts.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We speak now in behalf of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos and Chugnuts; and we may say we speak also in behalf of the Shawanese, who are now upon their way to Chugnut, where they are to settle and live under our protection; also the Delaware-indians, who live upon the east branch of that river near the head of it, have given us the strongest assurances, that they will live and die with us, and in consequence of that will keep up the same friendship and alliance with the English, which now subsists between us and them; and this belt we hereby deliver to you as a testimony thereof.

Gave the belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We beg leave to lay our immediate danger and distress before you; we are now entirely exposed to the merciless power of the French and their Indians, our and your common enemy; their hatchet is ready to fall upon our heads, their Indians who live not far from us, threaten us for our attachment to you, for they call and look upon us as English, as we truly are. Now, brother, our earnest request is, that you would build us a small place of defence, wherein our old men, women, and children may have shelter in this time of danger; and that you would also supply us with arms, ammunition, &c. wherewith to defend ourselves from any attempts the enemy may make upon us.

Gave a belt.



FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Williams, March 6, 1756.*

SIR WILLIAM

The Indian that brought the Inclosed came in such a hurry, with all the tokens of Distress, and having no Interpreter, or next a Kin to none I ventured to open it, and am heartily sorry for the Misfortune, and miserable circumstances of Collo. Mercer. Every thing I can do I will with the Utmost Chearfulness for his relief and if you Sir can any ways be assisting in forwarding provisions to their place, as soon as the Lake is open, I will crowd them along to him if the french will let me. I fancy Nuso has Arrived at Fort Johnson I should rejoice to hear it for we are starveing, for want.

I am Sir

With high respect and Esteem

Your Most Hum.<sup>ble</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>.WILL<sup>m</sup>. WILLIAMS.To S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

INDORSED:

March 6th 1756

Captn. Wm. Williams.

Letter

Cobby.

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Williams, March 7th, 1756.*

SIR

At Two O'clock Conneetolis an Onyda from their upper Castle came in here & informs; that after the Express came off

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

from their Castle an Acc<sup>t</sup>. was brot them that the nine Onondagas that went with the carpenters were returned — and say they all got safe there — That as they were returning within Twelve miles of Oswego they saw a large sloop or schooner under sail — That a Number are gone from their Castle to discover if they can whether any of the Enemy make their Rout this Way — And as they will be in here sometime on Tuesday think not to seal this till they return.

One thing I would mention, as it relates to an Indian, and is indeed his Desire, viz<sup>t</sup>. A man that calld himself your Tenant or servant was one that came up here with the last Drove of Cattle in the Fall upon his return he took an old White Horse about a Mile below, George Cost of the upper settlement was with him among others and askd him why he did so, he replied a Dutchman desired him to take him down to Connojohara, and showing an Halter says and gave me this to take him along — But it so happens it was an Horse that cost *Senussias* 19 Dollars (as he says) and he insists upon having the money or the Horse directly as riding Time is near at Hand. And seems not to relish it very well; The man of whom the Indian bot the Horse saw your servant upon Him knew the Horse, and was the Indians first informer.

*March 9th*

SIR according to my Expectation the 4. Indians that went on a scout towards Oswegochea returned this day at 4. o'clock p. m. who say they make no discovery of any sign of the Enemy — They inform me that I may Expect in two days to have a scout in that sot out the same Day they Did & were to go round the West end of Onyda Lake and return here on the Canada side. That they purpose to maintain a constant scout.

They likewise (for ought I know) arrogate to themselves, I mean the Onyda Tribe, our safety from the party that did the mischief in the last capture at Oswego — They say that they heard they were designed this way and by an Indian belonging to Oswegochea they sent them word, that if they came this way

should meet them — which (they say) was the reason they altered their Rout — I hope I have not so many, They says, that you cannot understand what I say — But to me tis as bad as to draw a Tooth to read it — Youl pardon my not Delaying the Express, for a Transcript.

And with Deference Sir William, let me Once more beg you to set forward provisions for Oswego and not loose Ontario for want thereof — I am Sir

With profound Respect  
Your Most Obedient  
Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. WILLIAMS.

P. S. SIR I have not wrote Genl. Shirley his secretary nor Aid D Camp since you promisd to remit to him what intelligance you had from

Your Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. WILLIAMS

INDORSED:

Fort Williams, March 7th & 9th, 1756.  
Letter from Captn. Williams.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Monday night 9 a Clock  
March y<sup>e</sup>. 8th, 1756*

SIR

Just as I finished all the papers which I had to Send You, there arrived two Indians Express from Ondaga with the inclosed acctt. from John Vanseice, and the other from Capt. Williams<sup>2</sup> which I thought proper to Send You immediately, also Coppys of two letters recd. per Express from Schenectady Magistrates,

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> William Williams, commander at Fort Williams.

concerning John Abeel<sup>1</sup> that incorrigible Villian. I have in Consequence thereof Sent an Express to the Commanding Officer at Burnets feild to Seize him, & his goods as he passes by there. I hope He may be taken good care of, if taken, and made an Example of.— I fear if there is not Some provisions imediately Sent to Oswego, they will Suffer greatly.—

I am Yr.  
Excellencys  
Most Humble Servt.

WM. JOHNSON

GENRL. SHIRLEY

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

My Letter to  
Genrl. Shirley  
March 8th, 1756

JOHNSON TO THE LORDS OF TRADE

In *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:41-43 is printed a letter of Johnson to the Lords of Trade written at Fort Johnson March 8th, 1756, relating to a meeting of Johnson with the sachems and warriors of the Five Nations and their allies at which the Indians expressed their loyalty, the enlargement of the Indian confederacy to include western tribes, the intended congress at Oswego, the desire of various tribes to have the English erect forts and establish garrisons in their respective countries, the advisability of placing a minister of the Gospel in each castle in order to counteract French influence obtained through their priests. Johnson further advises the increase of the salary of the Rev. Ogilvie, missionary to the Mohawk Indians, and points out the danger of losing Oswego unless measures are taken to send relief.

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<sup>1</sup> John Abeel (O'Beal) of Albany, father of the noted chief Cornplanter.

<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.

FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>*London 11<sup>th</sup>. March 1756*MAJOR GEN:<sup>L</sup> S:<sup>R</sup> WILL<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

SIR,

Before I proceed to the Business I am to trouble You upon, I must Congratulate You, which I do most Sincerely, on the Commission H. M. has been pleased to give You, as a Reward for the Signal Services you have done Your Country. As you have now the Sole Command & Superintendance of the Northern Indians, And as I propose to move with the Troops, as soon as possible after my Arrival in America, You will use Your utmost endeavours, to procure as large a body as can be got, to Act in Conjunction with His Majesty's Forces, against the Common Enemy.

I send this Letter by Col<sup>l</sup>. Webb, who is going to take the Command in North America, till Major General Abercrombie or I can relieve him; You will therefore, if the Situation of Indian Affairs will permit You, Repair to New York or Albany, whichever he may be at, to receive his Orders; Or if that cant be, You will Correspond with, and follow such Orders & directions as You shall receive from either of these Gentlemen, during their respective Commands; And they will give You any Assistance, for the good of the Service, You may require, which you will likewise find me ready to do on all occasions, and to take every Opportunity of Assuring You of the Regard &ca.

P.S. I am to bring out Presents for the Indians, and shall consult you in the distribution of them.

INDORSED:

Draught  
to Major General Johnson  
Whitehall 11<sup>th</sup>. March 1756

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

FROM CHARLES HARDY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort George New York 12<sup>t</sup> M<sup>ch</sup>. 1756.*

SIR

I have just heard the disagreeable Account by Express from Oswego, that the Garison there are in great want of Provisions, and must from the return sent be reduced to the greatest Necessity if not timely releived, the Importance of maintaining that Post requires the utmost dispatch in forcing up a Supply by Land if the Waters are shut by Frost, I can see no other method than by pressing all the Horses that can be got, and loading them with the Species of Provisions wanting in Sacks, I have for this purpose sent Impress Warrants, and Inclose you One, and must desire you will give them all the Assistance in your Power; there is a Magazine at the great Carrying place,<sup>2</sup> as that is the nearest Post to Oswego, it will be most adviseable to load the Cattle there, You will consult the Commanding Officers at the Head Quarters, and the different posts in the Mohawks Country, for their Escorting the necessary Convoys, and as you are well acquainted with the Country, your advice to them will be usefull.

I am impatiently waiting the Result of your Meeting with the Six Nations, if the Papers require time to Copy, I must desire you will send me immediate advice of the general disposition of the Indians, and particularly what they propose doing with the Delawares &ca, and if they propose chastiseing them, it will be proper we join them with Forces which we shall be under the

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> The Oneida carrying place.

necessity of Raising for the defence of our Western Frontier, you may consult them for their uniting with us in this Service.

I am

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

CHA<sup>s</sup>. HARDY

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Barr<sup>t</sup>,

INDORSED:

New York March 12<sup>th</sup> 1756

S<sup>r</sup>. Charles Hardys letter

concerning Osswegoe

FROM JOHN ST CLAIR

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*New York March 12<sup>th</sup>. 1756*

SIR

We have this Day received Accounts from Oswego that the Garrison is in great want of Provisions; Sir Cha<sup>s</sup>. Hardy with the field Officers have agreed to try every expedient for the relief of it: and we have come to a Resolution of sending Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Dunbar to see if it is practicable to send them 100 Horse Load of flower and 50 to carry Oats. I must entreat you to give L<sup>t</sup>. Dunbar all the Assistance in Your power and your best advice, It was impossible for me to limit him to Orders, his power is discretionary so that he must act for the best, I have given him £320 for carrying this Service into Execution, and if more is required I shall be at Schenectady the 25<sup>th</sup>. to supply it.

The distress is so great at Oswego for provisions that it would be of great Service if the Indians which are nearest to them would be prevailed on to carry them loads of Indian Corn,

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Meal, pease, or beans which Mr. Dunbar will pay ready money for, and I shall give them as much of each sort into the Bargain at the great Carrying place in May. But if you do not think you can effect this, the experement woud be dangerous least it might draw the french on our Backs at Oswego. Shou'd any thing occur to you for the relief of our friends I am sure you will put it in Execution. I am with the greatest Regard

To SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>.

Sir

Your most obedient and  
most humble Servant

JOHN S<sup>t</sup>.CLAIR

INDORSED:

New York March 12<sup>th</sup>. 1756

S<sup>r</sup> John S<sup>t</sup>. Clairs letter

ab<sup>t</sup>. Osswego

TO JACOB GLEN

L.<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, March 12, 1756*]

SIR:

You have been some time ago required to make me a return of the number of men in the Battallion whereof you are Lieut. Coll., but have not complied with my order. Wherefore you are hereby required to make me an exact and regular Roll, or return of the number of men, and their names, together with the officers names and the dates of their commissions before the 1st of April without fail.

You are to have the Battallion whereof you are Lieut. Coll. in arms at Albany the thirteenth day of April next, and with their arms & accoutrements in good order, then and there to be reviewed.

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<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.



You are to consult with the Major and Captns of the Battallion about proper persons to fill up the vacancys and return me a list of them. and where the companys consist of above 100 men, you are to divide them and give me a list of proper officers to command them, always paying regard to seniority and merit.

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson March 12, 1756.

To JACOB GLEN Lieut. Coll. of the 1st Battallion of the Regiment of the county of Albany.

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Williams,  
March 13, 1756.*

SIR WILLIAM,

Goahee who arrived here last night in his return from you, informs me that your Honour proposed to meet the Six Nations at Oswego as soon as the Onyda Lake was Open; Immagining it may be satisfactory to know its open is the Occasion of my present Writing, my scout that came in from thence last Wednesday brot me an Acct. that it was intirely clear of ice as also Wood Creek. And Yesterday I sent off for the releaf of poor Oswego 12. Battaeux loaded with provisions had I had any more should gladly sent them. Mr. Reade to satisfy his curiosity is gone in one of them, I wish them all a safe pass and return—and that his enterprizing genius may not be overlookd.

If you Sir could spare me so much time as to give me your sentiments, whether or not its probable I shall be continued Here I should be obliged; For I would lay myself out in Building & Gardening &c. At present I live like a pig in a sty of Poles, and my fare differs but little from such.— I should not have the

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

least inclination to tarry, could I perceive these Indians had the least Dislike to Me.

And by the conduct of some I have observed I am apt to think there would not have been so good understanding subsisting as there is at present had they been posted here — If from what you may have heard of my behaviour, I am worthy this Trust, or on the other hand I ought to be removed — The knowledge of it would be Beneficial; as by the one I might be providing for my comfort; or on the other save the Expence.

You will pardon this peice of Freedom in Him who is with great Esteem

Sir

Your Most Obedient

Most Humble Servant

W<sup>M</sup>. WILLIAMS.

P.S. The mans Name that stole Senussia's Horse is Dennis Maltin and proof Enough.

*March 14. 1756.*

This morn at 10 O'clock I have an Express from the Onyda Castle, which I did not design to have given you the Trouble of reading as I rec<sup>d</sup>: it—But Goahee says the young man that is gone with a Belt to your Hon<sup>r</sup>. is a Boy & is very desierous of have me give the acct. which is as follows; That on Fryday an Onondaga Indian came, from Oswegochea to that Castle in as strait a course and as fast as he could & Brings this Intelligence. That Just as he sett out (after finding their destination) an army of Indians near 300. under 5. principal Officers arrivd there who gave out that they were coming against the Onydas — And that a large army was on their March for Oswego, That the reason of their coming against This Tribe was bec: they had killed some of their Bretheren when with Your Hon<sup>r</sup>.—The army that is forming for Oswego is from Canada & Niagara.

I wish Mr Reed & Company may not fall into their hands. The last I heard of him was that he was up to his Waste in

Water in Wood Creek which is Low and he happend to hang on a Log.

With profound Respect

I am sir,

Your Devoted Servt.

WM. WILLIAMS.

I have proposed to Goahee & several others here that if they are affraid they might bring their wives & children into this Fort & build Hutts which seems to please them — in a most hast.

INDORSED:

Carrying place March

13. 1756.

Letter from Capt. Williams.

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Williams, March 14, 1756.*

SIR

At 6. o'clock p. m. another Express came in from Onyda, which brings this Farther News — That an Onondaga who was out on his Hunt Towards Oswegochea was surprised by the approch of an army of French and Indians that were in the road or stearing this way. That he looked till they passed by and then took to his heels & ran. That the Indians led the Van and that both together made a large army. He ran so fast to his castle that he has spoild himself an[d] they think the Indian that came from Onondaga to Onyda has also. Sir now but 3. sleeps since he first saw them; Goahee and several others are here and Determine they may be with us to Tomorrow or Next Day at farthest — The Indians are in great confusion

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Make some reflections that their fort is not built — Complain for want of ammunition & army, and expect your Hon<sup>r</sup>. supplies them & protect them forthwi[th]. This I write by [ ] desire.

I am sir William  
Constantly Yours

WM. WILLIAMS.

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Williams March 18<sup>th</sup>. 1756*

SIR WILLIAM

Yours of this Morn I rec<sup>d</sup>. at 6 oClock P. M. am both sorry & glad that you are arrived at Burnetsfield sorry for the fatigue you have been at, as well as somewhat so for some few others. I am glad that so many Men can so soon be raised & have given such Evidence to the Indians in Alliance of their Willingness to assist them in time of need.

Mr. John Van Sice who came in here this Morning very much Staggered me as to the reports from time to time brought me from the Oneidas wh<sup>h</sup>. I observed always came by the Onondagas as they said; his hearing nothing of it caused many perplexing conjectures to arise in my Mind — he had not been gone half an Hour before Six of the Sachems and Warriors of this Castle came in, & Just upon their heels your Express — I let them by *Clement* know your Letter, & added as to your fatigue as I thought proper, & the great Expence & loss of time, & the like & let them know that if such uncertain Intelligence are brought in by them in a short time we should get hardened against them & take but little notice of any of them, which they seemed quite ready to beleive, & gave me to understand that they beleived they were imposed upon by the Tuscaroras. as they have Scouts out constantly & made no discoveries at all.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

they further say that they now have a scout out that design to go to the very Spot that it was reported the Army was discovered, and talk about a N. of Canoes they say was frozen up last Winter in a Lake or opening on the River. that leads from Cadarachqui to Moreal between Oswegaetchee and the first mentioned. I then told them that the Indians that saw the Army must be quite mistaken as to their Course, that if they were going to take charge of them it no ways pointed towards us, which they likewise allowed, and in short these that are here seem quite to think that they are imposed upon as to this Account but believe that we shall by and by be attacked.

They appear well pleased that you are procuring Men to Build them a Fort, & Suck'd in every paragraph of your Letter. I must refer you to Ensign Marshall & Van Sice concerning the Fate of my Battoes, poor Reede if his Arms had not been longer than his Body was wide, would have lost his Life twice, were that possible, by falling thro' the Ice.

Upon Van Sices information I intended to have sent Horses tomorrow & drawn them round the Shore: But Marshall has revived me in telling me when he came along Yesterday they had not more than two Battoes length to cut thro' the Ice.

Sir, Youl pardon this miserable piece, my paper and Ink, & I am much alike Susceptable of verry little, and liable to blotts.

I am

Sir

Your Most Obedient

Most Hum Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. WILLIAMS

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Carrying place March 18

1756

Capt<sup>n</sup>. Williams Letter &

return of my Express

from y<sup>e</sup>. German Flatts

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<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

TO ALBERT VAN SLYKE

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>[Fort Johnson, March 23<sup>d</sup>, 1756.]

Instructions to Mr. Albert Van Slyke  
going to the Six Nations —

You are to proceed immediately to the Castle of the Cajugas, and tell them You are come according to their [*desire*] request with Goods. Which you are to Supply them with, as reasonable as You Can. So that they may have no cause of Complaint —

You are to make the Strictest enquiry possible when there, what News is among them and Send me the Same by Express if of any Moment.

You are to encourage them to keep the Road open to Oswego, that his Majesty's Troops, & Provisions may pass & repass unmolested. if any Attempts should be made by the Enemy to Stop Said Communication or any Mischief done at Oswego, [ ] thereabouts. You are to tell them [ ] that they must rise up and revenge it. [ ] they will break their engagements entr[ed into] at the last Treaty held at my House. And if you can spare time to take a S[ ] with a Number of them on Such Occasion [I] will pay you for the Same Eight Shillings <sup>per</sup> Day. but you must keep an Exact Account of the Number of Days you may be on P. Service So as you may Justly Swear to it.

You are also to employ some trusty Indian of that Nation to go as a Spy to Cadaraghqui, and Swegatchy to see what the French and their Indians are about. for which you are to pay them, and I will make you an Allowance for the Same.

Lastly You are to Send Intelligence of any designs You find the French May have against Oswego, immediately to the Com-

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 10. Sir William Johnson Correspondence, 1756-1772.

<sup>2</sup> Mss. torn away.

manding Officer there, also to me — and to endeavour to prevail on S<sup>d</sup>. Nation to have a Fort in their Country Setting forth the Great advantage it will be to them.

You may for the Good of the Service, advance Ten Pounds to Such Sachims or others as You find deserving, and I will repay You.	}	Given Under My hand at Fort Johnson this 23 <sup>d</sup> . Day of March 1756
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W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To  
 M<sup>r</sup>. ALBERT VANSLYKE

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Williams*  
*March 26. 1756*  
*10. oclock a.m.*

SIR

This morn an Express from Onondaga came in with the Belt that accompanys this And inform that three days ago three of their Indians upon their Hunt between Onida Lake and Lake Ontario Discovered a French Army about half a Days March this side Codaroque Encamped along the Lake. Fearing their Indians they dare not approach so near as to make their Number but by the extent of their Fires they guesd they were numerous That three other of their Tribe that came in the same Day from the West End of Onyda Lake inform that the Day before they Discoverd Moginson Tracks which they took to be a scout of the Enemys And when night came on being apprehensive they were about keep awake except one that was not well; late in the night they heard the sticks crack, and waking their sleeper they crawled from the Fire half a Mile in the morning they

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

came to their first bed and found tracks from where the crackling was to the fire & round it, upon which they made the Best of their way to y<sup>r</sup> castle.

They insist the Belt goes to Gen Shirley, and be returned with his Ans<sup>r</sup>. immediately; and that He send Schaneau (as they call Col<sup>o</sup>. Bradstreet) to have the care & oversight of Building their Fort. They also Desire that Oswego may be directly reinforced and that the Battoes may go in a Body, as they think the Enemy will indeavour to intercept them — Seem some what surprized that when you had got so far as you did not come along to their Castle; and hope it will not be long before you kindle your Fire at Oswego. This was deliverd with the Belt, by a very sensible Fellow who was sent by their Cheifs.

I am Sir William  
Your Most Obedt.  
Humble servant

WM. WILLIAMS

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df*<sup>1</sup>

*Sunday Morning five aClock  
March 28th. 1756*

SIR

This Moment I recd. the inclosed Letter from Capt. Williams, with this Belt of Wampum, which comes from the Onondagas. Who (he says) desire it may be shown to You immediately, in hopes Your Excellency will send up reinforcements to Oswego. We had lately such News come from the same Quarter upon which I went up immediately with above a 1000 of the Militia and some Indians to the German Flatts, in order to proceed further if necessary. but on my receiving a Letter from Capt. Williams that there was nothing in it. and only a false report

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



I return'd the third day. It gave the Oneidas so great Satisfaction to find I was so ready to go to their Assistance. that they returned me their hearty thanks for it. I inclose You Capt. Williams answer to a Letter I sent express when I arrived at the German Flatts, to know whether he had any further Intelligence of the Enemy's approach. I have agreed with a Man at the German Flatts to build a Fort immediately for the Oneidas, he was to Sett out for that place last Wednesday. I am now endeavouring to get People to undertake Building Forts for the Onondagas and Senecas, which I believe will be pretty difficult. however will try all I can as I have it as much at heart as they themselves well knowing the great Service they will be of on severall Accounts. I recd. Your Excellency's Letter with a Draft on the Deputy Paymaster. out of which I shall pay the Indian Officers who had Your Commission

I am your Excellency's  
Most Humbl Servt.

His Excell<sup>y</sup>. GENERAL SHIRLEY

P. S.<sup>1</sup> I send Yr. Excellency also  
Capt. Faulkners letter<sup>2</sup> whereby You  
Will see the great Scarcity of Horses & Sleds  
at the Carrying place, Occasioned as Fry<sup>3</sup> & Harkemar<sup>4</sup>  
told me yesterday by their not being paid for last Years  
rideing Yet.

INDORSED:<sup>5</sup>

My Letter to Genrl.  
Shirley wrote Sunday  
Morning March 28th, 1756  
five in the Morning.

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<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Falconer.

<sup>3</sup> Hendrick Frey.

<sup>4</sup> John Nicholas Herchheimer.

<sup>5</sup> In Johnson's hand.

FROM WILLIAM WILLIAMS

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

March 1756.

SIR.

On the 28th of last month Thirty Three sawyers & carpenters, with some dutch, serjt. Grey & fourteen men of my company sett off Through the Castles for Oswego with one *Ileas* an Indian of this tribe for a Pilott, on the Third day they arrived at Onondauga, where they found the River clear and the Horses were discharged—And nine Indians for a Guard pilots & Battooe men Hired by serjt. Grey & John Vancise to go to Oswego with the provisions & Workmen.

While there; Serjt. Grey, from *Vancise*, and *Ileas* from three *Onondagas* that have pluckd up stakes at Oswegochea, who were just come in; obtained the following acc<sup>t</sup>. vizt. That 100 of the *Cagnawagas* had died this Winter of the small pox, that as many more of the *Connasaudagas* & *Oroondocks* had died of the same Desease That there was but 30 men at *Codarogue* & 50 at *Niagara*, that multitudes had died at the last mentioned place and all were starving at both. That in a Few days 10 *Oroondocks* & 10. from *Oswegochea* were to take their departure from the last mentioned place, to give the carrying place, a visit, upon the scalping design; Grey has it from *Vancise* that they design to lay along this River.

You will pardon me Sir if I give you my sentiments upon the foregoing narrative—I always have observed when our Neighbours make their boast of anything great they Design to *Atcheive*, they then are in Miserable circumstances—If ever they make known their misery mischief is at the Door, and such I guess is the case at the present day—And if they find themselves incapable of attacking *Oswego* (which I much Question) they will at all adventures attempt to stop the communication.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Col<sup>o</sup>. Mercer in his of the 23<sup>d</sup> of last month writes me "However improbable the French Attacking this place may appear I am affraid to lessen our numbers, and would rather suffer by Famine than risque the Loss of the place Vessels & Artillery All the Indians that have yet been here, do agree, that they will attempt it; That they design to coast along the South side of the Lake having collected a Number of large birch cannooes, capable of carrying 30. men, each, with a large Vessel or Two to carry their Artillery and provision."

But I need not mention this or any more as he by the same Express wrote you & Gen Shirley.

But I am in duty bound to acquaint you of the necessity of having the Deserters, that the Indians have adopted, delivered up, as they are mostly Roman Catholicks, and all the Vilest of mortals, Sir they that have prompted the Indians to kill the Cattle as passing thro their Castles nay even brot them to them from Oswego, and when the carpenters went along the other Day made the Indians seize the Baggage Horses and not let them pass untill they had Rum, These creatures, that now, I guess, are twenty in Number, will by & by become dictators, and you will be more plagued with two or three of them than with an whole Tribe, and I have been misinformd if they have not said things unrespectfull of you already.

The article of provision that I am obliged to hand out to the Indians as they pass and repass amounts to a considerable value and I should be extreem glad of receiving directions how to conduct in that affair, and that Mr. Reed the assistant commissary may have directions to deliver me according to your pleasure.

The article I mention, for no other Reason than that the whole of Indian Affairs are committed to you, as you have been pleased to inform me.

I should at this time write Genl. Shirley had you not informd me that you would from Time to Time communicate what intelligence you recd. from me; If this contains anything worthy of communicating you will be pleased to act accordingly.

There are two things I forgot to mention, one is that these three Indians inform that all the Onondagas that have removed the Oswegochea are upon their Return to their Castles.

The other is that one of these Devilish Deserters forged an order or Request in Serjt. Greys name for two Galons of Rum for certain services done by the Indians, which I refused to Deliver them but offerd them 10/ for 8/ in Gimp or anything I had which they would not Take, Serjt. Grey coming in upon them they destroyed the note, and lookd like themselves. I am

Sir William

Your Most Obedient

Most Humble Servant

WM. WILLIAMS

INDORSED:

Carrying place March 1756.

Letter from Capt. Williams.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson April the 3<sup>d</sup>. 1756 —*

SIR/

As Soon as I finished my letter to You of y<sup>e</sup>. 28<sup>th</sup>. Ult<sup>o</sup>. with the Acc<sup>t</sup>. I received from Capt<sup>n</sup>. Williams,<sup>2</sup> I sett of instantly for the Carrying place, where I arrived with about five Hundred Militia, & Indians of Both Mohawk Castles Tuesday Evening. I found the Enemy withdrawn So Went over with my Party, and above 100 Oneidaes, & Tuscarora's Who Met me there; to the Fort<sup>3</sup> which the Enemy had destroyed. I found within the Fort twenty three Soldiers, two Women, and one Battoe Man, Some burnt almost to Ashes, others most In-

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Captain William Williams.

<sup>3</sup> Called "Fort Wood Creek" in Shirley to Johnson, April 10, 1756.

humanly Butchered, and all Scalped, without the Fort, I found three Soldiers Scalped, who I think were blown over by the powder which was in the Magazine, as they were very much Scorched. about 200 Yards from the Fort, One of my Party (a German) found an Indian in the Woods dead, whose Scalp he brought me, He was well Known to our Indians, they say he was a Messissagey who married an Onondaga Squaw & lived at Swegatchey, a Man of considerable Interest among them. I gave the Scalp to the Oneidaes who seemed to receive it with much pleasure. Mr. Bulls Party could make no great defence as there was not one Port hole to fire thorough in all the Fort, nor a Flanker, or Bastion of any kind, w<sup>h</sup>. the Enemy well Seeing, fired in between the Pickets at our People, they Cutt a Hole in y<sup>e</sup> gate for Said purpose, then Cutt the Wooden Hinges by which the gate hung and threw it down, so rushed in I imagine. the Whole Number killed, & missing is 62 thirty of which I found and buried. they distroyed every thing in the Fort, and about it. also 20 Battoe load of Provisions which had been carried over for Osswego, Cutt what Battoes were there to peices, also Sleds Harness &<sup>ca</sup>. and took almost all the Horses they had there. the Indians are of Opinion, that the French intend building a Fort somewhere to the Northward of the Carrying place, in order, from thence, to Send out partys continually to harrass the Carrying place. I have given the Oneidaes charge to find it out as Soon as possible, and bring Capt<sup>n</sup>. Williams an Acc<sup>t</sup>. Had there been Horses, or Carriages to carry over a parcel of Battoes, and provisions over the Carrying place I should have guarded them quite to Osswego. I shall refer Your Excellency to Capt<sup>n</sup>. William's letter wherein he wrote You every thing more particular than I have now time to do, haveing the Indians and Militia about me whom I am Just going to discharge.

I am told by the Indians that there is a great meeting at Niagara now of Cheundadeys, Ottawawas, Mississageys &<sup>ca</sup>. if so, I am afraid it will much obstruct our Proposed Meeting at Osswego, and that the French will prevail on them to go ag<sup>st</sup>.

Osswego, or, many other Services. So many Indians Joining the French, must Stagger the Six Nations a Good deal. they are very pressing to have the Forts built in their Countrys, and Strongly Garrisoned, which would be an excellent thing, but I cannot as yet get Hands to undertake any, but that of Oneida, which would have been begun before now, & near finished had it not been for those Alarms, which freightend the Undertakers so much, that they were afraid to go, but they promised me they would begin this next Week. & finish it as Soon as possible.

the Conajoharees Some time ago applied for Men to Garrison their Fort, I sent an Officer & twenty five Men there the 10<sup>th</sup>. of March at the same allowance they had last year. gave them Amunition & 2 brass pattareroes<sup>1</sup> of my own until the Swivels come. they now are very pressing to have more Men in it, what to do I cant tell, it will be a great Expenche, the Mohawks expect the Same, as Soon as the regulars are withdrawn from there. the Indians of Scohare (altho but few) have also begged to have a place of Safety, which I promised them, and this Day they asked for Men to Garrison it. I should be glad to have y<sup>r</sup>. Excellencys directions in this Case, there are Men to be had, but it will amount to a considerable Sum of Money. I wish Y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency could get a Number of good light Guns for the Indians, there is no such thing to be had here, nor lace for Hatts, or Coats which are Articles at this time very necessary. I hear that at the meeting at Otseningo about 300 Warriours of the Delawares, &ca appeared, and told the Delegates Sent by the Six Nations to Settle that affair, that they would lay down the Hatchet if their Cheif Men were willing. I have not heard their resolution as yet.

I am

Your Excellencys

Most Obedient

Humble Servant

WM. JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup>Pedrerros, or patereros, a piece of ordnance, See *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:538.

P.S. as I was writeing this  
 a party of Warriours returned  
 from Tiendaroga with a Serjants  
 Scalp whom they killed verry near  
 the Fort. they tell me there is a  
 considerable Indian Encampment  
 near the Fort, and that they saw the  
 tracks of Severall partys comeing  
 towards these parts.—there were  
 some about my house in my absence

His Excellency GENR<sup>L</sup>. SHIRLEY

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Boston April 4<sup>th</sup>. 1756*  
*8 oClock PM*

SIR

Yesterday I received your favour of the 28<sup>th</sup>. March & this moment have a Copy of a Letter from Capt. Williams forwarded by your directions by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Falconer to me. by wh<sup>h</sup>. I find they have been attacked at the Great Carrying place by a Party of ffrench & Indians, & by your said Letter you were setting out with all the Militia you could raise for the Oneidas. Your alacrity on this occasion I esteem of Great use to his Majestys Service, and all I have [at] present to urge is, that you would use your best endeavours with the Indians to keep good strong Scouting Parties out between Fort Williams & Oswego that the way thither may be open, as they have promised, & you may assure them that I shall do all in my power to reinforce Oswego, defend their Castles & annoy the French, & you may make them such other Assurances as you think proper on this occasion.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

I am in hopes the Alarms at the Oneida Carrying Place, has not be attended with all the bad Consequences that has been represented, but whatever they are, we must endeavour to repair them as soon as possible.

I am

Sir

Your most humble Servant

W. SHIRLEY

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet

P:S: The keeping out Vigilant  
Scouts on the way to Oswego will be  
of the last importance

FROM JAMES MERCER

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Oswego April 6<sup>th</sup>. 1756*

SIR

I had yesterday intelligence by some Indians of above 500 French and their Indians, haveing made a Lodgment Upon a small Lake having a Communication with the great one about 12 Miles to the Eastward of this place, about 500 more came by the same road, and by the directions & Assistance of Omadore alias Twanega an Oneiyut for the present residing at Swegatchy proceeded to Attack the Carrying place. they have surrounded themselves with Pickets, and have their Canoes and Battoes on the Small Lake, waiting for a signal from the Westward to Attack this Place at one, and the same time, with 500 More on the March from Niagara. I have this Moment advise by Oterwana, & two other Cayougas who on their way from this to their own Castle, about 12 Miles to the Westward, one of them who was ab<sup>t</sup>. a Mile a head of the Others, was taken Prisoner by three foreign Indians, who he says threatened to

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



kill him, but on his protesting he was no friend to Us they only kept him Prisoner, telling him there was upwards of 500, just behind coming to Attack Oswego, in Conjunction with 500 More, who for that purpose waited a little to the Eastward, two of these Indians Loitering a little behind, he took an Oppertunity, of Darting himself through the wood and Making his escape from the other, he Lukily reincountered, the other two, who returned to us with that Intelligence, it were Idle to express my doubts or fears for the fate of the Carrying Place, or the Neglect of not reinforcing us, or supplying the Garrison in time, I hope it is in your power you will send us an immediate releif or if that is impossible, the best information you can of the scituation of Affairs below, that we may be enabled to Act prudently as I hope we always shall bravely, Your Quick dispatch in this may be of great Consequence to the Publick and will Extremely Oblige.

Your Most Obedient Humble  
Servant

JAMES MERCER

To CAPT<sup>N</sup>. WILL<sup>MS</sup>. or SIR WILL<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Oswego April 6<sup>th</sup>. 1756  
Letter from Coll<sup>o</sup>. Mercer  
to all in Authority

FROM THOMAS FALCONER

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Hirkmers Wedy.*  
*7th. April 1756.*

SIR

This morning wee were strongly alarmed by an Indian that came hither & told that 3 tracks of a large Body of Indians &

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

French had been seen above the Flatts, and that wee should be better inform'd by Nicholas within an hour — He is just now come in and informs as follows.

Nicholas y<sup>e</sup> Onogada — declares that the damage done at Bulls, was occasioned by two of their Ind<sup>ns</sup>. who knew of the Enemy's coming, not discovering it & that some of y<sup>e</sup>. Onoyadas were concerned in it. that previous to that the French sent some Emissarys with a Belt and Exhorted them to take up y<sup>e</sup> Hatchet ag<sup>t</sup> us — that they had many words on that head, & that some refused it, but that there was difference among them, and that some had joind y<sup>e</sup> Enemy. That at present they are holding a grand meeting, to consult on a determination, what to do, whether to shake of all affection to the French or not

That after the French had destroyed Bulls Fort<sup>1</sup>, they told y<sup>e</sup>. Onogadas, that ab<sup>t</sup>. 2 days, journey from the carrying place, was their place of rendezvouse & that they would return much stronger and take the carrying place & build a strong fort there, and keep it themselves; that they will try them (Onogadas) and if they stick by the English, they will destroy the whole 5 Nations; and in spite of them at all events stop up the passage to Oswego. That all the fear is Genl. Johnson, who has beat them once, and were they quitt of him once, they fear none Else.

This he says are the French Ind<sup>ns</sup>. own words — That yesterday they sent some scouts, towards Oswego and some round ab<sup>t</sup>. the carrying place, and as some come in; others go out, & will continue so to do — That affairs are made up with the Susquehannocks & delawares, who will do no more damage to us, & by what he can Judge of their council, they seem firmly bent

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<sup>1</sup> Fort Bull, on Wood Creek, at the Oneida Carrying Place, was taken and destroyed on March 27, 1756, by a force of French and Indians under Lieutenant de Léry. The fort was located at the west end of the Great or Oneida carrying place, on Wood creek, two and one-half miles from the site of Fort Stanwix.

to the English, and that the Enemy will not be able to prevail with any more to join them.

You will have his discourse at large, this is what he came hither he says to tell us — I am sorry to hear our Battoes are so dilatory on the river none having arrived yet, and is owing I am informed to their cowardly apprehensions of being caught by the Enemy's skulking parties. Am also told there are a number of generall Shirleys and Pepperalls recruits straggling up and down the roads from the former Mohoc of fear. This is by a messenger to me with a letter, but whether he says true or false, I can't tell. however he says the Battoes won't be up here till Saturday next. W<sup>ch</sup>. have now been out above 10 days these delays must be dangerous.

I hope you got well home, and without catching cold, w<sup>ch</sup>. is the wishes of all y<sup>e</sup>. gentlem<sup>n</sup>. here Especially of Sr. Your

Very Obed<sup>t</sup>. hble servt.

THO<sup>s</sup>. FALCONER.

P. S. Wee are much obliged and return }  
 Thanks for the favour, of y<sup>r</sup>. Pamphlet. }  
 I fear our People want spurring on }  
 Lt. Mill's last night wrote me a line w<sup>h</sup>. you desired a copy  
 of Cap. Williams letter, directed to all in authority, I shall  
 send you an exact one fr. first hand w<sup>h</sup>. comes down.

TO SIR WM. JOHNSON Barron<sup>t</sup>.  
 at Fort Johnson.

INDORSED:

Captn. Falconers  
 letter dated April  
 the 7th. 1756.

JAMES F. MERCER TO WILLIAM WILLIAMS

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Oswego April 7th, 1756.*

SIR

I this moment received your malancholy Letter of the 27th March to the 3<sup>d</sup> of April, and I am sure you wont doubt of my sorrow for the Contents. Youl see by a Letter I wrote yesterday directed for you or Sir Wm. Johnson how we are threatned on both sides, but as yet not attacked, by the report of the pieces fired around us but especially round Fort Ontario I am of Opinion that there are great number of scouting Indians. We have lost four men from that Fort, two we suppose taken prisoners, another we suppose killed, and one scalped within a 100 yards of the Fort, at 10 Oclock in the morning, it were Idle and uncharitable to trouble you with our wants as I am concious you ever have and will continue to forward us all the relief in your power, had the party of the Train accompanied your Express, it would have been of great consolation to us, as we have Artillery but no men to use it. the 22 Battoes came safe to hand, and we have Provisions till towards the latter end of this Month, by which time I shall hope for General Shirleys directions or at least your good advice for my conduct our vessels lie idle, they are neither victualled, nor manned, while the french as the Indians inform me have been passing and repassing all the Winter, if I can prevail with the Indians to carry the Letters you shall from time, to time, hear from me, for the rest, I must refer you to Davis the Battoe man, who has been here this week past. I pray God to protect you, and am with the most sincere Esteem.

Dear Sir

Your Much Oblidged

&amp; Most Obedient Humble Servant

JAMES F. MERCER

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

I have paid the Inds. twelve  
Dollars a piece. I have no time to write  
General Shirley but beg you will inclose or  
forward this by the first opportunity.

INDORSED:

Oswego April 7th, 1756.  
Collo. Mercers letter to  
Captn. Williams or Sir  
Wm. Johnson.

FROM JOHN BRADSTREET

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Hunter 9<sup>th</sup>. April 1756*

SIR,

Whereas the direction of the transportation to and from  
Oswego and Command of Battoe Men is in me under his  
Excellency General Shirly and as I am now on my way there  
with a large number of Boats & a great quantity of provisions  
it becomes necessary for his Majestys Service I should be made  
acquainted with the motions of the enemy as much as possible  
and inasmuch as you have undoubtedly constant intelligence on  
this head from the Six Nations it becomes necessary for me to  
acquaint you therewith and to desire you will please to inform  
me now if there is any thing material as well as that You will  
let me know hereafter.

and as You are sensible nothing can be more conducive to  
our safty than timely notice of the enemys being near, you are  
likewise sensible there are not any kind of People so fit to give  
that information as Indians, I am therefore to desire you will  
provide me with some and I will with great pleasure pay them  
what ever you shall think proper a day or otherwise — fifty at

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

least I should be glad to have and as many of them Mohawks as possible. I shall stay at this house for Your answer, and am

Sir

Your Most humble  
Servant

JN<sup>o</sup>. BRADSTREET

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON B<sup>t</sup>.

INDORSED:

Fort Hunter April 9<sup>th</sup>. 1756  
Broadstreets letter  
Desiring Indians

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson April 9th, 1756*

SR.

Just now two Indians who are verry great friends of mine, and can depend upon them came from Oneida, and tell me that one of that Nation named Tarvins, who was on the Hunt, mett that Body of French, & Indians who distroyed Bulls Fort &ca, The Commanding Officer had a great deal of talk with him, and among other things told him, He was determined at all Events to Stop the Road to Osswego, by keeping five hundd. Men along the River, to intercept the provisions, that he would make Another visit to the Carrying place with a greater party, and build a Strong Fort there, that he would also destroy the Magazine at the German Flatts, and all this part of the Country so well Stocked with provisions, in order to make an easier Acquisition, adding that if the Five Nations would Interpose they of Oswego would cutt them all off the face of ye earth these Indians also tell me that the Delegates I sent to the Delawares are returned and bring the agreeable news of their haveing settled that unhappy Affair, between them,

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

& us, that they, after acknowledging their fault, promised to Join the Six Nations with Us agst. the French, I expect the Sachims here in two or three Days when I shall have the full State of their proceedings at Sd. Meeting, The Mohawks of the lower Castle are this day going to bring up, if they can all the River Indians liveing in, and about Esopus, and Settle them among them at this Castle, they are above 100 Men, I am told, this will Make the Mohawks a pritty formidable Body. I send one of my interpreters with them In order to Take Care of them by the Way.

This I thought my Duty to let you know as Soon as possible. There are scouts out Constantly towards Osswego, and the Roads from Canada to the Carrying place, &ca, by wh. means we may expect having intelligence of any body of the enemy's approach, but Unless there are a Sufficient Number of Men to oppose them, and more regard paid to the Indians Acctts. than there has been lately, It may be attended with Ill consequences.

I am Yr. Excellency's  
Most Obedt.  
Humble Servt.

WM. JOHNSON

P. S. as it is so difficult to get Men here to build Forts for the Six Nations, who are verry pressing for them, I think it would be best to have Men from Some other govrt. to work at them, oterwise they will not be finished in time and tunill<sup>1</sup> they have Forts Garrisoned in their Countrys, it cannot be expected they will Join us with all their Force as (I am convinced) they then Would. their allowing Forts in their Country is a Strong indication of their Intentions to abide by Us. I must say I dread the Consequence of that Meeting at Niagara, of so Many nations of Indians.

GENRL. SHIRLEY

<sup>1</sup> Evidently "until".

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Boston, April 10th, 1756.*

SIR

I have received your letter of the 3<sup>th</sup>. inst<sup>t</sup>. from Fort Johnson were I find you was just returned from Fort Williams; Your vigilance & activity in your march upon that occasion was very seasonable, but as there was then at the carrying place such a Body of men as with the 500 you marched up could not have been less than 800. I was in hopes you might have prevailed on a sufficient number to have tracked & followed the Enemy at least so far as to have been assured that they were gone off, which at present there is some doubt of; but I dare say you must have sufficient reasons for not following them; I am surprized at what you say as to the state of Fort Wood Creek, that it had neither a Port Hole or Flanker. In my way from Oswego, I stayed myself at the Great Carrying Place to see Fort Williams marked out, & on Capt. Williams's undertaking to lay out the other at Wood Creek, I delivered him a Plan for that purpose, as well Flanked as a Fort of that kind could be, & it is the greatest degree of stupidity that ever I hear of, to build a Fort of that kind without loop Holes.

I had before receiving the Account of the Alarm at the Carrying Place order'd all the Recruits which are some Hundreds of the 50<sup>th</sup> & 51<sup>st</sup>. Regiments & the whole of Col. Schuyler's Regiment being 500 to proceed to Oswego & am in hopes that before this time they are set out from Schenectady with Col. Bradstreet, and at least 1200 Battoemen armed: and when they arrive at Oswego I can't but think that place sufficiently secure against any attempts of the Enemy, provided the communication can be kept open, & the only effectual way of doing that, is by keeping numbers of large Parties of Indians scouting on the Northside of the Mohawk's River, at the Great Carrying place, & on the Northside of the Oneida Lake & of the Onondago River to Oswego. But especially at the Great

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



Carrying Place, & such others as it may be necessary for us to erect Forts at, which I have ordered to be done, at the Entrance into the Oneida Lake & the Great Falls near Oswego for the protection of our Battoes in their Passage between the Wood Creek & that place; this I must desire you will use your utmost endeavours to prevail on the Indians of the Six Nations forthwith to do.

As it is necessary for his Majesty's service at this conjuncture, and I can't but think it will be very hard, if the Indians can't be prevailed on to afford us this service, upon being paid for it at least, since it is likewise necessary for the protection of their country — part of which they call Oswego itself; as indeed the country round it is: They are in dread of being cutt off by the French & their Indians require us to build Forts, secure all their Castles & furnish them with men to Garrison them, & call upon us to send a large Army to Oswego to defend it against the French; and I should think after this they might be induced to join with us in securing our Passage thro their own country for that purpose. The French do much more with their Indians: they send them into the country of the five nations to commit all manner of hostilities against us: You engag'd 300 of the Indians of the Six Nations last year to go with you to Crown Point to fight against the French & their Indians, some follow'd me to Oswego upon the service under my command; and they promised both of us to join us in larger Bodies against the French this spring: I can't therefore but hope, you will be able to effect this essential point for his Majesty's service: & immediately to employ your attention in it: The manner of doing this I must leave to yourself: I should think if the Indians were kept in constant Pay, they might be made as cheap soldiers in the way of service proper for them to act in, as any the King hath; if you judge that the best method, you have already power from me to appoint such officers for them as you shall think most proper for the service.

When I saw you at New York, I propos'd to you the joining to your present commission for the management of Indian affairs a military command of them; I have since been thinking, that

one of the same nature with that which Mons<sup>r</sup>. St. Pierre had over the Indians in alliance with the French will be necessary to make the Indians under your care more useful & strengthen your authority over them; if you are of the same opinion, I will when I come to Albany give you such a commission for that purpose as will be agreeable to you, in the mean while I must desire you will act in your direction of the Indians as if you already had it.

I approve of the Garrison you have put into the Connajoharie Castle, & if you think it necessary to increase the number of them you will do it. I approve likewise of your engaging a proper garrison for the Fort at the Mohawk's Castle to go into it when the Regulars go out, some of these men I should imagine might be made further useful by joining Parties of Indians from time to time in scouting, on the Northside the Mohawk's River, & in assisting the Battoemen at the Rifts near those Castles, which should be made part of this duty, these Garrison's certainly will be Expensive, but as their necessary we must have them, & make them as useful as possible. I shall order Inquiry to be made for light Guns &c Laces for the Indians, both here & at New York, if any are to be had they shall be immediately sent you.

I am glad to hear the Party of Indians you sent to Tinonderoge have brought off a sergeants scalp. You will engage at least an hundred of the six Nations to stand ready to go against Crown Point this spring; and to appoint a proper person to head them; I hope to get the Provincial Forces assembled at Lake George, by the first week in May at furthest.

I am, Sir

Your most Humble Servant

W. SHIRLEY.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet.

INDORSED:

Boston April 10th, 1756.

Genl. Shirleys

letter

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson April the 12th. 1756*  
8 a Clock P M:

SR.

This Inst. received the Inclosed letter from Captn. Williams, which I thought proper to forward imediately by Express, I sent Collo. Burton<sup>2</sup> also a Copy of it. and desired he would forward this to your Excellency with all Speed. I sent Captn. Butler<sup>3</sup> off Yesterday with Orders to Muster as many of the Mohawks, & other Indians as possibly He could in so short a time, & to proceed wth. them to the Carrying place, from thence to Osswego as a Guard to the Battoes, & Whale Boats. the Battoe Men go wth. great reluctance for the Want of Sufficient Guards. there are a few Men going up, but with out Arms. Many of the Battoe, & Whale Boat Men have no Arms. which makes the Indians think verry Ill of Us at this time. Sevrall Onondagas, Oneidas, & Tuscaroras arrived there this Day, also many Mohawks. they are all vastly uneasy that there are so few men at Osswego, & the Carrying place, as they are verry apprehensive that the French will try all means to Stop the Expedition to the Westward, by distroying the provisions, or takeing Oswego. which without More Men at both places & Cannon at the Carrying place, and provisions at Osswego they may easily do.

The Delegates which went to the Delewares are returned, Some of Whom, are come here now in order to let me know what passed at yt. Meeting. I have only time now to tell Yr. Excellency that they have made up that unhappy affair between them, & Us. & that they will Join our Arms agst. the French. they desire that if we have any Prisonners of theirs, that they be

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Ralph Burton, made commander at Montreal in 1763.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Butler. See Butler to Johnson, April 26, 1756.

delivered up to them as Soon as possible, and then they will deliver up all they have of Ours.

I must repeat the necessity there is of having Workmen from Some other parts to build Forts for the Severall Nations, as Men cannot be got here to Work at them. and they are now very pressing to have them built which I wish could be done Soon.

I am

Your Excellencys

Most Obedt. Humble Servt.

WM JOHNSON

I am sorry to tell Yr. Excellency, that some of ye. Battoe Men &ca use the Indians verry Ill, wh. I am afraid will be of bad Consequence. Some of them tyed Daniel with a Halter, & brought him to me Prisoner

GENRL. SHIRLEY

FROM JOHN BRADSTREET

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Burnetsfield 14<sup>th</sup>. April 1756*

SIR

It is with concern I am obliged to mention the Battoe Men are so intimidated with what has happen'd at the Carrying place that they desert the Service every day and declair they will not proceed any further than this place without a Guard exclusive of their own Regim<sup>t</sup>. and to acquaint You the second time that your sending me Indians would be of extreme great consequence to the Kings Service. In two days I hope to be gone from hence. I am

Sir

Your humble Servant

JN<sup>o</sup>. BRADSTREET

SIR W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Burnets feild April  
the 14<sup>th</sup>. 1756  
Letter from Bradstreet  
w<sup>th</sup>. a packet w<sup>h</sup>. I forwarded  
& Express the 15<sup>th</sup>.

FROM JOHN BRADSTREET

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>*April the 14<sup>th</sup>. 7 AM 1756*

SIR

This moment is arrived two Indians of the Onondagas to give Notice that Oswego was surrounded four days since by a very considerable number of French & Indians from the Cadaraque & Niagara, and that they certainly heard the Cannon of Oswego for half a day after they left their Castle; and further say the enemys General place of meeting was about twelve Miles from Oswego as the Indians inform'd them and were sent for that purpose by Col. Mercer.

Now, Sir, You will allow me to say nothing can be more conducive to the safty of that place, or to its recovery if gone, than the interposition of the five Nations, and that it appears to me Your immediate presence among them on this head absolutely necessary and would be of the greatest consequence; and that as Oswego is esteem'd with in the province of New York the Militia now at hand should joine me; provisions I have sufficient, and no time have I, nor shall I lose in proceeding; however, Sir, this I submit to Your judgement and am Your most hum S<sup>t</sup>.

J<sup>Nº</sup>. BRADSTREETSIR W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Coll<sup>o</sup>. Bradstreets Letter  
recd. this letter friday  
April the 16<sup>th</sup>. 7 AM 1756

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

FROM JAMES MERCER

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Oswego, April 16<sup>th</sup>. 1756*

SIR

This three Weeks past we have been much infested with Scouting Parties of Indians, by whome we have lost five Men, four of them Carried off Prisoners, and the fifth scalp'd under the Guns of Fort Ontario at 10 O'Clock in the Morning, our late loss of a Serjeant & Eight Men with their Arms, being (surrounded and Carried off) makes me Cautious of sending out Parties after them; I suspect the frequent reports we hear of their fire arms, are only to decoy us, there have been a few of the five Nations here since, but none of them could be prevailed upon, to go on the Scout to bring us intelligence, they seem fearful and endeavor to render us so by Magnifying the Number and Strength of our Enemy, as the ways are now Patten I hope for a reinforcement, if Cap<sup>t</sup>. Bradley and y<sup>e</sup>. Sailors, had come here with the first Batteau's, I believe we might have intercepted, the Drunken Rable did the Mischief at the Carrying Place as I hear'd they pass'd the east end of this Lake, I have the honor to be with the most Perfect Regard, Sir

Your Oblig'd

&amp; Most Obedient

Humble Servant

JAMES MERCER

S<sup>R</sup>. WILLM. JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

FROM JOHN BRADSTREET

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Harkeimans 17<sup>th</sup>. April 1756*

SIR,

It may be proper to let you know that two Indians are arrived here who Say they came from the Onondaga Castle but three days since and that at that time there was no Account of Oswego being attacked whether these or those who gave the first account is to be believ'd I cannot say but hope soon to be well informed in this matter as Capt. Williams has sent to Oswego five Days ago on purpose for intelligence & two Young Mohaks Set out yesterday for the same purpose.

Captain Schuyler is just come to me and says the people are so discontented on moneys being due to them last Year that they will not go to the carrying place with their Horses & Slays, or at least but a few, which will be of fatal consequence as the flats cannot furnish above fifty — I therefor hope You will endeavour in Your way, or by sending to them, to engage them to com; I have brought money to pay them, which is all I have to say to the matter of last year.

I am

Sir

Your humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.J<sup>NO</sup> BRADSTREETSIR W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>.

P.S. I beg the favour You will write the General what I now mention as to the account brought by the two last Indians, and that I expect an account from Oswego every hour.

INDORSED:

Harkemars April 17<sup>th</sup>. 1756

Letter from Bradstreet

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Boston 17th April 1756*

SIR.

I am favoured with your Letters of the 9th & 13th inst<sup>t</sup>. by Express & have ordered the Party at Herkermans to be reinforced to 500 men and that at the Great Carrying Place to 400 men under proper officers. Besides the Party of 60 men now posted at the little carrying Place, and two others which I have ordered to the end of Wood Creek at the Entrance into the Oneida Lake and at Oswego Falls; and the Garrison of Oswego will I hope soon consist of 15 or 1600 men; But no number of Regulars without Indians which are good Woodsmen will prevent the continual Mischief done by the Enemy & their Indians; I must therefore beg leave to observe again that in order to keep the Communication with Oswego open, there is an absolute necessity that strong Parties of Indians of the five Nations should be kept continually scouting: and in particular it is an essential point for the preservation of Oswego that the Parties of Whale boats and Battoes under the Command of Colonel Bradstreet should be safeguarded by Indians in their Route to & from Oswego: But after my Letter of the 18th. Inst<sup>t</sup>. to you, Sir, upon the necessity of the Indians assisting in keeping their Country clear of the Enemy, & bringing us constant intelligence of their approaches I need not mention any thing further.

If any of the Battoemen want arms it must be the fault of those who levied them; all that went from this Province were arm'd except the last 23, who were ordered to buy arms for themselves: 1200 stands of arms were sent to Albany as soon as they arriv'd from England to compleat the four Regiments: and as to Cannon for the Great Carrying Place that must be taken care of when we take the Field; the main point now is to get our Provisions safe to Oswego: Whatever number of

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



workmen is necessary to finish the Indian Forts in time must be had as soon as possible: and I must desire you to send orders for procuring them from Albany, New York, Connecticut or the Massachusetts Bay as you shall find necessary.

I am glad to hear of the good success of the Delegates you sent to the Delawares; & that the Mohawks are strengthening themselves with all the River Indians living in & near Esopus; and I hope that a sufficient Party of the Mohawks will be procured to Guard the Whaleboats & Battoes to Oswego; and that the scouting Parties you keep out for intelligence will prevent all surprize.

I shall give Colonel Bradstreet strict orders to take the utmost care for keeping the Battoemen from offering the least ill usage to the Indians: I am extremely sorry in particular to hear to their abusing Daniel.

I am,

Sir,

Your most Humble servant,

W SHIRLEY

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronet.

INDORSED:

Boston, April 17th, 1756.

General. Shirleys Letter.

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Sudbury April 21<sup>st</sup>. 1756*

SIR

I have just now receiv'd an Express from Albany with two Letters from Lieut. Col<sup>o</sup>. Bradstreet dated the 14<sup>th</sup>. of this Inst. giving me an Account that Oswego has been besieg'd four days and that he hath given you an account of it as appears by an Enclos'd Extract of his Letter to you, which I now send you.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

I have upon this occasion sent Orders to Lieut. Col<sup>o</sup>. Gage to march 500 of the 44<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup>. Regiments and Col<sup>o</sup>. Schuylers whole Regiment to cover the provisions going to Oswego under Lieut. Col<sup>o</sup>. Bradstreet and to repossess themselves of it if taken in Case that should be practicable.

It is needless Sir for me observe to you how necessary it is for his Majesty's Service that you should Collect with the Utmost Expedition all the Indians you possibly can upon this Emergency and together with the Militia you have at hand go with them in person and join the party under the Command of Lieut. Col<sup>o</sup>. Gage either for the preservation of Oswego or recovery of it, if taken by the Enemy.

I hope you'll be able upon this occasion to exert your Influence with the Six Nations if they can't be now prevailed upon to join with us in saving their Country from the French. I can't see what Dependance his Majesty can have upon their Friendship or promises. I must press you to exert your best Endeavours at this Conjunction apparently nothing but the most speedy Succour of the Indians can save the place and that Sir must depend upon your Vigilance and Activity.

I have upon this Occasion wrote to Sir Charles Hardy and desired him to send after you as strong a party of the Militia as he can with the utmost Dispatch

SIR W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON Bart.

I am

Sir

Your most humble

Servant

W SHIRLEY

INDORSED:

Sudbury April 21<sup>st</sup>.

1756

Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirleys letter

Extract of Col<sup>o</sup>. Bradstreet's Letter to Sir William Johnson

"Now Sir you'll allow me to say nothing can be more Conducive to the Safety of that place or it's recovery if gone, than

the Interposition of the five Nations, and that it appears to me your immediate presence among them on this head absolutely necessary and would be of the greatest Consequence; and that as Oswego is esteem'd within the province of New York the Militia now at hand should join me provisions I have sufficient, and no time have I, nor shall I loose in proceeding however Sir this I submit to your Judgement And am

Your most hum<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>."

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 22 April 1756.*

SIR

I have the honour of Your Excellency's three Letters of the 10. 15 & 17. Inst.

As to my not pursuing the Enemy, it was four days after the Mischief was done when I arrived at the Carrying place & all Circumstances and Opinions concurred to render it highly probable the Enemy were returned to Sweegachie — besides the Militia were so ill provided & so harrassed with Fatigue & extreme cold and Weather that they were in a manner incapable of proceeding further, the Indians said it was in vain to think of pursuing their Route to any good purpose. I left some Indians with Capt. Williams who promised to Scout round those parts and a party of 20 to guard 3 or 4 Battoes of provisions wch. I pressed him to send to Osswego and wch he promised but I believe did not.

I agree with your Excellency in Opinion of the necessity there is that Scouting parties should range those passes & places you mention in order to secure the Communication to Osswego, and I have applied to the Cayouge the Onondaga Onieda & Mohawk Indians on that head they promised & they assure me they have & will kept constant Scouts out. It is true the French

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

do more with their Indians than we can do with ours, and Many Reasons might be assigned for it. besides that they have many more Indians than we have — in most of their Scalping Parties there are more French than Indians wch. makes their Indians more willing & ready to go out, ours are left to themselves, & Indians are not so well pleased when they act as Auxillaries as they now look upon themselves to be, When this fatiguing & Dangerous Duty is left to them only.

There are a number of Indians & an Indian Officer with Col. Broadstreet<sup>1</sup> at the Flatts, another party are gone thru the Woods with the Cattle to Osswego. I shall appoint more Indian Officers and make use of my utmost Influence & abilities to render the Indians as extensively useful to His Majestys Service as is in my power, tho this will be Attended with a great Expencc yet I hope also with Consequences worthy of it.

I have agreed with a person to build a Fort for the Oniedas & I expect it will be soon put in hand. I am about agreeing with another Person for one for the Onondagas, the Senecas, the Aughqugas & Schohare Indians who have all applied to me for Forts. These Forts as Your Excellency observes with their Garrisons will be a great Expencc to the Crown, but I think with you they are a necessity & will be found I doubt not a very useful Measure.

I shall use my utmost Endeavours to engage 100 Indians for the Crown Point Expedition but I fear it will be a difficult Matter to bring about.

Your favour of the 15 April incloses me the Extract from Capt. Williams Letter.

There was an Oneida Indian who I understand did not behave with the Zeal & Fidelity he ought to have done, but this was resented by the rest of the Oneida Nation & they treated him with indignation & Contempt for his Behaviour. I found all the Oneida Indians very ready & zealous to join me & to go upon any Service they were directed & to the best of my knowl-

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

edge & judgment there is no just Foundation to suspect the sincerity of their professions towards us, among them as amongst all other people there may be particular persons of bad Character.

I found when I was at the Carrying place that there was no good Understanding between the Indians & Capt. Williams,<sup>1</sup> they reproached him with disbelieving their Intelligence & making light of their warnings to his Face, I told him of it & he did not deny their Charge, I am affraid he is not disposed to, or not skilled in that kind of Behaviour wch. is necessary to gain the Confidence & good will of the Indians without which their good Service will either not be obtained or in a great Measure defeated. Their Misunderstandings have gone so far that they told me they wanted him to be moved, but I endeavoured to reconcile Matters & thought I had succeeded for I left the Indians to all Appearance heartily disposed either to go on the Scout or as guards to the Provisions to Osswego & how they came to behave in the manner Capt. Williams sets forth is a mystery to me. I well know they are a people apt to be capricious & it often requires Temper & Skill to manage them without wch. we may complain but it will not avail. I would be far from justifying these Peoples Faults, but I really suspect Capt. Williams is blamable on his side. Your Excellency is certainly right that Regular Troops are not calculated either to prevent or repel the Attacks to wch. they are exposed from the Enemy & their Indians in marching thro the Woods in these parts & the only way to secure & cover their March is by Indians or experienced Rangers.

I reassure Your Excellency that I will use my best Endeavours & I am daily doing it, to procure and Animate our Indians to secure the passage & Road to Osswego as far as they are able from the Insults & Attempts of the Enemy & their Indians.

Herewith I transmit Your Excellency a Copy of the Conference I had with a Deputation of the Onondagas — You will perceive they have succeeded with the Delaware & Shawanese

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<sup>1</sup> See *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:524.

Indians — that there is to be a great meeting of the Six Nations at Onondaga at wch. the Shawanese & Delewares will be present, that they have earnestly requested I would come there & wch. I have promised them to do — I look upon the Meeting to be a very important one & that a right improvement of it will be of the utmost Consequence to His Majestys Service & the general Interest. Your Excellency will see how pressing they are for Arms & Amunition in particular & it is with pleasure that I can acquaint you that Sr. Charles Hardy has given me an Order for about 275 Guns & some Amunition out of His Majestys present wch Sr. Charles was to make to the 6 Nations and he desires I will dispose thereof in his Name at this Meeting. no Articles were more essential or wch. I am more distressed about than these, however I shall be short of Guns unless Your Excellency should be able to get some more procured for me they might be light & good ones, I beg to remind you of this Article. As the proposed Meeting at Oswego must speedily follow this would Your Excellency think it proper for some of the presents designed for that to be taken off & given at this in order to save Expence, please to let me know your pleasure herein. Not only in point of Security but to strengthen my Consequence at this Onondaga Meeting, I must desire Your Excellency will order me a Guard of an Officer 3 Subaltorns & 100 Men.

I transmit also to Your Excellency the Amount I received this Evening from the Mohawk Delagates of their Embassy to the River Indians, the incorporation of whom amongst the Mohawks will strengthen our Indians Interest, & render a people before useless servicable to the common Cause.

I am

most respectfully

Sir

Your Excellencys

Most Obedt. & humble

P S.<sup>1</sup> there are Severall  
 Oneidaes here now, they expect  
 to have a Number of Irregulars to  
 Garrison their Forts when finished,  
 as does all the rest, except the Onondagas,  
 who desire to have Lieut. Mills posted there.  
 I should be glad to have Yr. Excellencys Orders or directions  
 how to act therein.

By the Copy of my Proceedings at the late Meeting Your  
 Excellency may have observed that agreeable to your Instruc-  
 tions I promised that Goods should be plenty & cheap this year  
 at Osswego in order to encourage the Western Indians to come  
 there. The Indians discovered the utmost Satisfaction on hear-  
 ing this & said no Method could be so Effectual to gain over  
 the Western Indians to our Alliance. they will depend upon  
 this promise being fulfilled & a Disappointment will be of very  
 bad Consequence. I hope therefore your Excellency will bear  
 this Matter in mind & fall on Measures to fulfill our Engage-  
 ment herein.

To His Excellency GENERAL SHIRLEY &c. &c.

INDORSED:<sup>3</sup>

My letter to Genl. Shirley  
 Fort Johnson April 22d. 1756

FROM ISRAEL PEMBERTON

L. S.<sup>4</sup>

*Philadelphia 25<sup>th</sup>: 4 mo: 1756*

ESTEEMED FRIEND

The generous Concern thou hast manifested for the honour of  
 our King & safety and Prosperity of our Country are so well

<sup>1</sup> Postscript in Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> John Mills.

<sup>3</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>4</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

known to many of us, who have not had the pleasure of a personal Acquaintance with thee, that I believe it will in this critical Juncture be pleasing to thee to be informed the Substance of some Conferences I with Some of my Friends have had with Scarroydy and the other Indians, who have now just left us, & whom I expect thou wilt Soon have an Opportunity of Seeing.

The Frankness & Sincerity of their Expressions & Conduct leave no room to doubt of their being heartily pleased with meeting some of their old Friends here in whom they can repose Confidence, and I hope this disposition may be improved to our mutual lasting Advantage. Thou art so well acquainted with these People & the manner in which our Affairs with them have been transacted some Years past, that I need not make any Observations thereon. The necessity of attending more Steadily to cultivating our Friendship with them and removing the Occasions of the present Animosity some of them have entertained are obvious, and I hope it is not too late to Attempt the doing it: if this be neglected and the Mistaken Views of Extirpating them should prevail I fear the desolation of the finest part of the English Dominions will be the Consequence of so injudicious and Wicked an Intention.

Those Conferences have been held by the Permission of our Governor, but the Circumstances of our Affairs are such that this seems to be the first Step taken here towards the Restoration of Peace with any prospect of Success — it is the Act of private Persons, who are engaged in it on a religious Principle, & have both Inclination and Ability's Sufficient to bear the Expence and will chearfully go thro' with it, if divine Providence favours our Design & we have no unsurmountable Obstructions from such here, who ought to promote it. Our principal Reliance for Assistance therein is on thee, the Interest thou hast both with your Governor and with the Indians will enable thee to do more than any or even many others can, and without the Interposition and Concurrence of some, in whom the Indians can



confide there's no room to expect a permanent Peace will be made.

If our Endeavours Succeed we have no doubt of the Expence being repaid to us, if not, our fervent Concern for our bleeding Country and the honest discharge of our duty will be a Sufficient Reward to us. This being my sole Motive for engaging therein and taking this Liberty with thee, I hope for thy Approbation, and as I have desired Daniel Claus the Bearer of this to inform thee of many particulars not mentioned in our Minutes, I shall only add that I am with much Respect,

Thy real Friend

ISR: PEMBERTON

FROM ISRAEL PEMBERTON

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Philadelphia 26<sup>th</sup>: 4 mo: 1756*

ESTEEMED FRIEND,

Considering that Daniel Clause may be detained long on the Way home, and that the pressing Circumstances of our Affairs with the Indians demand the most speedy & vigorous Endeavours to Retrieve them from their present unhappy State, I send the Bearer on purpose to deliver thee a Duplicate of the Minutes of our Conference with the Indians & to request thy immediate friendly Prosecution of thy Endeavours for the publick Interest, which will be a Work truly Worthy of the most exalted Mind, & lay a particular Obligation on the People of this Province, and for my Friends in particular I can answer that they will Acknowledge it in the most respectful & grateful manner.

I am with much respect

Thy Assured Friend

ISR: PEMBERTON

S<sup>R</sup>. W<sup>M</sup>: JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Great Carrying Place, 26th April, 1756.*

SIR

I arrived here the 23<sup>d</sup> Instant where found all well. The boats &c. got all safe to this place. Though had their been any Enemy on the Coast they must undoubtedly have destroy'd more or less of our people as they were scatter'd all along the River, & no where any considerable body together. it was impossible for me to gaurd the whole, as to any gaurd of soldars by land was none their was a number of new Recruits but all in battoes & without arms. The 23<sup>d</sup>: being a very Rainy day coud send out no scouting party, but the 25<sup>th</sup>, sent out two & with each a white man. They discover'd nothing in particular, but douted whether they had not seen two fresh tracks. 26<sup>th</sup>. sent out a scout at their return reported saw nothing. The two Conajoharys sent Express to Oswego from the Great Flatts Returnd hither last night in company with two Annidass that were sent their from this & by letters brot by them all is well at Oswego. A few horses were brot here last night but no riders with them. here is but five or six slays. Though the carpenters are busey this day makeing more. As more horses are Expected, yet I believe it will be ten days at least before all is over. I understand the workmen are to open the Wood Kreek as far as the Morass which if can be done in a few days will forward us Greatly.

The two Conajoharys from Oswego speaks very slitty of the Six Nations. they could hear comeing through their castles that they were chiefly inclined to the French. That soon wou'd be a grand meeting of all nations of Indians at Nigra where some of each of the Six Nations likewise wou'd go.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

The French has told the Indians there that had the English came to that place last year they woud easily have taken it. but that its now strong and they bid them defiance that they are now prepar'd both by land and water & long to meet the English.

I lern the French Vessels are constantly going back & forward the lake. Whilst ours lye still — These two Conajoharys tells me they heard among the Indians that you carryed with you to Lake George sickness &c. which you sent among the French & Indians, by which many of them Died. and that your presents this year to be given the Six Nations will all be poysond so that by wearing or puting any thing on they shall receive of you they will Emeadietly die. I find this is a again French polickey but hope it will have no effect. I have here ten annondas with the Mohawks. The want for nothing. I propose taking them all & scout along the Wood Creek tomorrow, but by what I can lern there will mach such another Penn be built at the Morass as the former very soon.

I am

Sir

With all Respect your

Most Dutifull & Obed<sup>t</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>.

THO. BUTLER.

P.S. They have alter'd their minds in regard to the Fort to be built on the other side, its now likely to become a good one.

To SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

INDORSED:

Carrying place April 26, 1756.

Thos. Butlers Letter.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Great Carrying Place 3<sup>d</sup>. May 1756*

SIR

Yesterday afternoon came in here three Onnidass, who were Sent by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Williams as Spies Towards Oswegatia. They were gone a day before I arriv'd at this place. They Report the 1<sup>st</sup>. Instant they Saw & Spoke with Ten Kanessadogos or French Indians between thirty and forty Miles from this. Who told them they had been twenty in Company, but That Ten were gone Towards the Flatts to take Either Prisoners or Scalps & That they Waited there for their Return. I hear their is a family taken at the German Flatts which I suppose to be done by them. Nickass Y<sup>r</sup>. Frind Come here last night from the Castle with Some of his Nation & those of Tuscarorah. About 20 of them & our Mohawks are Now on a Scout, I can See the Indians will not fight against one another. Some of the Annondas are Expected here every Minute Who are Going to Oswegatia to forbid the French & Indians doing any Mischief hereabouts, Several of the Mohawks of both Castles are gone Home and have paid them their four Shillings per day. I belive the ocation of the Mohawks leving this war was oweing to their haveing to much Drink which Ocationed ill blood between them as they often quarreled in their cups. I for My part have taken all possible care to use Them so as They Should want for Nothing of Necessarys. its impossible where their is such a number of people to keep them sobar, Yet I have allways had enough so to do the Duty requird of them. Capt. Delencey just now arrivd with his company. This is to go by the first oppertunity,

I am

Sir

Your most Dutifull &  
Obedt. Servt.THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

FROM HENRY I. WENDELL

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Onyde Carrying Place May 3th. 1756*

DEAR SIR

I hope this may find you In good health as I am att Present Inclosed I send you the Proposition of the Onyda Chiefs Whom where sent to me by the whole Cassell, when they arrived at the Carrying Place they waited upon Capt: Williams told him their message, he said nothing, they immediately sent two young Indians for me, I told them that I could not come without an order, which vexed them. Vastly upon which they returned, in the mean while Capt. Williams took care to sell the Indians out of the Kings store five gallongs of Rum and received the money for it, as Mr. Read tells me he delivered it, This was the only scheme Williams had to make them Drunk in order that they should not speak to me, the next morning Capt. Butler told Bradstreet and Williams that they hurted the kings service vastly in not sending for me, then Broadstreet ordered Williams to write me the inclosed note, upon which I came down found the Indians all drunk upon which I returned to Wood Creek this morning Eight young Indians where sent for me in order to guard me over upon which they made me this speech, Williams behaviour to me is unexpressible and no gentlemens satisfaction to be had, he first begd Bradstreet privately to order me over to Wood Creek with no command from our own company— Secondly he absolutely dus a great deale of hurt in regard to the Onydas, verry seldom will beleive any thing they say, but thinks himself verry knowing Indian affairs which he absolutely knows knothing about, he is capable of doing any low lifed new England tricks, he has used Mr. Reed in a verry scandelouse manner by turning him out of doors and ordring Liewis Clement to lick him, and every gentlemen upon the command speaks shamefully of his behaviour towards him, and me, I hope as you

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

have always been my good friend you will do me all the service in your power to wards my preferment and please to favour me with your answer which will infinitely oblige.

Sir:

Your most obed' Servant

HENRY I. WENDELL.

P.S. The Onydes have seen ten French Indians upon this cost and say three of them was prisoners two days with them, they have likewise taken Stovel hilts and his family upon the Great Flats.

H I W

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Great Carrying Place 4th May 1756.*

SIR

I lern by Nickass that the Belt Wompom you gave Goweaha at the German Flatts was three Days before it got to Onnida, Goweaha being drunk employ'd a young Indian to carry the same who told the Indians as you desired requesting them to assist in Escorting provisions &c. to Oswego but it seems he aded you threton'd them very severably in case of their refussal &c. I find they have been Greatly alarm'd at it, and none wou'd have come here had not Nickass and a Tuskarora told them the right news. Nickass further tells me when he came to the Castle he found severall going to Oswegatia who said it was your desire. To forbid the French & Indians comeing to do any more mischief at this place. The Tuskaroras were desir'd by the Onnidas to go with them but they intirely refused saying they wou'd have no talk with the French.

Some of the Mohawks are going away tomorrow in short they begin to be of little service as their is no such thing of hindering their geting rum. I have spoke so often to the officers on that head. That am now detirmend to say no more, it appears to

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

me their is a desine in it, as some here are not your very good frinds. I have this day consulted Coll. Broadstreet told him if he wanted more Indians cou'd get them from Onnida Tuckarora &c. by sending for them, But he said here were enough. That the expense wou'd be too great. I acquainted him how redy the Indians were to serve formerly without money but the expedition last year to Oswego spolt them by giving them great wages. So that they now all expect to have the same.

I am

Sir

Your most Dutifull  
and obedt. Servt.

THO: BUTLER

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnston, 10th May, 1756.*

SIR:

I met the Express between Albany & Schenedady with Captain Falkner's<sup>2</sup> Letter, advising that a Large Body of French & Indians were Marching to cut off the German Flatts. I sent the Express forward to Colonel Burton,<sup>3</sup> who I doubt not Communicated the Intelligence to your Excellency without loss of time; at Schenedady I dispatched Orders to the Militia to join me the Hither End of the German Flatts, for which place I set Out with all possible Dispatch, and as I thought no time ought to be lost It was too much to write to your Excellency at that juncture; upon a Muster at the Flatts I found I had with me above 1,400 Militia & Indians; the Albany Detach-

<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 7:127-28. An extract is printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:472.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Thomas Falkner [Falconer] of the 44th regiment.

<sup>3</sup> Lieutenant Colonel Ralph Burton of the 48th regiment.

ment did not Come Up. I dispatched Scouting parties all round the German Flatts for several Miles, but made no Discovery of any Enemy; I have some Scouts still out whom I desired to take a larger Circuit, & I sent some Indians to reconitre the Enemy, who are to Go as far as Onegochi if they can do it Safely.

I find the Indians, the Onondagas Expected,<sup>1</sup> are very warmly against my Going to the Meeting at Onondaga. Deputies from the two Mohawk Castles are to meet me here to-morrow, also the Half King<sup>2</sup> & Several Seneca Chiefs, who are here with him now, when they say they will Give me their Reasons; besides I am informed the Southern Indians who proposed this Meeting have Changed their pacific Measures & are gone over to the French on the Ohio, but as I expect to-morrow's Meeting will throw some new lights upon this Affair I will defer saying any thing more upon it till that is Over, when I shall transmit your Excellency what passes, & at the same time Answer your Favour of the Twenty-ninth Ult<sup>o</sup>. from New York.

Our Militia here are Quite wore out with the Repeated Fatigues they have lately suffered.

I wish the Companies of Rangers your Excellency Mentions were ready to go upon duty, when I would hope to be able to join Indians with them, & unless this method takes place I despair of the Communication to Oswego being secured.

Captain Butler<sup>3</sup> writes me that Colonel Bradstreet<sup>4</sup> says he has as many Indians with him as he Wants; he might have more if he thought them Necessary.

I am your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servant,

WILLIAM JOHNSON.

<sup>1</sup> Intended for "excepted."

<sup>2</sup> Scarouady.

<sup>3</sup> Captain Thomas Butler.

<sup>4</sup> Colonel John Bradstreet.



FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Albany, May 16th 1756.*

SIR,

At the request of Sir Charles Hardy I send you the inclos'd copy of a Letter from Mr. Peters to him dated 8th Instant, and an Extract of a Letter from Gov<sup>r</sup>. Dinwiddie to Gov<sup>r</sup> Morris dated 30th April, which Sir Charles sent me two Days ago; by which you will perceive the Delawares & Shawonesse Indians, notwithstanding the Account you sent me in your Letter of the 22d April concerning their having been prevail'd on by Delegates from the Onondago's to lay down the Hatchet against the English, & to promise to join the Six nations against the French, still continue their Ravages upon His Majesty's subjects in the Western Colonies with as great Fury as ever.

Last night I receiv'd your Letter dated at Fort Johnson the 14th Instant, wherein you mention, that in a conference, you was then holding with a "number of  
"Indians from the two Mohawks Castles & some of every  
"other nation except the Onondago's upon the subject of  
"your going to Onondago, they were extremely averse to  
"it;— that you had form'd to yourself the pleasing  
"Expectation of some beneficial advantages at the meeting  
"at Onondago relating to the unhappy state of our  
"Affairs with the Delaware & Shawanesse Indians," but that some of the Indians then with you told you "they  
"were perswaded those Indians would not attend at Onondago  
"according to their proposal; That if they should not, your  
"going up there at this time would bring a great charge  
"on the Crown without the prospect of equivalent advantages,  
"as the meeting at Oswego will, you suppose, soon take  
"place."

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

As I know not yet the Reasons upon which the Mohawks & other Indians now with you are averse to your going to Onondago, you must, Sir, be a better judge upon the whole than I can be at present, whether it is adviseable for you to go there or not: For my own part, I can't but have some apprehensions that your not going may disgust the Onondago Indians, who you inform'd me in your Letter of the 22d. of April earnestly desir'd you would be present at that council, w<sup>ch</sup>. you promis'd to be.

If that should be the case; might it not be attended with ill consequences, as those Indians have a great Influence, not only over the Cayuga's & Seneca's, (the two most wavering Castles with regard to the English Interest) but the Indians settled at Oswegochi too who are chiefly descended from the Onondago's, and we had conceiv'd hopes might be drawn over to us by their Interest; as also among the Delaware & Shawanese Indians themselves.

It seems likewise to me, that this failure of the Delaware Indians to come to the council at Onondago (as they promis'd to do) & their continuing their Hostilities against us, notwithstanding the late Interposition of the six Nations to prevent it, and the Expectation they gave those nations of laying down the Hatchet against the English & joining against the French might upon your going to that Council according to the desire of the Onondago's and your own appointment, furnish you w<sup>th</sup> strong arguments for prevailing upon the Indians of the Six Nations to take up the Hatchet against the Delawares & Shawanese, & chastize them for their Disobedience: I should likewise think that your being present at this council might be of consequence in preparing the six nations for the propos'd meeting at Oswego with the Messasagaes, Chippowee's, Outouaies & other Indians expected there, very much conduce to make that most important Meeting have the desired Effect.

What I have now said, Sir, I offer to you only as my sentiments, which I desire you will consider of, & must leave it to you to act therein according to your best judgment.

I shall hasten the compleating & marching of the three companies of Rangers to the Indian Country, according to your Desire, as soon as may be: and as I hope the Indians may be then induced to go out with them, & by that means be kept constantly out in scouting & Ranging parties, they will not only then be of service in clearing their country of the French Indians, & keeping open the communications between schenectada & Oswego, but likewise in making Incursions into the Enemy's country, & turning the war upon them in their own way.

I should be glad of your opinion, whether it might not be for his Majesty's service to have eight or ten such companies to be employ'd jointly with the Indians in such service.

You will consider that these companies will be a considerable charge to the Crown.

I transmitted to Sir Charles Hardy a copy of your Letter to me of the 14th Instant, according to your Desire.

I should be extremely glad to hear by the Return of this Express, the Result of your conference with the Indians at Fort Johnson.

I am

Sir,

Your most Humble Servant.

W SHIRLEY.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Baronett.

INDORSED:

Albany 16 May 1756.

General Shirleys letter

Promises 3 comp<sup>ys</sup>. of Rangers

to Join y<sup>e</sup> Ind<sup>s</sup>. in scouting

but never sent one —

FROM JAMES F. MERCER<sup>1</sup>A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>*Oswego May 20<sup>th</sup> 1756*S<sup>R</sup>.

My hopes of seeing you here soon prevented me writing to you before. we have been much Infested Lately by the Enemy Indians, and our's seem to Neglect us, scarce any of them coming near us. some of them pretend fear of the Enemy. whilst Others entertain a jealousy of our having a desighn to cut them off. which must be Infused into them by some Emmissary from Canada, whatever may be the cause of their present Coldness I have the Satisfaction to Assure you That None of them met with the Least Offence during the Course of this Winter from any of the Troops here I still hope for the honour of your Company, I am with the most perfect Regard.

S<sup>r</sup>.

Your Oblidged  
& most Obedient  
humb<sup>le</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>

JAMES F. MERCER

S<sup>R</sup>. WILL<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON. Bar<sup>t</sup>.

---

the 100 Men for Crown Point  
the Road through the five Nations  
ab<sup>t</sup>. the Delawares —————  
to deliver the Arms & amunition in S<sup>r</sup>. Charles Hardys name<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel James F. Mercer, English commandant at Oswego; killed at the capture of this fort by the French, under Montcalm, in 1756.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

<sup>3</sup> These four lines of memorandum in Johnson's hand.

ADDRESSED:

To

Sir William Johnson Bart<sup>t</sup>  
 att  
 Fort Johnson

INDORSED:

Oswego May 20, 1756

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Coll<sup>o</sup>. Mercers Letter

## JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 20<sup>th</sup>. May 1756*

Canaghquayeson, a Chief Sachem of Oneida, with two Young Indians One an Oneida, the other a Tuscarora, arrived this afternoon, & Canaghquayeson spoke as follows.

Mr Claus Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Radt a Tuscorora Chief also present.

Brother Warraghiyagey

At the meeting you held with the Six Nations this last Winter, you pressed us so warmly, to take into consideration the hostilities committed against our Brethren the English, by the Delawares and Shawonese Indians and to interpose our Influence and Authority over those Indians. To prevent any more Blood from being shed, that we could not avoid taking that matter upon us, and accordingly a Deputation from the six Nations was appointed to hold a Council with those Indians at Otsinenke, I was one who went there, and those Indians were so much convinced by the Arguments which we made use of that they

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<sup>1</sup> In Maryland Historical Society, Gilmore Papers, Vol. 2, Division 2, No. 8, Baltimore, Md.

repented what they had done, and solemnly promised, that they would not again hurt the hair of the Head of any Englishman, they told us they were thankfull the five Nations had put them in mind of their former Engagements, and that they woud now throw every thing that was evil behind their Backs, that they had been in Darkness, but now their Eyes were opened, and their minds made easy. The Indians who spoke to us in the foregoing manner, were Shawonese, Chickasaw's and Mohickanders, who further told us that they had at several times sent Belts of Wampum to the Delawares who live at Tiahogo with Messages to forward to the Six Nations, which they neglected to do, that for the future they were determined to address themselves to the Six Nations directly, and would attend any meeting, which their Brother Warraghiyagey woud call them to, and woud be glad to take him by the Hand.

Brother,

One of the Skaniyadaradighrono's who live near the aforesaid Indians came to Oneida about 10 days ago, and told us, that the aforesaid Indians had applied to the Delawares, who live at Tiahogo to accompany them to the proposed Meeting at Onondaga, which they refused to do, saying that one Thomas McKee, who lives upon the Susquahannah, and is Married to a Shawonese Squa had told them, that in 10 days time an Army of the English woud come and destroy them, and said to them further, "You cant think that as you have Murdered the English, from Canastoga to Esopus, that they will put up with it Quietly. And Warraghiyagey may pretend to make up peace with you, but that is not in his Power, the Governor of Pennsylvania is Master this way who will not listen to Peace." The Tiahoga Indians said they woud not therefore leave home but prepare to defend themselves against the hostile Intentions of the English, and that they had sent out ten Men as Scouts to observe the motions of the English.

Brother./

When we received this Intelligence at Oneida, we immediately sent a Message to the Delawares at Tiahoga, insisting upon their attending the Meeting at Onondago.

A true Extract from the Records  
Examined by me.

PETER WRAXALL Secy.

a true Copy examined by me

BENJ<sup>A</sup>: BARONS  
Secretary.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLAAS DE GRAEF

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, May 20, 1756*]

Instructions for Mr. Claas de Graaf head Carpenter going to the Seneca Country to build a Fort for those Indians.

You are to repair with your best Diligence with the Men under your Direction to the Senecas Country & there to consult with the Indians of that Nation on a proper Spot to build a Fort. Unless they unanimously agree upon another, I would have it built on the Lake side on a clear Spot of Ground w<sup>ch</sup> Mr. Wemp who goes with you as Interpreter had described to me. This Fort is to be one hundred & fifty feet Square — the Logs to be either of Pine or Oak, Sixteen feet long, four feet of which to be set in the Ground well rammed & pounded; two sides of each Log to be squared so as they may stand close to each other, proper loop Holes to be cut at four feet distance, the heights from the ground to be left to the Indians. Two good block Houses to be built at either of the opposite Corners, each block House to be twenty four feet square below, the upper part above the Beams to project a Foot so as men may fire down upon the Enemy.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 4.

You are to floor the Block Houses, Shingle the roofs & build a good Sentry Box on the Top of each House & two strong Gates of Oak Plank of 3 Inches thick to be set up in the properest places with strong Iron hinges. You are to keep an exact Account of the Number of days each Man works & of the Horses also & see that they work faithfully. You are to take care that none of your party quarrel with or use any of the Indians ill or sell them any Liquor at their Peril.

I send along with you 100 Schippels of Indian Corn in two Battoes which you are with the assistance of Mr. Wemp to see equitably divided amongst the aforesaid Indians.

If there should be any news of Consequence amongst the Seneca Indians Mr. Wemp is to dispatch it to me by an Indian Express whom I will pay for his trouble & if it should be necessary he must also send an Express with it to the Commanding officer of His Majestys Garrison at Oswego.

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson  
this 20 day of May 1756.

W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 23 May 1756*

*10 aClock at night.*

SIR

I have just now received Intelligence by the Expresses who are returned from Onondaga that a vast number of the Enemys tracks have been discovered between Sweegahie & the Carrying Place & I find the Indians are in general very apprehensive that an Attack will speedily be made back against the great Carrying Place or the German flats or perhaps both.

I thought it my Duty to give y<sup>r</sup>. Excellency an Account of this report as I have received it, and I send this Letter by Lieut.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



Mills who is to set off early to morrow Morning. And I shall send an Express with this Acct. to the Commanding Officer at the German Flatts that he may forward it to the Great Carrying place.

I am preparing some Papers to send yr. Excellency wch. I hope will be ready some time to morrow.

I am

Sir

Yr. Excellencys

Most Obet.

To His Excellency

GENL SHIRLEY

INDORSED:

May 23d. 1756

Letter to Genrl. Shirley

& Lieut. Mills

Material

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 2 [5] May 1756.*

SIR

I have your Excellencys favour of Yesterday. I sent my Clerk down to Albany four days ago to buy some things I wanted for the Indians if to be got, some Blanketts were among the rest, if he has missed when there was such a plenty as Your Excellency Mentions I shall be vexed with him, had I thought such an Article would have come within your Excellencys knowledge I should have taken the Liberty to have mentioned it to you.

As I expect to find the Workmen at Onondaga I will give Mr. Montrosory<sup>2</sup> additional Directions mentioned by Your Excellency to them & have them executed.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel James Montresor, chief engineer.

I do not recollect that my Request to Your Excellency about the 160 Coats you mention to me, but I beg the favour Yr. Excellency will order Mr. Stephenson<sup>1</sup> to send them to Schenectady without delay to be sent by my Battoes wch are to come from thence.

By mine of Yesterday Your Excellency will see my Journey to Onondaga is fixt I am preparing & wait only for the Battoes & goods to come up. I beg therefore You will please to order me the Guard & give strict Orders to the Commanding Officer to take care that his Men behave well towards the Indians, do not give them drink or drink with them & best to have nothing to say to them.

I must beg the favour of your Excellency in case I should fall short of Provisions or Rum for the Ind. when I am at Onondaga to send me an Order to recruit at the nearest place where they can be spared.

Just now some Mohawk Indians who came from Osswego heard in their way thro Oneida that some Indians of that Nation who lately went to Sweegachie are returned & bring an Account that there is the greatest Meeting of Indians of all Nations at said place that has been known, and that they learnt there that as soon as said Meeting was over, it was determined to Attack with a Considerable Body the Oneida Carrying Place wch they said they did not doubt they should become Masters of, & that they would fortifie it & cut off the Communication to Oswego that they would afterwards cut off the German Flatts & then destroy my house.

I have lately had several Intimations from the Indians that they expected the French would soon strike some considerable blow in order to cut off the Communication to Osswego, & I am apprehensive from all these corresponding Accounts that the Enemy will soon make some considerable Attack.

I am  
most respectfully

To His Excellency GENL. SHIRLEY

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<sup>1</sup> James Stevenson of Albany.

Just as I was doing this Letter Abraham the Coanojohary Sachem arrived with an Acct. wch came to their Castle this day about 12 aClock, that 3 days ago 10 Men & 1 Squa Oneidas & Onondagas who live at Swegatche came to the Oneida Castle with each a large Pack of Goods, acquainting them that the Govr. of Canada desired the Six Nations would immediately come to Canada to speak with him, and that at least two of each Nation would without fail come there. I can hardly think any of them will comply with this Invitation however I shall take the proper Steps in my power to prevent it.

INDORSED:

May 25th. 1756  
Letter to Genrl Shirley  
Material.

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 26 May 1756*

SIR

Herewith I send Yr. Excellency copy of a Speech made to me by sundry Indians this Evening & my answer to the same. The Connojohary & Mohawk Indians are averse to having Red Coats as they call 'em put in their Forts & how to supply them at so short a warning is a distressing Point. The (Connojohary & Mohawk Indians) appear so uncommonly earnest in their Request for having their Wives & Family that I think not to comply will give them the utmost Dissatisfaction wch as they are realy faithful friends should in my humble opinion be most carefully avoided. I can think of no *and therefore I hope yr. Excellency will order the reinforcements* expedient but to try to hire for the time as many people as can be *they desire & give strict orders to the Commanding Officer that got at Albany &*

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal

Schenectady & some few in this neighbourhood for the *their men behave well towards the Indians & neither give or sell lower Castle, and to order the officer at Cannojohary Fort to employ them any Rum & have as little intercourse with them as possible.* persons to recruit his Garrison which if your Excellency approves & *It would be impracticable & I think not prudent at this Juncture* should not be able to fall on a better Expedt. I will do. *to have these Reinforcements from this part of the Country.*<sup>1</sup>

As to what they have said about my carrying up a large Number of Men, it is I find a very serious Matter with them, the Mohawks of both Castles appear now to be very suspicious of the Upper Nations whom they say talk very contemptibly of our Military Strength & Operations & in a high strain of the Enemy, & they think those upper Nations from a dread of the French and the old Leaven which is still in them are very cold to our Interest & disposed to Trim between both parties. The Mohawks say they are determined to share our Fate be it what it will, but I find they and all the Indians in general are fully persuaded of an impending blow from the French, that it will be considerable & speedy, & the most sensible & faithful Indians of all sorts that I meet with are of this Opinion & speak of it with very visible Concern.

I have several Indian Families in My House & Fort who came with the half King & a Tuscarore Family who are to remain here, & I judge Your Excellency will think it proper that during our Absence at least a Guard of 30 Men be posted here.

You will see Sir that I have deferred a particular Answer to the Indians till I hear from Your Excellency. I send this by Express & as my speedy Departure is necessary I have ordered him to wait for Your Excellencys Answer.

I am

most respectfully

Sir

Yr. Excellencys

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<sup>1</sup> Portions in italics are underlined in the manuscript

My Clerk who was at Albany tells me he could not get a Battoe or Man from the Justices at Schenectady to whom he applied, the provisions & Severall Articles of Indian Goods for ye. present lye there for want of Battoes. Wherefore I should be glad Yr. Excellency would order the Justices there to supply me wth. what Battoes & Hands I may Want, also Covers for them.

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

May 26th 1756  
 My letter to Genrl. Shirley  
 abt. Onondaga Meeting  
 and a Party of Men  
 Some things Material.

AN INDIAN CONGRESS

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 28 May 1756. P. M*

At a Meeting of several Sachims & Warriors of the lower Mohack Castle & some other Indians of the Six Nations with a Party of River Indians who formerly lived on the Frontiers between this Province & New Jersey & enlisted themselves in the Battoe Service.

Mr. Montour Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Canadagai the chief Sachem of the Mohock Castle addressed himself to the River Indians & spoke as follows

Nephews.

When you were going up to Oswego some time ago, you made a Speech with a Belt of Wampum w<sup>ch</sup> now lies before us to some of our People, but they were not a suff<sup>t</sup>. Body to give

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 4.

Answer upon Matters of consequence. We are now a proper Number of the 6 Nations present at this our fire Place, and we desire you will therefore take y<sup>r</sup>. said Belt & let us know what you have to say.

Then one of the Cheifs of the River Indians took up the Belt & spoke as follows.

Uncles

You must excuse our Inexperience in public Conferences; since you conquered us we have lived like a lost scattered People, & the Rum we get from the English hath drowned the Memory of all anteint Customs & the Method of treating on public affairs.

Uncles

We have here a Child of yours (pointing to an Indian present) his Mother was a Seneca Woman & we hope you will receive him as one of the Six Nations & whenever you think proper to fix him we shall be willing to be placed with our Wives & Families. We are desirous of being under your immediate protection & hope you will take care of us.

Uncles

The English in our way up to Oswego where we went to earn a penny to support our Wives & Children who are in a distressed Condition, abused & threatened us for Murdering their People on the Frontiers of Pensilvania, New Jersey & New York; we are entirely innocent of any such thing, and these Accusations very much alarmed us as we are an unsettled & defenceless People; we were dubious in what manner to behave, but we hope now you will interpose & prevent any ill effects of those Accusations by taking Notice of us as your Nephews.

Gave a Belt

To this Speech Canadagai answered

Nephews.

We are sensible that the little Correspondance we have had together for a great Number of years, must naturally put you

under some difficulties with regard to the usual Ceremonies on public Meetings.

Nephews.

We are very willing & desirous that you should come & live<sup>1</sup> near us & we will grant you our assistance & protection, and our Brother Warraghyjagey here told us that he will contribute to the support of you & your Families till you become a little settled.

Nephews

We would have you come this way with your Families as soon as possible that we may be able to acquaint your Brethren the Delawares of it & that you are under our protection w<sup>ch</sup> may tend to make them easy on your Account & convince them that the Report of your being taken Prisoners & made Slaves of by the English is groundless & Malicious, which we hope will tend to compose those Disturbances that the Delaware & Shawanese Indians have occasioned to the Southward.

Gave a Belt.

hereupon the River Indians replied

Uncles

You have made our Hearts light by y<sup>r</sup> freindly Notice of & Promises to us & all our late Uneasiness is now removed.

Uncles

We are light & can soon Move, but we have engaged our selves to the English in the Battoe Service for a time & it is not yet expired, however as we have now put ourselves under your protection & Guidance we will be ruled by you.

Canadagai answered

Nephews

As to your Engagements in the Battoe Service we refer that matter to our Bro<sup>r</sup>. Warraghyjagey & what he advises you to do

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<sup>1</sup> See Johnson to the magistrates of Fishkills, May 28, 1756.

therein we would have you conform to & it will be satisfactory to us.

Sr. William Johnson then spoke to the River Indians as follows.

### Children

I am pleased that you have so prudently applied to your Uncles the 6 Nations & put yourselves under their protection & that they have so kindly & readily opened their Arms to receive you. As to your Engagement with the Battoes I think two of you will be suff<sup>t</sup> to go & bring up your Women & Children & I will give you Letters to the People in Authority where your Families are that you may meet with no Molestation or hindrance in the bringing them away, and when you come up I will take care of you & supply your wants till you are able to do for yourselves, and I join with your Uncles in Opinion that the sooner you come up the better

gave 3 Strings Wampum

To which they replied, that they were very thankfull for Sr. Williams Promises to them & had fixt on two of their People to go down, but desired a White Man might be sent with them to prevent any Misunderstanding & facilitate the removal of their Families.

Sr. William told them he would send an Interpreter with them & accordingly wrote the following Letter to Jacobus Clement Intrep<sup>r</sup>. at Albany.

You are to accompany these River Indians to the Fish Kilns & speak to the Magistrates & People in power there to give them no Molestation or hindrance but forward them on their Journey up here, as their coming to live among the Mohocks will be of great Service to the public; you are to take great care that they do not get in Liquor nor have any conversation with the Soldiers at Albany or by the Way. When they arrive at Albany you are to come up with them directly in the Cheapest



manner you can. inclosed is £10 to defray the Expences, use frugality & Discretion

Yours

WILL. JOHNSON

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Copy<sup>1</sup>

[May 30–June 1, 1756]

Fort Johnson 30 May 1756.

P. M.

The chief Sachems & Warriors of the lower Mohock Castle came hither & desired to say something to Sr. William Johnson, being seated Canadagai the cheif Sachem spoke as follows

Mr. Montour Interpr<sup>r</sup>.

An Oneida Warrior present.

Brother Warraghyjagey

The daily Accounts we receive of the Designs of the French in general & their threatenings of you in particular, occasions our comeing to you this time about your going to Onondaga.

Brother

We are extreamely alarmed & uneasy about it & are absolutely against your venturing up thither. if harm should happen to you We are a lost & ruined people — you are the principal Tie that keeps the 6 Nations together. We cannot comprehend why the Onondagas are so very urgent for your going up when the road is so dangerous the Governor of Canada never goes into the Indians Country to meet them but they come to meet him.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 4.

Brother

We have agreed to make two Proposals to you & we entreat you to give them a serious Consideration & that you will embrace one of them. Either send for the 6 Nations down to you or let some other Person go up to them in your room, we back these Proposals with this Belt.

Gave a Belt

St. Williams Answer

Brethren

Everything is now ready for my setting out, & there is a necessity that I begin my Journey. When we come to the German Flatts I propose to consult with you & our Bretheren of Cannojohary upon the proper steps which may then appear necessary to be taken. I shall depend upon the assistance of the upper Nations to secure & keep the Road open. I will take every possible & prudent precaution, but where His Majestys Service requires my Attendance it is my Duty to go & in that Cause I shall be always ready to venture my Life. As to my sending any other Persons under my Direction, I know none that is proper to go upon so important an Occasion.

gave a Belt.

Young Abraham a Cheif Sachem & Warrior spoke as follows.

Brother

You tell us that Gen<sup>l</sup>. Shirley thinks the 70 Men who are now posted at Fort Hunter are sufficient for the defence of our Families during our absence. Brother we do not think so. We are determined to live & die with our Bretheren the English, and therefore as we think there is reason to fear the Enemy may come this Way, we think the safety of our Wives & Children ought to be of suff<sup>t</sup>. Consequence to have our Request for more Men complied with as we only want them while we are away

Fort Johnson 1 June 1756

A. M.

Sr. William Johnson sent the following Message with 4 Strings of black Wampum by two Onieda Warriors to the Sachems & Warriors of their Castle

Brethren

Tomorrow I begin my Journey to Onondaga & I desire that your Young Men will meet me at the German Flatts. As our Enemy the French have lately so frequently & so warmly threatened not only to prevent my going to Onondaga but that they will attack the Battoes w<sup>ch</sup>. carry the Provisions, Arms &<sup>ca</sup>. w<sup>ch</sup> I am bringing in the King Your Fathers Name for the 6 Nations at this Meeting, I desire you will immediately send off an Express to Onondaga to acquaint those Indians that I am on my Journey & will make all possible dispatch to get there & that I expect they will send down a suff<sup>t</sup>. Number of their Young Men to join yours at the Onieda Carrying Place & guard the Battoes from thence to Onondaga & protect them from any of those attempts from the French or their Indians w<sup>ch</sup>. you have by so many frequent Messages warned me of.

This is not a Meeting w<sup>ch</sup>. I have called but one to which I have been called by the 6 Nations, it is therefore incumbent upon them to take care that those things w<sup>ch</sup>. the King their Father sends for the use of the 6 Nations be protected & guarded by them.

As for those Threats which the French & their Indians have published against me, I will guard against them in the best manner I am able, but as these Threats have been uttered by some of the French Indians before some of you Oniedas & some of the Onondagas, I think if you & they had behaved as true & faithful Brothers ought to have done, these Indians should at least have been secured and I desire you will tell the Onondagas what I now say. and that if I had called the 6 Nations down here to a Meeting & any French Man had dared in my presence to

have threatened their safety, I would have drove my ax into his head.

Fort Johnson 1 June 1756.

P. M.

St. William Johnson having sent for the River Indians who lived lately ab<sup>t</sup> Esopus in this Province & are now incorporated with the lower Mohock Castle, 17 of them came whom he fully cloathed, Armed & gave them Amunition with Pipes & Tobacco. he then gave them a glass of Rum round to drink His Majestys Health & exhorted them to behave like Dutiful Children to the King their Father & to be ready at all times to use the Arms he had now given them, against all His Majestys Enemies.

They appeared to be greatly pleased & promised their Fidelity to His Majesty & that they would live & die with their Bretheren the English.

N. B. There are about 10 or 12 more Men who did not come this afternoon who are to be Cloathed, Armed &<sup>ca</sup>. in the same manner with these.

#### APPOINTMENT OF GEORGE CROGHAN

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson, June 1, 1756.*

By the Honorable Sir William Johnson Baronet His Majestys sole Agent & Superintendent of the Affairs of the Six Nations & other Indians of the Northern District

To George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>.

By Virtue of the Power & Authority to be given by His Majesty & reposing especial Trust & Confidence in your Loyalty, Abilities & Integrity, I do hereby constitute & appoint You the

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 5.



THOMAS PENN

From an engraving by C. Turner owned by Historical Society  
of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.



said George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. to act as a Deputy Agent under me in the Aforesaid Department, and you are accordingly hereby empowered to hold Conference, send Messages & treat with the Indians for the good of His Majestys Service and the extention of the British Indian Interest agreeable to such Instructions & Directions as you shall from time to time receive from me, and you are to exercise this Deputation with Fidelity, Dilligence & to the best of your Abilities. and for so doing this will be to you a sufficient Warrant.

Given under my hand &  
Seal of Office at Fort Johnson  
this first day of June in the  
Year of our Lord One Thousand  
Seven hundred & fifty Six

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

FROM THOMAS PENN

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*London June 12<sup>th</sup> 1756*

SIR:

I have been long debating within myself whether I should give you the trouble of a Letter to return you my thanks as the head of one of the Colonys for the signal Service you did your Country in general and the Colonys in particular, in the Action at Lake George, or whether being, as a private man, an entire stranger to you it would be an improper interruption to a Person whose time is so fully employed for the service of the publick; I have at last determind for the first, and desire you will accept of my best thanks for that as well as for the services you have rendered Pennsylvania in particular, in Indian Affairs, of which the Governor and M<sup>r</sup> Peters have given me full accounts, and

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<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., Penn Papers, Official Correspondence, VIII, 83.

I desire you will be assured I am extreemly sensible of your Friendship therein, and that whenever I can be of Service to you or your Interests I shall always think myself most agreeably employed in Receiving & executing your Commands.

FROM BEAMSLEY GLASIER

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 15<sup>th</sup> June 1756*

DEAR SIR WILLIAM

I was Relived 8 days agoe by Collo. Bagly — I have had letter<sup>s</sup> of thanks from Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirly & the Committies of War. In spite of Envy they are obligd to own my Services merits there thanks — I am opinted Lt Coll<sup>o</sup>. of the NYork Reg<sup>t</sup>., I did not Intend to have Servd under any of those Gentry from new England but I could not Refuse Sir Cha: Hardy when he wrote to me, as it was a thing I did not Expect from that Quarter, and I knew at thee Same time it was you that Recommended me, the whole Duty of the Reg<sup>t</sup>. must lay on me, I hear this Moment you are Sent for I hope to go on the Expedition I was Just mounted to visset you when the news Ariedv you was Gone upon a Forlorn hope for I call it So. God Send you Safe Back — we all kept a Day of Rejoiceing at the good news of the Government<sup>s</sup> Giving you £600 a year thank god for all things Capt Eyre a Majority Wrexuell a Company poor pell garlick nothing — your friend Mr Pownell Mentiond me in his letter to Major Eyre that he hopt Some thing would be Done, but it Seems they apoint all the Cap<sup>s</sup> for battalliens to be raisd in america at home, General Weeb takes the Command, Gen<sup>l</sup> Shirly goes to England, Lord Louden Dayly Expected, Some folks Banckt in their Scheams, may be I Shall See you before we proceed if you come to albany I'll Come Down <sup>2</sup> I am

<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

<sup>2</sup> From this point the letter is in Glasier's hand.



very unhappy in missing seeing you at the time when I made so much dependence upon it. I am very unesey in my Present situia<sup>n</sup> and dont like the Expedition for many reasons, and shoud be glad to be Quitt of the provincial Service which I know will be atended with so much confusition. I want to tell you all my greevenies<sup>s</sup>. but wont trouble you any more at this time. your Indians that came last to the Fort Behavd very well they went a Scouting with my people and in the Skirmish we had near the Fort were very active. all the news youl have by the Bearer. Everything seems to be preplected, orders, & Counter orders, almost Every hour what the Intention of things are everybody seem to be at a loss about. when you return I shall be Extreemly glad of a line from you. please to make my Comleme<sup>t</sup> to my Good Friend Cap<sup>t</sup> Wrexewall. I give him joy — you cant think Sir how I am Fatagued here with getting stores and aquipting the Regiment. My Colo. gone to the half moon<sup>1</sup> not one officer hardly that knows anything of the Service. I was obligd to beg Miss Miller to Copie part of this letter I want to Say a thousand things but will have done

I am Sir With Unfaigned Esteem  
and Sincerity

Your Most obliged  
Hum<sup>bl</sup>. Servant

B. GLASIER.

Mrs Miller & Miss sends Complements

INDORSED June 15<sup>th</sup>. 1756:<sup>2</sup>

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Coll<sup>o</sup> Glasiers Letter

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<sup>1</sup> Half way between Saratoga and Albany.

<sup>2</sup> In Johnson's hand.

FROM PETER WRAXALL

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Wensday Morn<sup>g</sup>. [June 1756]*

MY DEAR SIR WILLIAM

I desired Mr. Miller to acquaint You with the deplorable Condition I had been in when the last Express went to you, & tho I had then a Prospect of Life I was incapable of writing my self. he wrote & I am surprized you had not recieved his Letter when you wrote me Sunday last, the Express must have delayed.

Since Mr. Millers Letter went I have heard of no Opportunity to write you & indeed Peter van driesen told me we might expect you in two or three days, w<sup>ch</sup> made me put off removing to your House, for w<sup>ch</sup>. I have been impatient, you may judge what a Sittuation this is for a sick Man.

I am on the recovery but extreamly Weak & my evary Constitution hath received such a Shock, that much time Skill & Care will be necessary to repair the Tennement, I long to get under Magras<sup>2</sup> Direction & as soon as your Proceedings are recorded I prepare for New York.

God Almighty send you safe home & I hope you will neglect no prudent Precaution. Your Life is dear to me as a Man I unfeignedly love & esteem, but to the public at this Conjunction it is of the utmost Importance. Make all the prudent haste you can for I am ready to leave & with the Variety of Matters w<sup>ch</sup>. I want to talk over with you.

There are a number of Letters I have left with Cap<sup>t</sup>. Richmond for you, Farrel Wade bro<sup>t</sup>. 'em up Yesterday he says he can meet with very little Stock to buy, so if you can employ any Agents as you go along to buy for you, it may be necessary. You must learn to love Venison & if Your Mohocks

<sup>1</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa. Library of Congress, Force transcripts, Washington, D. C., contains a copy of this letter.

<sup>2</sup> Dr Redmond Magra.

wont go out a fighting, make 'em hunt for y<sup>r</sup>. Table. Farrel Wade tells me they are all Drunk every day & that Ceggs of Rum are in the highest plenty amongst 'em.

I propose to set off this Noon in a Battoe & reach P. Schuylers in the Evening. Once more may God send you safe to us, Adieu I am truly

My Dear Sir  
Your real & Affec<sup>te</sup>  
Freind

PETER WRAXALL

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Capt<sup>n</sup>. Wraxalls letters

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June 1756

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS AND TREATY

*Df.*<sup>2</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, July 10, 1756*]

The Proceedings and Treaty  
with

The Shawanese and Delaware Indians  
living on and near The Susquehanna  
River.

Negotiated at Fort Johnson<sup>3</sup> in the County  
of Albany in The Province of New York

By

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Sir William Johnson Baronet,  
His Majestys sole Superintendent  
of the Affairs of the Six Confederate

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<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>3</sup> See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:130-61.

Nations of Indians, their Allies and  
Dependants

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Published by Authority, from the  
Original Records.

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With a Preface, explaining the rise  
and Progress of the said Treaty

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By  
Peter Wraxall Secretary for  
Indian Affairs

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PREFACE

Towards the latter end of the Year 1755. The French & Indians made an Irruption upon the Frontiers of Virginia, Maryland, Pensilvania, New Jersey & New York, murdering & carrying off the Inhabitants, burning & destroying their Houses, Settlements & Cattle. The Shawanese & Delaware Indians who are settled on & near the Susquahanna River, were reported to be concerned in those Barbarities & Depredations. These Indians by virtue of several Treaties, by a long uninterrupted Intercourse of Trade, and a friendly Communication subsisting between them & the back-Inhabitants of the aforesaid Colonies, together with Their being in firm Alliance with, and in Dependance upon the Six United Nations,<sup>1</sup> were esteemed to be firm Friends to the British Interest, and therefore their Committing Hostilities, being less suspected, was the more Alarming.

In a Meeting Sir William Johnson held at Fort Johnson last February, with the Deputies of the Six Nations and other Indians, he represented to them, the Treachery & Ingratitude

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<sup>1</sup>The 6 Nations call the Shawanese *Brethren* & the Delawares *Nephews*, the former denoting an Equality, the latter a Dependance. [Note in the manuscript.]

of the Shawanese & Delaware Indians, in thus violating their public Faith and falling upon their antient Friends & Neighbours. He told the Six Nations, that as the Shawanese Indians were their Allies and the Delawares dependant upon them, he expected *They* as our Allies & Bretheren, would without Delay interpose their Influence & Authority with the said Indians, and require from them their Reasons for joining in these Hostilities, and insist upon their immediately laying down their Arms & returning to their former Peaceable & friendly Behavior.

The Six Nations agreed to Sir William's Remonstrances, told him they would immediately dispatch Deputies to the said Indians, And proposed that he should also send a Belt of Wampum & a Message to them by their said Deputies. This Sir William agreed to.

In April last the Deputys of the Six Nations returned from their Embassy, and reported to Sir William Johnson, That those Indians had acknowledged, some of their Young Men had been won over by the Artifices of the French & the Indians in their Interest, to join in Hostilities upon their Bretheren the English, but that they now repented their Folly & rashness, and that the Shawanese & Delaware Indians on the Susquahanna were determined not to break the Antient Covenant Chain of Peace & Friendship with their Bretheren the English, and that they would act in Conjunction with their Bretheren & Uncles of the Six Nations, upon whom they would fix their Eyes & by whose Conduct they would regulate their own.

The Deputies further reported to Sir William, That the Shawanese & Delawares had promised to send his Belt and what had passed at this Meeting, to the Shawanese settled on the Ohio, and to the Delawares who now lived in the Neighbourhood of Fort du Quesne, and use their utmost Endeavours to prevail on these Indians to unite in the Measures they had now agreed upon. To confirm these Promises of the Shawanese & Delaware Indians, the Deputies of the Six Nations delivered Sir William a Belt of Wampum which they sent in return for his. And also another Belt by which the said Indians earnestly

entreated Sir William to meet them at *Onondaga* where they had agreed to hold a Congress with the Six Nations: that his Compliance herewith would be a convincing Proof to them, of his Goodwill & friendly Intentions towards them; and that at this Meeting at *Onondaga*, all the late Mis-understandings might be rectified and a perfect Harmony be re-established between them & their Bretheren the English.

Sir William told the Deputies of the Six Nations who enforced the request of the Shawanese & Delawares, that tho his relation to the Public made it very Inconvenient at that Juncture, to take so long a Journey, yet as he looked upon the restoration of the Antient Peace & Friendship between the said Shawanese & Delaware Indians & their Bretheren the English, to be a Point of very great Importance, he thought his Duty to His Majestys Service called upon him for a Compliance with their earnest Request & Invitation, and he would therefore Meet them at the Congress at *Onondaga* by the latter end of May or the beginning of June. Upon which the said Deputies of the Six Nations promised to send an Express to acquaint the Shawanese & Delawares with Sir Williams Compliance to their Request.

In the begining of June Sir William Johnson set out for *Onondaga*, and the 13<sup>th</sup> of said Month he arrived at the Town of the Oneida Indians, and upon Enquiry heard the Deputys from the Shawanese and Delawares were not yet come to *Onondaga*; he thereupon dispatched Two Indians Express to the *Susquahanna* to hasten them, and proceeded to *Onondaga* to meet & do Buisness with the Six Nations there assembled.

The Shawanese King or Cheif, with several other Indians of that Nation & only two Delaware Warriors, first arrived at *Onondaga*, to whom Sir William made a Speech & received an Answer.≠

The 2<sup>d</sup>. of July when the Congress was broke up, The Delaware King or Chief with some of his People arrived at *Onon-*

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≠ vide pages of the following sheets. [Note in the manuscript.]

dago, and as several Circumstances rendered it improper & inconvenient to enter upon Buisness with the Shawanese & Delawares at Onondaga, Sir William invited the Two Chiefs & their People with a Deputation of the Six Nations down to his House to Discuss all Matters there.<sup>ø</sup> This was accepted,<sup>ø</sup> and the Treaty was accordingly adjourned to Fort Johnson.

Whether instead of the Words  
in the title Page

*Published by Authority*

the following Form would not be more proper to point out the Supreme & subordinate Direction of this Department of His Majestys Service in North America.

*Published by Order of His Excellency  
The Right Honourable The Earl  
of Loudoun &c. &c. &c.?*

As the Public is not apprized of the Steps which brought about this Treaty, and as Sir William's two Speeches & the Answer to them proposed to be published herewith, bear an immediate Connection with the said Treaty, the Publication without some Introduction, would not, it is conceived stand in so intelligible a light. The Preface is therefore proposed to obviate those Objections.

How many Copies His Lordship would have received for His own Use & Disposal. And if a Printed Copy should be transmitted by the Secy. to each Govt. of the Neighbouring Provinces.

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<sup>ø</sup> vide pages of the following sheets. [Note in the manuscript.]

FROM ELEAZAR WHEELOCK

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Lebanon in Connecticut In  
New England July 12<sup>th</sup>: AD 1756*

SIR,

Your publick Character, as a Gentleman of a publick and generous Spirit, the Honours and Bounty of the Crown confer'd upon you and your Situation among, & Concern for y<sup>e</sup> Indian Natives of this Land all invite me tho' unknown to you, to assume the Freedom, to represent to Your Honour a Design of a Charity School, form'd in Favour of those Savages; and to act the Part of a Beggar on their Behalf. Convinc'd of the criminal Neglect of this Land in using so few and feble Endeavours to Polish and Christianize them, and also persuaded that the Education of some of their Sons in the liberal Arts and Sciences, as well as in the Knowledge and Practise of the Protestant christian Religion, and fitting some for Missionaries among their respective Tribes, Might have a happy Effect to guard them against y<sup>e</sup> Influence of Jesuits, cure them of their Idolitrous and Savage Practises, attach them in the English Interest, and induce them to a cordial Subjection to the Crown of [*greate Britian*] England, and it may be to y<sup>e</sup>. King of Sion, I Say convinc'd & persuaded of these things. three Years ago last May I Sent to the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. John Brainerd, to Send me two as likely Boys as he could [*get*] obtain of the Delawares, with a View to their being fitted for the Gospel Ministry, among the Indians if God Should mercifully Smile upon the Design. After much Pains taken he Sent me two,<sup>2</sup> who came to me last December was 12. Months ago. They are prety Boys, the one is now 15. the other 12. Years old. They can read & write well the inclosed is a Specimen of the Writing of y<sup>e</sup> Eldest of

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<sup>1</sup> In Dartmouth College Library.

<sup>2</sup> In 1754 John Pumshire and Jacob Woolley, Delaware Indians, entered Wheelock's school (Moor's Charity School).



them. They make good Proficiency in the lattan Tongue, and behave themselves decently; and are likely to answer the Design So far as we can yet Know or Judge of them. Soon after I sent for these Boys I invited Mr. Joshua More<sup>1</sup> of Mansfield to give a Small Tenement in y<sup>e</sup> Center of the Place, for the Foundation Use and Support of a Charity School for ever for the Education of Indians, Which accordingly he gave a Deed of to Col: Elisha Williams Esq<sup>r</sup>. of Wethersfield, The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Samuel Mosely of Windham & Benjamin Pomroy of Hebron and my Self. And we covenanted with him and his Heirs to improve that and all other Donations made to S<sup>d</sup>. School for S<sup>d</sup>. Purpose and we have got Subscription for about £500. prov. Money toward a fund for the Support of a Master for ever. but upon advice of The Hon<sup>le</sup>. William Smith Esq<sup>r</sup>. of New York, and others that S<sup>d</sup> Covenant would not answer the [*Purpose*] Design, and that a Charter from the Crown is expedient we have Sent home for that Purpose, and if we are Successfull in our Suit we aprehend large Donations may be obtained. And we hope that the Affair will appear to you[r] Hon<sup>r</sup>. as it does to us, worthy the Encouragement of all greate and good Men, and that you will acco<sup>t</sup>. it not the least of your Honours to be a Friend and Patron to it. When I sent for the Boys, tho' my family was large and my outward Circumstances Straitned, yet I had Such Prospects of Assistance from the Charity of People as I thought were Sufficeint to justify the Undertaking, which Assistance I have been in a greate Measure Prevented by the Reports continually of late new[s]. amongst [us] of the Ravages made and cruelties Used by the Natives on our Fronteirs. For Such Reports, as your Hon<sup>r</sup>. will easily beleive has raised a Temper [among] many very contrary to Charity. By which Means I have been left under a Weight of Charges disproportionate to my Ability to Sustain long, with the Necessary Charges of My Family. And yet I am unwilling

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<sup>1</sup> In his honor the school was called "Moor's Charity School."

to give up the Design with respect to those Boys which I have, however, we Succeed in our Endeavours for a Charter.

We have tho't it best to Set up the School and Supply what is wanting in the Fund for the Masters Support by taking in English Scholars, and accordingly we began it the Beginning of last May, hoping in the Providence of God for sufficient Aids to keep it up in pursuance of the Grand Design. But our Means are yet Small. Nor have I any Favourable & charitable Consideration of the Case of these Boys. And Education will be to proper Objects of Christian Charity, and an Offering acceptable to Jesus Christ. And I Assure you that whatever you Shall See [*fit*] good to bestow upon them Shall be improved according to the best of my Ability for thier Education. And I hope in the Issue Your Hon<sup>r</sup>. will have Comfort in the Reflection that you have open'd your Hands, for the furtherance of Such a Design. And If you Shall See good to bestow Learning upon Any promising Boys under your Care, Influence, or Direction, and will Send them here, I will endeavour to obey your Orders concerning them. They may be taught in the School the Languages or any of the Arts and Sciences. I would Send your Hon<sup>r</sup>. a full Account of our Proceedings in y<sup>e</sup>. Affair. But [*that*] they are to much for me at present to write or for you amid<sup>t</sup>. your greate Affairs to read. however if your Hon<sup>r</sup>. will intimate Your Design of it I will endeavour it Shall be done.

Please S<sup>r</sup> to accept most hearty Salutations [*from*] and let the Nature and Design of this Letter be esteemed a Sufficient excuse for the Freedom & Boldness therein us'd by

Your Hon<sup>rs</sup>. unknown  
But assured Friend &  
very Humble Servant

ELEAZAR WHELOCK

P:S: If your Hon<sup>r</sup>. shall See fit to honour me with a Line, or if you please to transmit any thing else, it may be as Safe as any way to do it by Some of the Chaplains of the Army viz. The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Williams Jewitt Lee, Graham Jun<sup>r</sup>. with each of

[*which*] whome I have personal & Intimate Acquaintance, and they are Friendly to the Design & will be glad to Serve your Hon<sup>r</sup>. therein.

I am Sir

Yours &c E WHEELLOCK.

INDORSED:

A Letter to S<sup>r</sup>. William  
Johnson from Rev<sup>d</sup>. E Wheelock

A COUNCIL OF WAR

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

At a Council of War, held at Albany July 16<sup>th</sup>. 1756.

Present.

Major General James Abercrombie, Commander in Chief &<sup>ca</sup>.  
His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy Knight

Captain General and Governor in Chief of the province of  
New York

Colonel Daniel Webb.

Sir William Johnson Baronet.

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel George Munroe.

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Thomas Gage.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. James Delancy Deputy Governor of the province  
of New York.

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Ralph Burton.

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Francis Grant.

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Sir John S<sup>t</sup>. Clair Dep Q<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>.

James Montresor. Chief Engineer.

Major General Abercrombie's Commission being read by which His Majesty appoints him, Commander of all, and Singular His Forces Employed in North America, untill the arrival of the Earl of Loudoun.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. C. O. 5.—Vol. 47-1.

Major General Abercrombie Acquainted the Council that a Considerable Body of Provincials under the Command of General Winslow<sup>1</sup> were on their March to Fort Edward and Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry in order to proceed upon an Expedition against Ticonderoga and Crown Point, Major General Abercrombie Further informed the Council, that from several Conferences with General Winslow that he had the Strongest reason to believe the provincials would not act in Conjunction with His Majesty's Troops, upon which the Council desired that General Winslow Might be called in, and he being asked what Effects he apprehended from the Junction of His Majesty's Regular Troops with the provincials, on their intended Expedition against Crown Point

General Winslow replied that he looked upon himself to be under the Command of His Majesty's Commander in Chief, and that he would be very well satisfied a Junction would be accomplished, but that he apprehended that if His Majesty's Troops were ordered to Join it would almost Occasion an universal desertion amongst the Provincials because they were raised to serve solely under the Command of their own Officers, whose Commissions (particularly those from the province of the Massachusetts Bay) are worded in the following Manner. Constituting and appointing such a One, to be a Colonel, Major, Captain &<sup>ca</sup>. of a Regiment or Company to be Employed upon an Expedition against Crown Point whereof John Winslow Esq<sup>r</sup>. is Commander in Chief.

General Winslow further informed the Council that it was the Opinion of the officers under his Command that they had a Sufficient Force for the Reduction of Crown Point, but that if a further Force should be necessary, he had reason to Expect a Reinforcement; whereas if His Majesty's Regular Forces were to Join them, he apprehends they could get no further Supply of Men; particularly from the Four New England provinces; General Winslow then acquainted the Council that he would

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<sup>1</sup> General John Winslow, commander of provincial troops.

repair to his Camp, and there Call a Council of the principal officers of the Provincials to know their Opinions upon this point, and Transmit the same to the Commander in Chief.

In Consequence of this declaration of General Winslow's and upon a Supposition that the principal Officers amongst the Provincials will be against a Junction; in that Event Major General Abercrombie desired the opinion of the Council whether it would be adviseable for him to Exert the power granted to him by His Majesty's Commission by making a Junction of the Regular Troops with the Provincials and taking upon himself the Command of the whole.

The Council is unanimously of Opinion (that under the present Circumstances) the Attempting and forcing a Junction of His Majesty's Regular Troops with the provincials is Extremely unadviseable, and might be a fatal Consequence to the publick Service.

Major General Abercrombie desired to know the Opinion of the Council in what manner it was almost adviseable to Employ His Majesty's Regular Troops

The Council is of opinion that a Regiment should March to Fort Edward upon the provincials Evacuating the same, leaving a detachment of 150 Men at Saratoga to guard the Magazine there and Escort the provisions to Fort Edward and that one of the Regiments lately arrived from Britain should take post at the half Moon and Still Water upon Hudson's River; at which post they can be under Cover untill their Tents and Camp Equipage arrive, and that in the meantime a Sufficient Number of the Troops, be Employed in Compleating the Works at Fort Edward, General Winslow having Engaged to Garrison and keep a Sufficient Number of Men at Work in perfecting the Fortifications at Fort William Henry, which will be the Chief Magazine of the Provincials.

Major General Abercrombie laid before the Council Engineer Mackellar's Report of the Fortifications at Orwego of date the 25<sup>th</sup>. May last, together with a plan of said works, as also Lieut. Colonel Mercer's Letter of the 2<sup>d</sup>. July to Major General

Shirley, with regard to the State of that Garrison under his Command — He also informed the Council of the Intelligence he had Received of the Enemy's designs of interrupting and cutting off the Communication between Albany and Oswego, of which the Attack upon Captain Bradstreet the 3<sup>d</sup>. Instant near the Oswego Falls was a strong proof, upon which point, the advice of the Council being asked.

It is the opinion of the Council, that in Consideration of the great importance of Oswego and the defenceless Situation of the place at Present, and the necessity of building a small Fort at the Oswego Falls to keep the Communications open; that for these Services a Regiment should forthwith march to Reinforce that Garrison, and put the works in a posture of defence, and that considering the interruption's Convoys by water are liable to, and the impossibility of Transporting Stores, and provisions during a Frost (which is often of many months continuance) they are also of opinion, a Road between the German Flatts and Oswego shou'd be cut.

Captain Bradley's Letter of the 28<sup>th</sup>. June and 2<sup>d</sup>. July last being read, representing the present Force of the French on the Lake and likewise the preparations they are making at Cadaraqui, the General desired the Opinion of the Council what was necessary to be done to gain a Superiority on the Lake.

It is the Opinion of the Council that a Vessel of as large a Size and Force as the port will admit off, be built, as also a small one to Replace the one that was lately lost, somewhat in the Nature of a Quarter Galley, that can both sail and Row.

And lastly Major General Abercrombie having represented to the Council that the Scheme for raising two Companies of Rangers Recommended by the Council of War held at Albany May 25<sup>th</sup>. 1756 is quite failed.

It is the opinion of the Council that Major General Abercrombie should immediately give Directions to Sir William Johnson to raise such a Number of Rangers, as he shall Judge necessary to Join them with Indians in harrassing and annoying the Enemy in Canada. the Council also Recommended it to the

General to raise another Company of Rangers for the Publick Service.

After several Adjournments this Council of War was closed and Signed at Albany, the 20<sup>th</sup>. day of July 1756.

JAMES ABERCROMBIE. Majr.	THO <sup>s</sup> . GAGE. Lieut Col <sup>o</sup> .
Gen <sup>l</sup> .	R. BURTON. Lieut. Col <sup>o</sup> .
CHA <sup>s</sup> . HARDY	FRANCIS GRANT. Lieut. Col <sup>o</sup> .
DANIEL WEBB. Colonel	SIR JOHN ST <sup>r</sup> . CLAIR. L <sup>t</sup> . COL <sup>o</sup> .
SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON	D. Q. M. G.
JAMES DELANCEY	JAMES MONTRESOR. Chief
GEO: MONROE. Lieut. Col.	Eng <sup>r</sup> .

A True Copy

JAMES ABERCROMBIE  
Aid de Camp as Secretary

INDORSED:

Copy of a Council of War  
held at Albany July the 16<sup>th</sup>. 1756.  
in the E. of Loudouns Letter of Aug<sup>t</sup>. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1756.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 18 July 1756.*

MY LORD

I was honoured with Your Lordships most esteemed Favour of the 11 March by Colo. Webb,<sup>2</sup> and for which notice of me I return Your Lordship my verry gratefull Acknowledgements.

Capt. Wraxall<sup>3</sup> Secretary for Indian Affairs will have the honour to deliver this to Your Lordship whom I beg leave to introduce to You as a Man of whose Integrity and Capacity in that Department of His Majestys Service I have had long and

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Webb.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Wraxall.

ample Experience. By him I would have transmitted to Your Lordship Copies of the late Proceedings at the Onondaga Meeting and at the subsequent Treaty with the Shawanese and Delaware Indians at my house but they could not possibly be got ready in time. Capt. Wraxall will acquaint your Lordship with all the Capital Points which occurred at the said Meetings. If His Majesties Service in my Department would have permitted, I would have come down to New York to have waited your Arrival which I hope will be very speedy, and that You may Land and continue in perfect Health, which with every Species of real Felicity I most Sincerely wish to You.

I have the honour to be

My Lord

Your Lordships

To His Excellency

Most Obedient, and

The Right Honourable

Most humble Servant

THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

WM JOHNSON.

&c. &c. &c.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

Abany July 18th 1756.

AN INDIAN SPEECH

D. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Tuesday 28 July 1756*

At a Meeting of a Number of the Mohawk Warriors Aron one of their Chiefs spoke as follows, in presence of Mr. Croghan.

Mr. Clement Interpreter

Brother Warraghijagey

As we understand You are displeas'd with us for our late Conduct in taking some Albany People to go to War with us.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



We beg leave to acquaint you how we were brought into it, this Young Man (pointing to one called Anias) was in Albany while you were at Onondaga, and passing by the Tavern was called to by Lyddius Son out of a Window. After he put up his Horse, he came to the room where this Son of Lyddius, called Canaghguasse was with severall other young Men in Company. After making him drink severall Glasses of Wine, Lyddius Son told him he inclined to go ascalping to Canada and asked whether he or any of the Mohawks would Join him. the Indian answered he could not tell, upon which Lyddius Son desired he would acquaint the Mohawks of his resolution, and that he would come up to their Castle the next day. He arrived there the second day, and called a Meeting of the Warriors when he told them his resolution of going to Canada, and by three thousand of Wampum which he gave them, desired they would Accompany him thither. Severall of them being in Liquor accepted of it, and promised to go with him, but Aron and some more of them being verry Drunk and not remembering what had passed the Night before called a second Meeting In which it was agreed that they would keep the Wampum untill those of their People who were with me at Onondaga returned and that then they would give him a determinate Answer. On the return of those from Onondaga they were called to Albany by said Lyddius and his Associates when they were treated by said Party very generously, and offered them Money which they refused except a young Lad who received a Dollar from young Lyddius, and Anias some small Matter from some of the rest; they also say they were much pressed to go to Albany, and take their Departure from thence, which they refused. This, Says Aron is what passed, and what you may depend upon for truth. if we have done wrong it is inadvertantly, and hope you will think favourable of us, and let us know your pleasure.

GEO: CROGHAN

So Ended

JACOBUS CLEMENT

## MEMORANDUM

A. D.<sup>1</sup>*Albany August 2d. 1756*

Some Articles for Lord Loudouns consideration. Vizt.

A Sallary for a Deputy Agent to assist me in Indian Affairs.—  
Mr. George Croghan a proper Person —

Sallary for a Secretary, and two Clerks — also for Interpreters, Smiths, &ca.

Commissions for Officers to Command Indian Parties

Doctor Ogilvie<sup>2</sup> a verry usefull Person among the Indians, would be more so,<sup>3</sup> if enabled by

The Senecas Complaint against Captn. Wm. Williams  
the Mohawks Complaint against Lyddius, Son of John Lyddius<sup>4</sup> of Albany

It would be of great Service, Was there a Standing Order against Officers, or Soldiers giveing Indians Rum or any other liquor att any of the out Posts, or elsewhere, or having any unnecessary Intercourse with them.

Whether it would not be adviseable for me to Send to London for Such Goods, & Arms, &ca. as the Indians may want next Year, as it is not only verry difficult to get Such here, but verry extravagant also & not so good.

An Order to the Commissary for provisions when I call for them for the Use of the Indians, & also Battoes & Men to carry them up to my House, or Elsewhere

Whether Lord Loudoun has any Arms, Amunition, or Cloathing for the Indians now, as they are much wanted.

Whether to engage any more Stockbridge Indians on the Same day, and how they are to be paid.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> "Doctor Ogilvie" scratched out by the writer.

<sup>3</sup> "More so" scratched out by the writer.

<sup>4</sup> John Henry Lydius.

I being perfectly acquainted with the expence Doctor Ogilvie has been, & must be at in even supporting common Hospitality to the Indians, specially at this time, & that only upon an allowance of £93 Sterling per Annum. I think it would contribute to his Majestys Service, that his appointment be Augmented, Mr. Ogilvie has for Six Years past done all the Occasional Dutys of two of his Majestys Independant Companys, without any Allowance either from his Majesty, or the present Chaplain who is now in England, & verry far advanced in Years. I would beg leave therefore to recommend him to Your Lordship's favour, to Succeed to this Commission When it becomes Vacant, either by the Death, or resignation of the present Chaplain.

FROM DANIEL CLAUS

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 3. August  
3 oClock P:M. 1756.*

SIR.

I thought it necessary to dispatch this Express to your Honour in Order to acquaint you that after I sent my Letter this Morning the Said George Derroder (who gave me the Account of the Delaware King:) came and told me, that Since last Night 23. of the River & other Indians dropt of from this with their Bundles, and that there was Enemy Seen last Night among the Indians who tis thought perswaded them to go off.—Said George Says that by what he could Learn by the Discourse of those Indians that came from Susquehanna that there was a Party of 300. Indians in the French Interest came with them as far as the Inhabitants above Burnetsfield and there left them, and made toward the Great Carrying Place, he understood that there was a Scheme among them to cut off your honours House, and that there was 3000 french to join them immediately afterwards and destroy all the Settlements upon this River.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

By all the Behaviour of these Stranger Indians we can plainly See that they are not our friends They are plaguing us continually for Liquor &c<sup>a</sup>. with Such an Imperiousness as if they could command Us any thing they desired to have, and in a Manner threaten us, Some of them were Speaking to one another lately and said that it would be nothing at all to Scale the Walls of this house and Kill every Body in it without firing a Gun; I think we are realy in a dangerous Situation without any Garrison among those Savages and as it were live upon their Mercy here; Mr Leonard is one of the worst and Speaks more treacherous than any of the rest; I leave all this to your honours Consideration And Am with due Respect Sir

Your Honours

Most Obedient hble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

DAN CLAUS

ADDRESSED:

To  
The honourable  
Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>.  
Albany

INDORSED:

Mr Daniel Claus  
For<sup>t</sup> Johnson August 3<sup>d</sup> 1756  
To Sir William Johnson  
Indeon Intellegence

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Albany August 3d. 1756*

MY LORD

Upon looking over the agreement with the Stockbridge Indians, I find their pay commences the 27th. of May last, and that they have all recd. 10 Dollars advance, & the Captn. & Lieut. Some-

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

thing more, So that if one Months Pay be kept back, the Private Men will only have 10 Shillings<sup>1</sup> to receive, A Sum which they tell me will not answer their present Exigencies. I would therefore beg Your Lordships directions whether to pay them to the 27th. of last Month.

I am  
My Lord  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedient &  
Most Humble Servant.

WM. JOHNSON

Right Hon. The EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sr. Wm. Johnson.—  
Albany 3d. August 1756  
Answd. same day.

CONCERNING INDIAN ALLIANCES

A. D.<sup>2</sup>

[Albany, [Aug.] 4, 1756]

The Five Nations are the Mohawks, Oneidaes, Tuscaroras, Onondagaes, Cayugo's, & Senecas,

their allies to the Northward are Mississageys Chenundadeys, Twightees, Shawanese Delewares. & Nanticokes Saponeys & Monseys. Southern Indians properly so called are the Chickasaws Cherokess, Creeks, & Chacta's Catabaws.

INDORSED:

Note of Indian Aliance &  
from Sir William  
Johnson Albany [Aug.] 4<sup>t</sup> 1756

<sup>1</sup> See Loudoun to Johnson, August 3, 1756, in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:528.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

## TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 5 August 1756*

MY LORD

Att my return I found an encrease of severall Onondagas who arrived in my Absence, they are chiefly come down for Provisions and Cloathing &ca. Yesterday arrived here fifteen Men of the Seneca Nation who I find are well Inclined, and doubt not I shall be able to prevail with them to go a Scalping. there is one of them who tells me he has above 100 Warriors ready to join him as soon as he gets Home.

Yesterday I sent off the Party of Indians whom Lieut. Kennedy<sup>2</sup> Joins, it Consists of Forty four Men. To Morrow I hope to sett off Capt. Montours<sup>3</sup> Party consisting chiefly of Delewares, Shawanese, Onondagas, Nanticokes, Tuscaroras, and Six Rangers I lately Inlisted by Major General Abercrombies Order, they will be about Fifty in the whole.

I have an Account that there are Forty Oneidas going to War from their Castle, by means of a Belt of Wampum I sent them lately, which is a great point carried, as that Nation has been very backward of late. in short the Young Men are all growing very warm, and promise extremely well. If nothing prevents I dare say they will harrass the Enemy greatly in their own way.

I had an Answer from the two Justices whom I told Your Lordship I wrote to some time ago, about the Road to Oswego, they write me that they cannot possibly leave home at this time, neither can they find any of the People about them willing to

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Quinton Kennedy.

<sup>3</sup> Henry (*alias* Andrew) Montour.

undertake it. I shall try others immediately and let your Lordship know what Success I have therein.

I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

His Excellency

Most Obedient

The Honourable

& Most Humble Servant

JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN

WM. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson.

Fort Johnson 5th. August 1756

FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 5<sup>t</sup> August 1756*

SIR

I was extremely concerned, at an Account I have this moment received from Colonel Gage at Skenactady, of the Murder of an Indian; and also at the Circumstances that attend it: I have by the Messenger who proceeds with this to You, sent strict Orders to make enquiry into it, and if it should prove to be done by our People, to confine every one against whom shall arise the least cause of suspicion, And the better to apprehend the Persons concerned, I have offered a Reward of £20. I understand the Indian to be one Jerry, I am vastly sorry that this Man came down amongst our People. I own I cannot but dread the ill Effects of this Matter, but hope from Your Prudence and Address, that you will apply whatever Remedies are in your Power; I shall on my part (& I beg the Indians may

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

understand so) do everything to satisfy & do Justice to the Indians.

I have the honor to be &ca.

To SR. W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>.

Sole Agent & Superintendent for Indian Affairs  
at Fort Johnson

Express by Hamilton at 3. in the afternoon.

ADDRESSED:

To St. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson at Fort Johnson  
Albany 5<sup>t</sup>. August 1756  
by Express.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson August 6th. 1756*

MY LORD

Since my Letter of Yesterday to Your Lordship, I received an Account of one of the Six Nations being pursued, and killed by some of the 44th Regiment about four miles this side of Schenectady the day before Yesterday. As soon as the News came to the Indian Camp before my House, they all gathered immediately to hear it. I assure Your Lordship I never observed so sudden, or Violent a passion as they were worked into, on hearing the Circumstances related by some of their own People, who were there, and had seen his Head stuck upon a Pole in the Camp. they foamed, and Gnashed their Teeth as is common with them when in a passion, and One of them went round their Camp, desiring the Warriors to be all on their Guard, and Armed. nay some of them wanted to go to Schenectady and Revenge it immediately. Others were for going away in a Body. after all great Numbers of them went into the Woods and stayed there until this Morning. Upon which I sent the

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



Interpreter to call the Chiefs immediately to me, when I endeavoured by making use of severall Arguments to pacify them, and desired they would speke to their Young Men (severall of whom were then Drunk with liquor they got at Schenectady) and tell them it must certainly be done by some Drunken People who did not know what they were about, or that they possibly took him for an Enemy.

It is a very unhappy Affair at present, and will I fear (notwithstanding the early and necessary Steps I have taken to settle it) greatly embarass, and retard the Measures I am so successfully pursuing. and make them very unwilling to Join, or even go along with the Regiment now to Oswego.

Your Lordship may depend on my leaving no measures unessayed to settle this unhappy Affair, but at the same time must assure Your Lordship it is my Opinion that if any such thing happens again, it will require a Person of greater Capacity, and more Influence to settle it. from the temper they were in this Morning (before I gave that Nation all the Satisfaction they could expect, vizt. Scalps, Belts of Wampum Goods &ca) I thought it adviseable to send an Express to stop the Officer and Party coming here. I have since wrote the Officer to proceed. and am apprehensive of no ill Consequence now, unless they get in Liquor, which from the Plenty they daily bring from Albany, and Schenectady is almost unavoidable.

I have the honour to be

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

His Excellency

& Most Humble Servant

The Right Honourable

WM. JOHNSON

JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson 6t. August 1756.

## FROM MOHAWK INDIANS

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Hunter the 6<sup>th</sup>. August 1756*

SIR

Whereas the greatest Part of our Young Men are dispersed in different Parties to annoy the Enemy, by which means our Castle is left exposed to Danger in case of any sudden Attack, being in a manner, defenceless, and as Lieutenant Williams who Commands in Fort Hunter, has but a small Command, scarce sufficient to Defend himself, so that he cannot be able to send us any Relief on any Exigency. We therefore request You will be Pleased to Desire My Lord Loudoun to Reinforce the Fort with a Junior Officer & such a Number of Men as he or You may Judge Proper, to Continue under Mr. William's Command, til such time our Parties Return, which will not only be (in our Opinions) greatly Conducive to the Service, but will be a great Protection to Us and our Families who are left unguarded, and We hope You will think it necessary that this our Request be Complied with, with the utmost Dispatch.

The Mark of	SETH SENIOR
The Mark of	JOHN NATAGOYA
The Mark of	ABRAHAM
The Mark of	JOHN SUJAHOWANA
The Mark of	ISAAC

To Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

INDORSED:

A letter from the  
Mohawks desireing  
Men for their Fort.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

## FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*Contemporary Copy<sup>1</sup>**Albany [8<sup>th</sup>:] August 1756*

SIR

I have this moment Received your two letters of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> As to the Indean that was Supposed to be killed by the 44<sup>th</sup> Regt I hope you have before this Received ye letter which I writ to Show you the Resentments I had against the Authors from the Moment I heard of it and the Steps I had taken to Discover them and bring them to Punishment which oppinion I still remain fixed in

But I can not help thinking considering who the Man was and what Villinous Murders he had Committed on the Companions of that Regt no latter than last year Summer it was Rash to bring him amongst them and still more to leave him there espetially after the Long vist he had held in this town as I was informed before he left it owning all the People he had Murderd belonging to them and braging no Man Dared to tutche him for it.

*[No Man can be less Ready to forgive a Crime of this Sort than I am for I know if we leave the Execution of Crimenals to a mob, no body in the Sociaty can be safe but I must owen I think the Indeans have no Reason to Aledge they have any Just Pretence to take Offence from a Man Meeting with an Accident from Men whoes Commerads he has Murderd when he was attending them as a friend and this every Indean who Pretendes to be so offended provs to be a truth and if they put there Inactive friendship on this footing I think we shall not loose much by it*

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<sup>1</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O., 34, vol. 38, London, England. The draft of this letter is in the Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal. It bears the indorsement: To Sr. Wm. Johnson at Fort Johnson Albany 8<sup>th</sup>. August 1756. by express enclosed to Colo. Gage.

*Notwithstanding all this I will Proseccut this Affair as is right And bring the Guilty to the Punishment the Crime Deserves]*<sup>1</sup>

This Affair is extremly unlucke but I can not helpe saying that if after our doing all we can to bring the Crimenal to Justice they make a Quarel with or about this Man Newly Adopted by them whilst he was besmered with the Blood of our fellow Subjects Murdered by him whilst he was serving with them under the Spetious Pretence of friendship there was little to be hoped from them before.

I see you have taken a different Method of Sattisfieing those People you ought to be the best Judge from your long experien[c]e among them But I should have chose to have put it on what seems to me to be the true State of the Case To have Sade this man ought to have been made a Publick Example and you ought not to have Receved him among you But as the Authors of his Death you had no right to be his executioners they shall suffer for thir Crimes likewise. For I have never yet seen Man of any lowly or any Rank but who know what Justice is and Rever it. And the Sacred Boond of friendship is to Show we will do Justice to them but that we expect it from them I have not now got to the Bottom of this Affair but I will get to it and shall acquaint you with the Situation of it and the Steps I take in it

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar

INDORSED:

Sr: W<sup>m</sup>: Johnson —

8<sup>th</sup>: August 1756./.

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<sup>1</sup> Words italicized and inclosed in brackets are crossed out in the manuscript.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 8th August 1756*

MY LORD

This Moment a German, Son of Justice Harkeman<sup>2</sup> of Burnetsfield arrived here, and tells me that the Firing which was heard at the Great Carrying Place, and supposed to be an Attack on that Fort, was only the fire of our Guns at the New Fort which they were Scaling. this Account came by some Battoemen who came from the Carrying place the day after the firing was heard. As I would not delay giving Your Lordship the earliest Notice, I thought it best to send Harkeman<sup>3</sup> with this Letter, to whom I beg leave to refer Your Lordship for particulars.

I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

His Excellency

&amp; Most Humble Servant

The Right Honourable

WM. JOHNSON

JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:<sup>4</sup>

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson August 8th 1756

About the report of the Attack  
at the Carrying

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Johan Jost Herchheimer (Herkimer).

<sup>3</sup> Johan Nicholas Herchheimer, son of Johan Jost Herchheimer.

<sup>4</sup> In Loudoun's hand.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 8th August 1756**11 at night*

MY LORD

I am honoured with Yours of this Instant.

I Shewed Your Lordships Letter to the Indians, which, together with the Steps I took, (and which I then thought most proper) I settled that unlucky Affair intirely.

My Lord I knew nothing of the fellows design of going to Albany when I left him at my House. I went by Water, and he by Land, with severall more of that Nation as I have since heard. before I sett off from Albany I ordered a Sachim to tell all the Indians to go before me, which they did. I did not see him at Schenectady but understood that He, and two or three old Mohawks were gone before me homewards, which I find was true.

I must say I never heard him say an ill word to Mankind since I first saw him, which was last Winter. If I had I should be very ready to reprimand him for it. What he may have said to others, or what he has done when with the late General Braddock I know not, but very probable he has behaved ill, otherwise I am far from thinking that any Body would have carried a Resentment so far.

As these are Facts My Lord, and all that I know of the Affair, I hope Your Lordship will not condemn the Method I have taken. If it is wrong, I am sorry for it.

I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

His Excellency

&amp; Most Humble Servant

The Right Honourable

WM. JOHNSON

JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson August 8t 1756

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>2</sup>*Fort Johnson 15 August 1756*

MY LORD

This moment one Sam a Carolina Indian who lives at Oneida Lake came here with an Oneida Indian along with him from the German Flatts, and says that three days ago between Fort Bull and Fort Williams as he was Walking towards the Fort, he was laid hold of by a French Indian, who took him aside about fifty yards from the foot Road and asked him where he was going. upon this Indians telling him he was going to Fort Williams, he said the Indians had no business mixing with the English, and further desired him to tell the Indians to keep out of the way, for there was a great Body of French and Indians coming after him, that He left the French Camp two days before, that they were to destroy one, or Both of said Forts. and if they could not succeed therein, they would then cutt off the Battoes with provisions going to Oswego. this Indian says that as soon as he came to Fort Williams in order to tell them the News, he was asked by the interpreter there where he came from, on answering he came from Oneida Lake, said Interpreter told him he believed he was a French Indian, for that he did not know him, and that he beleived he was come as a Spy, that he looked upon all the Oneida Indians as Traytors, this prevented His telling the News as He intended, least they should lay hold of Him, He says he was nevertheless confined the day before Yesterday, which prevented his coming sooner. He says that Numbers of the Oneida, and other Indians whom He met

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<sup>1</sup> In Loudoun's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

at the German Flatts &ca, Run up to the Carrying place as fast as they could. He says he told the Officer at the German Flatts of it, who said he need not write, as He the Indian was coming here

I sent of a Party of above 50 Indians from here Yesterday bound for the French Encampment near Lake Ontario, by the River Le Planche, who I hope will be up time enough to meet this Party of the French, as they are to take the Woods at the Carrying Place

I thought it my Duty to send Your Lordship this Intelligence by Express, I propose sending General Webb the same, as it will reach him before He gets to the German Flatts

I hope I shall be able to do myself the honour of waiting on Your Lordship in two, or three Days.

I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

His Excellency The Right and Most Humble Servt.

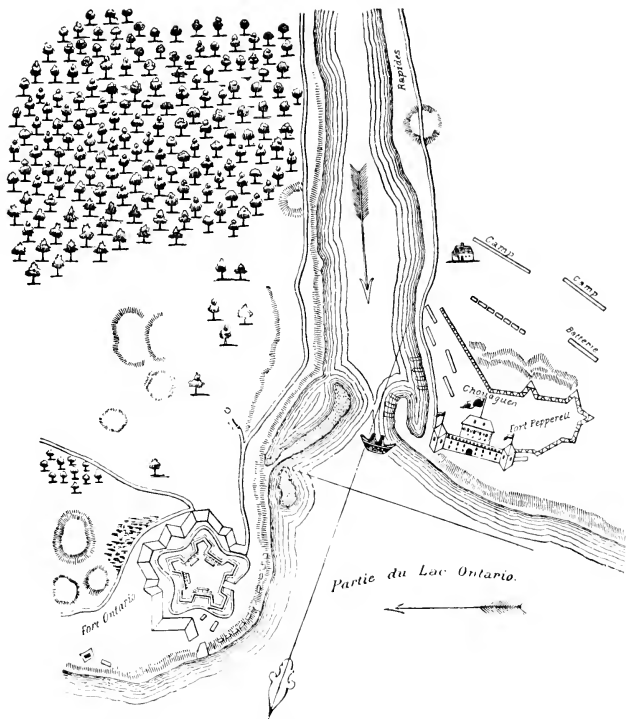
Honourable JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN.

WM. JOHNSON.

P. S. Just as I finished my letter, an Oneida Indian who arrived here abt. an hour ago wth. severall more from ye West Branch of Susquahana, Says that he mett with a Cajuga Indian Just come from Niagara who told him that when he left Sd. place abt.

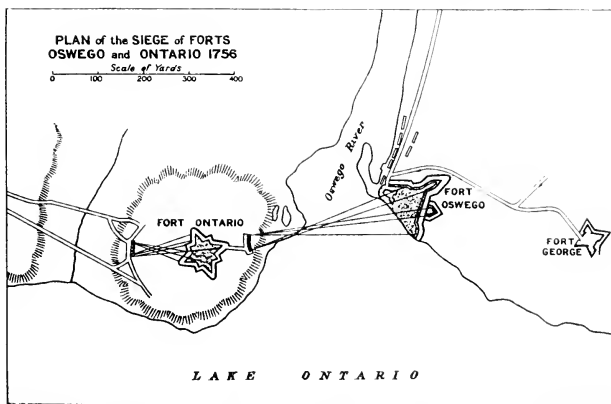
13 Days ago a Considerable Body of French Indians were preparing to march towards Osswego, in order as he heard to revenge the Death of Some of their Nation who were killed in that Skirmish wth. Bradstreet. This Indian told my Informant that he did not know what was to be proposed, or done at the Niagara Meeting, as he & severall more fled on Acct. of the Small Pox beginning to rage verry much amot. French & Indians.





THE FORTS AT OSWEGO

From Winsor's *Narrative and Critical History of America*, 5:511



PLAN OF THE SIEGE OF FORTS OSWEGO AND ONTARIO BY MONTCALM IN 1756.

From William Charles Henry Wood's *The Passing of New France*, p. 34



FROM WILLIAM DENNY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Philadelphia 21. August, 1756.*

SIR

The Proprietors having done me the Honour, with the Kings approbation to appoint me the Governour<sup>2</sup> of this Province I take this opportunity to Inform you of my having published their Commission and taken upon me the administration.

I shall be extremely glad to embrace all occasions of promoting His Magisties Service and the general interest of the Indian Nations, and as without an Union of Councils and a good Correspondence between you and me little good is to be effected. I shall take the liberty to communicate to you from time to time whatever Indian Intelligence I shall receive as well as the several steps I shall take with them for the public service upon which I shall be obliged to you to give me your sentiments which will always have a great weight with me.

I hope I shall be enabled to act with spirit at this important juncture in which nothing less than the Preservation of this Province in particular and that of the Colonies in general is so nearly Concerned.

It will give me a sensible pleasure if in the Course of my Administration I shall have it in my power to render you any service.

I beg the favour of you to notify to the Six Nations my succeeding Mr. Morris in the Government of this Province and to acquaint them in order to prevent mistakes that this change is at his own importunate request and not on account of any displeasure of his Majesty or the Proprietors.

Indian business has increased so much of late that the secretary tells me he has no Wampum which obliges me to request of you to furnish the Belts and Strings necessary to lay this

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Deputy Governor of Pa. from August, 1756 till October, 1759.

notification, as well as the other business I have in a separate letter took the freedom to commit to your care, before the Indians, and this government will be glad to pay your draught for it. The secretary tells me we are already largely in your debt, but I hope all will be honourably discharged when the amount thereof is known. I have the Honour to be.

Sir

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant

WILLIAM DENNY.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

INDORSED:

Copy Governor Denny's letter  
to Sir William Johnson  
Philadelphia, August 21st, 1756.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 22. August 1756*

MY LORD

Since my Arrival have not heard a word more about the Fate of Oswego which I am surprised at, and cannot account for.

This Minute an Indian whom I sent with a Letter to Major General Webb<sup>2</sup> the Day I went to Albany (which was last Wednesday) arrived. and says that there are a great number of the Six Nations now at the German Flatts Expecting me there. also Capt. Montour the Half King<sup>3</sup> and their Party consisting above Fifty. I hope to be with them this Night, with 500 Men from these parts, the 500 from Albany are not yet come up,

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Webb.

<sup>3</sup> Scarouady.

neither have I heard from them. this Indian says he heard that the Old Fort was not yet taken. If I find that to be the Case on my Arrival at Burnetsfield, I hope your Lordship will not disapprove of my making the best of my Way to Oswego with what Indians, and Militia I can Muster.° the Ammunition which Your Lordship ordered for me is not yet arrived, which is a great disapointment.

I hope Your lordship will order a Sufficient Quantity of Arms and Ammunition &ca, up here for the use of the Six Nations as soon as it arrives from York. this being the time they should be well supplied with every necessary.

The Sachims of both Mohawk Castles were with me Yesterday, to know when Your Lordship will Garrison their two Castles, the sooner it is done the better. and they beg that they may be good quiet sober Man. I have the honour to be

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

and Most Humble Servant

WM. JOHNSON

° as I could get there with them sooner than the Troops, I shall wait yr. Lordships pleasure.

The Right Honourable  
JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson August 22d 1756

Powder  
Arms for Indians  
No further Account of Oswego  
Proposal

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*German Flatts August ye 23d. 12 oClock*

MY LORD

On my Arrival here I find by a soldier who came from Oswego, that the French were in possession of every thing we had there last Saturday was Seven Night, and as they carried the Garrison over prisoners to the East side he made his escape. He tells me that last Thursday he met Major General Webb, About ten miles from here on his way to the Carrying place, and gave him a full Acct. of all he knew. he says their numbers were very Considerable as well Indians as French.

I shall Acquaint Mr. Webb of my Arrival here Immediately, and Cooperate with him in every thing may tend to the preservation of this part of the Country, Or the Retaking Oswego if it should be thought practicable. In the mean time shall guard against any Attempts the Enemy may make upon this place.

I found it very Difficult to get the Militia to move at this time, there are not above four hundred of them as yet Arrived, I expect many more tomorrow, but doubt of the Numbers coming I Ordered; as also of their willingness to stay here any time.

There are Several Indians about here with whom I could not speak as yet, but by what I can see they are vastly Dejected, I propose speaking to them as soon as I have dispatched this, and the Express to Major General Webb. I have the Honour to be my Lord.

Your Lordships most

Obedient, &amp; Most Humble Servant

His Excellency

WM. JOHNSON

The EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

German Flatts August 23d 1756

Believes Oswego taken

R August 24th 1756

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*German Flatts August 24th, 1756.*

MY LORD

I was honoured this Morning with Your Lordships of the 23d. together with an Indian Letter which I can make nothing of, as Mr. Clause who reads Indian, is left Sick at my House.

I have no further Acct. from Osswego Since I wrote Your Lordship Yesterday. I expect the return of the Express I sent Major Generl. Webb Yesterday, Some time this Day.

I am preparing about a Dozen Indians to send of imediately to Osswego for certain Intelligence and to bring me a Prisonner if possible.

In case (on future Intelligence) it should appear a prudent & Eligible measure to proceed to Osswego, Your Lordship may depend I shall first acquaint You, & Mr. Webb of my Design, as the Whole of my Conduct shall be governed by Yr. Lordships pleasure, and his Commands.

The lower Mohawk Castle expect 100 Men in the whole, that is Seventy In their Castle as they call it, besides the thirty Lieut. Williams has in the Kings Fort. I believe fifty Good Men may Suffice with what are already there. and as many as Can have good Quarters. There is an Officer, and twenty five Men of the Militia posted at Fort Hendrick at Conajohare Whom I have paid out of the money in my Hands for Indian Affairs the Officer at 8 Curry. per Day, & the Men at 2/2 finding themselves. which is a considerable Expencc. as this Fort Hendrick is 30 Miles above the Mohawks, and a kind of Barrier to that part of the Country, and the Indians living there Inviolably attached to the British Interest, as well as the lower Mohawks, I am humbly of opinion it would not only give great Satisfaction but encourage them to continue their alertness, and assistance to Us, Was Your Lordship pleased to allow a Garrison of 100, or 70 Men there. As to the rest of the Nations

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

who have had Forts lately built in their Countrys, I can say nothing yet, haveing had no Conversation with them Since this unlucky affair of Osswego.

Lieut. Holland<sup>1</sup> who commanded here being in a verry bad State of Health, and no Help at hand, desired Liberty to go to Albany. which I granted and hope Yr. Lordship will not take it amiss, as he realy Suffered greatly here, and could be of no Service.

The powder arrived at my House Just as I was Setting of for this place, with only abt. 300 lb. of lead. I forwarded it imediately wth. Battoes, but is not yet come up here. I must think there was more lead Sent from Albany, & left in Schenectady through the neglect of those who have the care, or inspection of the Battoes there, whom I have severall times to my great disappointment found very remiss.

I am

My Lord

most respectfully

Your Lordships

Most Obedient, &

Most Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency the EARL OF LOUDOUN

I herewith transmit Your Lordship a Return of the Detachments of his Majesty's Troops left here, also the Comissarys return of provisions.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

German Flatts August 24t. 1756.

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<sup>1</sup> Hitchen Holland.



## TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*German Flatts 27. Augt. 1756*

MY LORD

My last to Your Lordship was the 24 Inst, I am since honoured with yours of ye 23d.

I have had no further Intelligence relating to Oswego, but what has come from the Carrying Place & Consequently communicated to Your Lordship by Genl. Webb. the loss of that place is I fear beyond the least Doubt.

Genl. Webb wrote me to discharge such Men from the Militia as were engaged in the Battoe Service. I did so, but the remainder of our Battoes are all at the Oneida Carrying Place there are none here and Justice van Slyck informs me there are none at Schenectady, with which I have acquainted M. Webb.

Two large Parties of Indians whom I had fitted out for War & were going to Canada are now here (except a part of them whom I sent for Intelligence to Oswego as I mentioned in my last to your Lordship) I thought it best in the present Situation of our Affairs that they should proceed to the Carrying Place & there assist the Service in such manner as Mr. Webb may judge Expedient. They have consented to go thither & are to set off to Morrow Morning with a considerable Number of Sachems & Warriors (some of each of the 6 Nations) along with Mr. Croghan. General Webb desired & I proposed to have gone thither myself, but I am in so Weak a Condition as to be disabled from Travelling. I was seized with the Bloody Flux on my arrival here wch. continued very violent & painful so that I am not able to sit up. I shall give Mr. Croghan Instructions with regard to the Indians & as he is a person very

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

acceptable to them & well acquainted with their Customs and Manners I hope the Service will not suffer by my Incapacity of proceeding with them.

Mr. Webb writes me that the Indians with him, appear backward in going upon Service It is natural & probable that the success of the French at Oswego will have, particularly at first, such an influence, but as the Indians now here have unanimously given me (and that without any Application on my side) the warmest Assurances of their Determination to continue stedfast to their Alliance with us, I am in hopes when They & Mr. Croghan arrive, Genl. Webbs Complaint will be removed but of this future time & their Behaviour can only give us Certainty. Unless strict care be taken to prevent their getting Rum, they will be very troublesome & no ways Serviceable, this I shall mention to Genl. Webb & give in charge to Mr. Croghan if all that are now here do according to their Promise accompany Mr. Croghan, there will be upwards of 150 Sachems & Warriors.

As the Harvest in these parts is but just beginning with some & at the height with others, any long continuance of the Militia here will be almost ruinous to some & extremely prejudicial to Most. The Detachment from the Albany Battalion is not yet arrived whilst the other has been here 6. 5. & 4 days.

I am now dispatching another Party for Intelligence to Oswego & to get a prisoner if they can, It consists of white Men (Voluntiers from the Militia) & Indians. Another Party are gone to Scout thro the Woods on the East side of the River & are to come out at the Oneida Carrying place.

I am preparing a Belt of Wampum to send thro the Six Nations, to Summon a Delegation of the Chiefs of each Nation to meet me without Delay at my House. If they comply the Result of that Meeting will probably enable us to form a Determinate opinion relative to our Indian Interest. This Measure appears to me the best and most important with regard

to Indian Affairs at this Conjuncture & I hope it will meet with Your Lordships Approbation.

To the Right Honourable  
The EARL OF LOUDOUN  
&c. &c

I am  
with the greatest Esteem  
and Respect  
My Lord  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedient and  
faithful Servant

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
German Flatts August 27t 1756

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*German Flatts 27 Augt.  
3 aClock p. m. 1756.*

MY LORD

I have just received a Letter by two Indians Express from the Carrying Place from Capt. Butler,<sup>2</sup> a Copy of which I thought it necessary to send Your Lordship without further delay.

I have not yet heard from Major General Webb

I am  
My Lord  
Your Lordships

To His Excellency  
The EARL OF LOUDOUN

Most Obedt. hum  
Servant

INDORSED:

&c. &c.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

Sir William Johnson  
German Flatts August 27t 1756  
with Indian Intelligence about Oswego

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Butler.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*German Flatts 28 Augt. 1756.*

MY LORD

I here with transmit You the Copy of another Letter I have just received by Genl. Webbs Express, from Capt. Butler.<sup>2</sup>

I apprehend the Motive for the Onondaga Indians preventing our People from going to Oswego was, that they thought it too dangerous an Enterprize, as probably some Party of the French & their Indians still remain there & that our People might fall into their hands.

The difference between the Indian Intelligence & what we had from those who say they escaped from Oswego is very striking, and on which side the real Truth lyes, is not I conceive at present easy to determine, but as I have ordered the Party I sent to Oswego to go thro the Woods & avoid any of the Indian Castles, I hope their return may enable us to judge what is the real Fate & true State of Affairs at Oswego.

Genl. Webb is still earnest for my coming to him as soon as I recover enough to undertake the Journey, I am as yet incapable of doing it, if Mr. Webb continues his Desire of seeing me I will Attend him when I am able to travel.

I have the honour to be

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient & most  
humble Servant.W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

The EARL OF LOUDOUN

&amp;c. &amp;c.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Butler.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 German Flatts August 28<sup>t</sup> 1756  
 with Indian Intelligence

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*German Flatts 28 Augt. 1756*

MY LORD

This Afternoon an elderly Indian who has always been very faithful & on whose Integrity I think I may depend came to me & told me, that he had Intelligence the French would certainly before long make their Attack upon the Oneida Carrying Place, and said he hoped we were so well fortified & so strong there as not to meet with the fate of Oswego. This Indian seemed fully persuaded of the truth of his Intelligence & told it me with all the marks of unaffected Concern. I thought it proper to communicate this Matter to Your Lordship. Tis true the fate of Oswego has I fear involved in it the Attachment of some of our Indians, shaken that of others & alarmed most of them. Yet I think we have some on whom we may depend. I suspect most of the Onondagas & Oneidas are disaffected to us from some fresh Accounts I have this day received.

I have sent an Express to Mr. Webb with the above Intelligence.

The Albany Militia arrived Yesterday afternoon & by Col. Rentzellaers return to me this Morning there are but 250 of them & those without Blanketts. My orders were 500.

I am

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

To His Excellency

&amp; faithful Servant

The EARL OF LOUDOUN

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

&amp;c. &amp;c.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 German Flatts August 28t 1756  
 Account from an Old Indian of the  
 Enemy Meaning to attack us from Oswego

TO THE BOARD OF TRADE

*Extract<sup>1</sup>*

[28 Aug. 1756]

The Onondagas and Oneidas are in the neighborhood of Swegatchie a French settlement on the River St Lawrence, whither numbers of those two Nations have of late years been debauched and gone to live. Tho' our Indians do not now resort to those places as frequently and familiarly as they formerly did, yet some among them do occasionally visit there, when the French and the Indians in their interest poison the minds of ours with stories not only to the disadvantage of our good intentions towards them, but endeavour to frighten them with pompous accounts of the superior prowess and martial abilities of the French.

FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*Df.<sup>2</sup>**Albany August 31<sup>st</sup>. 1756*

SIR

I had the pleasure of your Letter of the 28<sup>th</sup>. but am very sorry to find you have been so bad, by a Letter from Mr. Catherwood<sup>3</sup> I see you are better which I sincerely hope will Continue, I can easily believe the French breaking any Treaty and Murdering the People afterwards, But it is most essential to us to know whether they remain at Oswego, and their Number,

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 1:427-28; Q, 1:279-80.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>3</sup> John Catherwood, secretary to Gov. Clinton.

both that we may be able to Judge, how far we can deal with them if they make us a Visit, and what preparations to make against them if they come by Crown Point, and you are the only one can get us this Intelligence, so I beg you will spare no pains,

I am told several People of Considerable Interest in this Countey have sent you no men, I Beg to have a return of your People, and from whom they come, that we may know whom we may trust to hearafter, your People shall not be detained no longer than is Absolutely Necessary,

I have this day sent up 250 of the Highland Regiment, and 50 of Young Roger's Ranging Company with some People of the Artillary, Part of the Highland's will serve to Garrison the Mohawk Fortes when the Fate of the Carrying place is Determined, I ever am most Faithfully.

INDORSED:

To Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson  
August 31<sup>st</sup>. 1756

EXTRACTS FROM INDIAN PAPERS

D.

[August, 1756]<sup>1</sup>

{ To prove the [ ]  
} our Encroachments [ ]

Part of a Message received from the Onondagas 23 May, [1756] to be found in the Remarks on proprietor of Pensilvanias observation

"We are informed the English are build<sup>g</sup>. a Fort<sup>2</sup> at Shamokin we cant comprehend the method of making war which is made use of, by our Breth<sup>n</sup>. the English; When we go to War, our manner is to destroy a Nation & theres an end of it. But the English Chiefly regard building Forts, which Looks as if their only Scheme was *to take possession of the Lands.*"

<sup>1</sup> Date supplied from the Johnson Calendar.

<sup>2</sup> Fort Augusta at Shamokin, Pa.

Extract from the Representation from the Board of Trade to his Majesty dated Dec<sup>r</sup>. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1755 upon Mr. Penns proposal of Granting Lands in Pensilvania to such Officers & Soldiers, as sho<sup>d</sup>. engage in his Majestys Service —

To prove the caution w<sup>th</sup>. w<sup>ch</sup>. the L<sup>ds</sup>. of Trade chose to act concerning Ind<sup>n</sup>. Claims<sup>1</sup>

See Letter from L<sup>ds</sup>. of Trade  
March 5<sup>th</sup>. 1756

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Some Extracts from  
Indian Papers —  
To Shew their Jealousy of  
our Encroachments, & Opinions  
of the Kings Ministers thereon  
1756

AN INDIAN MEETING

*Extract<sup>3</sup>*

*German Flatts 3 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1756.*

At a Meeting of the Onondagas, Oneidas & Tuscarores.

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sr. Wm Johnson

Mr. Geo. Croghan.

Jacobus Clement Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Aguiotta an Oneida Sachem Speaker.

Brother Warraghyjagey

We told you yesterday evening that we had something yet left in our hearts which we wanted to lay before you ere we part

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<sup>1</sup> The complete letter from the Board of Trade to his Majesty, Dec. 11, 1755, is printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:704-7; Q, 2:410-12. Therefore this extract is not printed here.

<sup>2</sup> The first five words in Johnson's hand.

<sup>3</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



from one another; We are now met & must tell you in the name of all the Six Nations that we are quite surprised to find our selves deceived in our opinion of the English — We took them to be a more steady People, but we see that this defeat at Oswego discourages them entirely and that you seem as it were to give up all hopes.

Brother

We entreat you not to be dispirited, go on in your measures & try again. You have often boasted of the numbers of the English, that they were like an inexhaustable stream — do your best call all your People from the seaside (meaning our Cities & Towns) and bring them to Lake George, as our common enemy will now attack you there. Pray go on vigourously & you may still overcome. Gave a Belt.

To which Sr. William replied

Bretheren

You are mistaken in your opinion of the English, if you think the loss of Oswego has affected them in any such degree as will deter them from making war upon the common enemy with a firmness & resolution equal to the provocations they have received. At the same time that we are not insensible to what we have suffered by the loss of this place. We think the security, & welfare of the 6 nations to be more essentially affected by it than our own.

Bretheren

The great King your Father hath sent over the Earl of Loudoun to command all his warriors in North America & to order & direct all warlike measures upon this continent, to him I shall communicate what you have now said; he is an Experienced warrior & you may be assured will take every measure becoming a brave & prudent Chief. Gave a Belt of Wampum.

A true Extract from the original minutes.

PETER WRAXALL

Secr<sup>y</sup>.

INDORSED:

Extract of Indians  
Speech to Sr. William Johnson at  
German Flatts & his answer.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 7 Septbr. 1756*

MY LORD

I met the Express who carried Your Lordships favour to me of the 2d. Instant on the Road, he had left it at my House where I found it on my Arrival.

Major General Webb when he came to the German Flatts was of opinion the Militia might be discharged in which I concurred with Him and did it accordingly.

Agreeable to my promise to the Indians I herewith transmit Your Lordship a Speech they made me on my Departure from the German Flatts with my Answer to it.

They seem universally persuaded the Enemy will make a verry strong Attack at Lake George or that way and manifest a more than ordinary, anxiety for the Event. If they do and should meet with a defeat, it will I doubt not have a very happy Effect upon our Indian Interest, if we suffer that way also, I dread the Consequence.

I did verry earnestly recommend it to the Indians to keep out constant Scouting Parties every way round the Carrying Place towards the Enemy and upon my Discoveries to bring Mr. Webb the most speedy notice, which they promised me they would faithfully do, and I have left an Indian Officer with General Webb to serve as an Interpreter.

I sent two Trusty Indians from the German Flatts to Oswego for intelligence, I heard this day by an Indian that they are returned to that place but were too weary to proceed imme-

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

diately hither. I expect them every Moment, the Intelligence they bring shall be punctually transmitted to Your Lordship.

In my next I shall give Your Lordship my Answer upon the specification of the Indian Presents You sent me by Mr. Wraxall, by whom I am sorry to hear Your Lordship hath been indisposed, I hope You are perfectly recovered and I most heartily wish You the continuance of health and every good thing. I am still weak but I think on the Recovery.

I am truly

To His Excellency  
The EARL OF LOUDOUN  
&ca.

My Lord  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedient  
and most faithful  
Servant  
W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson Septr. 7th  
1756

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 8 Septr. 1756*

MY LORD

I have the honour of Mr. Pownall's Letter of Yesterday and am extreemly obliged to Your Lordship for your kind Concern for my health, tho better I am not at present in a Condition that will admit my waiting on Your Lordship, besides I am surrounded by Indians and their Affairs press upon me too much to permit my being prudently absent at this Juncture, if Your Lordship should find it necessary for me to Attend You before the proposed Meeting takes place, I will undoubtedly if my strength permits pay my Duty to You, and if my Weak-

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

ness should require, I will embrace Your Lordships polite offer of Your Post Chariot.

The two Indians I sent to Oswego are not yet come hither from the German Flatts, I am surprized at their Delay, as soon as ever they Arrive and I get their Intelligence I shall immediately transmit it to Your Lordship.

I have received two Letters from Governor Denny One notifying to me his Appointment desiring I will signifie the same to the Six Nations. The other gives me a Relation of the Causes of the Late Meeting at Easton, a general Account of what past there, some, tho not verry clear Reasons for an Indian they call Capt. Newcastle coming this way.

I take the Liberty here to transmit Your Lordship My Answer to these Letters of Governour Denny which if You approve I beg You will order to be sealed and forwarded.

I find Your Lordship waits my Sentiments upon the Subject of Pensilvanias Indian Management before You send off Your Dispatches to the Govr. of Pensilvania.

My Lord. In my last Letter to the Board of Trade I gave their Lordships a Summary Account of the Treaty at my House with the Deleware and Shawanese Indians. At the same time I took the Liberty to communicate to them my Apprehensions of the Chief Causes which had induced some of the Indians living on the Susquehanna to be concerned in those hostilities which that Government in particular and the Neighboring Governments in general had suffered last Spring. I also laid before their Lordships a general View of the late Indian Management of the Pensilvania and did express my disapprobation of Governour Morris' Conduct therein, as I had done before verry plainly to Sir Charles Hardy and which he communicated to Mr. Morris.

I have not the least doubt of Governour Dennys perfect good Intentions for His Majesties Service and the general Welfare with regard to Indian Affairs, but my Lord I am apprehensive that as Governour Denny cannot yet be supposed fully possessed of the Real State of those Affairs and able to form that compitent

Judgment upon The Subject for which some Experience and time are absolutely necessary, he may be liable to be misled by some about him, upon whose opinion he may naturally be apt to make a Dependance, and who I am inclined to believe either think themselves more Masters of the Subject than they really are, and have possibly some favorite Schemes in View, neither reconciled to sound Policy nor those disinterested Principles which ought to regulate Indian Management at this Delicate Conjunction. however if Mr. Denny is persuaded that he can fall upon such Measures as will compose these Unhappy Breaches or Misunderstandings which have taken place between the Shawanese and Delaware Indians and the Southern Provinces, and secure their future Tranquility, I am far from wishing much less endeavouring to deprive him of such honourable, and important Negotiations, and especially as 'tis more than I can take upon me to give any certain assurances of at this critical Juncture. One thing I must beg leave to Mention to Your Lordship and I hope for Your Interposition therein, which is, that the Governour of Pensilvania do not give any call for a Meeting of the Six Nations, or enter into any Negotiations with them, as such a Proceeding will not only be I humbly conceive, contrary to the Intention and Tener of His Majesties Commission to me, but tend to throw the British Indian Interest into a state of fatal Confusion and may defeat every Measure which I am forming or may project for its Stability and good Consequences. herein Your Lordship will I am persuaded Allow me to be somewhat possitive, and will exert Your Authority in supporting that Department with which His Majesty, under your Direction only, hath honoured me and in which Appointment I have been so happy as to meet with Your Lordships Approbation.

I beg Pardon for taking up so much of Your Lordships time upon this Subject, I may be mistaken, but I suspect there are some busy intriguing Spirits now at Philadelphia, who are forming Schemes unknown to Mr. Denny, which induced me to be thus explicit with Your Lordship. besides other Circumstances I am led into this Opinion by the Spirit and Stile of one of Mr.

Denny's Letters to me of which I take the Liberty to send Your Lordship a Copy.

I am fitting out three different Parties of Indians of Severall Nations to go out against the Enemy, I propose they shall call at Lake George in their way and offer their Service and to write General Winslow by them.

I have spoke to Mr. Clause about the Commission Your Lordship was pleased to offer him and the terms upon which You will allow him to be, and he consents with Gratitude to Your Lordship.

I have examined the Specification of His Majesties Present for the Indians, and in my humble Opinion  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the severall Articles for the Northern Confederacy and  $\frac{1}{3}$  for the Southern will be a Division most conducive to His Majesties Indian Interest in general and I believe the Southern proportion is greater than they ever before recieved. I would propose to Your Lordship that the Share for the Northern Indians may be given out at such times as it will be most acceptable and to such Persons as may most Merit it by their actual Services and not as hath been Customary in an undistinguishing manner at a general Meeting, which in War time and now in particular I apprehend would by no means be so advisable or advantageous to His Majesties Indian Service.

I have the honour  
to be My Lord  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedient, &  
Most Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

The EARL OF LOUDOUN  
herewith I transmit Yr. Lordship  
the plan I propose for Ye. Division  
of the Indian Present.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Postscript in Johnson's hand.

TO WILLIAM DENNY

Copy<sup>1</sup>

Fort Johnson, 8 September, 1756.

SIR:

I am honoured with your two Letters bearing date the 21 of last Month.

I most sincerely congratulate you on your safe Arrival in your Government, and taking upon you the Administration of the same; May Health, Success, and Honour attend you. It shall be my ambition to shew myself worthy of your favour, Confidence, and Correspondence, relative to that Department of his Majesty's Service which he hath been pleased to entrust to my Management. I shall receive all Intelligence from you with Gratitude, and take care punctually to communicate to you whatever I apprehend may be consequential to your Government; and I shall at all times receive your Sentiments and Advice upon Indian Affairs with that respect which is due to your publick Station and the Merits of your private Character.

The present critical situation of the Province of Pennsylvania as well indeed all the Neighbouring Ones, call for a Spirited conduct in their Governors, and I hope and doubt not, Sir, but you will feel yourself equal to the Trial.

Please, Sir, to accept of my very gratefull acknowledgements for your obliging Offers in my favour, and permit me to hope the honour of your Commands, whenever it may be in my power to contribute to your satisfaction.

I expect soon to have a Meeting here of Delegates from each of the Six Nations, when I will not forget to Notify to them your succeeding Mr. Morris in the Government of Pennsylvania in the manner you mention, and I shall supply the Belts and Strings necessary on the Occasion.

I have at all times with Fidelity and pleasure, considered and promoted the real Interest of Pennsylvania in my Trans-

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 7:278-79.

actions with the Indians to the utmost of my Abilities and Judgment, and I shall continue so to do whilst the Power of doing it remains with me.

Your Letter by Cashiowayah, the Indian, I have perused with the attention due to the Importance of it. He has not yet opened himself fully to me, so that I cannot give you a particular Answer with relation to him and his Business, by<sup>1</sup> you may depend I shall Assist and Advise him in the best manner I am able for his Majesty's Indian Interest in general, and that of your Province in particular.

I am, Sir, Most respectfully,

Your most Obedient and most humble Servant,

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

WILLIAM DENNY, Esqr., &ca.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*L. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 10 Sep<sup>r</sup> 1756*

MY LORD

Since mine of Yesterday One Harris who went with James Connor and some Indians from the Carrying Place to make Discoveries at Oswego came hither and I inclosed Your Lordship his Account of what they saw and send this Letter by him that Your Lordship may have the Opportunity if You please of examining him Your self. I also herewith transmit Your Lordship, The Relation of the two Oneida Indians whom I sent to Oswego from the German Flatts, I look upon them to be faithful intelligent People.

I also inclose for Your Lordships perusal a Letter from Mr. Peters Secretary for Pensilvania to Mr. Clause, as I think it confirms those suspicions which I hinted to Your Lordship in mine of Yesterday. I find the Indian they call Capt. Newcastle (tho

<sup>1</sup> Evidently intended for "but."

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



he has not told me so) was sent to draw off from hence Mr. Montour and the Half King<sup>1</sup> and to invite sundry other Indians of the Six Nations to Philadelphia. tho I am verry much disgust'd at this disingenuous Method of Proceeding and think myself ill used by it. I dont pursue this Subject with a View to Interest Your Lordships Authority in my private Resentment, but at the Opinion these interfering Measures and seperate Schemes if permitted, will greatly injure His Majesties Indian Interest and cause such Convulsions in the Management of that Service, as would at any time be attended with verry pernicious Consequences and fatally so at this critical and delicate Juncture.

The Mohawk and Conajoharee Indians are impatient for the Garrisons Your Lordship promised them.

If our Lordship approves my proposed Division of His Majesties Indian Presents and the manner of giving them which I mentioned, it will be necessary that I have them as soon as possible as I am in want of them

I am

My Lord

with the highest Esteem

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

& Most Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

The EARL OF LOUDOUN

Mr. Clause wishes to Stand in a fair light with regard to this letter of Mr. Peters to him and your Lordship will please to return the Letter

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson Sept 10<sup>t</sup> 1756

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<sup>1</sup> Scarouady.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 15 Sept. 1756.*

MY LORD

Yesterday I was honoured with your Lordships of the 10. Inst.<sup>2</sup>

If the last Intelligence from the Stockbridge Indian is really to be depended on, and, so considerable a part of the Enemy's forces are marched from Ticonderoga, and that Jacob reconnoitred, and did not discover them between that Post and Fort Will<sup>m</sup>. Hen<sup>y</sup>., I am rather inclined to believe, they are moving towards Fort Edward or that way, than towards this part of the Mohawks River. All my Indian Intelligence, and which comes from the French Indians to ours, conspires in fixing the present Designs of the Enemy towards Fort William Henry, and that Route; the Indians in General are quite positive, that a very formidable Attack is impending that Way. The two Mohawk Castles who remain steadfast and determined to share our Fate be it what it will, and the ablest Persons amongst them, are so fully persuaded, that the French are on the point of making a grand Attack upon one or other of the said Forts that they speak of it to me with great Concern, and Anxiety, and say their Fate as well as ours depends upon the Issue, and that they fear, we shall not have Men enough to stand against them, and that we ought on this important Occasion, to draw all our people from the adjacent Country together, not only to oppose, but to surround and cut off their Retreat. Such are the Sentiments of our most faithful and experienced Indians, and such as they are My Lord, I thought it my Duty to communicate them to your Lordship.

Thus far I beg leave to lay my Sentiments before your Lordship; that I imagine the French will very speedily, with their whole force make an Attack upon Fort William Henry, or upon Fort Edward; That they will employ on this Design a

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> See *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:557.

large Body of Troops, and a very considerable Number of Indians, and I am Suspicious the provincial Troops at our two Forts will not be an equal Match for the Enemy, and that they will take Measures to distress our marching a Relief in time to them, if that Relief is to be put in Motion after the Enemy have invested one or both those Forts.

Inclosed I transmit your Lordship the Intelligence I have just received from Moses, a brave and faithful Mohawk, who left Ticonderoga 11. Days ago. Two Days ago, I sent out a Party of 23. Indians Chiefly Mohawks, 18 of which are to go to Canada a Scalping, and take the Road by Fort Edward, the other 5 are to take their Route by way of Lake George.

If they make any important Discoveries of the Enemys Motions, they are to dispatch Messengers to Fort William Henry and Fort Edward. Yesterday I also sent off 4 white Men, and 2 Indians across the Country to Ticonderoga, who are likewise upon making any Discoveries, to carry the Account to Fort William Henry.

I expect another Scalping Party of Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Senecas and Delewares, will set off for Canada in a Day or two.

I do not know any other Route Mr. Webb can or will take to make his Retreat in case of Necessity but down this River.

I am glad Your Lordship will order the Indian Presents to be sent me immediately as I am now quite out of most Articles, necessary for present Service.

Your Lordship may be assured I will without any Delay transmit any Intelligence I may receive to Gen Webb, which may concern his Command.

I have the Honour to  
be My Lord  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedient  
& Most Humble Servt.

INDORSED:

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson Sept 15<sup>t</sup> 1756

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 17. Sept. 1756*

MY LORD

Your Lordships most esteemed favour of yesterday came this Morning to my hands, and immediately upon the Receipt of it I sent for the head Sachems of the Mohawk Castle, with old Abraham, the great Hendricks Brother, head Sachem of the Canajoharee Castle who was on his Way home; on their arrival I informed them in General of the Measures your Lordship was taking to oppose the Enemy towards Lake George, at which they expressed their satisfaction. I then summoned jointly with them all the Indians who are at my house and made the same known to them, and that I should immediately send an Express with a Belt of Wampum thro the upper Nations, and an other Belt to the Aughguaga and Southern Indians, to summon them to come without Delay, and join His Majesty's Arms, according to the promise and Engagements made me at the late Meeting at Onondaga. At the same time I told them, that I proposed to march myself thro' the Woods to Fort Edward, as soon as I could get a Party of Indians together, and that all the Rest should join me there as fast as they could come; I proposed to the Party of the Six Nations who were designed to go out a Scalping to Canada, and which I mentioned in my last to your Lordship, to set off for Albany under the Care and Direction of Capt Wraxall, in order to attend your Lordship in your March up to Fort Edward, and that I should send an Express after the Mohawk Party who marcht the 14 Inst: upon a Scalping Design to Canada, to go to Fort Edward and from thence upon the Scout for Intelligence, and to make that Fort their Rendezvous till your Lordships further Orders. All which was approved of by the whole Meeting, and the Party for Albany said they would be ready to march to morrow, and I expect will be with

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

your Lordship the Day after. Upon this Occasion I must beg Leave to put your Lordship in Mind of the prevailing Love of spiritous Liquors which obtains universally amongst the Indians, that where it is to be had, they will try every Art and Method to get it, that though sober they are a manageable people, they are perfect Brutes when drunk, and incapable of all service, I must therefore entreat your Lordship will issue the strictest Orders when the Indians shall Join the Army, that no person whatsoever presume to sell or give them any Rum upon such pains and penalties as to your Lordship will seem meet. And as to the Party in Particular which I am sending to Albany to attend your Lordship I must beg you will give public orders to the Troops, and in particular to take such authoritative Measures with the Town people, as will appear most effectual to prevent the Indians being debauched by Rum, Your Lordships Orders herein published by the public Cryer may probably have the best effect on the Townpeople, who have been accustomed to buy their Arms or Cloathing for Rum when the Indians had not money to pay for it.

Unless the Indians are kept sober, this party which may be usefull to your Lordship will turn out a plague and perplexity to you. Mr. Wraxall will receive all your Lordships Orders, and take Care to see them put into Execution relative to the Indians who are to attend your Lordship under his Care, and he will also acquaint your Lordship, with everything necessary for you to know from them, and apply to you on their Behalf when needfull.

The Indians My Lord are a people extreamly fond of show and Parade, and as the humouring them a little in this particular at the present will have a good Effect, I make no Doubt but your Lordship will condescend to show yourself to Mr. Wraxalls Party on their Arrival at Albany, and if you please to give them a glass of Wine round to drink your Lordships health upon this their first Interview, and Capt Wraxall will halt the party before he comes in Town, and wait on your Lordship to know your Pleasure concerning them. These Matters are points of some

Consequence with the Indians, and therefore I hope your Lordship will excuse my troubling you with them.

I yesterday sent Orders to the several Officers of the Militia of this part of the Country to keep constant Scouts out on the North side of this River, from the German Flatts to within a few Miles of Schonactady and that the Towns of Schonactady and Albany should likewise keep a constant scout out from thence;

If from the Newengland Blockhouse N<sup>o</sup>: 4 and from Fort Dummer they will keep Out scouts with the Indians now on Service, the whole Country will be so covered on every side, that if the Duty be faithfully done, we must have Notice from every part of the Approach of any considerable Body of the Enemy. I am in the utmost Distress for necessaries to fitt out the Indians with, and therefore I beg your Lordship will give Orders if not allready done, to have the Goods forwarded by Waggons to Schonactady, and in Battoes from thence with all possible speed as I can not move before they come.

I am My Lord  
with the utmost respect  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedient  
& Most Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency  
The EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson Sept 17<sup>t</sup> 1756

FROM THOMAS BUTLER  
A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Burnets Field, Sept<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1756*

SIR

I am told by some Indians resideing hereabouts that there is a great meeting of French & Indians at Nigra and Cedaracquee,

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

but the greatest part Indians and some of these here are of opinion they intend for this place and the river. That a Message is sent from the French Indians to ours desiring them to withdraw and not to be in the way when they come. And that You have sent word to some of the Six Nations not to meet you as he heard they were about to do at your house for the French with their Indians intended soon to be there, Here is an Indian woman who says she was at Oswego dureing the whole siege which lasted about foure days and half, in which our people behaved well. That they made a salley from the west or old Fort upon the French killed many of them and put the rest to flight, but unluckily persued them to the woods. Where the French took a circle and brought our people where lay a large body of Indians who being all fresh attacked our men and defeated them killing many & forcing the others to the Fort. the enemy came close under the walls in perticular the Aroondacks and Annogongas amongst whom our people flung granadas which killed and wounded several of them. She saw Coll Mercer after he was killed who she says was shott by a cannon ball. She saw another officer a lusty man killed by the fall of a stone from Oswego House. Mr. Montgarrett a Lieu<sup>t</sup>: brought in dead but not scalped. Coll Schuyler was well but a prisoner. That a large French Vesoll came near Oswego upon which the Fort fired six shott some of which hitt hir and made hir shear of round the eastern point.

This woman says she is lately from Nigra where she saw six English officers prisoners who were taken at Oswego. She says there was great confuseon among the Indians at Nigra when she left it. Ocationed by a chief Sachem of the Attowawa Nation being found dead with his head cutt of and placed on his breast and his scalp taken away. The Aroondacks and Annogongas indeavoured to proswade the Atawawas that it was done by some of the Mohawks, but they wou'd not belive it saying it was done by them the Aroondacks or Annogongas. That some of the Attowawas was for giving up the French hatchett and going home. The three Conajohary indians I wrote you of returnd

from their scout they have been a considerable way on Oswegatia road but made no discovery. I was obliged to borrow a three pound three p. Gold of Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb to pay them.

Just now rec<sup>d</sup>: your orders & Mr. Abeel to go through the Six Nations. To call them down to warr. Lowrance with the Bolt is not arived. I expect him not till tomorrow as soon as he comes shall set of. and make all the dispatch I can and hope to be soon with you. It will depend intirely on the indians rediness to come. This must be attened with expence & have no cash with me.

I said nothing to you when I saw you last about my commission. but as you told me some time before I should have one with the same pay I had the last year. Make my self very well satisfied till I have the Honour of seeing you again. By what I can lern here of indians there must very soon be an ingam<sup>t</sup>. at Lake George. and that the French will be very numerous.

Gen<sup>r</sup>. Webb sets of from this tomorrow with the regm<sup>t</sup>. for Albany &c.

I am

Sir

Your Dutifull Ser<sup>t</sup>.

THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER.

FROM PAULY PETERS ET AL.

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*fort hendrik*

*September the 18 1756*

SIR

We have heard from the Scouting Party which has Been out from our Castle, that they bring the News from Casses that they have Been A talking with the onyde Indians and the onyde Indians said that the french was Comming from Yagara And the french Said our Indians Should All go out of the way for they whould Come down and Distroy the flats and All the

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



River and the Indians Upon this News they are All gone from the flats this Makes Us to Belive the news is true Now Brother therefore we Beg You to take Care of us now And if You do not take Care of us now we will run all away in the woods for the Uper Indians Are All run away Already therefore brother Let us have Men Enough to Assist us Because You Say we have Men Enough now Brother we Desire You to take Care of our fort where Pieter D Schuyler is in We hope you will Acquaint the Lord Louden of it that May Assist us with one hundred Men or More But not of the Regulars we want of our brothers of this Country which is good Men And if we do not get them then wee will all Go into the woods out of the way therefore wee Send this String of womping Sir

from Your Beloved fathers

And Brothers

OLD BRAND his Marck

OLD NICHES his Marck

PAULY PETERS

To SIR WILLEAM JOHNSON Bernet

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson Septbr 19th 1756*

SIR:

As the enemy are so numerous at Tiondaroga it is probable they intend an attack against Fort William Henry or Fort Edward, and perhaps to favour their design send a body of their Indians this way to prevent our assisting those at the aforesaid posts; which they may well do, as their Indians can be of no great service to them in making an attack against them forts.

I would therefore have you by all means keep out good brisk scouting parties from Schonactady and Albany as I do, and shall

<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

continue from this part, by which means we shall be able to prevent a surprize.

Issue out orders immediately to the first Battallion that they provide themselves with a proper Quantity of ammunition and provisions for eight or ten days, also that their arms be in good order, and hold themselves in readiness to march at an hours warning

I spoke to Mr. Arent Stevens the Interpreter to get a couple of Indians to go with each party and I will pay the Indians. Order the scouts to go as far as will take the enemy two or three days march here.

I am Sir

Your humble Servant

WM. JOHNSON

To LIEUT. COLO JACOB GLEN at Schenectady.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson, 19th Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1756*

MY LORD

I received the inclosed letter from Capt Butler<sup>2</sup> this instant, which I thought necessary to send your Lordship, as well as that from the Conajoharees. I have made the latter Easy with regard to their Castle by leting them know your Lordship had ordered a Company for them who I did not doubt would be there this Day. I also shewed them an Order to one of the Captains of the Militia living near to them in Case of need to reinforce them with Fifty Men of his Company. This pleased them much.

The French are I find trying all means to prevent the Six Nations Joining our Arms, or Meeting att my House, but I hope

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Butler.

they will not be able to succeed so far, notwithstanding what has happened.

I am My Lord  
 With the utmost respect  
 Your Lordships  
 Most Obedient  
 & Most Humble servant  
 W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency  
 The Right Honourable  
 The EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 Fort Johnson, Sepr. 19th, 1756.  
 With Captn Butlers letter and one from  
 the Indians with Intelligence

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 20<sup>th</sup> Sepr 1756*

MY LORD

This Morning I was honoured with Your Lordships of Yesterday.

When Mr. Croghan left this, I did not know his design of making Your Lordship a proposal of raising Recruits, I thought he went about his own private Affairs. otherwise I shoud have done myself the Honour of writing to Your Lordship by Him. I have often heard him say he could Raise Four or Five hundred good Woodmen in Pensilvania Government sooner than any Man, as he was well acquainted, and known to all the Men who

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

used to drive pack Horses for the Indian Traders in that province (of whom he was the Chief) who now have no Employ that way. Capt. Wraxall can I believe give Your Lordship his Character better than I can, He having known him and heard of him in that Government. I believe Him an Honest Man, but a little indiscreet.

On Your Lordships Consenting I should Employ Him in Indian Affairs, I told him he should have Two Hundred a Year, for acting as Deputy Agent under Me, which He told me He was satisfied with, and would Act as such. but if Your Lordship thinks He can be of any Service in the Recruiting way, I can do without Him for a While.

I am glad Your Lordship has ordered the Division of the Goods to be made, and some of them forwarded to me, as I want them very much. If Mr. Croghan has but taken Care to send some of every kind, and a sufficient quantity of those Articles wanting now to fitt out those Indians who may Join Us, it will do. If not I shall be obliged to send for what may be wanting. And I hope Your Lordship will lodge an Order with Mr Stevenson to deliver them as I may want.

I have the honour to be  
My Lord  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedient  
& Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency  
The Right Honourable  
JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson Sept 20<sup>t</sup> 1756

## INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 24 Sept.**1756. p. m. 7 o'clock.*

Present

Mr. Croghan

Daniel Claus

Arent. Stevens Interpr<sup>t</sup>.

The following intelligence was sent from Dyaderowane a Cayouga Chief, by Asarunguas a Cayouga Warrior who arrived this evening in 6. days from Cayouga with several more of that Nation, the said Messenger came on horseback for Dispatch, as the above mentioned chief was lame and could not come so fast. he is to return to morrow morning with a horse and saddle in order to meet the above chief, who is on his way here with a number of his Nation.

That while the Deputies (who were sent some time ago by the 6. Nations) were in Canada, they saw a great Number of Western Indians there who joined the French Army; They called them to a meeting and there spoke to them with a Belt of Wampum to the following purpose;

That their joining the French in this war, seemed to them too precipitate as they could not know yet how matters might turn out, besides the English had never committed the least hostilities against them, but always used them like friends, and traded with them upon easy terms; for which reason they could by that Belt of Wampum propose to them to desist from their hostile design, and return to their respective towns; upon which many of them agreed to it, and returned, promising to keep neuter.

That the French when they saw so many of their Indians leave them, and hearing that the Deputies of the 6. Nations were the Occasion thereof, they reprimanded them severely for it, and desired them no more to meddle with their Indians.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; inclosed in Johnson to Loudoun, Sept. 25, 1756.

That the French told said Deputies, that they now intended to attack the English at Lake George towards the latter end of this month, and at the same time, they would send out a considerable body of French and Indians to destroy Sir William Johnsons house. That the Deputies saw the French draw all their Forces together that day which gave them reason to believe what they had told them was true. Wherefore the above mentioned Chief dispatched this messenger as he could not come speedy enough himself, to give Sr. William notice and desire he would be upon his guard, to prevent a surprize.

This messenger further said that Hayendisere a Cayouga Sachem was at Fort du Quesne 2 months ago, and while there, the commanding officer spoke to him and presented him with a large War Belt of black Wampum, telling him that by that Belt he gave him a very big ax which would kill and destroy every thing it touched or came near, and never would fail of success. wherefore he should deliver it to his bretheren the 6 Nations that they might use it against the English. Upon which the said Cayouga Chief, after the French officer threw the belt before him, kick't it away from him, saying he should not think to charge him with such a message, as that as he would never carry it to the 6 Nations.

That at that time the Garrison of Fort du Quesne consisted only of 30 French, and there were no more but 7. Twightwees, 6 Tawas, and 5. Chipways with the French, except the Delaware and Shawanes Indians who lived thereabouts. That the rest of the Garrison was sent to Niagara early in the Spring. and lately from thence to Canada together with what Indians lived about Niagara.

That not long ago the 6 Nations had sent a message to the Delaware Indians living near fort du Quesne, desiring them earnestly to desist from committing further hostilities against the English; On which the Delawares sent the 6 Nat<sup>s</sup>: a message with 3 strings of Wampum back again acquainting them that they were divided in their opinion, and the one half of their people accepted their message, when the other half still declared

themselves enemies to the English; wherefore they would beg of the 6. Nations to use all the means in their power to prevail upon the other part to bring them into their measures, otherwise they dreaded that this division might breed a civil war amongst them; so ended.

A true copy by me

DAN CLAUS.

Dep<sup>y</sup>. Secr<sup>y</sup>.

+ Ottawany one of the leadingest men in Cajuga.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

Fort Johnson, Sept. 25th, 1756,

MY LORD

I this Moment received the inclosed Intelligence from a Cajuga Indian who was sent Express with it, by a great freind of Mine of the same Nation. I must own I cannot think the French will make any considerable attempt this way, notwithstanding the many accounts we have that they intend it. I am of opinion it is only to keep us at Home here, while they are executing their Plan the other Way, by all Accounts their whole strength is now bent towards Lake George or ther way.

I have reason to hope there will come a great Number of the Six Nations on my Call from what this Man tells me, the reason they give why they did not come down on my first call after Oswego was destroyed is this, that they daily expected those of their People who were sent to Canada some time ago, & When they returned they would be better able to form a Judgement of what was most necessary to be done and bring me all the news they learned in Canada. they are now arrived, & Captn. Butler who I sent through all their Nations with a good trusty Mohawk and a large Belt of Invitation will I doubt not bring down a verry considerable Number of them, but I fear

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

it will be too late. I have Cloathed and Armed these two Days past near fifty River Indians, and some of the Six Nations who happened to be here, and promised to Join our Arms. I think to send them to morrow with Mr. Croghan to Join Yr. Lordship. I had thoughts of going with the first of those, but I find my going before the Indians from Oghuago, &ca arrive (whom I expect in four or five Days) would not be att all agreable, but a great discouragement, so propose going with them, & the Mohawks (who are verry sickly) unless Your Lordship thinks proper I sett of before them. I wish Your Lordship all the Honour & Success

Imaginable, and am My Lord  
Your Lordships  
Most Obedient  
& Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency  
the EARL OF LOUDOUN.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson, Sepr. 25th 1756.  
with Information from a Cajuga  
Indeon.

FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Albany September 27<sup>th</sup>. 1756*

SIR,

I had the favour of yours<sup>2</sup> last night by Mr Claas, with the Account of the Cajuga Indians Intelligence; and this night, I received your other Account, with Fresh Intelligence; for both which, I am very much Oblig'd. to You.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Johnson to Loudoun, Sept. 25, 1756.



I am moving forward, to Fort William Henry, most of the provincial Troops, to Strengthen that Post; and I have now at Fort Edward M. G. Webbs Regiment, and the Highland Regiment Compleat; and the day after tomorrow, M. G. Abercrombie's Regiment will be there.

General Abercrombie Commands at Fort Edward now; and tomorrow part of the American Regiment, marches for that Place; and in two or three days, the Remainder of them, goes with me there; As both the Encampments, are fortified, and Covered by Forts, with plenty of Cannon; I imagine, they must find it a very difficult Affair, to Force us; and I think if they try it; they will repent it. I am very glad to find, you expect so many Indians; they will make us certain, of the Enemy's Motions; And as their Indians have been so long Collected; I imagine many of them will go home again; so that, I hope, their Superiority in those Parts, will not be so great in the Field; as it may appear in the Intelligence. I wish You good Success at Your Congress; and shall be glad to have all the Intelligence You Receive.

I ever am most faithfully &ca.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>.

INDORSED:

To Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>.  
Albany 27<sup>th</sup>. September 1756.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 7br. 27th. 1756*

MY LORD

Since I did myself the Honour to write Your Lordship last, An Onondaga Indian their Cheif Warrior arrived at my House, and gave me the inclosed Acct. which I thought My Duty to

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Send Your Lordship immediately. & more so, as I believe it may be depended upon.

I am of Opinion The French are Sending all the Force they can towards Lake George, and intend to Strike a Blow, which may put an end to this Campaign.

If they attack Fort William Hennery first, it will certainly be with the Regulars. and I imagine, the Irregulars, & Indians who will be verry numerous, and expert in ye. Woods will be employed to Cutt of the Communication between the two Forts, and perhaps between Albany & Fort Edward. Your Lordship will pardon the freedom I take in Giveing my opinion so freely. and believe me My Lord

with the greatest respect

Your Lordships

Most Obedient &

Most Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency

the EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson Sept 27th 1756

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 7br. 27th 1756*

MY LORD

About an Hour after I sent of the Express to Your Lordship with the Onondagaes Intelligence, four Canajohare Indians arrived here, and Made a Complaint against the Officer and Men Posted at their Castle, which I inclose to Your Lordship together with their request.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

They seem so much prejudiced agst. that Party posted there, that I dont know any way of makeing them easy, but by my ordering the Militia Officer there, to recruit as many more of the Country People as they may think Sufficient. which if Your Lordship approves of, shall be done. It will be some expence, but as there may not be Occasion for so Many after We return, I think it the best method can be taken. this unlucky Difference between them, retards their Joining Us as Soon as otherwise they would. On my first hearing there was not a good understanding between them I sent Mr. Croghan there in order to Settle it, and Hurry down their Young Men to go with Me, which he thought he had done to their Satisfaction. but this fresh, & I believe foolish behaviour to them, has altered their temper a good deal. however I hope by the Message I am going to Send them, to Settle their Minds. but all this time it prevents their coming down, and also the Mohawks, as they always join on those Occasions. I believe My Lord it would be best to withdraw that Company from Canajohare. and, as Soon as possible.

I am my Lord  
 Your Lordships  
 Most Obedient  
 Most Humble Servant  
 W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency  
 the EARL OF LOUDOUN

P. S. notwithstanding all the Care has been taken to prevent the Selling Rum to Indians. here is as great plenty as ever. I am told it was brought from Albany by the Squaws who went down with that Party of Capt<sup>n</sup>. Montour. It is inconceivable what plague and trouble it gives me, Expence to the Crown, & delay to

the Service Expected of those People. In short  
it is enough to overset every thing I am about.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson Sept 27<sup>t</sup> 1756  
Indian Intelligence

COMPLAINT OF THE CANAJOHARIE INDIANS

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson Sep<sup>t</sup>. 27<sup>th</sup>. 1756*

This Day Came hear four Indians from Conjohare with the  
following Complaint from the Sechems of that Castle

Brother Waraughiacgae

We Return you thanks for the Cair you tuck of our first  
Complaint to you, of the Differance then a Riseing between us,  
and our Brethern the Soldiers, that is Lately Come to Live with  
us, in Sending A Mesinger up as Soon as you hard itt and Indeed  
we was in hopes that Every thing was Setled then to boath our  
Satisfaction, Butt Scence that our Brethrens Beheavor has been  
So Towards us that we are oblidge<sup>d</sup>. to truble you with this  
further Complaint

Brother

one of our Men Name<sup>d</sup>. Poulous has allways Live<sup>d</sup>. in this  
fort and in his house he had a Cagg of Rum, and one Day as  
S<sup>d</sup>. Poulous hapen<sup>d</sup>. to be A broad the Commanding offiser  
Came to his house and Tuck S<sup>d</sup>. Cagg Rum away to his own  
Apartment and order<sup>d</sup>. the Centrey To Suffer No Indian to  
Come into the fort for itt, that if any Indian A Tempted to  
Come in, to Shute him, for itt was the Kings fort, and No  
Indian Should Come into itt

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; inclosed in  
Johnson to Loudoun, Sept. 27, 1756.

Then y<sup>e</sup>. offiser hapen<sup>d</sup>. to Take A Walk in the filds and while he was out Poulous Came home and Missing his Cagg of Rum Inquier<sup>d</sup>. what was become of itt but Could Not hear So going to y<sup>e</sup>. officers home he there See his Cagg and Tuck itt home with him the offiser Coming in Miss<sup>d</sup>. the Cagg and asked the Centery what was become of itt y<sup>e</sup>. Centrey answerd that y<sup>e</sup>. Indian to whome itt belong<sup>d</sup>. had Taken itt home on which y<sup>e</sup>. offiser Said itt Cant be So Did Nott I order you to Shute any Indian that Should Come for itt and I See No Indian you have Shott on which he ordred the Centreys to be Confin<sup>d</sup>. one of them he Scence whiept Sevearly y<sup>e</sup>. other Remains in Confinement and we are Afread he will be Shott

He tells us that his Captian will Soon be up and when he Comes you will See that he wont Suffer one Indian to Enter y<sup>e</sup>. fort as itt is A kings Garrison and Nott belonging to y<sup>e</sup>. Indians

And when we Complain<sup>d</sup>. to him of his Soldiers Stailing our Corn which our Weomen wear A Drying for our Winter Provisions and the Damidge his fatt Catle had Don us allways Runing and Pastureing in our Corn filds and Desiering he wold Consider and Make us Some Recompence as y<sup>e</sup>. Damidge we had Sustain<sup>d</sup>. wold Distress us Very Much, and Leave us in A Starveing Condition unless our Brother Waraughiacgae wold pity us & Suply us with Provisions in the Winter, his answer was that he had No orders for that Nor wold he pay us any thing

Brother

When we Received this Answer we Tould him we Wold Complain to you and Did Nott Doubt butt you would See Justuss Done us, he tould us he was Very Indifferent A bout that, we Might Complain if we plesed<sup>d</sup>. for you had Nothing to Do with itt. that the fort was the kings, and the king was his Master that you had Nothing to Do in itt Now Brother he has Slept hear as we May Say butt one Night and we are Affread if he Sleeps hear A Scecond Night we Shall be all Distroy<sup>d</sup>. So Brother we Desier you will order those Soldiers

A way and order A Number of the Country pople Such as we are Acquainted with to garrison this Fort

Brother

We have Considered your Mesedge to us where you tould us you wold Sett of in three or four Days, and we are of opinion that you Should Nott Sett of till y<sup>e</sup>. Six Nations Comes Down which we Expect will be in four or five Days att farthest by which Time We hope the Differance Subsisting hear between us and our Brethern will be Made up by you and then we will go Down with y<sup>e</sup>. Six Nations and Joyne you

Taken by Me

GEO: CROGHAN

Dep<sup>ty</sup>. Agent

for Indian Affairs

INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

A. D.<sup>1</sup>

[Sept. 1756]

The Information of a Party  
of Indians who brought in Two  
French Scalps.

That they killed the Two French Men between the Enemys advanced Post & the first Fort, w<sup>ch</sup> is at the hither end of the Carrying Place. They say the advanced Post is entrencht round & about 200 yards distance from the first Fort.

That the Fort at the farther end of the Carrying Place is about two English Miles distant from the hither Fort; they think there were upwards of 100. Battaux at the hither end of the Carrying Place, and they saw about 20 Men caulking & mending them, but there were no Casks or Provisions on the Shoar, they dont therefore imagine propose any sudden Embarkation.

That Tionderogo is about Two Miles from the Carrying Place but they could not come near enough to discover what Numbers were there or any Motions of the Enemy.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

They think there were as many Men at both Ends of the Carrying place at the advanced Post as there are at Fort Edward & Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry. They saw no Waggons at the advanced Post nor any where about the Carrying-place.

They think there are a great many Indians at the Carrying Place by the noise they made after the Two Men were Scalped.

They were pursued by near 50 Indians for about a Quarter of a Mile & no further.

That they Scouted quite round Tionderogo & the Advanced Party & could discover no Tracks neither on the East or west side further than at about Two Miles distance from the enemys Encampment & therefore are of Opinion that they send out no Scouts at any further distance.

INDORSED:

Indian Information concern<sup>g</sup>.  
the Enemy at Advanced Posts &  
Tionderoga.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson October 1, 1756.*

MY LORD:

The Report which was brought here of the Enemys marching this way, came I find by two Mohawk Indians of Capt. Wraxalls Party from Saraghtoga. By whom He wrote Me, that a scout which had been out on the West Side of Lake George, had discovered the Tracks of a considerable Body of the Enemy moveing this way, but that another Party was sent out to reconoitre the same who returned without makeing any Discovery, so that they were of opinion, there was nothing in it. However the Indians who were with Him hearing the News, and ever over anxious of their Peoples safety sent away two Indians with the news to their Castle. Which alarmed them, and the country

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

People in these Parts so much, that they were very uneasy and not thinking Capt<sup>n</sup> Gates Company who are Posted in the Fort any protection to their Castle, which is separate from the Fort. I sent Orders yesterday to Scohare for two officers With Sixty Men of the Militia there to come directly, and take Post in their Town for a few Days untill their apprehensions of Danger were over. I have also ordered fifty Men of the Militia liveing around Conajohare Castle to reinforce those already there in case of Need, this disposition has given them both great satisfaction.

I have the Militia in those parts all in readiness to move at a Moments Notice should the Enemy make a Desent this way. I have kept Partys of the Militia scouting ever since the Regiment moved from the German Flatts, and intend to have that service constantly kept on, untill it may be found unnecessary. I have ordered the Militia of Schenectady to do the same, by wh. means I hope we shall be able to prevent their stealing a March upon us. I propose sending up an Interpreter this Day to Conajohare, in order to settle Matters with regard to that Company. I sent Mr. Croghan and Capt.<sup>n</sup> Funda one of the Indians officers two officers two Days ago from here with a Party of near Eighty Men Consisting of near fifty Delawares, the rest Six Nations, and five Rangers. He is to March with them directly to Fort Edward through the Woods from Schenectady, there join the Rest, and receive Major Genr<sup>l</sup>. Abercrombies Commands. I impatiently wait the arrival of the Six Nations, & Oghuagoes, I have sent four severall Expresses to hurry them down, but I imagine that the Sachims, Who are comeing on my call from the German Flatts to a council proposed to be held here (as I informed Your Lordship of at the time) and those who are Just arrived from Canada may detain them something. as yet they have lost no time considering the great Distance. as soon as they arrive, and are fitted out with what is necessary for their March, I shall sett out, and make all the Expedition possible to Join Your Lordship. but should Your Lordship think



it necessary that I sett of with what Mohawks, and others I can Muster, before the Six Nations arrive, & are ready.

I will loose no time.—

I have the Honour  
to be My Lord  
Your Lordships  
Most obedient  
Most Faithfull  
Humble Servant,

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency  
the EARL OF LOUDOUN.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson,  
Fort Johnson, Oct<sup>r</sup> 1st, 1756.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson, October 2d 1756.*

MY LORD

I am this moment honoured with Your Lordships of yesterday, inclosing one from Sr Charles Hardy with a Resolve of his Assembly, to allow one shilling & three pence Curr<sup>y</sup> p Day for Each Man of the Militia who may be at any time in actual Service in aid of the Forces on the Northern Frontiers of this Colony. also a Reasonable Allowance for the Officers for the time they shall be in the said service.

Since mine of Yesterday to Y<sup>r</sup> Lordship Nothing has Occurred worthy Your Lordships Notice, when ever any thing does, I shall imediately acquaint Your Lordship with it.

I beg leave to trouble your Lordship for an order for some small Match, and a few round of grape shott for some swivels I

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

have here. I hope Your Lordship will excuse the liberty I take.

I wish your Lordship a pleasant  
March, and all Success Imaginable.

I am My Lord  
with the greatest respect  
Your Lordships  
Most obedient  
& Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency  
the Rig<sup>t</sup>. Honble.  
the EARL OF LOUDOUN.

INDORSED:

Sir Willeam Johnson,  
Fort Johnson Oct 2<sup>d</sup> 1756  
want Matches and Grape for  
Swivels.

FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN<sup>1</sup>

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Edward Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>. 1756*

SIR

Cap<sup>t</sup> Wralax has Just showed me your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> I meant by my former letters to have aquanted you that I was to have Sett out from Albany last Monday but I did not get away till Tuesday I lay that night at Saratoga and dined hear next day where I have been ever since and in a day or two propose going to Fort William Henry By the Information of L<sup>t</sup> Kennedys Prisoneer and a Sargeant of Rogers ranging Company who was taken Prisoner in April last and who made his Escape

<sup>1</sup> John Campbell, Earl of Loudoun, 1705–1782; colonial governor of Virginia; commander in chief of the British forces in America, 1756–1757.

<sup>2</sup> In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

from Montreal along with the dutch man that was taken near Schenectady they have there whole Regular Force at Ticonderoga with all the men they can raise in Canada they likewise say that Moss Value<sup>1</sup> who Commands the Canadeans is Collecting 600 Men of those Sent to endeavour to cutt off our Convoyes below this but we do not hitherto find that any considerable partes of Men have marched tho we have constant Scouting partys out to all border

The Indeans that came with Cap<sup>t</sup> Wralax are greatly deminished Mr Croghan lives constan[t]ly with those that came with him the provincial troopes on the Island made them drunk two days ago and so got there Venneson from them but I believe that is over and they will not trie it again I shall trie to do the Same at Fort William Henry, but when I return from there I will not be Possitive that my orders will be So well abayed as where I am Present but I shall spair no pains to save this pernitious Custom of Making the Indeans drunk and then robing them

I am hear with three Batalion of the Regular Troops the new york regt and most of the New Hampshire Men and I have an other Battalion at Saratoga the Fort is not Finished but the Cannon are mounted and I hope to have all done that is necessary hear before winter

In this Situation with all the other Provincials at Fort William Henry and Continual Scouting Partyes out I should imagine the Enemy will consider very Seriously before they sett out to attack us in Fortified Camps under the Guns of Forts

They may trie to cut of our Convoys of Provisions but that will be a bold Stroak and they may find difficulty in getting home Again a band of Indians would be very uesful on that Occasion both for Intelligence and picking up there Straglers but it is So Matterial a Point to keep the Six Nations right at present that it does not occure to me that it would be right for you to leave them as long as you have any hopes of there comming here

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<sup>1</sup> Spelling uncertain.

you who know them better than I do must in this case Judge for yourself I ever am most faithfully

Sir

Your most Obedient  
humble Servant

LOUDOUN

ADDRESSED:

To

Sir William Johnson Bar

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Fort Edward Octobr. 10<sup>th</sup>. 1756

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Lord Loudouns Letter

RECEIPT OF FERRALL WADE

*D. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson Octbr. 31<sup>th</sup>. 1756*

Then Rec<sup>d</sup>. of Mr. Daniel Ware Asst. Commissary 40 Barrels of Pork 5 tierces of D<sup>o</sup>. 7 Barrels of rum & 30 bags of pease for the Use of the Indians As Witness My Hand.

FERRALL WADE

REQUISITION FOR INDIAN PROVISIONS

*D. S.*<sup>3</sup>

The following Articles & Quantity still Wanting Viz<sup>t</sup>.

20 Tierces of bread

20 Casks of flour

100 Bushels of Indian Corn

6 Barrels of Rum

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>3</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; inclosed with Ferrall Wade's receipt.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 Return of provisions Received  
 in his letter of Novr 20<sup>t</sup>

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Albany Novbrs 14th. 1756.*

MY LORD

Some of the Indian officers to whom your Lordship has been pleased to give Commissions bearing Date the 29th of October last, were by Orders from Genrl. Shirley put into the service & have continued in it in the Rank they now bear prior to the Dates of your Lordships Commissions to them. The exact Dates of their past services I cannot now give to your Lordship as I have not those papers with me. I would beg to have your Lordships orders w<sup>th</sup>. regard to paying the said Officers for their time of service prior to the Date of Y<sup>r</sup> Lordships Commissions to them.

I am most respectfully

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most obedient, Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

His Excellency  
 the Rig<sup>t</sup>. Honr<sup>ble</sup>. the EARL OF LOUDOUN.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 Albany, Novr. 13th 1756  
 Relation to the Indian Officers  
 being employed long before  
 the dates of these commissions.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

FROM JEAN BAPTISTE DE COUAGNE

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Le 15 nouanbre 1756*

MONSIEUR

Vous nous auee ReCommandee Si au Caque ille Suruenai queille que nouelle de vous anvoiee vn Souage, ille les ariué Cette nuite deux Coliez de la par des francois le premie averti les Six nation que ille venai vne arme du Coté de fille la delfi qui disai que ille allai Ce Batre Contre les fransais Et quille pasai par Ces village Et qui ne Conaisai poin de frere ni ami, voilla le premie ille averti toute les Six nation Comme ille leu[r] a promi le Cegon vien de la par de <sup>m</sup> Gontiere qui auerti les Six nation de naitre poin Surpri que Si ille andandes dire que les fransais veunan Ce Batre alan Toure des village putaitre au portage putaitre Chez arque mane a la maison pierre Et que Si ille Lantandais le Cou de fusi de naitre poin Curieux poure allee voire parCe que Si ille Gagnais la vitoire ille Cerai Bien fachez Si ille voiais de Ces anfan, de Tuee mais ille panCerai que Ce Cerai des Jean qui Cerai Mariez par la ille priee bien les famme de ConSeille de prandre Bien garde a Cela vne autre nouelle que ille laitais parti deux Souage de niagara qui Etai veunu poure nous tué la forge Et moy ille ne mon point Troué on Blesé aBelle dun Cou de pistolais quille reSu dedans le Cotai ille Bien mallade on donné vn Coudefusi de dans la mais de son negre les gen de Siniquise nous on fai dire de restee isite Jeus-que le Chef Soit arivé les nontagais an voieé les Colié Chez les anoiole Et les de mandé de venire isite poure parle tout anSanble, ille Sont presque Tous alez a moreaelle les nontagais les Gouiogoin les oniole

faite au nontagais

DE COUAGNE

nous auon promi au Souage que vous lui donnere quatre Couerte de drap mais ille Espere auoire davantage nous lui auon di que vous Ceriee le maitre

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

## TRANSLATION

*The 15th of November 1756*

SIR

You have recommended to us that in case any news should arrive we should send you an Indian. This evening there came two belts sent by the French. The first informed the Six Nations that a force came from the direction of Philadelphia which said that they were going to fight against the French, that they were going to pass through this village, and that they would recognize neither brother nor friend. So much for the first belt. They warned the Six Nations as they had promised they would do. The second comes from Mr. Gontiere who warns the Six Nations not to be surprised if they hear it said that the French came to fight around the village, perhaps at the portage, perhaps at the stone house of Arquemane, and that if they heard gun shots not to be curious to go and investigate for if they should win the victory he would be very sorry if he saw any of his children killed. But they should think that a wedding was going on there. He begged the women of the council to be very careful in the matter. Another bit of news is that two Indians had come from Niagara to kill La Forge and me. They did not find me but wounded Abelle in the side with a pistol shot. He is very sick. They fired a shot in the house[?] of his negro. The people of Siniquise sent us word to remain here until the chief arrives. The Nontagais sent the belts to the Anoiotes and asked them to come here in order that they might all confer together. Nearly all of them have gone to Montreal. The Nontagais, the Gouiogoins, and the Onoiotes.

done at the Nontagais  
the 15th of November 1756

DE COUAGNE

we have promised the Indian that you would give him four blankets, but he hopes to receive more. We told him that you were the person to decide.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 20. Nov<sup>r</sup>, 1756.*

MY LORD

Just now two Onondaga Indians sent express from that Castle, brought me the inclosed Letter from Mr. De Couagne, who with an other Frenchman and one Abeel of Albany went up, some time ago to trade with The Seneca Indians. These Indians bring me the following Intelligence.

That Jean Ceur the French Interpreter, who is at the farthest Seneca Castle has sent Belts and Strings of Wampum to Onondaga to advise the Six Nations to keep very near their Castles, and not go above a Days hunt from home, as Danger hangs over their heads — next that a considerable Army with a great Number of the Southern Indians are speedily to march against the French, that they are to pass thro the Country of the Six Nations, and will regard neither Friend nor Foe but tread all under their Feet — lastly that the Six Nations must not be surprized if they hear firing of Guns at the German Flatts, and advises them not to come and interpose lest some of them might be killed.

The Onondaga Indians have hereupon summoned a Meeting of the upper Nations immediately at Onondaga. I shall talk to the Indians now here, and endeavour to convince them of the Falsehood of these Alarms with which the French endeavour to disturb them and try to convince Us and the Southern Indians, and to prevent them by these false Alarms from acting as our Friends and Allies.

I am most respectfully

My Lord

Your Lordships,

Most Obedient humble

Servant

To His Excellency  
The EARL OF LOUDOUN.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson,  
 Fort Johnson Novr 20th 1756.  
 An Account of the alarm the French  
 have sent through the Six Nations.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 22<sup>d</sup>. Novr. 1756*

MY LORD

I have the honour to inclose Your Lordship, the Information of Two Prisoners of ours who made their escape from Canada & arrived at my house Yesterday, and this Letter I send by Them.

I found the Indians Assembled here had not a sufficient number of their Chiefs & leading Men amongst them to give me a determinate Answer upon the Speech I showed to Your Lordship. They were embarrassed, tho they did make me a sort of Answer but not a satisfactory one; so I advised them to call a general Council of their whole Confederacy at Onondaga as soon as possible, and there deliberate upon the Subjects I had laid before them, and let me know without Delay the positive Determinations of the Six Nations. They eagerly embraced this Expedient and have promised to act accordingly.

I beg leave to put Your Lordship in mind of Issuing some Proclamation or Publication, to prohibit any set of People, or Person from holding Meetings with the Indians, or interfering in the Management of Indian Affairs without having proper Authority for so doing. I humbly conceive some such notification may prevent many prejudicial Irregularities in this Department of His

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Majestys Service, and as it was Your Lordships Opinion, I take the Liberty to remind you of it.

I have the honour to be with  
the highest Esteem

My Lord Your Lordships

Most Obedient & faithful Servant .

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

The EARL OF LOUDOUN

&ca. &ca.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson Nov<sup>r</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> 1756

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 23 Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1756.*

As Mr. Atkin<sup>2</sup> was now present Sir William thought it proper for the Six Nations to explain themselves in a particular manner, What Nations of Indians to the Southward were their Allies & Confederates in order to prevent future Doubts or Confusion, and having applied to them. They gave the following Answer.

Brother Warraghyjagey

As you told us you did not rightly understand what was said the other Day at the Public Meeting regarding the Southern Indians. We are come to tell you who we look upon as our friends & Dependants.

1. The Toaterighroenes or Sapones belong to us some of whom are living amongst us. the rest we sent for to come

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4. This record is part of the Indian proceedings, but omitted from the account printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:232-44.

<sup>2</sup> Edmund Atkin, superintendent of Indian affairs in the southern colonies.

& settle with their Bretheren amongst us, but we heard they were in Debt to the English who told them to hunt first & pay their Debts then they might go.

2. There are two Castles of the Tuscarores belonging also to us they are pretty numerous in North Carolina
3. The Cattawbas are also our Bretheren
4. The Chararoones very numerous
5. The Seven Towns of the Cherokees living on the North side of the Mountains are also our Friends — the lowest three Towns are in the French Interest — they live about half a days running distance from the lowest of the Seven Towns of the Cherokees who are in our Interest
6. The Chactarighroewes are very numerous and our Friends as are the Creeks
7. The Erickroones are very numerous & are our old Friends
8. The Chickasaws are our firm Friends

#### MEMORANDUM OF INDIAN GOODS

A. D.<sup>1</sup>

Memorandum of Sundry Articles necessary for the Indians

Blew Strowds with white Cord

Black D<sup>o</sup>.

Red D<sup>o</sup>.

Aurora

Garterings & Gimps Suitable

Blankets of different Sizes, Kersey Whale

Walsh Cottons

Yellow half thicks, or plads

Purple Colour Rateen yard Wide or thereabouts

Common Indian Blankets of 20-24- & 30 in a peice

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<sup>1</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, vol. 39, London, England. Evidently prepared by Johnson in November, 1756. See *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:898-900 for a similar list prepared probably in November, 1756.

Red Striped D<sup>o</sup>. q<sup>ty</sup>. 15 in a peice

Yard Wide Garlix

$\frac{3}{4}$  D<sup>o</sup>.

White & Coloured threads

Women & Childrens yarn Hoose different Colours & Clocks

D<sup>os</sup> Worsted Hoose Clock<sup>t</sup> — Scarlet, deep blew & green

Castor Hatts different Sizes laced w<sup>th</sup> broad Scalloped, & some plain Cheap lace.

100 blew Cloath Coats with red lining, & mettall Buttons, laced well with Cheap lace.

2 Dozen of Jacks, or small Colours for the Indians

10 Dozen of hair Cocades large

Guns, & Pistolls made by Wilson, or any other good Maker to Sample but more Substantial

Cutlashes

Knives

Axes to pattern

Pipe Hatchets also to pattern & Neat

Indian awl blades

Brass Wyre of different Sizes, none verry Small

Good Gun powder

Small bar lead

Shott both Duck, & Goose

Good flints

Spears or Launcets to pattern

100 neat brass Gorgets Gilt w<sup>th</sup>. ye. Kings Arms

Vermillion

Verdigrace whole, or in lumps

Small Jews Harps of brass

Buckleing Combs

Small Scizars

Needles

Hawks Bells different Sizes

Ribbons of different kinds

Looking glasses of different kinds

Pipes for Smoaking

Common Razors  
 Tinsell lace, Broad, & Narrow, White, & Yellow  
 Some Broad Scalloped Gold & Silver lace  
 Coarse flowered Lawn  
 Striped Muslin  
 Calicoes  
 Calimancoes  
 Yard wide Checks w<sup>th</sup>. red Stripes  
 White small Beeds  
 Common Steels to Strike fire with

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

A List of Goods prop[osed]  
 for the Six Nations

PROPOSED DIVISION OF PRESENTS FOR INDIANS

*D*<sup>2</sup>

[*Nov*[?] 1756[?]]

24 Pcs. Strowds for the Northern, & 12 Do. for the Southrn Ind<sup>s</sup>.  
 16 Do. flowerd Serge for Do. & 8 Do. for.....Do.  
 30 Do. Duffils .....for Do. & 15 Do. for.....Do.  
 100 Brass Kittles.....for Do. & 50 Do. for.....Do.  
 38 Doz. Stockings....for Do. & 19 Do. for.....Do.  
 40 Groce Gartering...for Do. & 20 Do. for.....Do.  
 160 Doz. Knives .....for Do. & 80 Do. for.....Do.  
 8 Do. Jews Harps....for Do. & 4 Do. for.....Do.  
 118 Pipe Hatchets...for Do. & 6 Doz Helved for..Do.  
 4 Doz. Wom<sup>s</sup>. Scissars for Do. & 2 Do. for.....Do.  
 4 Do. Tobacco Boxes for Do. & 2 Do. for.....Do.  
 4 Do. Gun Hammers..for Do. & 2 Do. for.....Do.  
 40 Stilliards .....for Do. & 20 Do. for.....Do.  
 16 Doz. Rings.....for Do. & 8 Do. for.....Do.  
 12 Doz. Combs.....for Do. & 6 Do. for.....Do.

<sup>1</sup> In Johnson's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

64 Looking Glasses . . . for Do. & 32 Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 30 Doz. Shirts . . . . . for Do. & 15 Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 168 Hatts . . . . . for Do. & 84 Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 124 Groce Pipes . . . . . for Do. & 62 Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 100<sup>w</sup> Virmillion . . . . . for Do. & 50<sup>w</sup> Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 40 Oz other Colours . . for Do. & 20 oz. Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 667<sup>w</sup> Tobacco . . . . . for Do. & 333<sup>w</sup> Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 14 Ct. Lead in bars . . for Do. & 6 Ct. Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 2 thirds of the Bullets for Do. & 1 third for . . . . . Do.  
 267 Guns . . . . . for Do. & 233 Do. for . . . . . Do.  
 8 M Gun Flints . . . . . for Do. & 4 M Do for . . . . . Do.  
 2 thirds of the Powder for Do. & 1 third for . . . . . Do.

INDORSED:

St. William Johnson's  
 proposed Division of the  
 Presents for Indians.

FROM WILLIAM DENNY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Philadelphia 6<sup>th</sup>: December 1756.*

Copy

SIR

I now set down to acknowlege your obliging favour of the 8<sup>th</sup>. September and to acquaint you that I have to my great Mortification been obliged to go to one of the Frontier Counties and there hold Conferences with the Delaware Chief Teedyuscung, which I wou'd have been very glad to have been excused from, especially after receiving from Lord Loudon a Letter, informing me of his Majesties Appointment of you to be sole Agent of Indian Affairs in this part of North America, and

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; inclosed in Johnson to the Earl of Loudoun, Dec. 23, 1756.

prohibiting me on that account from all further Treaty or Conference with Indians: But on advising with the Council and Assembly before whom I laid that Letter, It appeared plain to me that it was absolutely necessary for his Majesties Service to go and receive these Indians, as they came in Consequence of a former Treaty. You will See by the Minutes of both Conferences which are here inclosed, That what has passed between this Government and them is for the General Service, and entirely referred to you and the Six Nations before whom we both promised to lay the Proceedings for your Consideration and Approbation, And I am in hopes you will be able on the Foundation of Peace already laid to fix these Indians in his Majesties Interest, and by proper Encouragments engage them to bring over others. I look upon Teedyuscung as the Chief of the Susquahannah Delawares, and one who is regarded by the Indians now settled at Diahogo, who are a Collection of Delawares, Shawonese, Mohiccons, and some of the fugitive Six Nations who were formerly on the Ohio, and removed to the head Branches of Susquahannah on the French intimidating and corrupting the Ohio Indians after the unfortunate Defeat of General Braddock.

One thing gives me Concern, that as the Chief proposed another Meeting in the Spring, the Acceptance of his Proposall cou'd not well be avoided, especially as some Grievances in the Transactions of the Proprietaries with them about Purchases of Indian Lands had been mentioned, and it was proper in order to remove all Causes of Uneasiness to give them an early Opportunity of laying before us their Complaints, and if made Good, of receiving Satisfaction. But tho it may be necessary they shou'd come into this Province on this Occasion. Yet I desire you will take upon you to fix the time with these Indians, That it may not interfere with the Commands of Lord Loudon—When they can best be spared I shou'd be glad to see them and not before. I have appointed a Committee of the Council to search into the Affair particularly complained of, and their Report shall be Transmitted to You, on which I shall request your Observations

& Advice in what manner to proceed so as to effect an entire Reconciliation.

You will, I imagine, be very much surprized to find these Indians complaining of Injustice against the Proprietaries and making it the Cause why the Blow came quicker and heavier upon this Province, As you have at several times expressly called upon them to lett you know, if they had received from this Province any just Cause of Offence, and they have as often declared they were seduced by the Artifices and Power of the French; but whether it came from them, or was put into their Heads, after they had thought proper to mention it as the Commissioners had brought a large Quantity of Goods with them, too many to give to the small Number present, they thought it best to make a quick End of the Complaint, and to offer them an immediate Present. and their Advice weighed with me to take that measure, tho' I was then and am still of Oppinion, when the Matter comes to be enquired into, the Proprietors will be found to have done them no Injury.

I am Sir,

Your most Obedient

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

humble Servant

WILLIAM DENNY

P. S. You know so well how Indians dispose of the Prisoners they take in War, by selling them, or giving them, to private People, or adopting them into their own Family's, That I must desire you will sollicit the Six Nations on the part of this Government, to interpose their Authority with the Delawares, and to insist that the English Prisoners still remaining with them, be immediately returned to their Family's, for they must certainly be in a miserable Condition for want of Cloaths & other Necessaries in so severe a Season

I must likewise begg the Favour of you to perform the Ceremonies of Condolence on the Death of Cap<sup>t</sup>. New Castle to Scarroyady, Montour, and other's of his intimate Acquaintance, and as many more of the Six Nations as you think proper —



INDORSED:

Copy of a Letter from Gov. Denny  
to Sr. William Johnson

Philadelphia 6<sup>t</sup>: December 1756.

Enclosed in that to L<sup>d</sup> Loudoun of 23<sup>d</sup>. December

TO THE STOCKBRIDGE INDIANS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 8 Decr. 1756.—*

The following Message was sent by Sir William Johnson to the Stockbridge Indians by Emham & Jeremiah Two Mohikander Indians

Bretheren of Stockbridge

It gave me great Concern a few days ago when at Albany to hear of some of your People having killed one of His Majestys Subjects near Claverak with whom they had no Quarrel nor indeed any Buisness. It is very wrong of your People to interfere or take part in any Matters or Disputes between the White People, for they have good & wholesome Laws for settling all Disputes & Differences w<sup>ch</sup> may arise or happen amongst themselves. You see the White People never buisy themselves with your Quarrels, well knowing you have among you wise & head Men whose Buisness it is to settle & make them up.

What added greatly to my Concern was to hear that a Son of the old Man who is in Goal foolishly threatened to get a number of your People & burn Livingstons House at the Mannor. I hope the Report was false & that none of your People would be so foolish & rash to think of doing any such thing as you know the Consequence must be very bad in many respects & particularly so to his Father & Brother in Jail, who

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

will have more favour shown to them by your People behaving well on the Occasion then otherwise.

Wherefore by this Belt I recommend it to you all to act the prudent part and not quarrel with your Bretheren  
a large Belt.—

I send this by two of your Nation & friends by whom I expect your Answer

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 8 Decr. 1756.—*

Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Wells<sup>2</sup> of Cherry Valley whom Sir William Johnson employed to build a Fort at Aughquaga returned after finishing the same & brought Sir William the following Speech from the Indians living there.

Brother Warraghyjagey

We are sensible of the regard You have for us, when we in our distressed Condition made Application to you for a Fort in order to be a Shelter to our Wives & Children here amidst our Enemies. At our Request you have sent our Brother with a number of Men who has finished the Fort to our great Satisfaction, and we are very glad & thankful that God has kept our Brother & his Men who were with him from the hands of our Enemies on the Road coming to us, which we had some Fears about, but if they had made the least Attempt to hunt our Brother, we would immediately have rose up to his Assistance

And now Brother as the Oswego House is gone and last Fall we could not go out a hunting for Fear of the Enemy, our Children are almost naked and as we have good Houses now we

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

<sup>2</sup> John Wells of Cherry Valley, captain in the second battalion of Albany county militia.

would be glad you would soon send down a Trader with goods, so that we might be supplied. We hope you will send a good honest Man & we will take care of him. send him as soon as you can & see that he brings nothing here but what is good.

We are very glad that God has preserved Your Life & brought you again to your own House in safety. We all join in our kind respects to You and we are all going out a hunting & as soon as we return you shall see our Faces again.

Fort Johnson 10 December 1756.

Sir William sent a Message with Two Strings of Wampum by Solishowana a Mohock Sachem to forbid any of their People going to hunt any where to the Northward of Albany on either side of the River lest any of them should be hurt or killed by the Ranging Companys who are constantly reconnoitring the Woods that way. And Sir William further desired him to call immediately a Meeting & acquaint all the Indians at home therewith

KERLEREC TO THE FRENCH MINISTRY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*New Orleans 13<sup>t</sup> Xber 1756./.*

Mo<sup>r</sup>: Kerlrec,<sup>2</sup> Governor of Louisiana, by His Letter of the 13<sup>th</sup>. December 1756, (which Letter was Intercepted) Acquaints the french Ministry;

That the Cherokee Nations, composed of 3500 Armed Men, had long since desired to enter into Peace & Alliance with the french; which desire they have particularly renew'd within these three Years.— of which (says he) I have given you an

<sup>1</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, vol. 38, London, England; inclosed in Loudoun to Johnson, July 1, 1757.

<sup>2</sup> Louis Billouart de Kerlérec, governor of Louisiana from 1752 to 1764.

Account in my two several Letters of April & July; both which Letters demonstrate, of what Consequence it would be for Us, to Unite Interests with that Nation, and how prejudicial such an Alliance would be to the English, especially to Carolina & it's Territories.

But as these Steps of the Cherokees, were taken during the trouble subsisting between Canada & the provinces of New England, and that His Britannick Majesty seem'd (tho' without any foundation) to tax France with usurping His Dominions; I have constantly temper'd, and thought it my duty to Use all that moderation which you have ever prescribed me on the behalf of his Majesty, to avoid every Subject of disunion between the now Belligerent Rivers; for these reasons I have long Studied, whether I should seriously Answer the demand of the Cherokee Nation for a Peace; especially, as the greatest part of the Villages of that Nation, are in the Mountains, deemed to serve as Limits between France & England: Nay three of these Villages are even Settled beyond those Mountains.

This mature Consideration on my part, had no other view than to avoid all manner of discussion between Monarchs Sincerely animated with the desire of Peace, and not to furnish any Obstacles to the Negotiations with which you have done me the honor to Acquaint me, by Your Letter of the 17<sup>th</sup>. February 1755. But these Considerations becoming void, by the King of England's declaration of War against France, I thought I might avail myself of the good will of the Cherokees, who for near a twelve month past have redoubled their eagerness for the Peace. It is true that I have managed this good Will by all the means & measures I thought the most proper to maintain them in these Sentiments, thro' the intermission of some Trusty Savages of the Chauanons, who have at last brought me hither (on the 15<sup>th</sup>. of last Month) five Deputies of the Cherokees, who came to Ask for Peace and Alliance. These Deputies are from the Nine principal Villages of the Nation, settled on this side the Apalachian Mountains, and all the others are commonly

brought over by them; Yet I began by telling these deputies that I should not hearken to their Speech, unless it was on the behalf of the whole Nation; whereupon they assured me it was.

I shall not here repeat at length, their Speeches; which one & all Express a great Sense of the Affection they bear the french; which however I believe, we owe in a great measure, to the divers Successes we met with in Canada, and the reunion of all the Northern Nations in our behalf.

In Consequence therefore of their determined desire to give themselves up to Us, and to Stop the Execution of the projects of the English, I have favorably hearkened to them, without however deciding definitively on the Ratification of the Peace they Ask, untill four of their Chiefs, and as many of their Considerable Men have been to Canada to carry the same words to Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Vaudreuil, for which purpose I have given them a Letter, setting forth the whole Affair, together with a Copy of the Preliminary Articles of Peace, which we had Agreed to between Us; with this Provisoe nevertheless, that the said Peace shall not take place, unless the Interests of the french to the Northward and those of all the Nations of the same Continent, may be Conciliated with those in these parts; which I have Submitted to the decision of Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Vaudreuil. a Precaution of right, and the less to be dispensed with, as that General, by his Letter of the 27<sup>th</sup>. February 1755, tells me, to defer making any Answer to the Sollicitations of the Cherokees untill his arrival in Canada, where he will be able to Judge, if the Interests of the North Agree with these Proposals of Peace.

But two Years are now almost elapsed since he has wrote to me on that Subject.

They readily conceived the necessity of this Arrangement, and have consented to it; but they likewise required of me, to promise them, that at their return here from Canada, which will be towards the latter end of July 1757. (if this Peace should take place, as there is all reason to hope it will) I should send them

Traders, with all kinds of Goods necessary to supply their Wants. This demand of theirs appeared the more Equitable to me, as by their abandoning the English & giving themselves up to Us, it was just, that they should be assured of our furnishing them with the things they had of the English, and without which they cannot do.

They further desired, that I should promise to furnish them with the Ammunition they should stand in need of untill such time as the Ratification arrived; but in this I Acquiesced no further, than untill I should have certain Assurances of their being at Open War with the English, and not till after they had made some *Coup d'Etat* & of note upon them, by which I might be convinced that they Acted faithfully; and that their present Step was Sincere.

This is my present Situation with the Cherokee Nation, but I have the honor to forewarn You, that I make no dependence upon Indians but from deeds, and I always fear, that at the return of these Deputies into their Villages, they will find some revolution of Different parties Excited by the English, who upon the departure of these deputies for this, will not have failed Acquainting the Governor of Carolina with it, and he doubtless will have set in motion all the Springs he could invent, to make the project of Peace miscarry; as such a Peace cannot but put Carolina within an Ace of its ruin.

Such is the present State of things, and what I think of the red Men, of whom one can never be certain, unless one be able to supply their wants abundantly.

However, if this Negotiation can be determined, as I have reason to hope it may, you must indispensably be pleased to give your Orders, to send Us the things necessary for this Nation, over & above the usual Quantity, (which are not sent Us) but if every thing Succeeds, there is no time to lose, for I may as I have mentioned above find myself obliged to fullfill the promises I have made them, by the Month of July 1757. And if I should not be

able to keep my word, there is no doubt but the English, to whom this Nation would be forced to return, would avail themselves of a Circumstance so detrimental to Us, to make the Cherokees Sensible of the poverty of the French, and that we have no Goods but those we draw from them. This is the Language held Commonly to the Savages, who in such Circumstances would be forced to give Credit to it.

New England being deprived of the Cherokees, their Situation will be as Critical, as ours will be advantagous; and I dare believe, the latter will even force the Chickasaws to side with them; they have even given me to understand as much. They have likewise Harangued the Kouitas, Talapouches, Chactas, Abekas, (Nations comprised under the denomination of Alibamon Talapouches,) in order to make them take up the same Hatchet, and I am inclined to believe, that the Alibamons, will yield to Sollicitations perhaps a little forced, and Sacrifice the Neutrality they have hitherto observed between Us and the English; And in that case, I foresee a great part of New England, within an Ace of its ruin.

I have now set forth the Position I am in with the Cherokees; I should have a great detail, of the utmost Consequence, to give you on that Subject, which it is not possible for me to put into Cifre, by reason of my having dispatched that Nation only yesterday, and the Vessel that carries these dispatches setting out the day after tomorrow; but Mo<sup>r</sup>: Duplessis, a late & one of the best Lieutenants of this Colony, who will present you this Letter, will tell you by word of Mouth, what I ought not to trust to paper.— I beg Your kindness & protection for that officer.

Enclosed You have the Preliminary Articles of Peace proposed between Us & the Cherokees. I am with the most profound Respect &ca.

KERLEREC.

PRELIMINARY ARTICLES OF  
PEACE BETWEEN KERLEREC AND  
THE CHEROKEES

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Preliminary Articles of Peace between the French & the Cherokee Nation mentioned in Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerec's (Governor of Louisiana) Letter to the french Ministry, bearing date at New Orleans the 13<sup>t</sup>. December 1756.

Article 1<sup>st</sup>:

The Cherokee Deputies, have promised, in the name of their whole Nation, to conform themselves only to this Article.

The Cherokees are to promise faithfully to bury their Hatchet, and to hinder any of their Warriors from Joining any party of the Enemy against the French.

2.

The deputies have promised to bring back the Prisoners, which they say are Soldiers & deserters from the Illinois, upon Condition that no harm shall befall them; And as they persisted in this demand, Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Kerlerec has granted them a Pardon, he insisting at the same time, that they, for the future Would Stop, & deliver up all those that should fall in their hands at discretion, without any Conditions, which they have expressly promised.

Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerec, Grand Chief of the French, to the Southward, & Common father of the red Men of the same Continent, demands the restitution of the french Prisoners that are in the Cherokees, to wit one girl & 4 Soldiers; two of which ought to be return'd from Virginia; with this Provisoe, that if the Grand Chief of the North should raise any difficulties with regard to the Peace (which he does not foresee) the said Prisoners shall be Treated fairly, and a ransom paid for them upon the footing of Prisoners of War.

<sup>1</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, vol. 38, London, England; inclosed in Loudoun to Johnson, July 1, 1757.



3<sup>d</sup>.

Answered, that they were sent to Ask it in the name and on the behalf of the whole Nation.

That this Peace shall not take place, unless it be with the whole Nation in general.

4<sup>t</sup>.

Have promised to conform to the Contents of this article, and to send Deputies to Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Vaudreuil Grand Chief of the North, as soon as they shall have got back to their Nation; And Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerec, in Consequence thereof, delivered unto them, the day of their departure, a Letter for that General

That 4 of the most notable Chiefs & as many of the Considerable Men of the Cherokee Nation, shall immediately upon the return of the deputies here present, to their Villages, set out for Montreal or Quebec, at either of which they will find Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Vaudreuil, to whom they will carry the same request of Peace, they have made to the Chief Warrior of the french at the Allibamons, & to Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Kerlerec Governor of Louisiana, who will give them a Letter to Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Vaudreuil, in good words, Explaining the steps taken by the Cherokees to obtain the Peace they desire.

5.

The deputies represented, that they thought the Chikasaws would Join them against the English, in which Case they would not make War upon them; but that if they refused to take up the Hatchet against the fair Men, who want to possess themselves of their Territories, they were Men, and knew what they had to do.

That the Cherokees shall make War upon the Chikasaws, who have ever been evil minded, and had at all times been declared Enemies of the french, & the red Men, friends & Allies of the french.

Answered that the English had bad hearts, and that looking upon them as Enemies to them & the french, they would fall on them, and drive them beyond the Mountains.

Have answered & Promised, that upon their return home, they will force all the English that may be there, to withdraw from off their Lands, and will destroy the House of Force they have already built there; and will never suffer them to build Forts nor Batteaus to Spoil their River.

6.

The English having declared War against the french for no other reason than that the french want to protect & defend the red Men their Children brethren & Allies, Cherokees ought to look upon the English as their Enemies; the more so as they themselves have all to fear from the English, who propose to build forts on the Territories with no other view than to make themselves Masters of them more easily, and to make Slaves of them, their Women & Children as well as their Old Men.

7.

That the Cherokees, shall at the return of their deputies now present and bearers of these, destroy & pillage the horred Magazines which the English have lately erected among them, In which are lodged the Artillery, Ammunition, Iron Work & Tools, which they sent thither for the building of Forts & Batteaus: That as to the 19 Soldiers & English Serjeant who Garrison that Fort, and Guard that Store, The Cherokees are & shall be holden to Summon them to depart the

Nation, and if they do not Acquiesce by fair means, they must compel them to it by force after which the Cherokees shall not suffer any Attempts upon their Territories, and much less the Erection of any Fort, but shall repulse, by striking on the English, all those they might design against the french.

## 8.

Answered, That now they were Children of the french, they would never permit the English to come & Spoil their Lands nor their River, nor Suffer them to hurt the french their present brethren & Allies, & that immediately upon their return to their Village, they would go to War & strike upon the English.

After this declaration of the Cherokees to the English, the Cherokees are immediately to look upon the English as their Enemies, and are to repulse by the Hatchet & the Tomy hawk the least design they might attempt against their Nation, either by sending Troops thither or otherwise; And in order to give the french proofs of their Attachm<sup>t</sup>. the Cherokees are to form & send out frequent parties against the English, and befall upon them, as they have sworn the destruction of the red Men, and that of the french their friends and allies.

## 9.

The Cherokee deputies answered, that they were satisfied with the good reception they had met with from Mo<sup>r</sup>:

Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerrec, Grand Chief of New Orleans, Common father of the red Men of the same Continent, promises

de Kerlerrec their father, as likewise with the promises he made them by this article, to procure them the necessary Goods they their Wives & Children should Stand in need of; And added, that they hoped they should not know the want of them when once the Grand Chief of the North had Joined his word to his

to the Cherokees, that if the Peace is Concluded as he hopes it will, to take the most convenient measures to Supply the Trade of that Nation as abundantly as possible; but the Cherokees are to observe, that being now become the Children of the french, they are to encrease their numbers. And that as an encrease of Children, required likewise an Augmentation of Goods, which Consequently will take us some time to furnish, they must wait with patience till their Common father be able to send for those they may want from beyond the great Lake.

## 10.

Answered Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Kerlerrec, that they saw very well, by the promise he made them of sending them (during the return of the Answer of the Grand Chief of Canada) at the Posts of the Alibamons, the Warlike Stores they should stand in need of, that he was a good father; and promised to make great uses of them against his & their Enemies, the English.

That untill the return of the Answer of Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Vaudreuil, Grand Chief of the North, and his Consent to the Peace, Mr. Kerlerrec shall however take care, to send to the posts of the Alibamons, Powder, Ball, Hatchets, felling knives, Flints & Vermillion, to recompense the valour of the Cherokee Warriors, and the Attachment that Nation shall prove to have for the french; but this shall not be, till such times as he shall be informed of their hav-

ing driven away all the English from among them, and that they have declared War against them by some Action of valour & Note.

## 11.

Have promised that when a Trade shall be established among them, they will hinder every insult or wrong that might be offer'd to the french Traders, and to cause the Convoy of Goods to be Escorted by good Warriors, whenever they shall be requested so to do.

When the Peace between the Cherokees & the french shall be Concluded, the Cherokees Promise & Engage to Accompany & Escort the french who shall carry them Goods, by a proper number of good Warriors, if it should be required of them, and that at the price the Nation shall have unanimously agreed upon with the french traders.

## 12.

The deputies Answered Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerec, that it will be right for him, to Acquaint (as he has promised them) all the red Men in friendship with the french, that the Cherokees have recover'd their Senses, and were like them, become the Children & Allies of the French; and they added that they were going to set out to declare War against the English, and avenge by their hands the death of their brethren killed by them. And the same time beg'd of Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Ker-

That as to the different Nations of Red Men of this Continent, Allies Children & friends of the french, particularly their Old friends the Chactas & Alibamons, Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerec their Grand Chief, promises to do all he can to induce them to hearken to the Word he is going to send them, which shall be, to have one & the same Hatchet to Strike the English with, the same Tommy hawk, & the same *Micone* [ ] as the Cherokees. Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerec their

lerec, their father, to write strongly to Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Vaudreuil, that the Word they are going to carry him may not fall to the ground, And that he may like him forget their Errors, because they desire ever to be linked to the french who are good People and have a good heart.

common father of the red Men to the Southward, does further promise the Cherokees, to write in favor of them to Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Vaudreuil Grand Chief of the North And in order that this Grand Chief may hearken the more favorably the word they are to send him, and that he do ratify the Peace they Ask; he will tell him that the Cherokees Nation has always treated the French Prisoners well.

All the twelve Preliminary Articles of Peace above set forth, & proposed by Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerrec, Governor of Louisiana, have been fully Explained & duly Interpreted to the Cherokees who have highly Acquiesced to them; shall nevertheless be refer'd to the decision of Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Vaudreuil Governor General of New France, that he may add to, or diminish from them, as he shall think proper for the good of the Kings Service. The said Articles are not to take place unless he thinks that the Interests of those of the Northern division of New France and those in these Quarters, may be conciliated for the Ratification of the proposed Peace.

Done & Agreed upon, by Us Governor for the King, in our Hotel of Government, at New Orleans the 23<sup>d</sup>: of November 1756. signed Kerlerrec. And have likewise Signed as Witnesses they having been Comanded to be present at the Meetings held for that purpose. Belille Major Derneville Duverge Volant Gasmond Lavergne Raguel Le Bretton, Baudouin Jesuite, Dorville, Dutillet, Chabert Grand Maison, Che.' Makart Neyon, Trudo, Marquis, S<sup>r</sup> Martin Duplessis, Vaugine et Maison.

I do Certify to have Interpreted in Clear & Intelligible Terms the above twelve Preliminary Articles of Peace proposed by Mo<sup>r</sup>: de Kerlerrec, Governor, to the Cherokee Deputies; And

likewise, that I have faithfully delivered the Answers made by the said Deputies, and that those wrote, next to the said Articles are really such as they made them In Witness whereof I have signed these presents at New Orleans the 23<sup>d</sup> of November 1756. Signed CAN.

FROM BENJAMIN, SACHEM

*Copy<sup>1</sup>*

The following is the Answer to the Letter w<sup>ch</sup>. Sir William Johnson sent the 8 Inst to the Stockbridge Indians with a Belt of Wampum which they exchanged and sent it back by Emham & Jeremiah Sir Williams Messengers.

*Stockbridge 16 Decr. 1756.*

GOOD BROTHER

We received your word of advice & the Belt yesterday & kindly thank you for it; We are very sorry for the unhappy Affair of one of our Tribes killing one of the Kings Subjects & that you had occasion to expostulate with us on so unhappy a Circumstance.

We neither think it our Concern nor have we a disposition to intermeddle with the Controversies of white People.

What threatening Speeches have been given out by Van Gueldens<sup>2</sup> Son we know not, but Brother you may assure yourself that we at this place have given out no Threatenings against Mr. Livingston<sup>3</sup> or any other Person nor made the least Motion of entering into a Quarrel.

However as we hear the matter, we dont understand that the old Man or his Son made any Attempt against any Man, till those People that were turning the poor Families out of Doors

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

<sup>2</sup> John Van Gelden, an Indian of Sheffield. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:206-7.

<sup>3</sup> Robert Livingston. See *Ibid.*, 206-7.

undertook to make them Prisoners, and if the Old Man made not any resistance we cant see what right there was of Attacking him or any others that was in the highway in the Peace of the King.

And as you Brother well observe that the white People have good Laws for the protection of the Innocent & punishing the Guilty, so we leave the white People to the righteous & just Execution of them. But Brother, you say further that the white People dont meddle with our Quarrels but leave it to our Wise Men to settle it so let us continue to do on each side.

The Contention of the Land we will leave to the white People, but Brother we desire if it can be, that Van Guelden may be brought into our Province for his Trial since he belongs to us & we shall be willing that Justice may take place. We cannot think well of M<sup>r</sup>. Livingstons severe Conduct to those poor People & we think it would be better for him to desist.

Brother We have by our Messenger sent you a Belt in answer to yours, hope as our elder Brother you will believe well of us & send us advice when you think it needful.

We are your true Friends & Bretheren

BENJAMIN Sachem in the Name  
of the Rest.

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup>.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

ORDERS TO THOMAS BUTLER & JELLAS FONDA

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, Decr. 20, 1756*]

As it is of the utmost Consequence at this time to His Majestys Service to know the Disposition of the French & their Movements if any, as well as what passes amongst the Six Nations & their Allies.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.



You are therefore to repair forthwith to Onondaga there to remain until further Orders. When there you are to see that the Traders do not impose upon the Indians by making them pay extravagant prices for their goods nor suffer them to sell too great a quantity to any one Indian or Family lest they dispose of it to the Enemy. You are to tell the Six Nations that I expect they will send me what news their Deputies bring from Canada as soon as they return, and send the Cayouge called the Englishman down to me; tell him I want much to see & talk with him.

You are also to tell the Six Nations by this Belt of Wampum, that I expect & desire they will not offer to go to any Meeting at the Call of any Government whatever, as they are all Sensible His Majesty has entrusted the sole Superintendency of their Affairs to me.

And further you are to let them know that I expect they will lose no time in calling that great Council to be held at Onondaga & when it is over to let me know the result thereof.

You are to prevent as far as in your Power any French Emissaries coming amongst the Six Nations, telling them if they suffer such I cannot comply with their Request of sending Smiths & Armourers to work for their Nations, nor Merchants to supply them with necessaries at reasonable prices which I am resolved to do provided they act up to their Engagements with us as Bretheren.

You are to endeavour as much as possible to prepare the Warriors minds for War against the Spring so that they may be ready to join His Majestys Troops whenever called upon.

Lastly you are to endeavour all in your Power to gain whatever Intelligence you can from all Quarters, by Sending Indians you can depend upon as Spies to Caderaqui, Niagara & Sweegachie also to Oswego & immediately transmit any Intelligence you may get to me by safe hands.

Given under my hand at Fort  
Johnson the 20 Dec<sup>r</sup>. 1756.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

## ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO CAPTAIN THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 28 Decr. 1756.*

You will order Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda to the Senecas Country there to remain until further Orders and he must apply to Mr. John Abeel to assist him there as Interpreter whenever he has occasion to say any thing to or to hear any thing from the said Nation, which I am persuaded Mr. Abeel will do for the good of the Service as it will be little or no trouble to him. Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda is to observe all the Articles in the first Instructions and have Jean Ceur<sup>2</sup> taken if possible & come down immediately with him to me.

Your Brother Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler is to remain at Onieda & Tuscarora Castle by Turns where he is to observe all the Instructions given to you, except the First & third articles. The Belt you will show as you go thro Onieda & tell them the purport or meaning thereof, also let the Tuscarores know & see it.

You will leave Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Stephen Schuyler at Onondaga there to remain until further Orders, you will give him as well as the rest a Copy of my Instructions with whatever further Instructions you may judge or find necessary for the good of His Majestys Service in w<sup>ch</sup>. you are employed. Mr. Ryckman<sup>3</sup> will I dare say give Mr. Schuyler all the assistance in his Power while there which I shall consider him for on his Return.

You are to proceed to Cayouge Castle yourself after settling all the rest as directed, and use your utmost Endeavours to strengthen His Majestys Interest in that Nation. You & the other Gentlemen will make use of the best economy possible in your Power & keep a regular Acc<sup>t</sup>. of what Expences you may

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Chabert de Joncaire.

<sup>3</sup> Albert Ryckman.

be obliged to be at while on said Service & Deliver it me at your Return

I am Sir Your

hum Ser<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

JOURNAL OF INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy<sup>t</sup>*

[Jan. 15–25, 1757]

Fort Johnson 15 Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

Four Indians viz. Nichus an Onieda, a great Friend of Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson, his Brother Tyanogo, Printups son, and a Tuscaroore much Carbuncled, came to pay him a visit & assured him they & their Families were determined to live & die by him, that they would now go (if he approved it) & hunt until the Spring when they would be ready at a Call to join our Arms. for w<sup>ch</sup>. kind assurance of their readiness & Fidelity Sir William returned them Thanks & told them they & all their Nations would find it their Interest to live by the English their Antient Friends & Bretheren, as a proof of which, he cloathed them well, gave them some Amunition, Provisions & Money on their Journey & after 5 days resting here they set off.—

Eod. Die

John Abeel<sup>2</sup> with two Seneca Indians & a Cayouge arrived here from the Senecas, viz The Drunkards Son, Tienhogeara & a Cayouge who was a long time Prisoner among the Cattawbas. They brought no news, but that Jean Ceur & his brother Senuchsis were gone with several Horses loaded with goods among the Delawares & Ohio Indians & in their way

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

<sup>2</sup> John Abeel (O'Beal, O'Bail) Indian trader and father of the noted Seneca chief, Cornplanter.

back intended to call at the Senecas. Abeel said he was told that there were some Indians fitted out & sent from Niagara to take or kill any English Traders they could find among the Senecas. Those Indians promising well Sir William Cloathed them & supplied them with Provisions & Amunition &<sup>ca</sup>.

Wednesday 19 Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Thomas Butler & Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jellas Fonda arrived here from Onondaga. They brought no Material Intelligence

Fort Johnson 19 Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

Caraghuageygo with Three more Onondaga Indians and an English Drummer who was taken Prisoner at Oswego last spring & given to them by the French Indians in the room of an Onondaga who died, arrived here. Sir William bid them Welcome & sent them to their Quarters after giving them Pipes, Tobacco, some drink &<sup>ca</sup>.

Thursday the 20. The above Indians desired a Meeting at which M<sup>r</sup>. Montour att<sup>d</sup>. as Interpreter. They said

Brother Warraghyjagey

We are not sent by the Sachems of our Nation neither are we charged with any News but what concerns a certain party of Warriors to whom you gave a War Belt last Summer desiring we should bring you a Prisoner or Scalp to replace your & our Friend Tyanogo alias Cap<sup>t</sup>. Stoddirt<sup>1</sup> who was killed at Lake George. As we were preparing to set off on that Design our Sachem spoke to us with this large Belt which you now see (shewing a large Belt) desiring we would not leave home nor persist in our Design as it was likely that a Peace between the English & French would soon take place. then we should draw by this Step the French upon our backs by these means we were prevented from executing your Desire & our Design & now want to know what we shall do.

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Benjamin Stoddert.

Brother

We were told by those who were at the late Meeting here at your House that it was your earnest desire the Six Nations should open their Minds freely to you & let you know what they at any time intended to do, and that they should not offer to engage in any Matter of Moment without your knowledge & approbation. It had such weight with me & the rest of my Party that I thought I would not do less than acquaint you as a Brother with our Design which is to go to War against some of the Southern Indians as soon as our Young Men return from hunting.

Upon which Sir William answered

Brother Carraguagey & you Bretheren of Onondaga here present.

When I gave you a Belt last Summer desiring you would bring me a French Prisoner or Scalp, I was greatly pleased at your ready acceptance of it & never expected you could be prevailed on to drop the Design at the request of the Sachems, and for such silly reasons as they gave you, it was very wrong of them to act in that manner after they had absolutely taken up the Ax against the French & solemnly promised me they would be ready to use it whenever I called upon them. however as you still have my Belt I insist upon your acting therein becoming Bretheren & Warriors of the Six Nations.

Bretheren

I approve much of your openness, & the honest declaration of your Intentions as it is Brother like, but as the Southern Indians are our friends & no Enemy of yours if you do not molest them, I insist upon it by these Strings of Wampum that you do not offer to go that way but like Men & Bretheren turn your Ax to the North where you & we have implacable Enemies, who never will let either of us live happy & at Ease until we

thrash them severely which if we unite we can easily & very soon do.

gave 4 large Strings of  
black Wampum

gave them also a large Keg of Rum to carry home, several other things & a Gun to one of them.

Upon which they made the following Reply

Brother

We have attentively heard what you have said to us & assure you that your Desire shall be complied with. when the rest of our Party return from Hunting I shall lay your words with your Strings before them & let you hear from us.

Then parted

Fort Johnson 21 Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

The Drunkards youngest Son & a Cayouge Indian who came here the 15 Inst with John Abeel came & acquainted Sir William they intended to return homewards but would be with him in the Spring if Sir William called on them. Upon which he clothed them & gave them Amunition, Provisions for their Journey, some Rum &<sup>ca</sup>. and a New Gun to the Cayouge. a Bag of Cut Tobacco sent to Tageyhady alias Drunkard, one also for Sayengeraghta a Chief Man of the Senecas.

Eod. Die.

Hans the Wild & Cechehouana Two Mohock Cheifs of the Tribe of the Bear & Turtle & a Young Man named Jacob Scoutson came to Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson in order to settle a difference between said Jacob & Doctor Wallace, which was soon done by giving them both a Reprimand for their Behaviour to each other & making them shake hands together.

After this was over S<sup>r</sup>. William took the Sachems into his Room & talked over several Affairs with them & let them know

what news I heard from Pensilvania concerning the Treaty at Easton which pleased them much. he then proposed to them condoling the Death of old Abraham Hendricks Brother, which they much approved of & Begged he would as usual join them in the Ceremony & Belts which He agreed to & sent by them a large black Belt to shew their People w<sup>ch</sup>. is to cover the Grave & is never returned nor exchanged but goes to the nearest Relations.

Eod. Die

David Chief of the Schoheere Indians arrived here with two more of said Tribe & spoke as follows

Brother Warraghyjagey

We take this Opportunity of returning your String of Invitation sent us last Summer & hope our readiness in coming on said call was agreeable to you. Since that time we lost Seth our Cheif Sachem and now are in darkness

Sir William Answered

Bretheren of Schoheere

I am sensible of your good will & readiness to assist us & wish a continuance of it as it will be for our mutual Interest. You may depend upon it I shall never be unmindful of those who are so well attached to His Majestys Interest as you are

gave 4 Strings Wampum

gave David the Chief Cloathing for himself. 8 Blanketts, 8 Shirts & 8 p<sup>r</sup>. stockings for the Women whose Husbands joined Sir W<sup>m</sup>. last Fall.

Bretheren

I sincerely condole with you for the loss of your Chief Man with these Strings I wipe the Tears from your Eyes that you may no longer sit in Darkness, then cleared their throats &<sup>ca</sup>. as Customary.

3 Strings Wampum

Bretheren

As soon as there is a general Meeting of all the Nations I shall appoint a proper Person to take upon him the Care of your Affairs, until when I must strongly recommend to you Unanimity & tho you are but few if you continue of one Mind you will be strong & esteemed

4 Strings Wampum

Fort Johnson 23 Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

Captain Jacob of Stockbridge with two more of that Tribe of Indians arrived here & laid the List or Roll of his Company before Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson at the same time telling him, that there were three or four of his Men not paid & that his Clerk (for not being duly qualified) had received but 10 Dollars instead of £24 Curr<sup>y</sup>.

He further added that several of the Stockbridge Indians who inlisted last year in the New York Regiment for 5 Months & served 7 Months were not paid a penny, if this be the way (said he) that we are served by our Bretheren we have no reason to join them any more. he then asked Sir William what was to be the fate of the River Indians who were in Jail at Albany whether to be hanged or not.

Sir William Told them that as Lord Loudoun's Secretary (who had the original Roll of his Company & the several payments made to them) was not here, there could be nothing done in it, but that he might depend upon his examining into the Affair as soon as Mr. Appy<sup>1</sup> came to Albany, and that he would also enquire into that Affair of the 5 Indians who were enlisted into the New York Reg<sup>t</sup>. & if they would find who the Captain was Sir William would speak to him about it & did not doubt obliging him to pay them if they had Justice on their side

That as to the Fate of the Two Indians of theirs who were committed on Suspicion of Murder he would not tell. The Law

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<sup>1</sup> John Appy, secretary of General Abercromby and General Amherst.



must take its course if they were not guilty of the murder they would be acquitted. Sir William added, that he would be a Friend to them & their Tribe in general as long as he found them deserving.

The Captain returned thanks for what Sir William said & promised them & assured him he would in return be ready at his Call whenever he wanted them, for w<sup>ch</sup>. kind offer Sir William thanked them. gave him & his Party some Trifles & a Keg of Rum on their Journey & parted

Fort Johnson 24 Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

An Onieda Indian & his 3 Sons arrived here, after drinking a Dram round & giving them Pipes &<sup>ca</sup>. Tobacco &<sup>ca</sup>. he told Sir William that he only came down on his own private affairs. he said that as his Crop of Indian Corn was destroyed last year by the Soldiers & Battoe Men he hoped Sir William would enable them to buy some from those who had to spare and as the only thing he could purchase it easiest with, was Rum he begged Sir W<sup>m</sup>. would let him have some, which he agreed to charging him at the same time not to make any other use of it. gave him also some necessaries for his Family knowing him to be sincere & hearty in the English Interest.

he returned many thanks & gave assurances of his good Behaviour  
so parted.

Fort Johnson 25 Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.—

Peter Spelman a German named in the Shawanese Language Ooligasha,<sup>1</sup> who has lived these seven years past amongst the Indians was sent Express by Ruddehega King of the Shawanese living on the West Branch of the Susquahanna which place he left 10 days ago arrived here & says he was sent to let Sir William know that four of their Nation who were returning from their Hunt on the Oubach discovered a great Number of

<sup>1</sup> Spelled "Owiligascho" in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:244.

French & Indians at the Falls on the Ohio. One of them spoke to a French Indian, who told him there were 1500 French & 300 Indians who came from Mississipi & were going up the River. On their reporting this to the Chiefs of their Nation, the King of said Town sent Five of their People to make a further discovery & assured Sir William that as soon as they return he will come with several of his People to let me know what news they bring.

The said Messenger says, that as he passed thro Tiaogo on Susquahanna one of the Delawares told him that there were two French Officers & Seven French Indians in their Town but he being in haste did not stay to see them, but was told they were doing all they could possibly with Bribes &c<sup>a</sup>. to engage the Delawares & other Indians against the English. He was also desired to assure Sir W<sup>m</sup>. that the Shawanese living in the Town he came from (being 150 fighting Men) will stand by the English & be ready to join His Majestys Arms whenever Sir William may call on them, and that they have & will continue to advise the Delawares to be peaceable, to w<sup>ch</sup>. he said they seem inclinable ever since Sir William spoke to them last Summer at Fort Johnson

Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. immediately dispatched the above Intelligence to Lord Loudoun.

Sir William sent Two very large Belts by him, one to the Delawares strongly recommending to them to keep up to the Engagements they so solemnly entered into at a Meeting of the Chiefs of their Nation at his House last Summer & not be again deluded by the Artifices of the French

a large Belt

Another Belt to the Shawanese King returning him thanks for the early Intelligence he sent me and desiring he would constantly acquaint him of the Enemies Motions in that part of the Country, also exhorting him & his Nation to adhere firmly to the Treaties & Friendship subsisting between them & the English which they would find to be their Interest & with all

giving them a hearty Invitation to come & join His Majestys Arms when called upon. Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. gave the Messenger 10 Dollars, a fine Scarlet Blanket with several Rows of Ribband on it, a fine Ruffled Shirt a Silver Arm Band for the Kings Son — Pipes, Tobacco, Powder & Ball & a pair of Snow Shoes — so parted

Eod. Die. P. M.

All the Sachims & several Warriors of the lower Mohock Castle came to Fort Johnson in order to settle Matters for the Condolance of old Abrahams Death the great Hendriks<sup>1</sup> Brother — They joined Sir William therein as did also a Seneca Sachem called the Belt of Wampum & Scaroyady alias the half King. Sir William gave a large Black Belt to cover the Dead — another very good one to drape up the grave, and a third to desire both Sachems & young Men would be unanimous in their Councils & firm in their Resolutions — there were in the whole 10 Belts & two Strings w<sup>ch</sup> when settled by the Sachems, Sir William appointed Saturday the 29 Inst the day to set off on their Journey to Connojohery — which was accordingly agreed upon. Sir William then told them what News he had received from the Shawanese w<sup>ch</sup> they thanked him kindly for — they were treated plentifully with Victuals & drink & so parted.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson Janry. 26th 1757*

SIR

I inclose You a peice of Intelligence sent to Me by the King of the Shawanese liveing on the Cajuga Branch, which falls into the Susquehana River near Tiaogo. The Messenger is gone back again, with whom I have sent two verry large Belts of Wampum, One of them to the Delewares, Strongly recommend-

<sup>1</sup> Hendrick, a Mohawk chief, the so-called King Hendrick.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

ing to them to keep up to ye. engagements they entered into at a Meeting with their Nation held here last Summer, and not be again deluded by the French, the other to the Shawaneses King, returning Him thanks for the early Intelligence He sent me, and desiring He would constantly acquaint Me of the Enemys Motions in that part of the Country, also exhorting Him, and his Nation to adhere firmly to the Treatys, and Friendship so long Subsisting between them & the English, and withall giving them a hearty Invitation to come & Join his Majestys Arms when called upon. which I hope will have a good effect.

I propose in a few Days going to Conajoharee with the lower Mohawks, to Condole the Death of Old Abraham, and as it's customary among them on those Occasions, to give a Prisonner, or Scalp in the room of the Deceased. I should be glad you would please to order the Scalp which hung in Lord Loudouns Levy Room to be given to the Bearer, as it will be pleasing to the Relations.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient

& Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To MAJOR GENR<sup>l</sup>. ABERCROMBIE.<sup>1</sup>

My Compliments to Mr<sup>s</sup>.  
Abercrombie, who I hope  
is now in a better State  
of Health.

INDORSED:

Sir W<sup>m</sup> Johnson  
Letter to G. A. the 26  
January 1757  
Fort Johnson

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<sup>1</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

## JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson Thursday 27. Jan<sup>ry</sup>. 1757*

Four Sachems of the Mohocks came to Fort Johnson to know what time Sir William would set off & where they should lodge that night & be provided with Victuals &c. he told them there should be Lodging & Provisions for them all at Hannis Eils a Germans who lives 10 Miles this side of the Connojohery Castle — he then gave them a French Scalp & a very large Black Belt of Wampum hanging to it to give old Abrahams Relations, w<sup>ch</sup> greatly pleased the Indians.

Fort Johnson 1 Feb<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

On Sir Williams return from Condoling the Death of Old Abraham the head Sachem at Conojohery he received a Packet of Letters from George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Agent dated from Pensilvania the 5 & 8 of Jan<sup>ry</sup>. concerning Indian Affairs, particularly about a Meeting which with the Approbation of the Gov<sup>r</sup>. Council & assembly & the advice of Col Stanwix<sup>2</sup> Commanding officer of his Majestys Troops in that Province, Mr. Croghan proposed to be held at Harris' Ferry by the 1 of March, desiring at the same time Sir William would send a few Sachems of the Six Nations through the Country by Shamokin to attend & assist thereat.

Monday being a very Snowy day, Sir William called Scharoyady, The Belt of Wampum and Seneca George to come here on Thursday — when being accordingly met, he acquainted them that he had received Letters from Mr. Croghan, the Contents of which he made Cap<sup>t</sup> Montour interpret to them, w<sup>ch</sup>. as he knew them to be sincere Friends & well acquainted with

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel Commandant John Stanwix of the 62nd regiment who was commissioned Major General June 25, 1759.

the affairs of the Southern Indians as well as of Indian Affairs in Pensilvania

gave 4 Strings Wampum

They withdrew to consider of it & returned in an hour and said they thought it best to call the Chiefs of the Mohocks tomorrow & acquaint them with it, "and have our joint Opinion." this Sir W<sup>m</sup>. agreed to & gave the Strings of Wampum to the half King who promised to invite them. They came accordingly on Fryday & after consulting a long time with the Senecas & half King gave their Opinion, That Sir William should send a String of Wampum by them (then going to Connojohery) to acquaint that Castle with their Affair & have their Advice, and then they should send it to the Six Nations for them also to consider of it, as they looked upon it to be a matter of great Concern — they added it might cause a Jealousy were they to act therein or go to the proposed Meeting without acquainting their Bretheren the Six Nations thereof — neither did they think it would be so effectual whereupon Sir William agreed to it & sent the Strings by the Mohock Sachims Hans the Wild alias Kanadagai & Cechehoana who promised to see it forwarded from Connojohere.

#### KERLEREC TO THE FRENCH MINISTRY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Translation of a Letter from Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Kerlerec,<sup>2</sup> Governor of Louisiana, to the french Ministry, bearing date at New Orleans, the 30<sup>th</sup>. January 1757. Intercepted and sent by Governor Lyttleton.

I have the honor to send You, enclosed, the duplicate of the Preliminarys of Peace<sup>3</sup> agreed upon between me & the

<sup>1</sup> Inclosed in Loudoun to Johnson, July 1, 1757; in Public Record Office, W.O. 34, vol. 38, London, England.

<sup>2</sup> Louis Billouart de Kerlérac, governor of Louisiana from 1752 to 1764.

<sup>3</sup> See page 574 of this volume.

Cherokees; of which I have already informed you, by my Letter of the 13<sup>th</sup>: December last.

You will see, by the 9<sup>th</sup>: Article of these Preliminaries, that suppose Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Vaudreuil, General of Canada, adhere to the Peace asked by that Nation, it will be absolutely necessary, (not only to Attach them to us Solidly, but likewise to avoid irritating them, and prevent our being dispised) that I should at all Events be prepared, to furnish them with what they may want, according to the Engagement I have enter'd into by that Article

No one is more circumspect than I am, with regard to the Kings Interest. I feel, with regret, that they have in this Country, drawn him into several needless Expences; but I cannot avoid representing to You, that you cannot dispense with giving your precise Orders, for sending to this Colony as soon as possible, that is to say, between this & the month of July next, a double Quantity of the Goods sent out yearly for the Trade with the Chactas; Augmenting even the Article of Powder of which the Cherokees consume Yearly, ten thousand Weight.

Mo<sup>r</sup>. Dauberville, wanted me to deliver him in, the List given me of the Species & Quantities of Goods necessary for the Annual Trade of this new Nation, in order to Ask You for them: but besides our being uncertain of a Peace with them and that the Wants of the Cherokees are far different and much more Considerable than those of the Chactas, I have convinced him, that in order, not to lead His Majesty into Expences, which may become needless, it would suffice to Ask You the double of the things necessary for the Chactas Trade; because if Mo<sup>r</sup>. de Vaudreuil should not approve of the Peace with the *Cherokees*, this Supplement of Goods, far from turning out a loss to the King, would serve the following Year for the *Chactas* Trade; and that thereafter one might take other precautions to satisfy the Taste of the *Cherokee* Nation; And moreover that if the Peace with them took place, I hoped for this first time to satisfy them with this Supplement.

These are the Steps which I have thought the most prudent to take, in the present Circumstances, and in Consequence of which Mo<sup>r</sup>: *L'Ordonnateur* doubtless makes You the same request I do.

I am &ca.

FROM JOHN BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Captain John Butlers Letter who is posted as an Agent at Onieda, to Sir William Johnson

*Onieda 7 Febr'y. 1757.*

SIR

The 1. Inst arrived here 7 Indians from Sweegachie<sup>2</sup>—they are all Onondagas — they have said but little as yet, tho they say they have said all. I believe they would not say much because I was in the Meeting. What they said is this

“Brothers of Onieda

“We are hired by your Father the Priest who resides at Sweegachie who had a Letter from our Father the Governor, he desired we should go first to Onieda, and let them know that their People were all well in Canada, & tell them to be easy about them, there is one hundred (Those who live in Canada) of the Six Nations & not one Sick — The Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada said to them “ I am very glad to see so many of my Children here — I am very glad to see things in so good a Sittuation & to see so many of my Children disposed to preserve the Antient Harmony between us. We are making the acc<sup>d</sup>. Agreement New again — I desire Children that you may live in Peace — You have lain quiet Children of Oswegachie, I thank you for

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 6.

<sup>2</sup> Oswegatchie.



it, as I have not desired you to do any thing this Winter. I give my Service to all your People & to the Oniedas likewise, Young and old, with my Service I send you Four Bags of Powder to shoot Birds with. The reason I send you this is, because I heard the English your Brothers gave you but a single handfull. I have it piled up here, you can have what you want for fetching

They say there are Eight sent to the River Ohio & Letters for the several Forts they are to pass. there are some Messengers sent to every Nation in their Interest & the Six Nations are included in their Speech — the Contents is this —

“Children

“I am very glad to see that your Lands are so peaceable. be quite easy in your Minds.”

The Indians belonging to this & the other Castles were set out from Canada to Sweegachie. The Gov<sup>r</sup>. ordered several Sleys to go with & carry them things as they could not carry it themselves also a Quantity of Liquor. There are some of this Nation hunting that way who have killed so many Deer they cant bring their Skins but must wait until Spring to come by Water.

These Indians were 20 days coming from Sweegachie hither it being so bad travelling. Unless something happens extraordinary they dont expect their People home till Spring

I dont think these Indians have told all they have to say yet, if I can learn any thing more worth writing you shall have it. Our Indians behave very well in this Affair they dont meet in Council but they take me with them. I have had a great deal of Talk with these seven Swegachie Indians. they say all the regulars that were taken at Oswego are sent to France

## AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Connojohere Castle Monday 7. Feb 1757*

At a meeting of the Connojohere Indians held at Brandt's House, Nichus a Sachem of the Tribe of the Wolf spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghyjahey

We are glad at seeing you here now as it gives us an Opportunity of laying our Complaint before you. We are not well used by the Officers or Soldiers posted here, they do not behave like Brothers to us — they will not suffer us to come into the Fort, and tell us that in case the French were to attack us, we should not have admittance, besides they tell us this is the Kings Fort & that we have nothing to do with it. This is hard. We thought & you told us that this Fort was designed for our protection. It is on our Land & built with our Timber, therefore think we have a right to it, at least to protection in time of Danger — but they tell us not. If that be the case we desire those People may be immediately withdrawn, and beg you will let us have some of the Militia here to keep this Fort as they are People we are acquainted with & can agree better together. If you do not comply with this our earnest request I must tell you, you will not see our Warriors in the Spring.

Sir William told them he would answer them in a few days as he thought it would not be consistent with Decency or their Customs to speak about any Business before the Ceremony of Condolence which he came to perform was over.

After the Ceremony of Condolence was over Sir William made the following Answer to the foregoing Speech.

Bretheren of Connojohery

I was not so hasty nor Indiscreet the other day as you were, therefore I did not answer you then, but told you I would in a

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 6.

few days say something to you. I have now sent Cap<sup>t</sup>. Andrew Montour & Lieut. Claas to deliver you my words, which shall not be many. In the first place I must tell you that who ever carries you those Idle Stories against the Officers & Men are Enemies to their Country & no Friends of yours — You may rest assured that the King your Father lays no Claim to your Lands, nor Fort nor has he any thing in View by posting Men there but to gratify you & protect your People against any Insults or Attempts of the Enemy, to convince you of the Falsity of the said Reports, if you do not want Men there, they will be soon withdrawn, then you may have your Fort & Lands to yourselves, but I cannot think you would be so blind to your own Interest as to think of or desire any such thing.

In the next place I want to know the reason of such your Behaviour — I have not been used to the like no not even from the 5 Nations whom you exclaim so much against, They never told me as you have lately, that I should not see any of their Young Men. such Expressions are very unbecoming Bretheren & ungrateful for the Notice which has been always taken of You. I want to know if they are the Sentiments & Resolutions of all your People — If they are then I must tell you, that I fear the Tree which you helped to plant & the Fire w<sup>ch</sup> you helped to light up here, will not afford that Shelter or Comfort which otherwise you might undoubtedly expect from them.

a Belt

Bretheren

Be not foolish or distracted. think of the old Friendship so long subsisting between us & you, also of the good opinion entertained of you by the great King of England your Father & all your Bretheren the English w<sup>ch</sup>. you daily find the good Effects of, and I dare say you will repent of what you so inconsiderately said to me the other day & act more prudently for the future which will be for your Interest & give me Pleasure

3 Strings Wampum

FROM JOHN BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>Second Letter from Cap<sup>t</sup>. John ButlerDated in *Onieda 8 Febr<sup>y</sup>. 1757.*

SIR

Just now come in the Cheifs of this Castle & desired me to write this concerning Mr. Abeel's having been attacked in the Senecas Country — 'These French Indians declare they never heard a word of it before our Indians told them of it here nor dont think the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada ever gave such Orders, but when they return they will find out by whose Orders this was done

They desire me to write if you have any thing to say to these French Indians you will dispatch the Bearer as soon as possible as they may be back before the Indians go.

TO JOHN BUTLER AND STEPHEN SCHUYLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>Sir William Johnson's Answer to the foregoing Letters.<sup>2</sup>*Fort Johnson 12 Febr<sup>y</sup>. 1757.*

SIR

Yours of the 8 by the Onieda Indians came to my hands this day. I am glad to hear that Nation behaves so well, but I am not pleased at their allowing French Emissaries to come into their Castle at this time with such idle & ill designing Messages, however as they are there now you must try to get all you can out of them, & tell them it will be their Interest to listen to & follow the friendly advice I have so often given them, if they

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Two letters from Captain John Butler, and a letter from Lieutenant Stephen Schuyler.

do not they may repent it when too late. We will still receive them & the Cagnawagas as Friends if they will leave the French & return to their own Country & allegiance to his Majesty, if not they must take the Consequence & blame themselves. The English are now in earnest & determined to punish the French for their Villainous & Insolent Behaviour. they are resolved to bear it no longer & I would therefore as a friend advise all Indians to take care & consider & not be so ready to join the French, for they will not be able to protect & supply them with the necessaries of Life as the English can. This much you may tell the Sweegachie Indians & let them tell it to their People who may depend upon it that what I now say is the Truth. give them this Belt to confirm my words.

To Cap<sup>t</sup>. J. BUTLER & }  
Lieu<sup>t</sup>. SCHUYLER. } at Onieda

## AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

*Copy<sup>t</sup>**Fort Johnson 13 Febr<sup>y</sup>. 1757.*

At a Meeting of the Connojaharys

Pres<sup>t</sup>.Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

Doctor Catherwood

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. ClaaseCap<sup>t</sup>. Montour Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Sir William first bid them welcome with the usual Ceremonies on these Occasions & told them he did not doubt but they were charged with some Matters of Consequence which he was ready to hear.

Their Speaker said

Brother Warraghyjagey

After the Ceremony of Condolence was performed the other day at our Castle by you & our Bretheren the Mohocks, your

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 6.

Speech was delivered to us, by which we find that the last time you were here, some thing had been said which gave offence & has caused a Misunderstanding which we are sorry for & hope to make easy now. here they appologized for what they said to him at Connojahary and declared they never meant it as Sir William had taken it & hoped their Declaration now made would satisfie & convince him they never intended any thing that would be disagreeable to him for they had not the least regard to the French niether did they look any other way but to their Bretheren the English, this they confirmed by giving a Belt of Wampum

Brother

As to what you charged us with & said concerning the Tree & Fire, we do solemnly declare we never had a thought of doing or saying any thing w<sup>ch</sup> would hurt either — you may know our words are of no weight unless accompanyd with Wampum & you know we spoke with none & therefore beg you will not take notice of what was inconsiderately said by two or three of our People. You know we have been always ready to venture our lives in our Bretherens Cause & you may depend on our continuing in the same Resolution, but this we must say that we should be glad (in order to prevent our Bretheren of the Six Nations from being Jelous) to see them first Engage, that they may not say as they have already said, we were too forward — however this You may depend upon that let them act what way they please we will be ready to join you let our Fate be what it will

gave a Belt of Wampum

Brother

You desired us to take care & not be drunk or suffer our Heads to turn but think of the old Friendship so long subsisting between us. We shall you may depend upon it beware of that as we are sensible it would be very prejudicial to us both.

gave 3 Strings Wampum

Sir William spoke & told them That as they had declared their Innocence in so solemn a manner, he was thoroughly satisfied, but desired they would be more cautious for the future & not speak to him on matters of Moment unless it was the Voice of the whole.

gave 4 Strings Wampum

Bretheren of Conojohary.

I must earnestly recommend Unanimity to you, be strong & stedfast in your Resolutions as you have hitherto been & I assure you, you will have His Majestys Care of & regard for you continued.

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. gave them 6 Barr<sup>s</sup>. of Pork & flour — a Barrel of Powder 1<sup>ct</sup>. of Lead — 3 Casks of Rum, a Chest of Pipes & a Bag of Cut Tobacco &c.

#### JOURNAL OF INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*D.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 14 Febr<sup>y</sup>. 1757.*

Two Onondaga Indians, who accompanyd the Deputies of the Six Nations that went to Canada last November, as far as Sweegachie arrived here in 20 days from the latter place in Company with Seven Sweegachie Indians who were sent by the Priest & Officer there by order of the Gov<sup>r</sup> to enquire of the Six Nations, Whether what their Deputies said & desired in Canada were the Sentiments of the whole Confederacy. These Onondagas say,

When the Deputies arrived in Canada, they found there was a Body of 200 French & 300 Indians of different Nations preparing to set out for the German Flatts & the Mohock River with the first Snow — They asked the Gov<sup>r</sup>. General whether he was detirmined to put said Scheme in Execution. being

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

answered in the Affirmative they spoke to the French Indians & told them it would absolutely breed a Quarrel & that immediately between them & the Six Nations were they to join the French in it, they afterwards desired the Governor to drop the Scheme & not molest that part of the Country. On which the Gov<sup>r</sup>. told them he thought their Bro<sup>r</sup>. Warraghyjagey had put those Words into their Mouths — They assured him it was their own desire & Sentiments, adding that, as that was a Road of Peace which their Forefathers had always used when they came to speak with their Bretheren the English, they would not have it stopped or covered with Blood. On this the Gov<sup>r</sup>. told them it should not be done, and that he would acquaint all his Children the Indians with it & forbid them going that way.

The Informant says that the Cheifs who went to Montreal were on their way home & near Sweegachie when he left it but thought they would stay & hunt some time. he says there are but 100 Soldiers at Sweegachie & 300 at Cadaraqui. The French officer & Priest at Sweegachie, told them that if the English should build another Fort at Oswego they would destroy it. He further added that he heard it commonly reported at Swegachie that before the Snow was all gone the French would take the Field with a great Number of Indians from the Westward who use Bows & Arrows, also Arondacks, Squightarighroenes &c. & attack us in our Forts at the Lake & Carrying Place (meaning Fort Edward) since we do not come to them. He says that the Six Nation Deputies & Cagnawagas spoke very smartly to the French Gov<sup>r</sup>. & told him it appeared to them that he wanted nothing more than to set them who were Friends & Relations by the Ears & have them destroyed, as he was always for having them the advanced Party — he says the Cagnawagas are endeavouring all they can to keep out of the Scrape alledging they know not what the Quarrel is for. Provisions at Cadaraqui pretty plenty since they took Oswego, Amunition & Arms also — but he thinks in general Provisions are pretty scarce in Canada. Goods very plenty. they like the General very well. There are many German & Dutch amongst the Troops who are much more



Tender to the Indians than the French are. he says that some of the Swegachie Indians tho much against their Inclinations, joined the French last year & that they & the Cagnawagas were detirmined now not to join if they can avoid it. Lastly he says the French are detirmined (as he heard) to build several Forts between Montreal & Ticonderogo early in the Spring.

Sir William gave them Four Kegs of Rum & sundry other Trifles & so dispatched them.

TO WILLIAM DENNY

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson, February 16th, 1757.*

SIR:

I have the Honour of your Favour of the 6th of December last with a Copy of the Two Conferences held at Easton, and am well pleased with the Strong Professions of Friendship made by Teedyuscung, the Delaware Chief. I sincerely wish we may be able to remove the Cause of those Indians' Discontent, and effectually bring them back to his Majesty's Interest.

Sensible of the Importance of this Affair, I charged Mr. Croghan upon his going into your Province to sound the Disposition of those Indians who still live in the Province, and by all means to spirit them up to continue their Friendship and join his Majesty's Arms here, or anywhere else they may be wanted next Spring; and above all to enquire into the Cause of the cruel Behaviour of the Shawonese and Delawares to their Bretheren, the English. I am extremely glad to find that Mr. Croghan's Opinion given to you was unanimously approved of, and that there is a general Disposition in the different Branches of the Legislature to bring this unhappy Affair to a peaceable Issue. The Meeting now proposed will be a favorable Opportunity for that Purpose, and, therefore, by this Conveyance, I send proper Instructions to Mr. Croghan how to act upon this Occasion, and have given him particular Directions to apply to Lord

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<sup>1</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 7:434-35.

Loudoun for his Advice and Approbation, who, I presume, will be in your Province by that Time, or if not there, then to the Commander-in-Chief for the Time being. I observe what you say relative to the Complaints of the Delaware Chiefs concerning their Lands, and I am quite clear that a Particular Attention should be paid to them, and if made good that an immediate Satisfaction should be made as to the only likely Means to affect an intire Reconciliation.

I shall solicit the Six Nations in the strongest Terms to use their Influence with the Delawares and Shawonese for the immediate Restoration of the Prisoners (still in their Power) to their Families.

That nothing may be wanting to make the intended Meeting as useful as may be to the Purposes proposed, I have sent Notice thereof to the Six Nations, and desired some of their Chiefs would be present, but fear their remote Situation and the Severity of the Season will not permit their Attendance so soon. I have sent the Half King, some Senecas and Mohawks of both Castles to be present and give all the Assistance they can possibly, which they promise to do.

As I have nothing more at Heart than the bringing this unhappy Affair to a favourable Issue, I shall very readily join with you, Sir, in any Measures which may be conducive to that End.

I am, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO GEORGE CROGHAN

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, Feb<sup>y</sup> 16, 1757.*]

Instructions to George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Agent for Indian Affairs, at the intended Meeting to be held at Harris Ferry on the Susquahanna or elsewhere in those parts.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

You are in the strongest Terms to remind the Shawanese & Delawares of the Solemn Promises they made to the Delegates of the Six Nations whom I sent to meet them at Otsiningo last Spring, and confirmed by the Delaware & Shawanese Kings in behalf of their People last July at my House, in the presence of their Uncles the Six Nations — which was that they would lay down the Hatchet, return to their Friendship with the English & deliver up all the English Prisoners which were in their Power — this they again repeated & ratified at a subsequent meeting with Gov<sup>r</sup>. Denny<sup>1</sup> at Easton in Nov<sup>r</sup>. last. All which I have sent proper officers to acquaint their Uncles the Six Nations with who will as well as we expect a due performance of all they so publickly, repeatedly & solemnly promised & engaged. In the next place you are in the best manner you possibly can, to Show them that it will be their Interest to live in Friendship with the English who are best inclined & not only most able to supply them with the Necessaries of Life but also to protect them against the Insults or Attempts of any Enemy, as they are the most Powerful & Wealthy People on the Cont<sup>t</sup>.

You are carefully & attentively to hear what they have to say with respect to the Grievances mentioned by them at Easton last Nov<sup>r</sup>. or any others they may have recieved, and if justly grounded, you are to take the most prudent, speedy & effectual Method to have them amply redressed, as I am convinced without that, all we can do will be to no purpose.

In case you can accomplish this, you will then by all Means in your power and with the assistance of the Sachems of the Six Nations & Mohocks whom I send to Attend the said Meeting, endeavour to prevail on them to turn the Edge of their Hatchets against the French the Enemy of Mankind, in conjunction with their Uncles the 6 Nations, and that this & the delivering up all the Prisoners in their hands or power, will be the only convincing proof they can give us of their Sincerity & is what we expect from them.

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<sup>1</sup> Governor William Denny.

You are to make a full & faithful Report to His Excellency the Earl of Loudoun of every thing done at said Meeting & in Consequence of it, who I suppose will be at Philadelphia at that time, if not you will make it to Col. Stanwix<sup>1</sup> or the Commander in Chief there agreeable to His Lordships Directions. In the Mannagment of this Affair You are to do all in your Power to promote the good of His Majestys Indian Interest in general without the least Reserve or partiality.

As many things may occur in the Course of the said Meeting which I cannot possible foresee you are to act to the best of your Judgment, & if practicable, obtain Lord Loudouns Advice & Directions or Col. Stanwix<sup>s</sup>. agreeable to His Lordships Letter to You

Lastly let every thing be carried on in the most Candid, equitable & friendly Manner possible so as to remove & prevent all Jealousies, keep an exact Authentic Copy of all your Proceedings & either bring or send them to me as soon as conveniently can

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson  
this 16 day of Febr'y. 1757.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

JOURNAL OF INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 17 Febr'y. 1757.*

Hercules alias <sup>3</sup> a great Friend of Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson's an Oneida Indian was coming down to his House with the following News, but falling Sick by the way sent his Wife to tell him—"that the fair Promises made by the French to the

<sup>1</sup> John Stanwix, colonel commandant of the first battalion of the 60th or Royal American regiment.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

<sup>3</sup> Blank in the manuscript.

6 Nations (as in the Onondagas Report of the 14 Inst (vide pag 424) was not to be depended on. He understood it was only to lull us to sleep for he was assured there would be an attack made against the German Flatts & this part of the Country very soon."

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. sent his Wife back again immediately with a Sley & sent by her a String of Wampum, desiring that her Husband as soon as he got well would go on the Scout towards Swegachie & if he discovered an Enemy to send immediate Notice to Sir William, who sent him a fine Gun, a Ceg of Rum &c.

Eod. Die

Sir William sent Gingegoe's Son & two other Mohocks to Sacondaga who are to Scout the Woods towards Fort Edward & Lake George & if they discover the Enemy to bring immediate Intelligence.

gave him a pair of Snow Shoes the  
rest had their own, took Provisions  
& set off.

Eod. Die

An Onieda Young Man arrived here in two days from that Castle, and three days before that he left Cayouge Castle, the Night before he left it a Frenchman named La Force a Partner of Du Quanie<sup>s</sup> arrived from the Senecas & told him that he had heard there, that there was a very numerous Meeting of the Ottowawas & other Nations at Teughsaghruntie alias Detroit from whence they were detirmined to march as soon as the Snow & Ice was gone against these parts, to revenge the Death of One of their Cheifs who was killed in a Skirmish near Oswego last year

These Indians said they would destroy the German Flatts & Mohock River —

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. gave him a fine Gun, a Keg of Rum, Stockings &c. and Cash to purchase Provisions also paid for his Slay here & so dispatched him —

## INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

D. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson, 18th Feby. 1757.*

Silver Heels, alias Rosa (whom I sent last december with another Seneca Indian named John to the Senecas for Intelligence) arrived here alone, he left his Comrade behind whom I expect in a few days.

He says he could not learn much from the Nations as he past through them, being Looked upon as a Spy, but meeting some of his Relations in the Senecas who lately came from the Southward or Ohio, he heard from them the following News, which he thinks may be depended upon viz.

That the French are Indefatigable among all the Indian Nations to the West, and meet with great Success, They are mustering as many Indians, of the distant and Neighbouring Indian Nations as possible in order to make a descent upon the Southern Provinces very early in the Spring, for which reason they are bringing great Quantitys of Provisions daily from Niagara.

The Commanding Officer at Tiyondaroga alias Fort du Quesne has sent 100 Delawares to Niagara, in order to assist in carrying Provisions to Fort duquesne from whence the whole Body are to move as soon as assembled.

The Person who gave this Intelligence to my Informant, says that there was a Great meeting of Indians also at Detroit alias Teughsaughrundy and soon expected to Join those at Tiyondaroga or Fort duquesne.

This account he tells me was confirm'd by an other Indian arrived from Fort du quesne at Chenussio (one of the most distant Seneca Towns) the day he left that Place which is 15 days

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal. With the exception of the last two paragraphs the text of this "intelligence" in the Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4 is identical with the text here printed.

ago. The Delawares have built a Fort at Beaver Creek below Fort Duquesne near Loggstown. There are 10 Cherokee Indians arrived at Fort duquesne on an Invitation from the French, and it is thought that many of said Nation will be Prevail'd upon to Join them, as well as many of the Six Nations, who live dispers'd among the Several Nations attach'd to the French, and it is to be feared they will seduce many more, should the French be successfull in their next attempts.—

He lastly says, that the Six Nations as far as he could Learn, are greatly divided among themselves and he thinks if we are not Active early in the Spring; they may all turn against us, This is only his own opinion, which he delivered with Evident concern, Upon my asking him his Opinion why the Indians in General seemed to Incline more of late to the French than usual, he answerd that the Indeans look'd upon it, that the English by Extending their Settlements so far back intended to dispossess them of all their Lands, and the French assured them, that, that was their Resolution, and that, that was what led them to build Forts in their Country on the Ohio, and elsewhere, to stop the English from overrunning them besides the Six Nations seeing the French so successfull against the English, and little or no Resistance made, by means where of the French have acquired a strong alliance of all the Western and Northern Indians, and hath intimidated them.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

Eod: Die

An Oneida, a great Friend of mine was coming down with the following News, but falling sick by the way, sent his Wife to tell me, that the fair Promises made to the Six Nations, as in the Onondagas Report of the 14th Instant, was not to be depended upon, he understood it was only to lull us a sleep, for he was assured that there wou'd be an attack made against the German Flatts and this part of the Country very soon.

I sent his Wife back again immediately with a Slay, and sent by her a string of Wampum, desiring that her Husband

as soon as he got Well would go on the Scout towards Swegachy,  
and if he discovered an Enemy to give me immediate Notice,  
Sent him a find Gun a Cagg of Rum &c<sup>a</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

INDORSED:

The Intelligence brought  
by Rosa, or Silver Heels  
a Seneca Indian —  
Also Peter an Oneida  
Indians Intelligence  
Eod. Die  
Feb<sup>y</sup>. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1757.

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, Feb. 18–19, 1757*]

Sir William gave Silver Heels for  
his Service good cloathing, Silver  
Arm band, 10 Dollars &c.—

Eod. Die [Feb. 18, 1757]

Sir William dispatched an Oneida Indian named long Jacob  
with 4 Strings of Wampum to Aughquaga to acquaint the  
Indians there that there were several & others going that way  
in a day or two & desired they would be ready to accompany  
them to the Meeting at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry —

gave him Provisions Cloathing &c.  
& so sent him off

Fort Johnson 19 Feb<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

Sir William dispatched Mr. Croghans Servant with Dis-  
patches for Gov<sup>r</sup>. Denny & Geo. Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. gave him £5 —  
to defray his Expences & gave him a press Warrant—sent  
also by him a Letter & Intelligence to Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. Abercrombie.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records,  
Vol. 4.



ORDERS TO CAPTAIN THOMAS BUTLER & CAPTAIN JELLAS  
FONDA*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 19 Feb<sup>y</sup> 1757*

You are to proceed immediately to Onondaga there to remain until further Orders.

When there you are strictly to follow such of your first Instructions as are not yet complied with by the Indians, particularly that part whereby you were to press forward the Meeting to be held at Onondaga. as the times are uncertain, they ought to settle matters immediately, and you are to be present at it & keep an Exact Record of the whole & of every thing else you can learn worthy your notice

You are also to try all in your Power to get the best Intelligence possible of the Enemys Designs & Motions & immediately transmit them to me by Express.

You are to let the Six Nations know that at a Meeting held last Nov<sup>r</sup>. at Easton with the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Pensilvania and the Delawares & Shawanese & some Six Nations, Peace was concluded & satisfied between those Nations & all His Majestys Subjects. Whereupon they promised the Governor as they did to me last July that they would restore all the English Prisoners in their Power, and as they have yet returned but Five it is expected by the Governments & by me, that the Six Nations will use their Influence with their Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawanese to deliver up all our People in their Hands as otherwise we cannot be easy in our Minds nor think their Cousins are sincere. Upon w<sup>ch</sup>. give this Belt.

You are also to let the Six Nations know that there is a great Meeting of the Delawares, Shawanese &c. to be held soon at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry on Susquahannah where some of their Cheif Men are desired by me to attend at the Meeting & to be held by me

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

in Conjunction with the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of said Province in order to enquire in the Causes of their Cousins Uneasinesses & cruel Behaviour to their Bretheren the English without giving them notice and to make those Indians Satisfaction for whatever Injuries they can make appear to have suffered, so that Everything may be peaceably settled, and you are to assure the Six Nations that the English have nothing more at heart than the Welfare of their Indian Allies, which they hope soon to convince them of by driving the French from all their Encroachments on their Lands & Hunting Grounds.

You will by all the Arguments you can use endeavour to convince them it is their Interest to keep up that Friendship so long subsisting between them & their Bretheren the English who are best able to supply & support them — as I hope a little time now will plainly convince them thereon give this Belt.

Lastly you are to use the best Economy you can & render me just Acc<sup>ts</sup>. on y<sup>r</sup>. Return

WILL. JOHNSON

JOURNAL OF INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[Feb. 20—March 1, 1757]

Sunday Fort Johnson 20 Feb<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

All the Mohock Sachems & the half King met here & told Sir William Johnson, There were 8 Mohocks and 4 Senecas & Oniedas ready to set off for the Meeting at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry on Wensday & desired to have every thing necessary for their Journey ready against that time w<sup>ch</sup>. Sir William promised them. Accordingly he acquainted them with the Messages he had sent to the Six Nations by Cap<sup>ts</sup>. Butler & Fonda w<sup>ch</sup> they approved of & thought it suff<sup>t</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

In the midst of said Meeting Eserus & two Cayouge Indians whom Sir William had sent to Lake George several days ago, on a Scalping or Scouting Design, arrived and told Sir W<sup>m</sup>. & the Sachems they were come by order of the rest who were there with them to let me & them know, that their Bretheren the English at Lake George used them very ill, would not suffer them to go & speak to the Commanding Officer about Buisness but took them by the shoulders & turned them out like Dogs, this was the reason of their leaving said place & giving up their Design of going there upon any Service.

Upon w<sup>ch</sup>. Sir William took & read a Letter from Maj<sup>r</sup>. Eyre<sup>1</sup> dated the 11 Inst from Fort Henry wherein he assures him those Indians should be well used—before he could finish reading the Letter, they interrupted him being very warm about what was told them, and said our People might write what they pleased, but they knew that to be the Disposition of the Army in general, for says Abraham Chief of the Mohocks, “I have seen too much of it last Fall at Lake George on my returning from Tionderogo with my Party where we killed two of the Enemy near their Fort, instead of being welcomed as we expected, the Great Man meaning General Winslow<sup>2</sup> would not see nor hear us speak, niether did he order us any Provisions tho we had been a long time fasting. The French do not use their Indians so, by which means they must get all at last.

Sir William endeavoured to convince them that it could not be the Order of the Commanding Officer, as he knew him to be a good Man & not capable of doing an unkind thing to any of our Indian Friends, and that it must therefore be done by some foolish Rash Soldier who did not perhaps know whether they were Friends or Foes—this made them a little easy but Sir W<sup>m</sup>. could not thoroughly pacify them—

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<sup>1</sup> Major William Eyre of the 44th regiment.

<sup>2</sup> General John Winslow, commander of provincial troops.

Fort Johnson 21 Feb<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.

A Cayouge Indian Nephew of Sir Williams great Friend Atrowana arrived here & says that late last Fall there were 100 Warriors of the Delawares &c. called at Tiaogo as they were on their way going to War against the English and were Stopped by the Delawares of that Settlement who told them they had made peace with the English & were detirmined to keep it.

Fort Johnson 23 Feb<sup>ry</sup>. 1757.—

Sir William delivered Cap<sup>ts</sup>. Butler & Fonda their Instructions with 3 Belts of Wampum & 1 black String to deliver his words to the Six Nations as in their Instructions (vide pag. 433 & 434) on Account of the Badness of the Roads by reason of the great Floods & Ice breaking up they could not set off until this day.

This Evening Mr. Ryckman<sup>1</sup> arrived here from Onondaga (with 3 Onondaga Men & 1 Woman) where he has been all the Winter & says there is no News there of any Moment — The Delegates who went to Canada last Fall are not expected till towards Spring, when he heard a grand Meeting was to take place there. He says the Indians of that Nation behaved extreamly kind to him & the Red heads Son was a Days Journey on his Road hither, got Sick & returned.

Two Onieda Indians arrived here who were sent by the Sachems to enquire of Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. whether the Account they had heard was true Viz. that 3 Vessells full of Southern Indians were arrived at New York & what they came about. he answered them immediately there was no such thing, but that there were several Vessells arrived from England with Troops & many more soon expected. gave them 3 Kegs of Rum &c. &c.

Sent also a Message by them to old Aguiotta cheif Sachem of Onieda a great Friend of Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. to let him know he intended in a few days to send a Sley for him [to] bring him hither

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<sup>1</sup> Albert Ryckman.

where he should be well taken care of while he lived as he was always a true Friend to the English —

Fort Johnson 23 Feb<sup>ry</sup>. 1757 —

Yodairihoghte Son of Aguiotta the Chief Oneida Sachem, a Nephew of his & another Young Man arrived here, they came for Rum as did many more of the Onondagas, Cayouges & Tuscarores which Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. ordered for them with other Articles, such as Paint, Powder, Lead, Pipes, Tobacco &c. He promised Aguiotta's Son & Grandson 40 Dollars if they would bring him early Intelligence of the Approach of a French Army coming this way which they sincerely promised to do and said they would in three days after they got home go toward Swe-gachie [and] there hunt until Spring right in the Road the Enemy must come.

The same day a Cagnawaga Indian who has lived here these two Years at Sir Williams Request, came & told him he was very uneasy in his Mind for several Reasons & desired my advice how he should Act — he soon removed the Causes of his Uneasiness & settled his Mind & made him prepare to attend the Sachems to the Meeting at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry

Eod. Die

In the afternoon the Sachems & several Warriors of the Tribes of the Wolf & Turtle came from the Mohock Castle here & were fitted out with Cloaths & every thing necessary for their Journey. The Tribe of the Bear they said would be here in the Morn<sup>g</sup>. to receive their Cloaths &c. Sir William gave them a Pasport & a Letter to Mr. Ashly at Aughquaga for a Couple of Battoes to carry them down the River to Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry — gave them also an Order to John Wemp to mend their Fences against their Return — Sir William sent by them a large Belt to tell the Aughquaga Indians that he was surpris'd at their not coming last Fall at his Request after the many fair Promises they had made to him, that whenever he called upon them they would be ready — he now desired by this large Belt that they would

hold themselves in readiness against he might call on them as they have now no Excuse there being a good Fort built for their Protection. Sir William gave the Mohocks 6 Barrels of Porke & flour for their Castle, a Barrel of Powder 1 C<sup>t</sup>. Barrel of Lead, a Chest of Pipes, a Bag of Tobacco, some Rum &c. and so sent them off.—

The same Night, John Abeel & Mons<sup>r</sup>. La Forge alias Giginghsway a french Man who has lived several Years amongst the Six Nations arrived here from the Senecas Country & the Cayouge Nation, in 11 days but brought no News of any Consequence, only that there was a very great Meeting (he heard) of several Nations of Indians at Teughsaghrondie or Detroit. He said he was of Opinion we had but few Friends amongst the Cayouges except Ottrowana & Skarayady who are two very leading Men — he said Jean Ceur<sup>1</sup> was very ill at Niagara

Fort Johnson 24 Febr<sup>y</sup>. 1757.

Sir William Johnson set off for the Connajohary Castle in order to send some of those Indians to the Meeting at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry, also to talk with the Oniedas who were coming there to condole the Death of Abraham & send them there also.

The same Night he arrived at Connojahary where he had the Sachems together & told them the reasons of his sending Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler & Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour to Onondaga which they much approved of. After that was over he desired by a String of Wampum, that they would keep Scouts out in order to bring him timely Notice of the Enemy's Approach, should they attempt coming this Way as they threatened.

He also delivered them a Message from the Mohocks &c. which was to acquaint them, that in Consequence of what he had said to them about a Meeting to be held at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry with the Delawares &c. they were ready to set off that Morning, with about 20 of their People to attend at said meeting, & hoped they would meet them at Cherry Valley or thereabouts

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<sup>1</sup> Chabert de Joncaire.

as had been agreed upon between them — they answered there would be some of their Chiefs ready very soon to accompany them thither — but that there was also a Meeting of the Six Nations to be held next Morning at their Castle in order to condole the Loss of old Abraham & that might detain them some time.

Saturday 26 feby.

In the Evening Conachquiesia Chief of Oneida arrived at Connojoehary & told Sir William Johnson, the rest of their Nation with some of the Tuscarores were near at hand & would enter the Castle next Morning — there was Provision immediately sent for them that night & Sunday Morning they came in order to the House where Sir William was, which they entered crying in their usual way on those Occasions — after they ended that part of the Ceremony he bid them welcome, told them he was glad to see them — and then proceeded to tell them what Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler & Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour were charged to say to the Six Nations, and Strongly recommended to them to assist therein & forward the General Meeting proposed to be held at Onondaga, w<sup>ch</sup>. he hoped would be so conducted as to turn out to our Mutual Advantage.

They very kindly returned Sir W<sup>ms</sup>. Compliment & said they were rejoiced to have the Pleasure of shaking him by the hand — They approved of the Instructions given to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler also of the Meetings taking place soon, but said they were of Opinion it would not be before the Delegates returned from Canada which they expected would be soon. Sir William treated them with Punch & Rum, gave them a Blanket & Stockings to give old Aguiotta Chief of their Nation — then Sir William set off for his House, and at Hendrik Frys<sup>1</sup> met all the Mohock Delegates who were on their way to the Meeting to be held at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry. He advised them to proceed & not enter the Connojoehery Castle as that would detain them some time —

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<sup>1</sup> Hendrick Frey.

Gave Fry an order to supply them with Provisions & afterwards gave them in charge to exert themselves at said Meeting for the good of his Majestys Service & thereby give their Bretheren a further proof of their Sincerity & Attachment which they sincerely promised to do, they then earnestly begged I would be careful of their Familys in their absence & guard against a Surprize from the Enemy. took leave & parted.

Saturday Night 27 febr<sup>y</sup>.

Sir William arrived at his House where he found Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jacob of Stockbridge & another of said Tribe who delivered him several Papers, setting forth the Injustice done to his Man last Summer, and begging Justice might be shewn to them. Another Letter desiring that John a Stockbridge Indian who is in Albany Jail for killing a German at Claverack last Fall, might be tried in the Government he belonged to.

Sir William took the said Papers & promised against his return from Connojohery (where he was then going) to consider of what would be best to be done in the several Matters complained of.

Fort Johnson 28 Febr<sup>y</sup>. 1757.—

David of Schohere & two more of said Tribe who had waited three days for Sir W<sup>ms</sup>. return from Connojohery came & spoke as follows

Brother

We are sent now by our whole Castle to return you our hearty thanks for wiping away our Tears & removing all our Sorrow the last time we were here for the Death of our chief Man Seth.

You told us then & desired we would Acquaint all our People that you proposed at the first General Meeting to be held at your House to consider of a proper Person to succeed old Seth. We are thankful to you for the care you seem to have for our welfare, but we are ordered to tell you that we look



upon our Selves as a poor reduced People not having one Man amongst us fit or worthy of that Post.

Brother

Our Young Men are not so well pleased as they ought to be, they think the Six Nations have been taken more notice of than they, altho not so deserving, which makes them discontented.

gave String of two Rows

Sir William answered

Bretheren of Schohere

I have heard all you have said. I shall return you an Answer to it as soon as my Interpreter comes up here w<sup>ch</sup>. may be in five or 6 days.

Fort Johnson 1. March 1757.

In the afternoon old Aguiotta chief Sachem of Oneida arrived on Sir W<sup>ms</sup>. Invitation to come & spend the remainder of his Days here.

About the same time Arent Stevens the Interpreter arrived here, who at Sir Williams desire asked the old Man what he thought of the Six Nations, he answered, that by all he could learn, they were much affraid of the French & beleived the half would join them, the other half he thought would stand firm to their Engagements with us.

Eod. Die

Sir William dispatched William Printup with a Power to act as an assistant Interpreter to M<sup>r</sup>. Croghan at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry at the Meeting to be held there if wanted; it was also the earnest desire of the Mohocks to have him with them in order to inform them thoroughly of every thing said there so as to understand each other clearly.

## APPOINTMENT OF INTERPRETER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

By the Honourable Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>. Sole Agent & Superintendant of the Affairs of the Six Nations their Allies & Dependants in the Northern District of North America

I appoint William Printup of the Mohocks Country in Albany to act as an assistant Interpreter at the ensuing Meeting to be held at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry between George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. and the Shawanese, Delawares & Six Nation Indians

Given under my Hand & Seal  
at Fort Johnson this 1. day  
of March 1757.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

TO GEORGE CROGHAN

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Sir William wrote the following Letter to Mr. Croghan by Printup the Interpreter.

*Fort Johnson 1. March 1757.*

SIR

I have been this long time plagued to get the Indians away as several things interveened w<sup>ch</sup> retarded their March, however have at last sent them away from hence the 24 of last Month, & hope they may come time enough to the Meeting, as I think their presence will be of considerable Service. besides they can bring their Cousins the Delawares along & the Shawaneese.

I must let you know they are resolved to assist all in their Power to have that unhappy difference made up & in as impartial a manner as they can. They expect great Matters I hear &

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

that considerable Presents will be given them, this no doubt will be properly considered by You & whoever else has the Mannagment of that Affair according to their Disent. I only wish they may return Successful & contented, as it will be an Encouragement to them to go on chearfully in the Spring, pray dispatch them as soon as you possibly can. They insisted much on my sending an Interpreter with them, least they should not have a true Sense of what was to be said there w<sup>ch</sup>. they look upon to be a matter of great Importance — Wherefore I have sent W<sup>m</sup>. Printup with them as an Interpreter whom you will look upon as Such, and as he dos not drink now he will be better than Mr. Weiser<sup>1</sup> or perhaps any to be found there. You will give give him a strict Charge to behave prudent & not be too communicative w<sup>ch</sup>. is one of his greatest Troubles. I expect that Gov<sup>t</sup>. will defray all Expences attending said Meeting if not you must Apply to Lord Loudoun on that head as well as in every thing else necessary

Montour I have sent with Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler to Onondaga or he should have gone with these

I wish you all immaginable Success in this Undertaking as it will not only prove greatly Advantageous to his Majestys Interest but to your Credit also than which nothing would give me more Satisfaction as I am truly yr. Sincere Friend & well Wisher

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

#### JOURNAL OF INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 2<sup>d</sup>. March 1757*

Sir William sent Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Daniel Clause to the Mohocks with a String of Wampum to desire they would send some of their Young Men on the Scout to the Northward to watch the Enemys

<sup>1</sup> Conrad Weiser, official interpreter of Pennsylvania.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

Motions and bring him early Intelligence should they see them marching this way.

3 March

The Mohocks came here on Sir Williams Call of Yesterday, and told him they would send 5 of their Young Men on the Scout for four or Five days, and that they would set off next Morning — Sir W<sup>m</sup>. thanked them for their readiness gave them 3 Buck Skins for Shoes, 3 p<sup>r</sup>. Snow shoes, Provisions, 2 Guns &c.

Eod. Die

Several Cheifs, Warriors & Women arrived here from Oneida & Tuscarore — they came into the Council Room, where Sir W<sup>m</sup>. bid them Welcome, gave them Pipes, Tobacco & Liquor, then told them that he had ordered Dinner to be got ready for them & Quarters, & as he judged they must be fatigued after their Journey he would have them rest this day & in the Morning he would be ready to hear what they had to say. They returned thanks & said it would be very agreeable to them to rest this Day & would be ready to deliver what they had to say in the Morning.

The same day in the Evening Cayenguenego a Sachem of the Tribe of the Bear was sent by the Connojahary Indians to acquaint Sir W<sup>m</sup>. that 7 of that Tribe & two of the Tribe of the Wolf were appointed to Attend the Meeting to be held at Harris<sup>s</sup> Ferry, and that they would have been ready sooner, only for the Oneidas &c. coming to their Castle to perform the Ceremony of Condolence for the loss of old Abraham.

He said he would willingly set off early next Morning & desired he might be supplied with Paint, a Cag of Rum &c. which was accordingly ordered — He further added that the whole Castle except a very few were very desirous of having Peter Schuyler the officer of the Militia to be posted in their Fort as soon as the Regulars were withdrawn.

Sir William told him he was glad they were resolved to assist at the intended Meeting & wished they had come to that Resolution sooner as he feared they would be too late.

As to an officer & Party to Garrison their Fort, there was time enough to consider of that, as the Troops now there he beleived would remain for some time. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. told him they might depend on his making choice of the best & properest Man he could find for that Post, when there was Occasion for it, but that they might be assured none of those who offer to tamper with the Indians about it shall ever Command there, besides he would make Examples of them if he could find them out.

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. gave him Cloaths for a French Prisoner of his & some to himself & Wife with some Money & so dispatched him

REPORT OF JOHN BUTLER AND STEPHEN SCHUYLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

The Report of Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler & Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Stephen Schuyler on their Return from Oneida where they were posted by Sir William's Orders since the beginning of Jan<sup>ry</sup>. last.

We arrived at Onieda the 6 of Jan<sup>ry</sup>. last where we were very kindly received by that Nation particularly so by two Sachems named Canachquiesa & Oehtaughquesera & their Familys.

Nothing extraordinary occurred till the 5 Feb<sup>ry</sup>. when Seven Swegachie Indians arrived there & at a Meeting called for that purpose, told the Oneidas that they were sent by the Priest living at Swegachie to tell them in the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada's name (as ~~the~~ M<sup>r</sup>. Butlers Letter recorded pag 419 & 420). We have since learnt from some Friends of those Swegachie Indians, that the French had sent Messages to all the Indian Nations in their Interest desiring they would muster at Swegachie as early in the Spring as possible in order from thence to make a Descent on the Mohock River & destroy all those Settlements. The Indians of whom we had this peice of News said the Numbers of Indians when Mustered would amount to 5000. There was a Report

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

spread among the Oneidas by an Indian who came from the German Flatts, that all Trade between the English & the Six Nations was prohibited & that there was no Powder to be had, this they had from a German at Burnets field, w<sup>ch</sup>. gave them great Uneasiness; And an Indian named Jemmy & Tachanihunti both Oneidas said, That it seemed now what the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Philadelphia had told them was true, to wit, that if Sir William Johnson got the whole Mannagment of Indian Affairs, he might for a Year or two take care of them but afterwards would not regard them — but this Report was soon contradicted by several Indians who had been at Sir Williams House about that time & since, who found & saw there was no prohibition of selling Goods at Albany & Schenectady nor scarcity of Powder as reported.

JOHN BUTLER  
STEPHEN SCHUYLER.

JOURNAL OF INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, March 4–9, 1757*]

Fort Johnson 4 March 1757.

At a Meeting of several Oneidas & Tuscarores

Arent Stephens Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Conochquiesia a Chief Onieda Sachem spoke as follows holding a String of Wampum in his hand.

Brother Warraghyjagey.

We have been condoling the Death of our great Brother Abraham of Connojohery according to our Custom & as we were so near our Fire place here, we would not return without seeing you. We have understood that one of the Tuscarores

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<sup>1</sup>In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 4.

who had been here with you this Winter, in the presence of several Oniedas &c. told you that he was to go to the Tuscarore Nation his Friends to the Southward. We assure you it was never agreed upon by any of the Sachems, therefore desire you will not mind what he said nor give him a Pasport.

gave a String.

Brother

We have not much to say at Present as we have constantly sent you & gave our Brother Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler what News was Stirring, w<sup>ch</sup>. we suppose he constantly acquainted you with. Brother here are several of our Women &c. who are very poor & come to you for Rum, wherewith to buy them Corn, Shoes &c. as it is not to be had any where else now, we must all apply to you for what Rum we realy want, for Christenings, Weddings, Dreams, Burials &c. & hope you will take Pity of us & grant our Requests. A Smith is much wanted at our Castel to mend the Womens Hoes & Hatchets, against planting time & the Warriors Arms for Hunting or War. —

Upon which Sir William made them the following Answer.

Bretheren of Oneida & Tuscarora.

I am glad to find it was not a Resolution of your Council that the Tuscarore Young Man should go to the Southward without my Approbation. I must now tell you again, that none of you go to the Southward or elsewhere far distant without my knowledge & Passport, for two Reasons; The first is, it will not be safe for you at this time. The other is, I may have some Errand to send by you or Buisness to transmit there, therefore by this String of Wampum I repeat my Desire that I be always advised & acquainted on those Occasions

gave a String Wampum.

Bretheren of Oneida & Tuscarore.

I have received from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler, who has been among your Nations for some time past, what news you gave him, for which & your kind Treatment of him & his Party, I am obliged to You

I hope you will continue the same to him or any others I may send among you.

Your poor Women I shall take Care of & give them some Rum as they say it is the only ready way they have of getting Corn & Provisions from those who have plenty, but I expect they will not make any other use of it.

As to sending a Smith to Your Nation, I would readily do it were it not for the usage some of our People received from the French Indians lately in the Senecas Country without any Notice taken of it by them. When I am assured that I may with safety send up a Smith to the several Nations, I shall not be wanting as My Master hath enabled me to supply you not only with Smiths but with every thing necessary for you to carry on the War with us against the French, w<sup>ch</sup>. when I find you are thoroughly inclined to, you shall not want.

Bretheren of Oneida

I am surprized at your receiving Powder at this time from our Common Enemy. When you can have what Quantity you want from me, only for Applying for it. The French boast of their having a great plenty of Powder, but what they have is I beleive chiefly what they stole from us at Oswego. I now desire you will not accept of any more from them, or any thing else as it will give me & all your Bretheren a bad Opinion of you, while you are offered as much as you want from us who have I dare say ten times the Quantity of Amunition & other things that they have.

Bretheren

As I have had many acc<sup>ts</sup>. this Winter of the Designs of the French attacking this part of the Country as soon as the Weather would admit. I desire you by this Belt of Wampum, to send some of your Young Men towards Swegachie & Cadaraqui in order to bring me early Intelligence of the Enemys Motions should they come this way or to any other part of the Country. I also desire you will not go far from Home to hunt, as it is uncertain how soon there may be a call for your Young



Men to protect your own Castles as well as to join us. I would not advise you to rest so secure on the fair Promises & Speeches of the French to your Delegates, for you know by woeful Experience, there is no trusting to their Professions. I therefore conjure you to be alert & keep a good look out—you are to forward this Belt thro the Six Nations.

a Belt.

Gave them 6 Blanketts for the Women, Paint for the Warriors, Eight Kegs of Rum for the several Families & to the Sachems in Cash 30 Dollars.—

#### Eod. Die

An Onondaga Indian & his Wife with a Cayouge Man & 5 Women arrived here — They said their Corn was almost eat, therefore came to their Brother for Rum to purchase some Corn as that was the only thing they could buy it for, also begged some Cloathing for themselves & Children. Sir William promised they should have it provided they made good use of it, and Cloaths also if they would promise to act as Friends w<sup>ch</sup> they declared they always would — Ordered them 6 Kegs of Rum & 8 Blanketts —

At night Sir William took the Onondaga (called by the English Corn Milk) into his room with the Interpreter & desired he would let him know what News he heard among the Nations. On which he said, that before he left his Castle there was a Message come from the Senecas & Cayouge, desiring the Onondagas would prepare for the Meeting proposed last Fall when at Sir Williams House, and that they, the Senecas & Cayouges were to consider & come to a Resolution now, that the Affair might be thoroughly settled at this Meeting, while they had leisure — that in the Spring they might not have time. On receiving this Message the Onondagas dispatched four of their People to hurry the Sachems who were on their way from Canada, hunting at a Place called Canadunte four days Journey from Onondaga. He says the Senecas were expected with the Cayouges in two or three days, and that he thought Cap<sup>t</sup>.

Thomas Butler & Montour whom he met by the Way would be there as soon as they.

He says he often heard the Young Men of his Nation blame the Sachems for their backwardness & say it was their faults that Sir W<sup>m</sup>. was now angry with them, and they acknowledged very justly & that they were ashamed of their Behaviour, adding that had the Sachems left it to them or even desired them to exert themselves, they would have done it long ago, & let them smook their Pipes. He says there are 20 Cherokees coming with the Senecas to the Onondaga Meeting, in order to know what part the Six Nations intend to act as they are resolved to follow their Example. He further says that the Sweegachie Indians told the Onondagas that the French had sent 7 Cagnawagas with Letters to the officers of all their Garrisons to acquaint them & all the Indians in their Interest, that the English had taken & destroyed a great Settlement of theirs beyond the great Lake & warned all the Indians to be on their Guard for the English were detirmined to destroy them.<sup>1</sup>

Fort Johnson 5 March 1757 —

Captain Jacob of Stockbridge returned from Connojahary — Sir William gave him a Letter he had wrote to Colonel Fitch<sup>2</sup> of the New York Regiment, acquainting him of the Complaints made by the New England Indians against Cap<sup>t</sup>. Smith & desired he would enquire into it and if injured that he would see Justice done to the Indians as they belonged to his Regiment.

Sir William promised him to send the Letter concerning John the River Indian who was in Albany Jail to Sir Charles Hardy Gov<sup>r</sup>. of New York whose Province it is to settle that matter or grant their Request. As to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jacobs<sup>s</sup> own Complaint Sir W<sup>m</sup>. told him as he did before, that there could be nothing

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<sup>1</sup> The remainder of Corn-Milk's information is printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:679-80.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel Thomas Fitch.

done in it before Mr. Appy<sup>1</sup> the Sec<sup>ry</sup>. who settled his Acc<sup>t</sup>. came to Albany & that then he would look into it & speak to Lord Loudoun about it. upon w<sup>ch</sup>. he said he would rest contented — so parted giving him a Keg of Rum on his Journey.—

Fort Johnson 8 March 1757.—

This Evening Six Mohocks who had been out four Days Scouting to the Northward, returned without discovering any thing. The next Morning they went to their Castle, Sir W<sup>m</sup>. sent a Message by them desiring there would another party go out immediately on the same Service.

The 9 March 1757.

A Conoy Chief from Otsiningo arrived here, whom Sir William used very kind & gave him a handsome Present, as it was the first time he had been this way — He said that the Delawares of Tyaogo were now easy, but that those of Ohio he thought would still be troublesome — The Nanticokes & his Nation were in a State of Ease & Peace having no thoughts of entering into the War as yet niether have they been asked to engage by the Six Nations.

11 March

Sir William sent a String of Wampum by the above Indian to his Nation & to the Nanticokes, advising them to beware of the Artifices of the French & not be deluded by them as the Delawares their Neighbours were but stand by their Bretheren the English whom they would find their best Friends & most able to protect & support them which they might already see by the miserable Condition, those of the Delawares & Shawanese are in who joined the French being in a naked & starving Condition — Sir William concluded that he should be glad to see as many of their People here in the Spring as could conveniently come.

Gave a String

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<sup>1</sup> John Appy, secretary of General Abercromby and General Amherst.

He returned many thanks for the Present made him & the Cloathing sent to his Wife & Family & assured Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. he would faithfully deliver his words to the Nanticokes & his Nation on his Return & doubted not it would be very pleasing to them to hear him. he further added that he beleived the Canoys, would as well as the Nanticooks accept Sr. W<sup>m</sup>'s. Invitation & see him in the Spring. As for himself he was detirmined to come as soon as the Weather & Roads were good.

Ordered him Provisions &c.

Mr. Montours Wife was Interpreter.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Extract from Captain Thomas Butler's  
Letter to Sir William Johnson bearing  
date from *Onondaga 10 March 1757*.

“The 8 Inst we came to this Place but the Indians wuld not meet till the 9<sup>th</sup>. when they informed us, Two of their People who had been in Canada were come home & the rest expected in a few days — I can learn no news these Two have brought — but they wait till they all come before they will say anything. We were told at Oneida & Tuscarora, that they believed the French would Attack the Mohock River, but your place in particular this Spring — that the Swegachie Indians who past there the other day said it would be so but desired you might not know it. We were likewise informed that some French were assembled about 30 Miles to the Eastward of Oswego but the Indians here say it was nothing more than one Frenchman who came that length with the Swegachie Indians but was not able to go further for want of Provisions & kept an Indian with him to get him eatables till the rest came back. As all the Nations will be sent for to this great Meeting hope some of the cleverest of the Mohocks will be at it, as yet there is no guessing what the result of this Council will be.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

A Young Indian from this Castle named Karagehego<sup>1</sup> with five others are gone to the Southward a fighting, whether against the English or Flatheads cant learn."

TO THOMAS BUTLER ET AL.

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 13 March 1757.*

SIR

This day an Onieda Indian named Agunughguara (in English the Lock of a Gun) arrived here, who says that he heard at the German Flatts from the Sinnuchsis who had it from a Tuscarore, that the French were moving this way, & that the Sachems who went to Canada, were along with the Army, but could not get Liberty to come home least they should let us know of the French's coming, but that as soon as the Army were far enough advanced so as not to mind whether we had Intelligence or not, they would let them go. I would have you by all means find out if the Enemy are coming this way, if they are you will send me constant Accounts of their Motions from Day to day, and then you are to press the Indians of the Six Nations to come & join me so that with the Militia &c. we may be able to make head against the Enemy & perhaps prevent their returning to Canada. In that case you are all to come with the Indians & meet me at the German Flatts & send out Scouts always as you come along. You will spirit up the Indians all in your Power to come & join me in case they find the French are actually coming

I am Gent<sup>n</sup>.

Your hum serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To Cap<sup>t</sup>. THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER  
and the rest of the Indian  
Officers

<sup>1</sup> Karaghijagiya, an Onondaga Indian.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

TO GEORGE MONRO

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson, 13th March. 1757.*

SIR

This Moment an Oneida Indian arrived here from the German Flatts with the following Account, Viz<sup>t</sup>. That the Sachems, who went to Canada last Fall, were detained by the Way, & not allowed to go Home, least they shou'd discover the Designs of the French, which he says are to attack the German Flatts, & my House; for which purpose they have assembled a considerable Body of Troops, & a great Number of their Indians about the same Place, (Viz. Canandunda) where they lay last year, some Time before they marched against Bull's Fort, But notwithstanding the strict Watch, kept over the Indians of the 6. Nations who are kept back until they are well advanced on their March, one of them slipt away at Night and brought this News to Onondaga, from whence it was dispatched to the Oneidas, & so to Me; I hourly expect further Intelligence, as the Express tells me there are some Young Men sent to watch their Motions.

I beg leave to repeat the Necessity there is of having a good parcel of snow shoes here in such Case, as without them there is no possibility of pursuing the Enemy one step, the snow being yet vastly deep in the Woods.

I am

Sir,

Your most obedient,

Humble Servant.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.TO LIEUT. COL<sup>o</sup>. MONRO, Commd<sup>t</sup>.

INDORSED:

A Letter from Sr William  
Johnson to L<sup>t</sup>. Col<sup>o</sup>. Monro.  
Fort Johnson, March 13th, 1757.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

## INDIAN INTELLIGENCE

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson**13 March 1757.*

An Onieda Indian named Aginushguara alias Lock of a Gun, arrived here with the following News viz That the Sachems &c. who went to Canada last Fall were kept back by the French Army, who were marching towards their place of Rendevous last Spring by Lake Ontario, to come this way — that as soon as they were near the Place of their Destination they would let the Delegates go home. On receiving this News at Oneida the Sachems sent four of their Young Men to discover the Army & their Motions, and that as soon as they return Sir William Might expect further Intelligence

The report was, that the French with a great Number of Indians were to attack the German Flatts & Fort Johnson. The Indian who brought this News imagined that some of the Young Men who accompany the Delegates, slipt off at night & brought the Account to Onondaga from whence it was forwarded to Tuscarore & so to Onieda.

At the same time several of the Mohocks came to Fort Johnson in order to send out Six of their young Men on a Scout towards Sacondaga. When they heard the News they asked Sir W<sup>m</sup>. what steps he proposed to take. he told them first to Acquaint the Commanding Officer at Albany with the News — who he did not doubt would act therein properly — and as to his own part he had long ago given Orders to have the Militia in readiness in case of an Emergency. They answered that it was very good, but then unless some of our People were ordered to march up some time before the Enemy's arrival, it would be to no purpose as they would then come too late. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. told them he could soon Muster a good Number of the Militia from

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

the lower part of the County, but should the Acc<sup>ts</sup>. prove false, it would cause a murmuring among the People to be so harassed. On which they said it was better to have the People murmur than loose the Lives & Properties of many for want of their Aid, adding the English were always very backward & stingy of their Men altho they always boast of their Numbers.

Sir William sent Six Mohocks on the Scout to the Great Hill which over looks Lake George & all the Country about there they were to return in 5 days.

The same day he wrote to Col. George Monro Commanding at Albany, also to the Indian Officers among the Six Nations, also sent fresh Orders to all the officers of the Militia on the Mohocks River, Schohere &c. to hold their Companys in readiness to march at an Hours warning.

#### INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 14 March 1757.*

Several Onondagas, Tuscaroras & Oniedas arrived here mostly Women, who are agreed in what the Oneida told St. W<sup>m</sup> the 13 Inst, but were of Opinion the French would wait until the Rivers & Lakes were open as they could then come with much more ease. They pleaded a scarcity of Corn &c. and begged Sir William would let them have some Rum, wherewith to purchase Corn, fulfill some Dreams their People had & some for Christenings Weddings &c. which Sir William ordered for them with some Trifles such as Knives, Paint, Provisions on their Journey &c. gave them 13 Kegs

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.



## EXPENSE OF AN INDIAN REGIMENT

A. D.<sup>1</sup>

March } The Expence of a Regiment of 500 Indians; Consisting of ten Companys, Each fifty Men,  
the 15<sup>th</sup>. 1757 } and their proper Officers. att the following Rates. Vizt.

Coll <sup>o</sup> . Pay £438 Stvg p Annum is this Curr <sup>y</sup> . £750		
Feild Officers. Lieut. Coll <sup>o</sup> . £310 D <sup>o</sup> . p—D <sup>o</sup> is Curr <sup>y</sup> ....	531	£1750..—..—
Major £273..15 D <sup>o</sup> . p D <sup>o</sup> is Curr <sup>y</sup> ...	469	
<hr/>		
10 Capt <sup>ns</sup> . @ 8 <sup>s</sup> p Day Curr <sup>y</sup> . is £1264 p Annum Each		1460..—..—
10 Lieu <sup>ts</sup> . @ 6 p Day.....109..10 p Do., Each		1095..—..—
10 Ensigns @ 4 p Day.....73..— p D <sup>o</sup> ., Each		730..—..—
20 Serjants @ 3 p Day.....54..15 p D <sup>o</sup> ., Each		1120..—..—
500 Men @ 2 <sup>s</sup> / p Day.....36..10 p D <sup>o</sup> ., Each		18250..—..—
Bounty of £4 to Each Man, & Serjant amounts to.....		2080..—..—
provisions for 520 Men a Year @ 9 <sup>d</sup> Curr <sup>y</sup> . p Day Each Man.....		7117..10..—
		<hr/>
		£33,602..10..—

<sup>1</sup>In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter Wraxall; inclosed in Johnson to the Earl of Loudoun, March 17, 1757.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson March 17th 1757.*

MY LORD

I should have done myself the Honour of writeing your Lordship before now, but that I knew you were full of Business. All the Intelligence I received since, I imediately communicated to Major Genr<sup>l</sup>. Abercrombie, & in his absence to Lieut. Coll<sup>o</sup>. Monro, who no doubt transmitted to your Lordship whatever they thought worthy your notice. The great meeting of the Six Nations & their Allies proposed to be held at Ondaga will soon take place. I have all the Ind<sup>n</sup>. Officers there, and at Oneida in order to assist thereat and send me all the Intelligence they can learn, as well of the French Designs, as of the Intentions of the Six Nations, who seem verry much dejected, & wavering. In short, there is no forming a Judgment how they will act, untill the Meeting is over. whatever part they take, I imagine they will now exert themselves. Should their resolutions be favourable, I shall want a sum of money to lay in a stock of such goods &ca, as are necessary to fitt out those who will join his Majestys Arms. the last sum I had is verry near at an End, as Your Lordship will see by the Acc<sup>t</sup>. I herewith send you, the Vouchers for which, as well as for the former Acc<sup>t</sup>. (as far as I have made payments to Christians). I have ready to produce to your Lordship, when I may have the Honour to see you. If it be agreable to your Lordship I should be glad to have a Warrant for my Sallary, as there is above a years pay due, besides that due, by Virtue of General Braddocks Commission, which Your Lordship was pleased to tell me, you would first write Home about.—It would be verry necessary for Me to know what time the goods, Arms, &ca which your Lordship said you would write to London for, may be expected, that I

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

may regulate my conduct (with regard to the purchasing goods here) thereby.—

I should also be glad to know how your Lordship would have the Officers of the Indians paid hereafter, I have paid them all to the Date of their Commissions, wh<sup>h</sup>. is the 29<sup>th</sup> of October last.—As the Indians are a people who take more time in considering, than we do, besides that, they live dispersed, and at a great Distance. Your Lordship will I doubt not always give me timely Orders to Muster them, so as to be able to have them ready in due time.—The many precedents Mr. Shirley has sett of giving Indians pay, & Commissions, has, I find run through the Six Nations, & River Indians. so that in short what goods &ca. I give them (altho it amounts to a great deal) is thought nothing of, besides there is a Lieut. of the Rangers up here now recruiting, who verry imprudently offered to engage some of the Mohawks & to give them 10 Dollars Bounty, w<sup>th</sup> four shillings p Day pay. This occasioned some of them to come & talk with me about it. I endeavoured to beat them out of the Notion of it. but they being a verry mercenary people, it is not easy to do. They told me they thought they deserved as much, if not more than the Rangers, as they were better acquainted with such service than any others, and that they were of opinion forming them into companys with their own People Officers, would be the best Method we could follow to get a great Number. as by that Means every Officer would exert Himself, and endeavour to get as Many Men from all Quarters as He could, upon this I made a rough Calculation of the Expense of Five Hundred Ind<sup>ns</sup>. and their Officers for a year, as your Lordship may see by the Inclosed which if your Lordship approves of, & will send me the necessary powers, & orders soon, I will do what can be done in so short a time. if not, I shall follow the old Custom and endeavour all in my power to reconcile them to it. Yet, I cant help thinking but the Regimenting them at present would be productive of good consequences. and not a great deal more Expense.—this Day, two Oneida Indians arrived here in two days from their Castle, and tell me that

most of their nation who went to Canada last Fall are returned. I expect in a few Days to hear what news they bring from thence, which I shall imediately acquaint the Commd<sup>s</sup> officer with, as also with any Intelligence wh<sup>h</sup>. may be brought Me, worthy of notice. Both the Butlers write me, that the Indians of Every Nation they spoke with lately, confirm the Acctt<sup>s</sup>. I have had of the French's design of attacking this part of the Country, but differ as to the time. I doubt not but I shall verry soon know more about it, from those who are come from Canada, by what I can learn from y<sup>e</sup> Indians the French are mustering as many of the Western & other Indians as they possibly can at Fort DuQuesne, and Detroit, in order to harass the Frontiers of the Southeren Governments, and perhaps attempt the Destruction of Fort Cumberland, Shamokin &ca.—

As the Stockbridge Indians have importuned me severall times to speak in favour of two of their People, who are in Albany goal for the Murder (as is alledged) of a German near Livingstons Mannor some time ago. I beg leave to trouble y<sup>r</sup> Lordship with a letter from their Chiefs about it & in answer to one I wrote them, on hearing they threatened to Burn Livingstons House.

I fear I have trespassed on Your Lordships  
Patience, so only beg leave to Assure Your  
Lordship, that I am with all due respect  
My Lord,

Your Lordships

If your Lordship pleases   Most Obedient,  
to send me a Warrant for   & Most Humble Servant,  
money to carry on the Indian Service   W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.  
let it be for £5000 Sterl<sup>s</sup>. then I need not  
trouble you in a long time for more.

To the Right Honr<sup>ble</sup>  
the EARL OF LOUDOUN.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson March 17th 1757.

FROM JOHN BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 17. March 1757.*

Two Oneida Warriors arrived here & brought Sir William a Letter wrote by Cap<sup>t</sup> John Butler at Staats House above the German Flatts the 16 Inst as follows

SIR. "Just now two Indians came here from Oneida, who say their People are returned from Canada, but those who are come to the Castle are but Boys and Cheifs they left at the Oneida Lake who are at the Castle by this time but will tell nothing until the Chiefs come home, who are with me & have kept us hence one day longer than we should have staid. They said there is no Meeting at Onondaga yet & would not let us go until the[y] went themselves. They confirm the old News, that the River will be Attacked as soon as the Lakes are open — they desire the Indians to stand aside as they intend to destroy all that shall oppose them

I am &amp;c.

JOHN BUTLER

P. S. The blackest of these two Indians is the one I recommended to you when I went down the other time.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

## ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES

D. S.<sup>1</sup>

[Nov. 1756-March. 1757]

1756.	The Crown, To William Johnson D <sup>r</sup>		
Nov <sup>r</sup> .	To Ballance of an Account delivered to the Right honourable the Earl of Loudoun . . . . .	£2172..17.. 8¼	
12	To Lieu <sup>t</sup> . Quinon Kenneedy by Lord Loudouns Orders, for Part of the Expenses of his Party . . . . .	35..12..—	
14.	To Benjamin Ashley at Oghquago for an Ox killed for the Indians coming to a Meeting at my House . . . . .	6..—..—	
Do. Die	To Robert Sanders at Albany for 1 p <sup>s</sup> of Walsh Cotton..	£15.. 5.. 6	
	2 p <sup>ss</sup> of 7/8 Garlix 70 yds. . . . .	7..—..—	
	4 D <sup>o</sup> . of ¾ D <sup>o</sup> . 54 yds. . . . .	10..16..—	
15	To Waggon hire with Indian Goods paid William Degrafe . . . . .	33.. 1.. 6	
	To James Ferral as p <sup>r</sup> Receipt. . . . .	1..10..—	
	To 6 silver Gorgets bought by Capt <sup>n</sup> Wraxall as pr D <sup>o</sup> . . . . .	5..—..—	
16	To Isack Wemp for making 31. shirts at 6 <sup>d</sup> p <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	9.. 6..—	
18	To Capt <sup>n</sup> Peter Schuyler for the Pay of 25 Men posted at Canajohara } Fort, from the 10, of Sept <sup>r</sup> to the 10. Inst being 69 Days, himself at } 8./ p <sup>r</sup> and the men at 2/2 p <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	—..15.. 6	214.. 9.. 6

To Aguiotas Son on his Journey home 4. Dollars .....	1..12..—
To 9. Woodrangers who were employed to join the Indians scouting and scaping, as p <sup>r</sup> their Receipts appear.....	125..13..—
6. Dollars inlisting Money.....	2.. 8..—
1. D <sup>o</sup> to little Kendrick a Mohawk.....	—.. 8..—
20. 50 <sup>lb</sup> of Nail, for a Block house at Canajohare & Carriages 8/.....	2..18..—
To Daniel Claus for Indian Expenses as p <sup>r</sup> his Acct.....	22.. 1..—
Dec. 6. To sundry Indians at Albany viz <sup>t</sup> Silverheels Johnny &ca.....	3..12..—
To David Van der Heyden for 1 p <sup>r</sup> of Blankets .....	10..—..—
7. To the old Belt and Family 3 Doll <sup>r</sup> s.....	1.. 4..—
8. To John Wells as p <sup>r</sup> Accto' to maintaining' Indians .....	13..12.. 9
9. To Jack Collier for a Sheep and small Ox to the Mohawks.....	2.. 5..—
To 2. Indians sent with a Letter and Belt of Wampum to the Stockbridge } Indians, about their threatening to burn Livingstones house Cash..... }	4..16..—
10. To Abraham Quack for a small Hog, as p <sup>r</sup> Receipt .....	—..10..—
To the half King to pay for an Ax and Adz .....	—.. 8..—
To Chechoano a Mohawk Sachem to buy oats for his horses.....	—..16..—
To Cobus Clement Interpreter, for sundry Expenses for Indian Parties } going to War, as they passed through Albany as p <sup>r</sup> his Accto'..... }	38..16..11½

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; this account follows chronologically that printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 1:566-645.

## ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES—Continued

11.	To Cobus Clement as Indian Interpreter for 2 years, at £60. p <sup>r</sup> An <sup>m</sup> .....	120. —. —.
	To a young Mohawk cash for a fine Gun sold me, which will serve a Sachim or a chief Warrior.....	1. 12. —.
	To Peter Conin for Smiths Work for the Indians .....	2. 8. —.
	Carried forward .....	£2833. 12. 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Dec <sup>r</sup> .	Brought over .....	£2833. 12. 10 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
14.	To Hendrick alias Ragsoghiatha cash 2. Dollars .....	—.. 16. —.
16.	To Peter a young Indian, lost the use of his Legg to sundries.....	2. 16. —.
18.	To Hans Van Epps for sundries as p <sup>r</sup> Acco <sup>t</sup> will appear.....	3. 14. —.
20.	To Mr Hawley for a Cow killed for the Delawares at Oghuago.....	4. 16. —.
26.	To Joseph Clement for 3 Days ploughing for the River Indians: .....	1. 10. —.
29.	To Peter for a Gun which will serve for an other Indian 4 Doll <sup>s</sup> .....	1. 12. —.
	To 2. Guns of the half Kings son and another, cash .....	2. 16. —.
	To 4. Gallons of Wine at sundry times to sick Indians: .....	2. 8. —.
	To 8. <sup>lb</sup> Tea £3. .4 and 28 <sup>lb</sup> sugar at sundry times to D <sup>o</sup> .....	4. 5. —.
Jan <sup>y</sup> .	To David Van der Heyden for 1 p <sup>s</sup> . strowds.....	£11. —. —.
1.1757.	To D <sup>o</sup> . for a p <sup>r</sup> . Blankets.....	10. —. —.



To D <sup>o</sup> . for a p <sup>s</sup> . Walsh Cotton g <sup>ds</sup> . 100. y <sup>ds</sup> at 3 1/3. p <sup>r</sup> ..	16.. 5..—	
“ for a French Blanket 15/ & 1 <sup>lb</sup> Beads at 2/6..	—..17.. 6	£38.. 2.. 6
<hr/>		
To Cash paid by J <sup>n</sup> . Watts Esq <sup>r</sup> . to Cobus Clement Interpreter last year at New york as p <sup>r</sup> said Watts Acco <sup>t</sup> for Indian Expenses .....	14..15.. 4	
3. To John Vansice Gunsmith for mending Ind <sup>n</sup> . Arms at per Acco <sup>t</sup> .....	2.. 6.. 6	
6. To some of the Canajohary Ind <sup>s</sup> . Cash to buy necessities .....	2.. 8..—	
8. To an Oneida Indian who had done a good deal of service.....	3.. 4..—	
To Nickas the Sachim to buy fowls for his sick son.....	—.. 8..—	
10. To Simon Veeder for riding two Waggon Load of Indians Packs.....	1..—..—	
12. To Mynder Wemp for sundry goods given by him to the Seneca Indians when working there as Smith last year as p <sup>r</sup> account and Receipt will appear .....	£40..16.. 6	
To his pay as Smith from the 1 <sup>st</sup> . of August 1755. to the 20. of April 1756.....	80..—..—	
To his son sent Express from the Senecas:.....	4..—..—	
<hr/>		
To Hans the Wild chief Sachem of the Mohawks Cash .....	£124..16.. 6	
To a Cayouga Family going home cash for sundries .....	—..16..—	
To bringing up from Albany a Hay Load of Blanketts Pipes &ca .....	—..10..—	
	—..18..—	

## ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES—Continued

13.	To the Expense of building a Fort and 2 Blockhouses at Onoaghquaga at the Desire of them Indians, as p <sup>r</sup> . Acct <sup>o</sup> .....	425—18.. 4
	To John Becker of Schoharee for 12 Skiples Pease 4/. p <sup>r</sup> ..£2.. 8..—	
	To D <sup>o</sup> . for 2 C <sup>t</sup> . flower, supplied the Delawares with last Fall by my order, and a coffin.....	2..10..—
15.	To Peter Lewis for his horse 3 Days to an Indian come Express.....	£4..18..—
	To Paulus and some other Canajoharee Indians cash to buy Proviander for their horses &ca.....	—.. 4.. 6
	To Indians for 2 Guns bought of them.....	1.. 4..—
	To Peter a Canajoharee Indian for a good French Gun 3. Doll <sup>r</sup> . he having 4. Guns.....	2.. 8..—
17.	To Nickas for a fatt cow for the Indians as p <sup>r</sup> . Receipt.....	2..—..—
19.	To Postage of Governour Denny's Packets with the proceedings of a Treaty held at Easton &ca.....	5..—..—
	To 4. Oneida, Tuscaroro and Onondaga Chiefs a present and Cash.....	2.. 3.. 9
		3.. 4..—
	Carried forward .....	£3494..11.. 3 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>

1757.	Brought over .....	£3494..11.. 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Jan <sup>ry</sup> .	To Cash to bring the within mentioned Indians in slays as far as the German Flatts .....	—.. 8.— 2..—..—
	To Cash for a fine Gun to big Paulus of the Mohawks .....	—..18.. 6
	D <sup>o</sup> . to 2. Senecas going home, besides Cloathing and Arms .....	1..12..—
	To Cash to a Cayouga young Man for a Gun having two .....	1..12..—
23.	To Cash to an Oneida Family who are faithful Friends .....	—.. 8.—
	To Joh <sup>s</sup> . E. van Eps on Cap <sup>t</sup> . Montours order for a sheep for y <sup>e</sup> Warr <sup>rs</sup> : .....	—.. 8.—
23.	To D <sup>o</sup> . for a set of slay Ropes for the half King .....	4..—..—
	To a Schoharee Chief who had been out all last summer, cash to pay for } work done for him by others in his absence .....	—..—..—
25.	To David Van der Heyden 1 p <sup>r</sup> of Blankets .....	£10..—..—
	2 p <sup>rs</sup> $\frac{3}{4}$ Garlix at 55. p <sup>r</sup> .....	5..10..—
	$\frac{1}{2}$ Ct. of Shott .....	1.. 8.—
	—————	16..18..—
	To an Express sent to me by the Shawanese King with News of a body of French and Indians coming from Mississippi .....	4..—..—
	To D <sup>o</sup> . a Scarlet Strowd with Ribbons to it .....	3..—..—
26.	Cash to an Ind <sup>n</sup> . for a shirt, and shoes for a sick Ind <sup>n</sup> .....	—..10..—

## ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES—Continued

2.	Groce of Bottles given among the Six Nations and others, Since April 1755, with Rum Wine Medicines &c.....	4..16..—
	To a squaw to buy Leather for Mockasens .....	—.. 2..—
	To sundry Expences attending a Meeting of the Mohawks about the Con- dolence of old Abraham &c.....	1..18..—
	To Andreas Weavear for a Horse Cap! Butler had to Oneida and could not get him back falling sick there.....	5..—..—
27.	To the Seneca called Belt, for to buy fowls &ca for his sick Wife.....	1.. 6..—
	To the half King Cash to buy Hay &ca for his horses .....	1.. 4..—
28.	To a Tynondady Indian for a Gun 4. Dollars .....	1..12..—
29.	To the half Kings son for a gun.....	1.. 4..—
30-31.	To sundry Expences attended my going to Canajoharee Castle about the Condolence of old Abraham the Sachem .....	4..18..—
Febr <sup>r</sup> .		
1.	To Petrus Daniels Son Cash to buy some necessaries .....	—..12..—
3.	To Cornelius Bowns Widdow, for making 12 fine and 8 course shirts .....	1.. 2..—
5.	To Jacob an Aughquago Indian, who promised to be ready next spring with his Friends, cash and several goods.....	2..12..—
7.	To two River Indians cash to mend their Guns .....	—.. 4..—

To Jacob Scouts son for a fine Gun 5. Dollars: .....	2..—..—
To Abraham Isack Son Cash to buy a fine French Gun .....	3..—..—
To Peter the lame Mohawk. cash for a Gun he having another:.....	2..—..—
To Slay hire to carry 4. Indians to Lake George and Baggage, who were going scalping and scouting, Expences in Albany also.....	3..15..—
	<hr/>
	£3567..10.. 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
	£3567..10.. 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
1757. Brought over .....	2..10..—
Febr'y. To Freight of 10. Chests of Pipes and Casks of Lead, Ball, and Flints to my House from Albany.....	—..16..—
To Cash to a Schoharee Indian named David at Albany.....	8..10..—
To Nickus the Sachem of Canajoharee a suit of black Cloaths for Mourning on the Loss of his Wife £6..10. and Cash for a Gun 2 Dollars.....	1..12..—
To Hance his son cash for his Gun having another .....	1..—..—
To 10. pair of Indian horses stabling one Night .....	2.. 8..—
To a Canajoharee Indian who had his horse killed at Lake George by the Enemy Septbr 1755. as he was lame and obliged to ride there.....	1.. 4..—
To a Mohawk Widdow for her sons gun who died lately.....	1.. 8..—
To Caaweghnagea Mohawk Sachem a Meddal .....	

## ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES—Continued

14.	To sundries at a Meeting of the Canajohares held at my house.....	3..18..—
	the 9 <sup>th</sup> of April 1756. to 29 <sup>th</sup> of Octbr: 1756. at 10 <sup>s</sup> . p <sup>r</sup> Day sterl <sup>g</sup> . is	
	Currency: .....	173..17..—
16.	To Cornelius Smith for bringing up 40. casks of Powder .....	3..—..—
	To Abraham a Mohawk Sachem for a Gun he having two .....	2..—..—
	To Estrus a Mohawk for his Gun he having another .....	2..—..—
	To Peter his Brother Cash to buy Necessaries .....	—..11..—
	To Capt <sup>n</sup> . Jealous Frunda for 107. Days pay at 10 <sup>s</sup> . sterl <sup>g</sup> . p <sup>r</sup> D: from the	
	11. July 1756. to the 20. of Octbr: following, is Curr <sup>y</sup> : .....	90..17..—
17.	To Mary Wallace for a small Ox to the half King: .....	2..—..—
	To the Belt a Seneca Sachem Cash: .....	—..8..—
	To Brant a Mohawk Sachem a Dollar. ....	—..8..—
	To Brewer for carrying a Seneca Ind <sup>n</sup> . who came Express .....	—..10..—
18.	To 6. Bear skins for Bedding for the Indians at 12/ p <sup>r</sup> . ....	3..12..—
	To an Ox for the Indians at Lewis Grotes last Fall: .....	3..—..—
19.	To Robert Walpole cash to defray his Expence to Philad <sup>ia</sup> with Dispatches	
	for Gov <sup>r</sup> . Denny and Mr. Croghan on Indian Affairs: .....	5..—..—
	To Anias a Tsyenundady Indian to pay for making a coat. ....	—..6..—

To Silver heels and Johnny 2. Seneca's sent as spys and brought me Intelligence; cash besides sundry goods.....	10..—..—
To a Tsyenundady Indian in Lieu of his Gun: .....	1.. 4..—
Bought of Daniel Campbell 2. p <sup>rs</sup> of Blankets at .....	£22..—..—
2 p <sup>rs</sup> . of Linnen for Indian Shirts at £3.....	6..—..—
	<hr/>
21. To Capt <sup>n</sup> Jealous Frunda for Expenses paid by him when at Onondaga, and coming back at p <sup>r</sup> Accot. will appear.....	11.. 2..—
	<hr/>
Carried forward .....	£3928..11.. 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Brought over .....	£3928..11.. 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
To Capt <sup>n</sup> Thomas Butler for Expenses paid by him when he went first to Onondaga, as p <sup>r</sup> . his Accot will appear: .....	18.. 7..10
To a Seneca Indian who accompanied Capt <sup>n</sup> Butler and Funda.....	—..10..—
To 20 <sup>lb</sup> of dressd Leather, for shoes for Scouts &ca at 5/. p <sup>r</sup> .....	5..—..—
To Capt <sup>n</sup> Daniel Nimham to pay a Debt he owed: .....	—..10..—
To making up 2 p <sup>ss</sup> of Linnen in shirts for Indians: .....	—..13..—
To a young Mohawk for a Gun.....	1..12..—
To Aria a Mohawk Cash:.....	—.. 8..—

## ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES—Continued

	To Cash to the Sachems &ca went to the Meeting at Susquehana . . . . .	3..18.. 6
	To Daniel Moimeua cash in Lieu of a shirt . . . . .	—..16..—
28.	To 36 <sup>b</sup> . of Leather for shoes at 5/. p <sup>r</sup> . . . . .	9..—..—
	To sundry Expences attending my going to a Meeting at Canajoharee from Febr <sup>y</sup> . 24. to the 28. with some Indians. Interpreter &ca . . . . .	6..15.. 8
	To Nickus's son Hance of Canajoharee a Dollar: . . . . .	—.. 8..—
	To Schoharee David, a Dollar: . . . . .	—.. 8..—
March	To William Printup going to Harrisses Ferry as Interpreter with the Indians: . . . . .	4..—..—
1.	To Daniel Campbell for a p <sup>r</sup> . of Blankets . . . . . £11..—..—	
2.	2 p <sup>ss</sup> of Indian Linnen for shirting: . . . . . 5..10..—	
	<hr/>	
	To Capt <sup>n</sup> . J <sup>n</sup> . Butlers Acco <sup>t</sup> . of Expences while at Oneida as p <sup>r</sup> . Acco <sup>t</sup> . will appear: . . . . .	16..10..—
	To Capt <sup>n</sup> . J <sup>n</sup> . Butlers pay as Captain of the Indians from the 15 Day of July 1756 to the 29. of Octtr. 1756 at 10/ sterling p <sup>r</sup> . Day is Newyork Curr <sup>y</sup> : . . . . .	19..15.. 3
	To Lieut Stephen Schuylers pay as Lieutenant of the Indians from the 24. of July 1756 to the 29. Octbr 1756. at 4 . 6 sterl <sup>g</sup> . p <sup>r</sup> Day is Curr <sup>y</sup> : . . . . .	90..—..—
		£37.. 8..—



3.	To Harman Van Antwerp for Horse hire:.....	1..16..—
4.	To the Oneidas to buy Cags for Rum I promised them .....	—..12..—
	To Nighnoxgúe's Daughter for her Family Cash .....	—..16..—
	To Cayengiuregoa a Canajoharee sachem 8 to his Wife 2/3.....	—..10..3
	To the Oneida and Tuscarora Sachems. Cash for sundries 30 Dolls.....	12..—..—
	To Paulus Tarraghioris for a Gun he having two: .....	1..12..—
	To Jacob an Oneida Indian for my Friend Teurhadaghrio .....	—..16..—
6th.	To an Oneida Old Man, an Indian Coat bought of Mr. Ferral.....	1..—..—
	To D <sup>o</sup> . names Tarraghiyoris cash 10/. on his Journey .....	—..10..—
7.	To an Englishman named Alexander McCluer for Intelligence.....	2..—..—
	Carried Forward .....	£4166.. 4.. 3 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
1757.	Brought over .....	£4166.. 4.. 3 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
March	To firewood for the several Families of Seneca Ind <sup>s</sup> . encamped here all the Year whom I called from the Ohio, also for all the Indians constantly com- ing and going all the Winter.....	20..—..—
	To Proviander Stabling &ca for their horses .....	8..—..—
	To 9lb of Leather at 5/ p <sup>r</sup> .....	2.. 5..—
8.	To White Hance a Mohawk 3 Days riding Indians going to Harriss's Ferry	1.. 7..—

## ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES—Continued

9.	To 3 Canajoharee young Men 3. Doll <sup>s</sup> .....	1.. 4..—
10.	To Cormmilk the Onondaga with 5. more of said Nation cash by the Road To some Cayougas cash on their Journey.....	1.. 6..— —.. 16..—
11.	To a Canoy Indian Chief cash besides a Present .....	—.. 16..—
	To 8 Skipples of Ind <sup>n</sup> . Corn bought of Frank a Negro at 2/6. p <sup>r</sup> .....	1.. —..—
	To Anias a Chenundady Indian to pay for a Coffin for his Niece.....	—.. 6..—
	To Daniel Campbell for sundry goods for the Indians as pr Accot.	
	To 2. packs of Leather 135 <sup>lb</sup> . at 6/. p <sup>r</sup> .....	£40.. 10..—
	To a Squaw on my Order in sundries.....	2.. —..—
	To what charched short in the prize of 4. Oxen .....	2.. —..—
	a Gun to an Indian by Order of Mr. Ferral .....	—.. 16..—
	2 Barrels of Rum q <sup>v</sup> . 64 Gall. at 3/. p <sup>r</sup> .....	9.. 12..—
	1 Barrel for D <sup>o</sup> .....	—.. 3..—
12.	To a fine black Belt of Wampum sent by Capt Butler to speak to the War- riors of the 6. Nations at Onondaga.....	55.. 1..—
	To Johannis Lawyer of Schohary as p <sup>r</sup> . Accot .....	3.. 6..—
	To Andreas Gardinier for a Hog to the Indians .....	50.. 15..—
		—.. 14..—

To Joh <sup>s</sup> . Philip Crumell for horse hire 19 Days to Ind <sup>s</sup> . at 2 p <sup>r</sup> .....	1..18..—
To a storekeeper of Ind <sup>n</sup> . Provision, Arms and Amunition and Cloaths &ca. from 1. May 1755. to 1. May 1756.....	40..—..—
To 3. Canajoharees come for Cloathing &ca. Amunition, 3 Doll <sup>s</sup> .....	1.. 4..—
To the Oneida Indian who brought me News of a French Army coming besides Cloathing and 2 Caggs of Rum, cash .....	1..12..—
To Leather for Ind <sup>n</sup> . shoes, paid cash.....	1.. 5.. 6
To Capt <sup>n</sup> . Montour pay from the 1 <sup>st</sup> June 1756 to the 29 Octobr 1756, being 150 Days at 10/. ster <sup>s</sup> . p <sup>r</sup> annum to this Curr <sup>y</sup> .....	128..—..—
To Cap <sup>t</sup> . Phill. Schuyler, on Capt. Bradstreets Letter, and by order of Lord Loudoun the sum of.....	359.. 2.. 6
To George Croghan Esqr. before he went to Philad <sup>ia</sup> .: in part of his Pay as Dep <sup>y</sup> agent of Indian Affairs:.....	116..15..—
To Cash to several squaws &ca.: also to the Belts Wife for sundries.....	—..18.. 6
	<hr/>
	Carried forward ..... £4963..15.. 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>

## ACCOUNT OF INDIAN EXPENSES—Continued

1757. Brought over .....	£4963..15.. 9 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
March. To Arent Stevens the Interpreter to give an Indian was wounded in the foot.	—.. 8.—
18. To Lieut. Daniel Claus to sundries as p <sup>r</sup> . Acco <sup>t</sup> will appear:.....	4.. 1.—
To Philip Reily Gunsmith by Arent Stevens as p <sup>r</sup> . Acco <sup>t</sup> :.....	6..15.. 8
<hr/>	
Cash still in my Hands.....	£4975 ..—.. 5 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
	167..16.. 8
<hr/>	
The Crown .....	5142..17.. 1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
By Cash received of William Johnston Esq <sup>r</sup>	
Depty Paymaster by Virtue of a Warrant	
From the Right Hon <sup>ble</sup> : the Earl of Loudoun	
bearing Date the 3 <sup>d</sup> of Decem <sup>r</sup> . 1756. the	
Sum of £3000. sterl <sup>g</sup> . or New york Curr <sup>y</sup> : .....	5142..17.. 1-5/7
<hr/>	
Errors Excepted	

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

FROM FERRALL WADE

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson, Thursday 10 Clock  
Morning.*

DR. SIR

Just this moment arrived here Ottrowanas son in law from Cayouga who brought the following account.

I suppose Skanaradi has told part of the news as the young Indians was arrived at the Castle before his departure from thence. Ottrowana advised me to stay behind untill the Sachim called the canoe came from Canada that I might have a threw account to bring down to Waraghiagey. when the Sachem arrived he imeadiately called the Indians together & told them the Frenches resolutions which are as follows. that when he was in Canada there was two large armys got together One was to march directly & attack Fort William Henry & the other to march to Osswego & from that as soon as possible down this river & meet at Albany. he also says that there is another army geting ready at the Ohio to come down and attack the Frontiers of Virginia, upon this news Ottrowana Imeadiately dispatched me to let you know it that you might be on your guard & not surprised. gave a string of Wampum.

DR. SIR

We have every thing in readiness here for fear any thing should happen in your absence what news we get from time to time shall forward it with all speed.

I am

Dr. Sir

Y<sup>r</sup>. Ever faithful servt.

FERRALL WADE.

P. S. he says that the Catabas has joined the English & scalping the french Indians every day.

CAPT<sup>N</sup>. STEVENS Interpreter.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

INDORSED:

Indeon Intellegence sent down  
with Col. Gages letter on  
Albany March 23 1757

TO JACOB GLEN

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Canajoharie Castle April 1<sup>st</sup>. 1757  
one aClock P: M:*

SIR

I have Been up with about 500 men of the militia To the German Flatts, and Hearing no Late Acc:<sup>ts</sup>. Allowed the men (who were verry Uneasy at Being Keapt so Long There, Being verry much put to for Provisions) to Return.

Just now the Inclosed Letters were Sent to me by Express on which I ordered the militia who were not yet marched from the flatts to Remain, and the few who were on their way Home to Return immediately. I purpose going up there Again as Soon as I have Setteled Matters here with the Indians I would beg you by all means to Come up & Lieut Rensselaer with All the men you Possible Can muster, As Expeditious as you Can, Let your men Bring Sufficient Quantity of Amunition & four days Provisions, please to Acquaint the Commanding Officer at Albany and Schonectady Immediately with the News & Send them these Letters, and Acquaint them — Provisions are Scarce at Harkemers So that we Cannot I Believe have any more there for the militia, I think Some Ammunition would be Necessary to be Sent up to the flatts, many men here who have Been verry Long from Home are Quite out of Provisions & money, there are many of the Schoharie at home order them to join us they are Good men I am in Great Hopes if we can git a Suf-

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

fecient Number of men up here in Time we Shall be able to Give the Enemy Such a Blow as they may not Easily Recover it

I am Sr:

Your most Hum Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

PS. pray Acquaint Sir

Char<sup>s</sup>. Hardy with the Particulars

& Tell M<sup>r</sup>. Arent Stevens that I

Expect he will Come up with as many Indians as he can muster

N.B. this Letter was wrote to the Germans in Consiquence of a Promise made them by the onides that, they would Give them Notice when Ever they found them in Danger of Being Attacked

Coppy of Coll Johnson ord<sup>r</sup>: to Lieut Coll Glen

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Onnida April 3d. 1757.*

HON<sup>d</sup>. SIR.

the 28<sup>th</sup> March Capt. Montoor left onondaga to come to this castle, in order as he said to meet his wife whome he had sent for, the 30<sup>th</sup>. I resolv'd to come here likewise in order to have an oppertunity of speaking something in perticular to this nation before they came to the grand meeting. The manner of Capt. Montoors leaving onondaga made us suspicious he did not desine to go back again & that he had some perticular news he wou'd not let us know, before we came away — heard the Sinakas were stiring to come to the meeting and that some were as far as Kiyogo, three strings Wampom was sent by the onondagas to call this and the Tuskarora nation to the councill like wise the Mohawks — when we came here the heads told us they knew very well the manner of the Sinakass that they all ways moved slow and that they were sure they woud not be at onondaga this

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

great while, and that these had time enough to go when the Mohawks came. Mr. Ryckman arived here last night from Onondaga with two young Indians, he askt the Bunts advice before he left that whether he thought he might safely stay longer or whether he had best go. The Bunt told him he thought it best for him to go, the two Indians that came with him were told by some of Mr. Ryckmans frinds to be very carefull of him along the way that if they saw any tracks or signs of enemy they should then quitt the road. the speaker told Mr. Ryckman he thought the enemy were not on the way as yet. Signifying he coud go as yet safe, Mr. Ryckman leves here this day who promises to wait on you when he comes down. he is able to tell a great deal he has heard, and is of the same opinion with us that a vast number of all nations of Indians with French are desin'd shortly to attack the river &c. Capt. Montoor told us last night he was advised in onondaga to quitt the Engilish and go among the Indians for safety for that there was such an army of French and Indians woud fall on the English that would drive all before them and that shortly, and by what we have lernt at onondaga and here. Must think the enemy have some grand desine upon the Engilish very shortly. The grand attack at Lake George the Indians says is yet to be. That this lately was onely by way of a complement as the French told our Indians woud be when they wer in Cannada. Jemmey the Onnida told me by himself. and that with concern that he heard we should make but poor head against the enemy at the Flatts. as they would be so many, as to the Fortification about Herkemers House he thinks will be of little service but that a strong fort thereabouts would be highly necessary Your letter to My Brother with the acc<sup>t</sup>. of the Battle at the Lake came to hand yesterday afternoon. We called all the Indians together acquainted them the whole and they seemed vastly pleased to hear the English had beat the French. and glad to find the militia are so brisk to rise to defend their country when ocaion calls them the day before yesterday two Indians went from this castle and were to be ioynd by two more at the Lake to go on



the scout on the roads leading from Sweagatia &c. When they return others are to go on the same errand they promise very faithfully of this castle to give us timely notice if they discover anything of the enemy. Some little item has been given us that some of the enemy will come through the nations. I suppose those will be them liveing to the westward, that is the far Sinakas and those about Nigra the Tweetwees &c. I send this by a young Indian express. Who hurryes me while I am writeing. otherways woud write you something about Doquanie<sup>1</sup> the French man but Ryckman will inform you.

I am

Hon. Sir y<sup>r</sup> Dutifull Ser<sup>vt</sup>

THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER.

The Gent<sup>m</sup>. here  
Desire their Duty  
to you.

I have not askt the bearer what he  
will have but 2 dollars is the common prise.

INDORSED:

Capt. Thomas Butler  
Onida April 3d 1757  
Indean Intellegence.

TO COMMANDING OFFICER AT ALBANY

*A. L. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*German Flatts April 3<sup>d</sup>. 1757  
Six in the Evening*

SIR

Since my letter to Lieut. Collo. Glen with the Indians Acc<sup>t</sup>, wh. I ordered him imediately to transmit to you I received nothing further than a letter from Capt. Th<sup>s</sup>. Butler dated at Oneida the 31<sup>th</sup> Ulto. corroborating the first Account. An

<sup>1</sup> Jean Baptiste de Couagne.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Inhabitant of this place who came from Oneida the same time brought a Verbal Message to Mr. Petry of this place from two of the Cheifs there, assuring him that the Flatts would be attacked in very short time by a large Body of French & Indians, who were to divide some miles to the Northward of the place and come in two Bodys, the One from the little Falls, and the other from the Westward of the Settlement, so as to put them between two fires. to prevent wh. they advised the Germans to leave their Scattered Settlements, come together in a Body, and drive all their Cattle with them, least y<sup>e</sup>. Enemy (who must be short of provisions) Supply themselves that way. I have Sent Indian Scouts out two days ago to reconnoitre the most likely places for the Enemy to come, I expect them back to Morrow, I have Scouts of the Country People constantly scouring the woods with the Indians, so that I hope to prevent a Surprise.

As this place is quite naked, & defenceless I propose to throw up as convenient an Intrenchment as the Time, & Tools will admit of. wh. tho trifling may be of Service Should we not be able for them in the feild. As Soon as I receive any further Acctts. Shall Send them to You. I am of opinion the Enemy will soon Attempt something if it were no more than to retrieve their Credit, wh. must have suffered a good deal with their Indians. And by what I can learn they are premeditating a considerable Blow against some of y<sup>e</sup>. Southern Colonies, cheifly with Indians who are assembling at Fort DuQuesne.

I have left some of the Militia on the South Side of the River in order to reinforce Capt<sup>n</sup>. McNeil upon Occasion.

To the COMMD<sup>o</sup> OFFICER AT ALBANY

I am

S<sup>r</sup>.

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

P. S. this Moment I received the  
 Inclosed from Capt<sup>n</sup>. Thom<sup>s</sup>.  
 Butler at Oneida, by wh, and every  
 thing Else I hear from the Indians,  
 it Seems verry likely a formidable  
 Attempt will be verry soon made on this place.

The inclosed is a Sketch of w<sup>t</sup>. I propose.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 German Flatts April 3<sup>d</sup> 1757  
 Indian Intelligence.

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, March 19–April 5, 1757*]

The Onieda Sachems sent those Two Young Indians to let Sir William know that the French threaten much this part of the Country as soon as the Lakes & Rivers are clear of Ice & desire earnestly we may be on our Guard.

These Two Indians say that some of the Young Fellows who are come from Canada told them there were not when they left it, above 100 of the forreign Indians there to be seen, but the Gov<sup>r</sup>. told them there were a great Number shut up in a large House, having declared they would follow the Six Nations Whenever they saw them, they did not see many Troops in Montreal or there abouts.

Fryday 18<sup>th</sup>. several Tuscarores & Onondagas arrived here who tell much the same News as the Oneidas have told & say we cannot be too much on our Guard as the French are an active enterprizing People who never Sleep on those Occasions.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> of March. Sir William received by Silver Heels<sup>1</sup> a Letter<sup>2</sup> from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Thomas Butler dated at Onondaga the 14 Inst a Copy of which he immediately transmitted to the Commanding officer at Albany — he says (Silver Heels) an Indian told him there was an Army marched from Canada in order to Attack Fort William Henry, and that an Attack this way would also be Attempted soon.

Sunday Morning 20 March

Sir William Johnson received a Letter from Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Col. Gage & two more from Lieu<sup>ts</sup>. Colonel Glen<sup>3</sup> & Rentzelaar<sup>4</sup> with an Account of the French having Attacked Fort William Henry the day before as by a Letter from Major Sparks Commanding at Fort Edward. On w<sup>ch</sup>. he instantly Issued Orders for the Militia along the Mohock River to Muster at his House as soon as possible also sent Arent Stevens the Interpreter to acquaint the Mohocks with the News & to desire them with a very long War Belt to rise & join him, as well as those of the Six Nations who were then at Fort Johnson who very readily agreed to march with Sr. William but said they had brought no Arms Amunition &c. with them, all which was immediately provided & given to them & to many More who came afterwards & were also unprovided. Sir William sent the above Belt forward to Connojahary with Orders to forward it thro the Nations & call them down.

When the Interpreter proposed to the Mohocks the forwarding the Belt to Connojahary there was not one to be found of all the Mohocks who would go with it, but said they would march directly with Sir William lest they might not be present at the Engagement & share in the Glory of it — upon which the Interpreter was obliged to get a White Man to go with it to Connojahary Express with orders for fresh Horses.

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<sup>1</sup> Silver Heels (Arroas), a Seneca Indian.

<sup>2</sup> Letter dated March 14, 1757, printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:688.

<sup>3</sup> Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Glen.

<sup>4</sup> Lieutenant Colonel Jeremiah Van Rensselaer.

The Interpreter returned at 5 a Clock & reported that the Mohocks would be all here as soon as possible & begged Sir William would stay until they arrived & set off together.

Sunday Evening six a Clock Moses was sent by the Mohocks to let Sr. W<sup>m</sup> know they were assembling as fast as they could & would be here in the Morning early. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Sent them word back by Moses that he would march at break of day with as many of the five nations as were here & the Militia & desired they might follow as fast as they could, and that he intended to cross the Woods by Lestiguna & so to the half Moon.<sup>1</sup> then he entered the large Room where the Six Nations were dancing the War Dance & sung his War Song, after which he made a short Speech to the Six Nations Warriors there & told them he was very glad to find them so ready to go with their Brother, to w<sup>ch</sup>. they answered & said, they were detirmined "to go & see what would become of him."

#### Monday Morning

Sir William marched with the Six Nations, some Mohocks, then ready & the Militia to Schenectady, from thence with the highland Reg<sup>t</sup>. to half Moon o[n] Tuesday.

Wensday he got to Seraghtoga & Thursday Evening to Fort Edward with the Militia who were then about 1200 — and 60 Indians — the certain Account then came that the French had abandoned the Attack

Fryday halted all day at Fort Edward expecting further Accounts — About Noon a Post arrived from the Lake with a Letter from Major Eyre<sup>2</sup> confirming the former Accounts of the French having marched away two days before.

Saturday Morning Sir William marched off with the Militia & Indians from Fort Edward whom he left about 6 miles from

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<sup>1</sup> Canistaguaha, the Indian name of Half Moon. Location is perhaps north of the Mohawk. Variants of the name appear in various places. See Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, 195.

<sup>2</sup> Major William Ayre of the 44th regiment.

them & got to his House about 5 a Clock Sunday Morning having rode all night, as he had several Accounts the Enemy were coming to Attack the German Flatts

Sunday Morning 5 a Clock 28 March 1757

On Sir Williams return to Fort Johnson he found Otawanie (Ottrowana's Son in Law) a Cayuga Who came down with a String of Wampum to let him know, that the French were detirmined to make a Descent this way as soon as the Ice was out of the Lakes & that another Body was to attack Fort William Henry & Fort Edward & then both meet at Albany. Several Oniedas also came down sent by Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler with much the same Account also with what News the Sachems brought from Canada, which is as follows.

“At a Meeting with the Swegachie Indians at that Place, the Six Nations Deputies told them, they wondered they took so much on themselves by sending so often to the Six Nations to come to them—remember said they, it was the other day when you left your native Country to come to this — We would have you remember that we are stil the Head & if you have any Buisness to treat of you must come to us.

The Six Nations Deputies then went to Montreal where they waited many days before the Oniedas came up — at last they agreed to speak without them. The French Gov<sup>r</sup>. desires the Indians to speak first, and to rehearse the Friendship w<sup>ch</sup>. had been long subsisting between them, that if they forgot any part they would put them in Mind as they had it all in writing. The Indians replied, We cant write but know all that has past between us having good Memories — After the Warrs & troubles we had together we met you at this Place, where every Grievance Was burried & a fire kindled heere, where we were to meet & treat peaceably.

You are daily now making Disturbances & seem to forget the old Agreement. The Tree seems to be falling, let it be now put up, the Roots [     ] & the leaves flourish as before. You formerly said take this Bowl, & this peice of Meat, with

<sup>1</sup> A Cayuga head sachem.

this Spoon let us eat always friendly together out of one Dish. but you now forget & have seperated the Indians very much as they cant well come together to eat out of this Dish, w<sup>ch</sup> is very hard as we have Children here & there scattered thro the Country by your Means.

The English your Brothers & you are the common Disturbers of this Country I say you white People together. We term the English your Brothers as you must have some — We Indians you call Children — You both want to put us Indians a quarreling but we the Six Nations know better, if we begin we see nothing but an entire ruin of us, as we should not leave off till all was gone, so we are resolved to keep Friends on both sides as long as possible & not meddle with the Hatchet but endeavour always to pacifie the white People. Our Arms shall be between you endeavouring to keep you asunder.

This is the purport of the Onondagas, Cayougas & Seneceas Speech to the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada.

The Oniedas & Tuscaroras spoke by themselves.

The Governor thanked the Six Nations that they remembered how firm the Peace was concluded between them & was glad to hear they were resolved not to meddle in the present Troubles saying "We cant tell how soon these Troubles between the English may be made up, but believe it wont be long — We have desired the Cagnawagas & Skawindadies<sup>1</sup> not to meddle much in the War but mind their Hunting

Some of the Ottowawas & other Forreign Nations were present at this Meeting

The Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada said, we have always been obliged to go against the English they being so slow in their Motions — but we desire now to wait their coming to attack Tionderoga & Crown Point at which places we will be ready to receive them.

Fort Johnson 29 March 1757

Sir William sent all the Oneida Indians sent down by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler<sup>2</sup> & the others at this Place, home, well satisfied & desired

<sup>1</sup> A Canadian Indian tribe.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Thomas Butler.

they would keep a good look out & let him immediately know whenever they discovered the Enemy to move & come & assist us which they promised to do. He also sent a very large black String of Wampum by the Cayouge to acquaint all the Nations of our Success at Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry & wrote to the officers at Fort William Henry among the Six Nations to make the best use they could of it — Gave the several Indians here at the time very handsome Presents in order to encourage them & induce the rest to be hearty. They all parted extreamly well pleased & gave the Strongest assurances of their Fidelity & willingness to comply with Sir Williams desire.

Fort Johnson 30 March 1757

Sir William set off for the German Flatts in order to discharge the Militia of the lower Parts of the Country if there should be no Occasion for them there

Fort Johnson 5 April 1757

Mr. Albert Rykeman arrived here from Onondaga with Two Indians of that Nation & says that the Bunt chief Sachem of that Castle desired him to tell Sir William Johnson that the French were determined to come with a considerable Body to the German Flatts, but not until the Lakes & Rivers were open — the Speaker of Onondaga told him the same — The Indians who came with Mr. Rykeman say the same.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*German Flatts April 6<sup>th</sup>. 1757*

SIR

I am favoured with yours of Yesterday. the Man who carried mine of the 3<sup>d</sup>., was one of Mr. Livingstons Men, whom He thought a proper person to entrust, and a Sober fellow as He tells me, However I find he did not behave as Such, which I have directed Mr. Livingston to take notice of when He returns. In order to deter others from doing so for the time to come.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



Yours of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Inst. with the order to purchase provisions I have received, and have purchased some pease, flower &ca. on the Strength thereof. if the provisions wh. You Say are coming by Water arrive here Soon, I shant buy much.

The Detachment of the 42<sup>d</sup>. Regiment, and 50 Jersey Men, are I hear arrived at Fort Harkemar, I have heard nothing yet of the Yorkers. When they come I think it will be best to have them with y<sup>e</sup> Militia on this Side y<sup>e</sup> Water, where they can upon occasion fight under Cover, & to advantage, which I believe they can not by Harkemars, as the Party of the 42<sup>d</sup>. Regim<sup>t</sup>. now come up will crowd that Fort. I have no further Acctts. from either the Indian Officers, nor Indians since that letter of Capt<sup>n</sup>. Butlers<sup>1</sup> of the 3<sup>d</sup>. Inst. I expect every Minute from them, as Some of the Scouts I sent from Conajohare returned in 3 Days without makeing any Discovery. Our Daily Scouts make none, So that I imagine if they are on their March, they must be yet a considerable distance from Us. As I have almost finished the work in Hand, and a good Number of brisk Men with Me, I should not doubt our giving a good Acctt. of them did they come. we all wish for it, & not to be harrassed so up and down as We have been this time past in the worst of Weather.

Should I find by the Scouts, or otherwise that the Enemy is advancing towards Us, & verry numerous I shall then Write for those Troops, Whom You are pleased to tell me wait for Orders. on the other Hand if it appears that they are not on their March this Way, I should be glad to know how to act, as in that case it will be hard to detain the Militia, or Indians longer, many of them being from Home Since We had the first Acctt. of Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henny's being attacked.

I am Sir

Your most Obedient  
& Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

MAJOR GENRL. ABERCROMBIE

<sup>1</sup> Captain Thomas Butler.

I have been Joined Yesterday  
 by about one Hundred Indians from  
 the Mohawks, & thereabouts. if the  
 Enemy comes I expect y<sup>e</sup>. Ind<sup>n</sup>. Officers  
 from Oneida wth. Severall more of them Nations.

this Moment I received from Capt. McNeil<sup>1</sup> letting me know the  
 Yorkers were just arrived at the Harkemars, on which I wrote  
 them to cross the River, and Join Us this Side to Morrow

as I finished this out Scouts who went out this morning returned  
 sooner than Usual on Hearing Seven or Eight Guns fired in the  
 Woods about Eight miles to the N West of this. on wh. I sent  
 out another fresh Party, & Some Indians to find out who they  
 were that fired.

I am Sir  
 Y<sup>rs</sup>. &

W. J.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 To M. G. Abercromby  
 German Flatts April 6<sup>t</sup> 1757

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

April 6<sup>th</sup>. 1757

SIR

After finishing my letter it occurred to me, that it would be  
 absolutely necessary for the protection of the Inhabitants on the  
 North Side of the River (Where I now am) and where I have  
 built a Block House, & thrown up a tolerable Trench, which  
 has a communication with that, & the Church which we are  
 Picketing, to have at least 150, or 200 Men Posted here, which

<sup>1</sup> Captain John Mac Neil of the 42d regiment.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

will be better than leave this place trusting to the Militia's coming to their relief, when it may be too late. I am

Sr.

Your Most Obedient  
Most Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

MAJOR GENRL. ABERCROMBY<sup>1</sup>

INDORSED:

6 April 1757

Sr W<sup>m</sup> Johnsons

from the German Flats

TO THOMAS BUTLER

Copy<sup>2</sup>

[*Head Quarters at Burnets Feild, 8 April 1757*]

SIR

I wrote to You by the return of the Express of the 3 Inst wherein I desired you would get all the Intelligence in your Power with respect to the Enemys Proceedings, and in case of their certain Approach to come down with what People & Indians you could procure, but fearing that Letter may have miscarried by reason of my not hearing from you since, I thought proper to desire you would immediately send me an Acc<sup>t</sup>. of Affairs since your last with what Intelligence can be procured concerning the Motions of the Enemy The Militia begining to grow very uneasy at being so long detained as they are now all in Arms & very numerous here, so that we shall be ready to give them a warm Reception in case they should think proper to come.

I am Sir &<sup>a</sup>.

P. S. If you find there is no Danger  
or that the Enemy are not on their

<sup>1</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

March this way, then you are to proceed with Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour<sup>1</sup> & another officer to the Meeting at Onondaga, there to Attend until it is over after which you are to come down with such Sachems &c. as may come with the result of said Meeting which I hope will be favourable — the other Two officers to remain at Oneida until you return & keep constant Scouts out & send me Intelligence

You may expect a few of the Mohocks to attend the Meeting as they are preparing for a March

Exert yourselves all in your Power on this Occasion as much depends thereon

To Cap<sup>t</sup> THOMAS BUTLER  
at  
Onieda

TO THOMAS BUTLER

*Extract<sup>2</sup>*

[*The German Flatts 9 April 1757*]

Be cautious of Alarming the Country unless upon good Grounds. I would have you send a very trusty Indian or two to Swegachie for News promising them a good Reward. If they could bring one of our Prisoners back from thence or rather a Trusty man it would be a glorious thing & worthy a Reward. I would have you try it by all Means.

There is a German Girl at Onondaga who was taken at the German Flatts named Eliz<sup>th</sup>. Hilts whom I would have you speak to the chiefs about & tell them I expect they will deliver her to me as their keeping our Flesh & Blood as Prisoners will look very ill & not like Brothers

<sup>1</sup> Captain Andrew (Henry) Montour.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Extract*<sup>1</sup>[*Onieda 11 April 1757*]

I was Yesterday in a certain House in this Castle when a Woman had her Son tell me what he heard when in Canada last Winter, who said he heard often, that very early in the Spring a large Army would come by the Way of Oswego another the Road where the French came when they took Bulls Fort<sup>2</sup> — that another Army was to come by way of Lake George & all meet at Albany.

I understand by the Indians that all the Forreign Nations are very early to meet at the great Salt Place<sup>3</sup> & offer their Service to the Six Nations to assist in these present troubles — I was told at Onondaga that some of the Flat-heads had wrote to the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada offering him their Service.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>4</sup>*Fort Johnson 13. April 1757*

SIR

I received your Favour of the Eight and agreable to your Orders Capt<sup>n</sup> Parker with his Party took Post at the German

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Fort Bull on the north bank of Wood Creek, at the Oneida Carrying Place two and one-half miles west of Fort Stanwix, was taken and destroyed on March 27, 1756 by a force of French and Indians under Lieutenant de Léry.

<sup>3</sup> Salina (Tekajikhado). Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, 152.

<sup>4</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Flatts, and Coll<sup>o</sup>. Glazier at Harkemers. I discharged the Militia last Monday morning who were much distressed for Provisions, as the Battoes which Capt<sup>n</sup>. Christy ordered from Schenectady had not arrived. We could not have stayed any time there were it not for the Provisions I had from Capt<sup>n</sup> McNeil and Capt<sup>n</sup>. Campbell to whom I passed Receipts for the same.

By all that I can learn the Enemy intends a Blow somewhere here before our Troops takes the Field, which is the only Advantage they have; I imagine the greatest part will be Indians.

I have desired the Indians in the most pressing manner to keep a good Lookout, and send me early Intelligence of the Enemys Motion this Way, which I have ordered the Indian Officers to encourage and see executed.

The Germans living at Burnets field I plainly see do not like to have Troops there for their Defence, and Security, which together with some words they now and then drop gives me some Reason to doubt their Fidelity. You will see by what Capt<sup>n</sup>. Butler writes which I inclose you, that the Indians are taught to make a Distinction between the English and Dutch, and are told that the former oppress, and endeavour to root the latter out of the Country. Those things have a bad Tendency.

I expect every hour between two or three hundred Delewares and Shawanese at my House, and when all assembled, I will in the most favourable Manner acquaint them with the Death of one of their People killed on the Road to Albany, and shall endeavour to make them easy if possible.

But I assure you Sir, such a thing at a Time when we are settling Matters with that, and other Nations in their Alliance, must do a great deal of harm, and clogg and embarrass my Endeavours and Management much.

As I hear Capt<sup>n</sup>. Wraxall is now at Albany I should be glad you would please to order him to attend this Meeting.

I am Sr.

With the greatest Esteem  
Your Most Obedient  
& Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

MAJOR GENERAL ABERCROMBY<sup>1</sup>

I thought to have done myself the pleasure of waiting on you, butt this Number of Indians hourly Expected prevents it.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

To

M G Abercromby

Fort Johnson April 13<sup>t</sup> 1757

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson April 15. 1757*

MY LORD

Yesterday afternoon Capt<sup>n</sup> Wraxall arrived here, and acquainted me that he had received your Lordships Orders to join his Company, which is now posted at Conajoharee. About an hour after two Indians arrived here sent express by the Kings or Chiefs of the Shawanese and Delaware Nations, living on the West Branch of the Susquehana River, to acquaint me that they with 165 Men and several Women from the Southward

<sup>1</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

would be at my house at this Day, and that they were come to conferr and smoke a friendly Pipe with me. In the Evening I received a Message that 15 Senecas were just halted within a Mile of my House, where they proposed to refresh themselves, and would in the Morning come and acquaint me with their Errand, besides these I have now at my House a Number of Indians of the 6 Nations come hither upon various Buiseness. Your Lordship knows Mr. Croghan is upon Duty now in Pennsylvania Government, Mr Claus the Deputy Secretary is sick a Bed all the Indian Officers and Interpreters are at present employed amongst the Indians, except one Interpreter, whom I have sent for from Schenectady, so that I have scarce been at any time so destitute of Assistance or more in Want of it.

I have therefore taken the Liberty to stop Mr Wraxall here for some Days, until this Meeting with the Southern Indians is ended, as I apprehend it will be very necessary at this Juncture to give a very diligent Attention to them.

As it would be impossible for me to go through the business I have upon my hands without a secretary well versed therein, I flatter myself Your Lordship will approve of my keeping Mr Wraxall here, I have assured him I would immediately write to your Lordship thereon, and take his Staying here upon me, and I hope Your Lordship will consent to his remaining here, as there is so much at present to do in his Department, and a prospect of so much to be done.

It is I own true My Lord, and I am sorry it is so, that the Six Nations have not, and do not appear in that favourable Light to His Majesty's Service, and Interest which I wish, and may have been expected, I am not conscious that this Misfortune or Disappointment can justly, or ought to be laid to my Charge, since His Majesty appointed me to the Management of this part of His Service; I am sure I have spared no pains, but have extended my utmost Abilities to fulfill His Majestys Intentions, and to produce those Effects which were expected from my



Appointment. I am sensible the Expence of Indian Affairs hath been very considerable, at the same time, I am convinced it could not have been prudently Lessend.

If it be a piece of good Policy to preserve as many Indians as possible from acting against Us, even this cannot be obtained without a Continuation of Expences, I am My Lord rowing against the Current, which occasions a greater Expence, and requires much more application and Skill, than if I went with a smooth Stream.

In my last Letter I acquainted your Lordship that I was in Want of Money for carrying on the Indian Service, and proposed if your Lordship thought proper that you would send me a Warrant upon the Paymaster at Albany for £5,000. Sterlg., to which I have not yet had the Honour of your Answer.

These Indians who are now come will expect a Present of Cloathing, Ammunition &ca. and as they appear to be friendly disposed, I apprehend it would be quite prudent to strengthen, and secure our Interest in them by such presents as they allways expect on those Occasions and without which, it is vain to expect Alliance and Friendship from any Indians, especially in those times. As I am very destitute of Goods at Present, I must purchase such a Quantity at Albany, as may serve until the Arrival of those your Lordship Sent for to London.

With my last Letter to Major Gen Abercromby, I sent a paragraph of Capt<sup>n</sup>. Tho<sup>s</sup>. Butlers Letter, by which it appears, that some people have been imprudent enough to say some things to Indians which may be productive of bad Consequences, I have no proof of it further than the Indians talking of it, if I can find that any of the Germans or others here have been concerned in such Villainy, Your Lordship may be assured I shall immediately acquaint You or the Commanding Officer here with it, and have the persons secured.

When I was last at the Great Flats with about 2000 Militia and 130 Indians, as the Accounts we received made the Enemy

5 or 6000 Men, I thought it proper to throw up a Work, a Sketch of which I inclose your Lordship

I am My Lord

With all Respect imaginable

Your Lordships,

Most Obedient and

Most humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

The R<sup>t</sup>. Honb<sup>le</sup>. JOHN

EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson April 15<sup>t</sup> 1757

FROM THOMAS BUTLER<sup>1</sup>

*Extract<sup>2</sup>*

[*Oneida 17 April 1757.*]

We have no further Accounts about the Enemy — but all seem to agree that we may expect them very early, and that the two ways wrote You of

We expect some sort of News by the Scouts gone to Oswego. We shall constantly transmit you all the Intelligence we can be able to learn from the Indians and shall be cautious of Alarming the Country on trifling News — but if they tell us the Enemy are coming we cant but believe them, as they have from time to time told us before the French Army Attacked any of our Places, such as Oswego, Bulls Fort, Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry &c.

<sup>1</sup> Captain Thomas Butler.

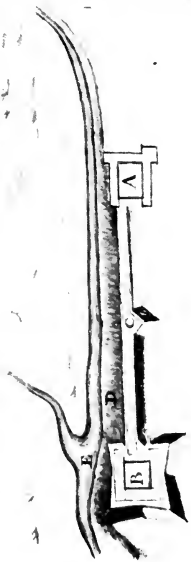
<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.



# A PLAN

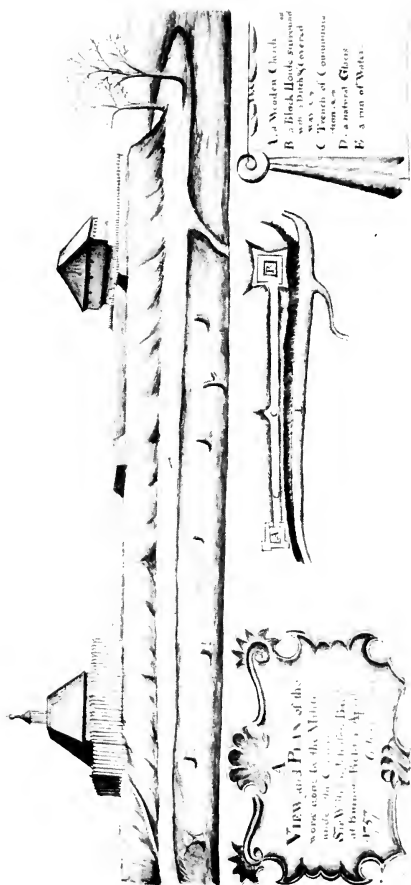
OF the work done at Burnetts Field in April 1757, by the Militia under the command of Sir William Johnson Bar.

- A. an old wooden Church, Hockdoed round about.
- B. a Block house surrounded by a Ditch and covered way.
- C. Trench of communication about 90 yards long.
- D. a natural Chert.
- E. a small run of Water.
- F. a range of high hills about 500 yards distance from the Works.
- AB. the Country is elsewhere pretty level.



*W. Johnson, Deft.*





VIEW and PLAN of the works done by the Militia made in the Camp at Burnet's Field in April 1757.

VIEW AND PLAN OF THE WORK DONE BY MILITIA UNDER THE COMMAND OF SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON AT BURNET'S FIELD IN APRIL 1757





That upon some Onondages hearing the firing of Cannon near Oswego they supposed the French Army might be assembling there, however they sent out Scouts upon the Discovery, some are also gone on the Road to Sweegachie & when they returned Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. might depend on hearing what Report they made.

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. rewarded the Messenger & discharged him. he also sent a Copy hereof to the Commanding Officer at Albany.

Eod. die.

Fifteen Indians Men & Women sent by the hither Seneca Castle to pray Sir W<sup>m</sup>. to let them have a little Rum, as the Sale of it was Stopped & assured him that tho some of their Nation might look towards the French, yet their Castle were unanimously detirmined to remain stedfast to their Engagements with their Bretheren the English.

hereupon they gave

4 Strings Wampum

Sir William gave them several Admonitions, ordered them some Rum & dispatched them.

#### INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

Copy<sup>1</sup>

*Eod. Die P. M. [Fort Johnson, April 19, 1757]*<sup>2</sup>

A Cayouge Sachem named Tianoga came into Sir William's room with Old Aguiotta an Onieda Sachem & spoke to him as follows

Peter W<sup>r</sup>axall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

M<sup>r</sup>. Stevens Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Brother

As I was coming this way I called at Aughquaga the Indians of that place understanding I was to pass by your House, told me they had a Message to send by me to you, which was this; That the Shawaneese & Mohickander Indians now here, called upon the Aughquagas & invited them to accompany them down

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> The date relates to the forenoon session of an Indian congress, the proceedings of which are printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:244-54.



hither, w<sup>ch</sup>. the Aughquages agreed to & were packing up in order to follow those Indians, but the weather grew so bad & raised the Creeks so high that they became impassible, besides w<sup>ch</sup>. Sickness came amongst their People. These Accidents put a stop to their Intentions. They desired me to tell You Brother, that however these Indians may be disposed, the Aughquagas are steady & firm in their Attachments towards their Bretheren the English — They added further, that tho they have not yet given you an Answer upon several Belts you have sent them, They desire you will not be displeased or uneasy on this Account, for they will take care that their Actions shall always prove they are worthy of your Friendship & Confidence.

The Aughquages gave me another Reason for their not coming to this Meeting — that they have lately received a Message from Two of the Onieda Chiefs named Conockquiesa & Toughsaniunt, acquainting them, that their Country was now in Danger as the French threatened to come that way as soon as the Lakes were Navigable, Wherefore they desired all their Friends living at Aughquaga to be ready to come to their Assistance when called upon. This they say they are ready to do & after that is over they will be ready to come to the Council Fire here.

Thus Brother I have acquitted myself of the Message delivered to me for you

N.B. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. asked the above-mentioned Indian where the Englishman was (a Cayouge Chief) he answered he was at Niagara but was now sent for home with all the Cayougs who went with him, & that he thinks he is arrived by this time

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*A. L. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson April 20<sup>th</sup>. 1757*

MY LORD

I did myself the Honour to write Your Lordship the 15<sup>th</sup>. Inst. of which I herewith send a Duplicate as I find the Express

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

had an Accident, by which the Letters I sent by Him were wetted, and Mr. Leake to whose care I sent your Lordships Letter writes me it was verry much damaged.

I think it my Duty to transmit Your Lordship the Indian Intelligence herewith.

I should have Sent it earlier but I have been in expectation of obtaining some further Lights into the Mysterious, & delicate affair, for Such it realy appears to me, notwithstanding it is so circumstantial; yet at the same time, I thought I could not dispense with laying it before Your Lordship. Justice requires me to declare that I have never discovered anything in the Germans behaviour which would Justify the Accusation laid to their charge in y<sup>e</sup>. above Information. They have indeed expressed a great unwillingness to have any Troops posted at the German Flatts, which I mentioned in my last Letter to Major Gener<sup>l</sup>. Abercromby, as the only Instance they had ever given me to suspect their Fidelity; they have often given this reason for their dislike of haveing Troops Quartered there, that it tended to draw Scalping Parties upon them. I also transmit your Lordship herewith the Intelligence of an Oneida Indian upon whose sincere Attachment to our Interest I think I can make a firm Dependance. I yesterday Spoke to y<sup>e</sup>. Southeren Indians who arrived here a few Days ago, but have not yet had their Answer, they Seem to be in a favourable & friendly disposition.

I have the Honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordships

Most Obedient, &

Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency  
the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup>.  
The EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson 20<sup>t</sup> 1757

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

[Fort Johnson, April 21, 1757]

MY LORD

I had the Honour to write your Lordship Yesterday with Sundry Papers I then transmitted You. this Afternoon the Southeren Indians returned me an Answer to the Speech I made them two days ago, which is a verry favourable one, and gives me hopes this Meeting will be attended with favourable Effects to his Majestys Indian Interest in Generall, and the Welfare of ye. Neighbouring Provinces in particular. When the Meeting is finished I shall transmit Your Lordship a Copy of the Proceedings therein.

These Indians have made a Warm application to Me in behalf of two of their Nation who are confined in Albany Goal as Your Lordship will See by a Copy thereof inclosed. I have Sent one also to Sr. Charles Hardy, & I wrote Him thereon, a Cobby of which is also inclosed.

The Indian Scouts are gone upon the Swegatchy Road, & to Osswego to discover if any Body of the Enemy are in Motion from those Quarters, & I am promised imediate Intelligence if they bring any of Consequence.

To Morrow Morning I propose to Send three able White Men to Osswego Who are (if they make no Discoveries on the Road) to go to the Lake, & See if any thing is Stirring there

I am

most respectfully

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

Most Humble Servant

To His Excellency  
the Right Honr<sup>ble</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

The EARL OF LOUDOUN

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson Albany 1757

TO CHARLES HARDY

*L. S.*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 21. April 1757.*

SIR

Inclosed I send your Excellency a Copy of what the Shawanese and Monsey or Mohickander Indians settled at Jenango on a Branch of the Susquehannah River have this Day said to me, relating to the two Indians who are in Albany Jail, on an Account of Murder.

Your Excellency will See in how strong a Manner their Request is urged, and they appear to be extremely anxious for the Result of it, they are a very numerous and encreasing Settlement and have extensive Connections, they have shown in the Meeting I have had with them all the Marks of a Sincere disposition to maintain an Inviolable Attachement to our Interest, and given the strongest Assurances not only of their own Stedfast Adherence to us, but they will exert their utmost Endeavours and Influence to promote His Majestys Indian Interest with all Nations they have any Influence over or Acquaintance with, and I cannot but be of Opinion, that to cultivate their present favourable Dispositions will be of very great Importance to the Welfare of this and the neighbouring Governments.

Besides a Mohickander Indian who was unarmed going from Schenectady to Albany a few Days ago, was shot by a Soldier of the Royal Americans which has occasioned no small Uneasiness amongst the Indians, which nothing will So effectually appease, as granting their above Request. I should not urge this Matter upon Your Excellency in so warm a Manner, if I were not convinced that the Release of the two Indians in Jail

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter W. Raxall.

will I am persuaded contribute very much to the public Welfare at this Juncture, so far at least as Indian Affairs have, or can have any Connection with it.

I have also wrote My Lord Loudoun my Sentiments on this Affair, who will I suppose Speake to your Excellency thereon, and if it appears in the same Light to you both as it does to me, I flatter myself the Request of the Indians will be granted.

I am

Sir

Your Excellencys

Most Obedient

most humble Servant

W. J.

To His Excellency

SIR CHARLES HARDY

FROM THOMAS BUTLER<sup>1</sup>

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Onieda April 22<sup>d</sup>. 1757*

SIR

The 19 Inst at a Meeting we had here with the Indians, among several things talked of, it was told that the French in Canada this Winter said, they expected a large Fleet of Ships from France soon in the Spring, that they would be so Numerous as almost to cover the whole Sea. In my last Accounts to You by Young Bradley of the 18 & 19 Inst acquainted you had heard most of the Young Men Senecas with some Cayouges were gone to the Southern Provinces to War against the English. Mr. Abeel has been down to the Wood Creek with two Indians of this Castle, in order to meet the Battoes gone round that way, they happened to come there together — the Onondages in Mr. Abeels Service with his Negro Man, said as they were turning the Three Rivers heard some Cannon fire at Oswego.

<sup>1</sup> Captain Thomas Butler.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

We had a Meeting with what few Indians at home here, they seem pretty much alarmed about this of the Guns firing & say its not unlikely, that the French & their Indians are now about gathering at Oswego & begin to be something uneasy about our Scouts return who are gone that way — this is the tenth day.

The Indians desire you may be acquainted with this of the Cannon firing, that if any thing should happen they may not be blamed as formerly, giving now early notice

I believe I forgot to acquaint you that the White Man who lives at the Bunts in Onondaga told us he heard in Cayouga 400 large French Battoes would early this Spring be at Oswego which would make part of the Army talked of. This Morning arrived a Post from the Castle at the Lake to acquaint the Indians here that old Scaroonyades Son named Tanevanagah & his Brother are arrived there from Swegachie & have sent for two of this Nation to come to them who went from here immediately. We understand they have brought considerable Powder & Lead with them, and that Gawickie with some others were near at hand. The Indians will [be] inclined [to] wonder what their Buisness can be, but say suppose their News will be told to their particular Friends only. however hope we shall be able to learn something next day after tomorrow. We think it necessary to send this by an Indian Express, and as soon as the Scouts arrive whom we hourly expect shall immediately transmit to you their Intelligence if worthy Notice & whatever can be able to learn relating to the Enemys Motions

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour tells us he has heard that Orders are given out here for the Women & Children to hold themselves in readiness with some Provisions to fly to the Woods in case they hear of the Enemys approach. The grand Meeting seems to be as far off as ever — we can hear nothing of it, tho some Onon-dagas past here Yesterday &c.

Your most Dutiful

hum serv<sup>t</sup>.

THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER

## INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 23 April 1757. A. M.*

A Sachem who is also a Warrior & the fourth Chief Man of the Cayouges, sent by that Nation to Sir William Johnson with a String of Wampum spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghyjagey

At the Meeting held with the Six Nations at this Fire place last Fall, the Senecas & Oneidas applied to You for a Smith to be sent to them to mend the Mens Arms & the Womens working Tools. Our Nation at that time did not request any, designing first to return home & consult about it — they have done so & have sent me to you to request Three Things.

First, that you will send up a Smith to us as we are in great want of one not only for the Womens Tools against planting but for the Warriors Arms.

Secondly That you will let us have a Plough & a Person to Plough our Land as it is so stiff & worn that it will not otherwise yeild any Crop.

Thirdly, that you will send up a Trader amongst us with a proper assortment of Goods.

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> The remainder of the proceedings is printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:706–708.

## AN INDIAN CONGRESS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

The Number of Indians present at Fort Johnson during the above Meeting,<sup>2</sup> were given in by the Interpreter as follows.

Of Shawaneese . . . . .	53
Of Nanticokes . . . . .	9
Of Mohikanders . . . . .	148
Of the Six Nations . . . . .	70

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Total . . . . . 280 Men, Women & Children

TO DANIEL WEBB

*A. L. S.*<sup>3</sup>*Fort Johnson April 25<sup>th</sup>. 1757*

SIR

The 21<sup>st</sup>. Inst. I transmitted You the Copy of a Letter wh. I that Day received from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler

I have not yet Seen Mr Abeel, or heard any thing more concerning Him.

I promised to continue Sending any Material Intelligence which I might receive, I judge it therefore proper to Send You the Inclosed I should transmit a Copy thereof to Lord Loudoun but I apprehend it necessary you will do it.

I am Sir

Your Most Obedient

Humble Servant

TO MAJOR GENRL. WEBB  
or the Comd<sup>g</sup>. Officer  
at Albany

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> The Congress with the Indians held at Fort Johnson, April 14–23, 1757 the proceedings of which are printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist.*, N. Y., 7:244–54.

<sup>3</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
Fort Johnson April 25<sup>t</sup> 1757

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Onieda April 26, 1757.*

SIR

The inclosed is what I thought to have sent by an Express, but on second Consideration resolved to wait a day or two for the Scouts Return. The 23 Inst in the Evening they arrived being the 10 day report saw several of the Six Nations on the Hunt, some of whom near Oswego who said no Appearance of the Enemy was to be seen thereabouts, the Scouts met an Indian very near that place whom they spoke with he told them was come from Kanessadagah in Canada & had with him an English Scalp taken in the late fight at Lake George & said all the Enemy were not yet returned when he came away but hourly expected. That Provisions were scarce among the French. Our Scouts says heard no firing of Cannon at Oswego or thereabouts & had a very fatiguing March on Account of the high Water. Yesterday five Sweegachie Indians came here all formerly belonging to this Place last night they had a Meeting in the House where we lodge, said they had brought with them 100 lb Powder & four small Casks Lead that they had left considerable more behind, were not able to bring it, all sent by the French for the Indians of this Castle to shoot Birds with. They gave a Belt of Wampum from the French condoling some Deaths that has been here last Fall, and a large Belt from the French Indians in Canada desiring these in the most earnest Manner to serve God as they do in the way the French have taught them which they think to be the right. Three Strings of Wampum was shown in the Meeting coming from a little French Boy who

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

desires to come & live here, who is now at Swegachie. They say there is no such thing as an Army coming this way as yet, but what may be some time hence they dont know, but we may depend & be assured, that a vast great Army of French & Indians are now out to attack Fort William Henry &c. that the Indians who are very Numerous being gathered from all parts are to place themselves between the Forts so as to hinder our People from giving any Assistance there. The French have given out that they had no thoughts of taking Fort William Henry this Spring, that the Party who Attacked<sup>1</sup> it were only 1000 Men & sent out as a Scout & to find where & how Would be the properest place to take it which they now know & say will undermine it & make no Difficulty about taking it. I understand a French Priest is desired to come & live here but when cant say this was told us privately by a Young Man. We hear nothing about the Meeting yet & believe it will not be this great while. Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour was resolved to go down this day for home but has deferred it till tomorrow & says will stay no longer. We dont see can be able to do any great Service after he is away especially at the Grand Council to be &c. and as we have your Orders to come & join you with what Indians we can get in case we should have pretty sure Intelligence of the French marching an Army to our parts, as the News now confirms the former & leaves no doubt of an Army coming as above propose setting off tomorrow Morning thinking can be of more Service below than here

I am Sir

Your most hum serv<sup>t</sup>.

THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER

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<sup>1</sup> M. de Rigaud de Vaudreuil, brother of the Governor of Canada, and Paul Joseph le Moyne, Chevalier de Longueil led an expedition against Fort William Henry in March 1757. The attack lasted from March 18th to 22nd. The French withdrew March 23d. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 10:548-49.

P S.

The Bearer will tell you what Indians are here from Swegachie. We shall make a short Speech in your name to Gawickie with some Strings of Wampum to invite him down to you

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[April 26-27, 1757]

Fort Johnson 26 April 1757 P. M.

Sir William Johnson called together those of the Six Nations who were at this place & spoke to them as follows

Bretheren of the Six Nations

As the Meeting I have had & which is now over, with the Shawaneese, Nanticokes & Mohikanders and the Presents I have given in Consequence of it, may chance to produce some Disquietudes & Jealousies amongst You, unless it be put in its right Light. I have therefore called you together to explain myself to You on this Subject, that on your Return to your several Castles you may give a right Information of this Matter.

Bretheren

These Indians came hither uninvited & unexpected by me. They undertook a tedious Journey thro bad Roads & in very bad Weather, in order to make Known their Love & Attachment to their Bretheren the English & to acknowledge the great King of England for their Father. This they have solemnly done & in all appearance with great Truth & Sincerity. They have given me the Strongest & warmest Assurances, that they do not, that they will not look towards the French — that they will give their Bretheren the English the earliest Intelligence in their Power, of the Designs of any Enemy against them — they have promised & engaged that whenever they are called upon, they will readily

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

& without Delay rise up & run to our Aid & assistance. They are a numerous People & likely to increase — their Settlement is on the back of the Neighbouring Provinces — the Six Nations have appointed these Lands to live upon & taken them by the hand as Bretheren, a peice of Conduct I very much approve of and if hereafter rightly mannaged, will I am persuaded tend greatly to the Welfare & to increase the Strength & power of the Six Nations.

Bretheren

I make no doubt but from this general & true Account of the Character & Connexions of these Indians, the Six Nations will be pleased with this Meeting & take no Umbrage at the Presents I have given them, tho you have had no Share thereof.

The Six Nations must be sensible the King their Father hath been extreamly Bountiful to them & constantly takes a tender & generous Care of them, which they may depend he will continue to do as long as they continue to deserve it — You are all come hither upon particular Buisness from your several Castles & were only accidentally present here, You will know therefore as I gave no Call, it would be contrary to Antient Custom for you to expect, or for me to give you any Share of the Presents to those Indians

Gave a String Wampum

Bretheren

I am very much surprized to find such Numbers of You daily coming down for Rum — tis true I did tell you last Fall that as there was a Stop put to the Sale of Rum at the earnest Request of the Sachems of the Six Nations I would occasionally give a little — but I find an ill use has been made of this promise, as your People are daily coming hither with Numbers of Kegs as if this was a Trading House for Rum

Bretheren

By this String of Wampum I acquaint you that I will now give to each Party Present One Keg & after that no more to

any other till I have the Result of the Meeting at Onondaga which I impatiently wait for — and I desire you will publish this my Resolution to all the Castles as you go along to prevent any from being disappointed as I am detirmined to abide by it.

Gave a String Wampum

Hereupon Aguiotta the Old Onieda Sachem replied

Brother

We are all very thankful to You for acquainting us with what past at the late Meeting<sup>1</sup> with the Shawaneese, Nanticokes & Mohikanders — We are much pleased with the Assurances they have given you, and we shall take Care to make a Report thereof in our Respective Castles & doubt not but it will be agreable to all our People.

27 April Four Aughquages & four Nanticoke Indians came over the River & acquainted Sir William that they were sent by their Chiefs (who with several more of said Nations were on the Opposite side of the River) to let him know they would come over the River tomorrow but desired to have some Provisions sent to them being much in want — They had Pipes, Tobacco & a Drum & provisions ordered them.

Eod. Die Four Onondagas arrived hence & said that they with many of their Nation left home in order to get some Rum from Sir William but meeting several Indians by the way who had been here & told them he was detirmined to give no more Rum to any of the Nations until the Meeting at Onondaga was over they all returned except these; One of which being a particular Friend of Sir William said he was detirmined to come & see him as he was so near, and the other three accompanied him.

Upon Sir William asking him if he had any News to tell, he said he would conceal nothing from him, and that tho they had no News at their Castle yet he had something to tell which

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<sup>1</sup> The Indian congress at Fort Johnson, April 14–23, 1757.

happened in their Journey down — he said, that one of the Young Men then present before they came to Onieda struck out of the strait road & went round by the Onieda Lake that whilst he was there several Swegachie Indians arrived with a Quantity of Furrs which he heard were brought from thence in order to purchase Wampum & Silver Works from us, and that the said Swegachie Indians he understood talked of coming down hither.

DEPOSITION OF JOHN ABEEL

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[April 27, 1757]

Copy.

John Abeel<sup>2</sup> of the City of Albany Depoeth, that about 14 days ago he being at Onondaga at night in his Hut, over heard Two Indian Women of that Nation talking together near his said Hut, and listening to what they said, heard one of them say to the other — “That there was an Onondaga Indian arrived from the Falls near Oswego who had brought word that the French were there, upon which the Depo<sup>t</sup>. enquired if the said Indian was come to Onondaga from Oswego Falls & was answered in the Affirmative, and upon the Depo<sup>t</sup>. mentioning what he had heard the Women say the Night before, he was told there was no truth in the Report, and that the Women only talked so to frighten him, but the Depo<sup>t</sup>. is persuaded the said Women did not beleive he over heard them.

The Depo<sup>t</sup>. further saith, that from all the Discourse private & public amongst the Indians, they seem to be thoroughly persuaded that the French do speedily intend to fall upon this Country with an Army by way of Oswego.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

<sup>2</sup> John Abeel (O'Bail, O'Beal), Indian trader and father of the noted Seneca chief Cornplanter.

That the two Indians who came in his Battoe assured him they did hear the Report of two Cannon fired at Oswego about 10 days ago, and further the Depo<sup>t</sup>. saith not

Sworn before me

This 27. day of April 1757.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

INDORSED:

Indian Information which came  
from Sir William Johnson with  
Col Gag[e]s letter of  
Alba[n]y April 29<sup>t</sup> 1757

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 28 April 1757 A. M.*

The Heads of the Aughquages, with some Nanticokes & Cannoye Indians, who arrived here Yesterday came over the River & being brought into Sir William's Room were welcomed by him with 3 Strings of Wampum according to the Indian Ceremony.

P. W<sup>r</sup>axall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

A. Stevens Inter<sup>r</sup>.

After which the Chief Sachem of the Aughquagas spoke as follows

Brother Warraghyjagey

As we live at a Distance from each other, we sometimes hear things which we cant depend on, and therefore we thought it proper to take a Journey hither to see you & learn from your own Mouth how Affairs are Sittuated & what are the resolutions of our Bretheren the English at this Conjuncture. Brother such Visits between Friends tend to Strengthen their regard for each other & we hope you will take our present Visit in this View. With these Strings of Wampum we thank you for making us

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Welcome, wiping away our Tears & clearing our Throats — we pay you the same Compliment.

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Brother

Now the Ceremonies on both sides are ended, we would say something further to You, which is to acquaint You, that one Party who set out with us, are gone to the German Flatts, & another Party to Albany, we expect them here today or tomorrow & then we shall open our Minds further to You. The Tuscarores who live in our Neighbourh<sup>d</sup>. are gone down to Harris Ferry which is the Reason you see none of them here.

After smoking a Pipe & drinking a Dram round they took their Leave.

Brother

We have a great Dependance upon Your Abilities & Influence in keeping the Six Nations together & we entreat you to make use of both to the utmost of your Power. We have spoke to you from the Bottom of our Hearts & we hope you will act with Zeal & Sincerity.

Gave a Belt.

Sir William said

Bretheren

I have heard with Attention & pleasure all you have said to me & shall take it into Serious Consideration — and as tis now late I propose to give you my Answer some time tomorrow Then Sir William acquainted them with the News<sup>1</sup> he had this day received from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*L. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 28, April 1757.*

MY LORD,

Yesterday afternoon four Onondagas arrived here, and acquainted me, that in their Way down, one of them took the

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Butler to Johnson, April 28, 1757.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



Road by the Oneida Lake and that a Party of Swegachy Indians were just arrived there with a parcell of Furrs, in Order to sell to our People for Wampum and Silverworks, Two Articles, which the French formerly supplied themselves with from Albany, the One essential for carrying on all Indian Negotiations, and the other an Article much required amongst Indians.—

As the old Road to Albany is now obstructed by our Forts, I suppose the French are endeavouring to open a Supply for their Necessities by the Way of this River.— To put a Stop to so pernicious a Trade especially at this Juncture, will I apprehend appear a Matter of Moment to your Lordship, I shall do every Thing in my Power to suppress it, but I am convinced, neither my Diligence or Authority will be sufficient to curb the Lust of Profit amongst the General inhabitants of this County. I thought it therefore necessary without Delay to mention this Affair to your Lordship.

There is one Ury Weaver a German who lives at Burnetsfield, and who I have abundant Reason to believe a very bad Man — An Indian has reported, this Fellow sent a Quantity of Wampum last Fall to Canada by an Indian in the French Interest and I am under no Doubt, but if in his Power, he will eagerly catch at this French Trade.

I have sent Sir Charles Hardy a Copy of this Information, which I have now given to your Lordship,

I am with the highest Respect

My Lord,

Your Lordships

Most Obedient &

Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

The EARL OF LOUDOUN &<sup>a</sup>:

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson April 28<sup>t</sup> 1757

<sup>1</sup> In the hand of the Earl of Loudoun.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

MY LORD,

*Fort Johnson 28 April 1757.*

Herewith I transmit your Lordship a Copy of my Proceedings, with the Shawanese, Nanticoke and Mohikander Indians of whose Arrival here, I have already advised your Lordship.—

These Indians, particularly the Mohikanders are already a numerous, and will probably be an encreasing People at Otsiningo, where they are now fixt. Numbers of them have for many years past been dispersed thro this Province and New-jersey, and their Neighbourhood from some Misunderstandings began to be troublesome, and dangerous — From all they have said at this Meeting, and from every Appearance, I cant but be of opinion that they are sincerely disposed to be Friends with us, and that their Friendship will be of considerable Importance to His Majesty's Indian Interest, and the Welfare of these Colonies. Many of these Mohikanders or River Indians, are yet scattered about these Provinces, and as they seem now determined to congregate and fix themselves at Otsiningo, it will I apprehend on this Account, as well as on many others, appear proper to your Lordship, that these Proceedings shoud be printed with as little Delay as possible, and which they as your Lordship will see in their last speech to me have also requested. If therefore your Lordship has no objections, I beg you will order the Copy herewith to be sent to Parker and Wayman (: who printed the Treaty with the Shawanese and Delawares:) with Directions to publish the same as soon as they can, upon which Account a Title Page is prefixed to this Copy.

I have the Honour  
to be my Lord

Your Lordships  
Most obedient  
& Most Humble Servant

To His Excellency  
The EARL OF LOUDOUN.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.


<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 Fort Johnson, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1757.  
 with the Treaty made with the  
 Mehckenges.<sup>1</sup>

FROM THOMAS BUTLER<sup>2</sup>*Copy*<sup>3</sup>[*Rudolf Shoemakers 28 April 1757*]

SIR

Wrote You by an Onieda Express giving You an Account of a French Army out to Attack Lake George I saw the Express just now who said the Letter went from Harkemars<sup>4</sup> by Water. Your Orders  Jacob the Onieda Indian met here this day — if we have done amiss by coming away hope you'll pardon us — Gawickie the Onieda with 5 others from Swegachie in a Meeting with all the Indians at home in Onieda said, he would keep nothing Secret from those of his Nation & us that he knew relating to the Enemys Motions, upon which he said, we might be assured that an Army was gone from Canada to attack our Fort at the Lake, that he knew of none coming upon this River, but that scalping Partys would be out Plenty hereabouts, chiefly of forreign Nations — that all the Indians were gathering from remote parts — that he feared in a few days there would be no such thing as White People to pass & repass to the 5 Nations — he said he must go immediately back to fetch up some Women he had left behind. He proposes coming by Water but came now by Land being 7 in Company one of whom did not see being sick at the Lake. We left Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour with him Yesterday but expect him here tomorrow,

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<sup>1</sup> Mahicanders (Mahicans), River Indians.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Thomas Butler.

<sup>3</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>4</sup> Fort Herkimer, across the Mohawk river from the German Flats.

shall endeavour to prevail on him to stay till Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda<sup>1</sup> returns — We have seen nothing of the three Scouts you mention but hear they past this Yesterday, they are not gone the Road to Onieda, otherwise should have met them. The first white Man we saw told us of these Scouts and here we were told by Jacob where 4 Indians were present, that such a Scout was out so that it is now no Secret, the firing that was heard about Oswego, the Indians now say they think it was from One of the French Vessells reconnoitring there, as they commonly do. the three Scouts we sent to Oswego are come down with us in order to receive their Pay. We agreed with them 10 Dollars each, one of these Indians belongs in Conochiquisa's<sup>2</sup> Family.

As to the Belt & Gorget to be given the Fighters understood it was to be done at the Council or just upon it. At a Meeting in Onieda desired the Chiefs to resolve upon going up to the Meeting & let us know who they were — after a while the Cheap Cag spoke & said he would be one but no Body seconded him but have heard that the black fellow named Techarondia is to go in case any Meeting is to be which some doubt of. We spoke with Gawickie by himself in your Name reminding him of what you often said, that you depended much on such a Person & that he should abide by the Brothers which in the end would be his Interest &<sup>c</sup>. and gave him 4 Strings of White Wampum by way of Letter from you inviting him down which said he would do on his Return from Swegachie w<sup>ch</sup>. would be as soon as possible for that if he tarried long it might be dangerous on Account of his Meeting the forreign Nations — whom he said had no sense & might kill them. Last night as we were encamped in the Woods heard several Shots of small Arms we now think it was the Scouts & gone the Road to the Carrying Place. I must acquaint you that Provisions among the Indians is very scarce & dear, no such thing as Meat of any kind to be

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Jelles Fonda.

<sup>2</sup> An Oneida sachem.

had, We have been obliged to give 2 Shillings a Quart for Indian Corn — We have sent to the German Flatts several times for Provisions but whenever we eat of it was obliged to give the Indians Share otherwise they reflected. We are now considerable in Debt here among the Germans & shall want more Necessaries to take back — should be obliged to you if you'd please to send me about fifteen Pounds in Cash as I have no Money with me. I refer you to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda & the Indians for further particulars, I am about sending a Cag of Rum to Gawikie as he asked it. Your Commands shall gladly Obey & am &c.

## AN INDIAN CONGRESS

*Copy<sup>1</sup>**Fort Johnson 29 April 1757.*

This Morning a few Tuscarores arrived from Aughquaga

Eod. Die. P. M.

At a Meeting of the Aughquagas, also Tuscaroras, Nanticokes & Connaye Indians living in the Neighbourhood of Aughquages

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sir William Johnson	Peter Wraxall sec <sup>ry</sup> .
Lieu <sup>t</sup> . Willington	Arent Stevens Inter <sup>t</sup> .
Lieu <sup>t</sup> . Claas	
Doctor Catherwood	

They desired to know if Sir William was ready to hear them & he answering he was, Adam one of the Chief Aughquaga Sachems Spoke as follows

Brother Warraghyjagey

Perhaps you may expect as we have desired this Meeting, that we have some News of great Importance to tell you, but

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

that is not really the Case — it hath pleased God to bring us once again to the sight of each other & we shall embrace this Opportunity of speaking a few Words to You.

Brother

Last Fall we received this War Belt (w<sup>ch</sup>. the Speaker held up) from you, acquainting us that the Great Man (meaning Lord Loudoun) was setting off for Lake George, at the same time calling upon us to join him along with You, which we should without fail have done but for these Two reasons.

First there was such a general Sickness amongst us at that time, as really disabled us from going upon Action. Our Inclinations were good & we remembered the Engagements we entered into last Summer when you were at Onondaga & sharpened the Ax for the 6 Nations which we joyfully accepted of & that you then told us not to be backward or Slow when you might have occasion to call on us to join His Majestys Arms.

Secondly When we received this Belt we received News that the French were coming our way & as we had then no Fort, it obliged us to stay at home & guard our Families & Habitations against any evil Designs of the Enemy.

These Brother were the Obstructions to our coming on your Call. You should otherwise have seen us without Delay, for we are not a Sluggish People. There were indeed some few of our People who did join you at this time, went out against the Enemy & took Two Scalps at the Second French Fort from Tionderoga (meaning Thomas & his Party) but When they returned they were treated at Fort Henry by the great Man there (meaning Gen<sup>l</sup>. Winslow)<sup>1</sup> as if they were Enemies — he would not speak to or take any Notice of them, a peice of Behaviour which we think very unaccountable from a Brother & a Warrior.

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<sup>1</sup> General John Winslow, commander of provincial troops.

Brother

When we heard of this unkind Treatment which our People received, it struck us with Surprize & we began to imagine that we were looked upon as Enemies — however when we became cool, we considered that if You had been at Fort William Henry, we should have met with a very different Reception & upon that Account we detirmined to forget the Affront put upon us and we now assure you that we the 4 Nations present are detirmined to stand to our Engagements & continue Bretheren with the English & we shall at all times be ready to show our selves so & you may depend upon it we are steady & sincere.

They then returned Sir W<sup>m</sup>. the aforesaid Belt.

Brother

Some time ago when you desired Your Neighbours the Mohocks to go to Harris<sup>s</sup>. Ferry<sup>1</sup> to attend the Meeting there & they proposed to go by way of Aughquaga, you much approved of it & sent this Belt by them (holding one up) to tell us, that you thought us your good Friends & you beleived heartily attached to the English Interest. Brother you told them true, We are so, and we are very glad you have so just an Opinion of us — You also sent us word by the Mohocks to keep a good look out & be upon our Guard as the French were a Mischievous & treacherous People — You also recommended Unanimity to us amongst our Selves & that we would be ready to come when you might have Occasion to call on us & not disappoint you as we did last Fall. Brother we have already acquainted you with the reason for our not coming last Fall, but you may depend upon us Now here are 4 Nations of us Present who are firmly detirmined to hold fast the Antient Covenant Chain w<sup>ch</sup>. our Forefathers made with our Bretheren the English, tho the Earth should tremble under our Feet & shake this Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain in our hands we will not let go our hold, but

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<sup>1</sup> Harrisburg, Pa.

share one Fate be it what it will with our Bretheren, and whenever you call for our Assistance You may depend upon it we will follow the Express without Delay.

hereupon they returned Sir W<sup>ms</sup>.  
Belt sent them by the Mohocks.

Brother

We see plainly that the 5 Nations are much divided amongst themselves & that Parties are like to arise at the Approaching Meeting at Onondaga — dont be disheartened hereby Brother but exert your best Endeavours to keep them in Union & Harmony & to prevent any Accident happening to the old Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain — Brother when the Council fire was first lighted here you admonished us to take Care of it & to keep every Enemy from it, it seems Brother the French are endeavouring to destroy this Council fire by drawing off the 5 Nations from it — Brother let us endeavour to defend this Council fire from this Enemy. We 4 Nations here present will do our utmost for that purpose. Brother stand fast & exert your self at this Juncture to keep the Six Nations together. tis true the French do decoy away here one & there another, but if they Find the French cannot dissolve the Union of the Six Nations, these runaways will come back again, therefore Brother we beg you will leave no Methods untried to preserve the Harmony & Union of the Six Nations — The Delawares & Mohikanders are an Instance what Perseverance & prudent Mannagement can do, the other day they were murdering the English, Belts were sent to them to desist, Once, twice & thrice. At length they are returned to their right Mind & sorry for their past Behaviour — therefore Brother dont despair, but do your best to keep the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain from slipping out of the hands of the Six Nations — We may be a strong & powerful People if we unite together but we are sensible Divisions must destroy us — The French know that & when they see us divided among one another they turn about & laugh.



## INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

Copy<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 1 May 1757 p. m.*

Sir William Johnson's Answer to the Aughquagas,  
Nanticokes &c. Speech of the 29 April.

Pres<sup>t</sup>

Sir William Johnson

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. WillingtonLieu<sup>t</sup>. ClaasPeter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

Arent Stevens &amp; Mr.

Montour Interpr<sup>ts</sup>.

Bretheren of Aughquaga & You Tuscaroaras Nanticoke &  
Connoye<sup>2</sup> Indians who live in the Neighbourhood of  
Aughquaga.

The reasons you have given me for your not coming upon my Call when I sent to You last year upon My Lord Loudoun's marching towards Lake George, was satisfactory to me, as I am confident from my past Experience of your Behaviour, that your remaining at home did not arise from want of Affection to your Bretheren the English or from a forgetfulness of the Engagements you have entered into of assisting His Majestys Arms against the French, who are no less your Enemies than ours

I was very much concerned at Gen<sup>l</sup> Winslow's behaviour to our Brother Thomas & his Party when he complained of it to me — It was very unkind & indeed not like a Brother — You

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> The Conoys were originally from Piscataway in Maryland. From there they moved to an island in the Potomac whence, on the invitation of William Penn, they removed to the Susquehannah. *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:268.

acted like wise Men in not suffering your resentment of the imprudent Behaviour of one person to turn your Hearts against your Bretheren the English in general—it would be very imprudent to throw away a heap of Corn because one or two bad Grains were amongst it. This Man is not to command again & I dare say you wont again meet with such uncivil Treatment. With these Strings I take all uneasiness about this Affair from your Hearts & assure you that I shall on my part always endeavour that you may be looked upon & treated by your Bretheren the English as our own Flesh & Blood & I think you are worthy of that Character

Gave a large Bunch of Wampum

Bretheren

Your Appology for not coming last Fall, the assurances you have given me of your sincere attachment to your Bretheren the English & your Promises of joining His Majestys Arms without Delay whenever I may have occasion to call on you, have made my Mind quite easy, And as the King your Father hath according to your Request built you a Fort for the Security of your old People Your Wives & Children he will expect that your Warriors in return will be ready to lend their Assistance to his Arms whenever he may by me call on you. And You may depend that those Indians who manifest their Fidelity & Zeal on such Occasions will find themselves properly rewarded for their Services & that they have chosen the better part.

What I have formerly told you, You will in the End find true, that as the Cause of the English is a just One, So there is reason to expect the Blessing of Heaven upon it & that we shall prevail over our Enemies—Cloudy & bad Weather may threaten but they will not make a Coward of a Brave Man, he knows that if he will be patient & stand it out, the Sun will at length shine upon him.

Bretheren

You have promised me to hold fast the Covenant Chain with your Bretheren the English & that you will not let it go tho ye

Earth should shake under your Feet, and that you will share one Fate with us be it what it will — be assured Bretheren that we on our parts will never let this Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain go out of our hands & that we will always look on You as our own Flesh & Blood, and I dare say you will never have reason to repent your Fidelity & Affection for us, You may be assured we never will forsake you and that whoever hurts you we will feel it as if done to ourselves

Gave a Chain Belt.

Bretheren

What you have said to me on the present divided & unsettled Temper of the 5 Nations & the Endeavours of the French to disunite them, to draw them from their Native Country & the Habitations of their Fathers and provoke them to drop the Antient Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain with their Bretheren the English, I listened to with great Attention — You spoke like Wise Men, and your Concern about these things is a proof to me you are good Men as well as Wise Men & that you have right Notions what is the true Interest of these Confederate Nations.

Bretheren

You can witness for me, how often & how warmly I have exhorted the Six Nations to Unity & Brotherly Love — how frequently I have warned them against the Artifices & ill Designs of the French concealed under the Appearances of Love & Friendship — I am constantly repeating these things to them, & they have now among them several of my Belts on this Subject — To every Sachem or leading Man that comes this way, I do constantly in private Conversation repeat my Advice & Admonitions and I shall not be discouraged but continue my best Endeavours like a faithful Friend to warn them of the Destruction which threatens them from the French.

gave a Belt.

## Bretheren

It seems to me as I told the Shawaneese & Nanticokes & Mohikanders of Otsiningo<sup>1</sup> the other day, that the French have put a Bandage over the Eyes of the Indians, to prevent their seeing the true state of their Country which they are on the point of loosing & giving up to the French, by suffering them to build a line of Forts thro the middle of it, secured with Soldiers & great Guns. They tell them tis to preserve their Country from the English — If the Indians were not blind or Drunk they would not beleive so foolish a Story, a Lie which a Child would discover — The great King of England doth not want their Country. He wants the Indians to have their hunting Grounds free to themselves, that they may get plenty of Furrs & sell them for such Goods as they want for the comfort & conveniency of themselves & their Families, and he would have them freely Purchase these Goods where they can get them best & cheapest. The French know they cant supply them so plentifully & so cheaply as the English, of whom they used to buy their Goods at Albany & Oswego, therefore they build Forts (w<sup>ch</sup> is another reason) to hinder the Indians from dealing with the English.

## Bretheren

Whilst a brave People are united they cannot be destroyed & made Slaves of — it is therefore the French endeavour to work up Divisions & parties amongst you, to stir up Brother against Brother & Father against Son. As I formerly told you the Six Nations when heartily united are like a Bundle of Sticks which cannot be broken when tied together, but if untied a Child may break Stick upon Stick. Whilst the Six Nations were united amongst themselves & kept the Covenant Chain with the English fast in their hands, the French could never destroy them tho they have often tried, therefore they now want them to drop this Covenant Chain. The French well know

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<sup>1</sup> Chenango.

that when the Six Nations are divided amongst themselves & have broke the Antient Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain with their Bretheren the English they will be like Dust which the French can blow away with a Breath.

Bretheren

You know a great Council at Onondaga was called & was to have sat a great while ago, why it is delayed I know not unless the French have told the Six Nations they dont like the Meeting & ordered them not to Assemble — there are many Belts of mine to be considered there to which I am to have Answers, and of great Consequence they are to the Welfare of the Six Nations — I impatiently wait for the result of this Council that I may be able to tell the Great King of England & the great Man who commands all his Warriors on this side the great Lake, whether the Six Nations will stand by their Bretheren the English or not.

Bretheren

You are wise Men, the French Bandage seems not to be over your Eyes, you seem to be sober & in your Senses — Go up to the Onondaga Council tear off the French Bandage from the Eyes of the 5 Nations, that they may look round & see the state of their Country & their own Danger — that they may distinguish between their Friends & their Enemies — tell them to be united amongst themselves as the best Method to preserve them from Slavery & ruin w<sup>ch</sup> the dropping the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain with the English will inevitably bring upon them & w<sup>ch</sup> I shall be very sorry to see — Let the Six Nations know all I have now said to you with this Belt.

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

If you can propose any new Methods in my power to execute that will preserve the Union & Harmony of the Six Nations let me know & I will be very ready to try them

3 Strings Wampum

## Eod. Die

In the Evening the Chiefs of the Aforesaid Indians came into Sir William's Room, When John one of the Chiefs of the Nanticokes spoke as follows

Brother

Last Summer when you were at Onondaga you opened the Road between our Habitations and Yours & desired us to gather our People together & become Strong — hereupon Brother We Nanticokes led by your good Advice opened a Road between us & our Nephews the Mohikanders & invited them to come & sit down & settle near us at Otsiningo — this they have done & propose to gather all their scattered people & remain under our Wing — As they have promised to regulate their Conduct by our Advice & Example, you may depend upon it Brother that we shall remind them of the Engagements they have lately entered into with you & use our utmost Influence to keep them steady to their Promises and that they never let go the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain with our Bretheren the English

Gave a Belt.

Sir William replied

That he much approved the Conduct of the Nanticokes & their Brotherly Resolutions, that it would be of mutual Advantage both to them & the Mohikanders — That the Nanticokes & Mohikanders might depend that their good behaviour & Fidelity would secure to them the Friendship of their Bretheren the English

and hereupon gave him a Belt in Exchange

Then Adam the Aughquaga Speaker made the following Requests to Sir William

First that he would be pleased to order 12 Hoes & 12 Hatchets to be made for the River Indians settled at Aughquaga as they were too poor to buy them & in great want of them to cultivate the Land they had newly come on

Gave 3 Strings Wampum

Secondly

That he would be pleased to order Provisions at Schohere for the Indians now come from Aughquaga to carry them home

Gave 2 Strings

Thirdly

That some of their People had been ill used by some Soldiers between Albany & Schenectady who took from them a Cag of Rum & a Blanket w<sup>ch</sup> they hoped Sir William would make good to them.

Gave 2 Strings

Sir William agreed to their several Requests

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR RYER BOWEN

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 2<sup>d</sup>. May 1757.*

As the Cayouga Indians have applied to me to send them up a Smith to mend their working Tools & their Arms, you are to accompany the Cayouge Indians now here to their Country where you are to remain till their work is finished in Quality of a Smith

Whatever Intelligence you can learn or News that may be of Consequence you are to dispatch it to me as soon as possible. You are to use your best Endeavours in all your Discourses with said Indians to promote His Majestys Interest amongst them & to warn them against being imposed on & led away by the Lies & Arts of the French — put them in Mind of the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain which they & their Forefathers have so long & so often agreed to hold fast with their Bretheren the English — that the King of England their Father has done & is disposed to do every thing for them which they can reasonably desire — that

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

the French speak kind to them now & pretend to be their Friends because they are at War with the English but that they do not love them in their Hearts — That we are a peaceable quiet People but that the French will not let any of their Neighbours rest in peace & wont be contented with Canada — but want all the Indians Country as they may see by the many Forts they are building in the middle of it

Given under my hand & Seal this  
2<sup>d</sup>. day of May 1757. at Fort Johnson  
W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

## INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 2<sup>d</sup>. May 1757 p. m.*

At a Meeting of the Deputies of the Aughquaga &  
other Indians

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> Claas

Peter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>.  
Arent Stevens & Mr.  
Montour Interp<sup>tr</sup>.

Adam the Aughquaga Speaker said

Brother Warraghyjagey

Yesterday you gave us your Answer to what we had said to You in a very satisfactory manner to us, we are now come to answer you on some parts of your said Speech. You desired we should go up to Onondaga to the Council to be held there, You told us we were wise Men & might do good as much depended on the result of that Meeting. Brother the People who are to compose that Council think themselves too wise to be directed by us — We are obliged to You for your good Opinion of us,

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.



but hope you will not take it amis that we are unwilling to go up to Onondagee as we think it would not have the good Effects w<sup>ch</sup> you seem to imagine.

returned Sir W<sup>ms</sup>. Belt

Brother

Dont be uneasy at our declining you Request, We hope God will direct the Determinations of that Council to what will be most for the general good of us all.

Brother

As You desired us if we knew any better or other Methods than you had pursued to preserve the unity & Harmony of the 6 Nations that we would propose it to you — We are much obliged to you for this Condescension, but we realy do not know any thing more or better to propose then what you have already done, and we think every thing you have proposed to the 6 Nations & laid before them for their Guidance is what they ought to follow & embrace.

returned Sir Will<sup>ms</sup>. Strings  
given on this Article.

Brother

We repeat to you again that we hope you will be no ways displeas'd at our declining to go to Onondaga & we assure you it dos not arise from any disrespect in us but that we are convinced it would not be Attended with any beneficial Consequences.

Brother

Mr. Hawley<sup>1</sup> the Minister who formerly lived with us, is gone to Boston & told us when he went away that if we wanted him to return & it was safe for him to write him & he would come back. Now we desire Brother that you would write a Letter to him & acquaint him that we desire his return amongst us —

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<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Gideon Hawley.

let<sup>1</sup> him that several of our People can read & write & that Peter the Indian who he left as Schoolmaster cant learn them any farther as he has gone thro all the Lessons he left him.

Brother Parson Schuylder<sup>2</sup> at Schohere used to Christen & marry our People and we paid him for it, but he told us if we would give him a little peice of Land he would do it for nothing. We gave him a peice but since we have heard nothing from him & dont know where he is, as he has thus deceived & given us up, we desire you will write him that we now take the Land we appointed for him back again — That if he will act according to his Engagements & give us his reasons why he left us perhaps we may yet give him the Land.

Sir William told them he was contented with the reasons they had given him for not going to Onondaga & that he would write to Mr. Hawley according to their Desire — As to Parson Schuylder that he did not know what was become of him & that they might dispose of the Land intended for him in what way they thought proper.

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. also told them that now all Buisness was finished, tho he had not at present much Goods by him as the late bad Weather prevented him from bringing them up — however as they were good Friends he would share amongst them what Goods he had by him & desired they would do Justice to each Person when they passed it amongst them

After this was over Sir W<sup>m</sup>. ordered the Presents out & gave to them.

Thus ended the publik Buisness at this Meeting

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<sup>1</sup> Intended for "tell."

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. Mr. Schuyler, Presbyterian minister at Schoharie. *Doc. Rel. Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:551.

## APPOINTMENT OF INTERPRETER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[May 4, 1757]

By the Honourable Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>. His Majestys  
sole Agent & Superintendant of the Affairs of the Six Nations  
of Indians their Allies & Dependants

To Arent Stevens Gent.

By Virtue of His Majestys Commission appointing me to the  
Superintendancy of Indian Affairs for the Northern District I  
do hereby authorize & appoint You the said Arent Stevens to  
act under me as an Interpreter, and you are to Obey all such  
Orders as an Interpreter, and you are to Obey all such Orders  
as you shall receive from me relative to the said Service and  
behave therein with due Dilligence & Fidelity and for your so  
fulfilling the said office you are to receive the Sume of One  
hundred Pounds New York Currency  $\text{₹}$  Annum from the date  
hereof

Given under my hand & Seal  
of Office this 4 day of May 1757.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

TO THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 4 May 1757.*

SIR

As it will be very necessary to have an Officer at Oneida  
who may learn what News comes to that Castle & transmit it  
to me, I would therefore have you repair to said Nation as soon  
as you can & send Scouts from thence along the Sweegachie  
Road or any other way the Enemy can come & send me all  
the Intelligence you can learn. You will tell the Officers at

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records,  
Vol. 5.

the German Flatts not to open any more of your Letters to me, should there be any thing necessary for them to know you will write them particularly

I am Sir &c.

WM. JOHNSON

To Cap<sup>t</sup>. THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER

TO GIDEON HAWLEY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson May 5<sup>th</sup> 1757*

SIR/

The Onohoquages who were at a Council here, are this Day returning Home, and beg I would let you know, that they would be glad to have you among them again; and y<sup>t</sup> they are not apprehensive of any Danger from that Quarter — Adam<sup>2</sup> of Canajohaire would have gone for you but that their Families were sick, which they desired me to let you know.

I have had y<sup>e</sup> most satisfactory Meeting now with the Shawanese, Mihicanders, Delawares, Nanticokes, Canoys &c. that I could wish. I flatter my self y<sup>t</sup> it will be of very happy Consequence to our Indian's Interest in general & to y<sup>e</sup> several Neighbouring Governments

I am sincerely

Sir

y<sup>r</sup> most obt. hum<sup>b</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>.

WM. JOHNSON

excuse haste  
& inaccuracy—

To The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup>. HAWLEY.

INDORSED:

A Copy of Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson's Letter.

<sup>1</sup> In Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> A Mohawk.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Lancaster 7 May 1757.*HON<sup>D</sup> SIR

I met at John Harris's the 29 March William Printup & about 160 of the several Tribes of the Six Nations & came with them from there here, where I have been joined by some Conastoga Indians & some Delawares from Tiaogo, so that I have now here about 200. and Tedicscoun with about 200 more Delawares & Shawanese are daily expected

This day Gov<sup>r</sup> Denny<sup>2</sup> with the Commissioners of this Province are expected here to attend the Meeting so that I am in hopes soon of getting the Buisness done that I may return to you with a Report of the Proceedings here.

A Party of Onondaga Warriors & Monacatbotha with a Party of Mohocks are gone to War — I have ordered them to go to Wynango or Labeuf Riviere<sup>3</sup> in order to get a Prisoner, but its uncertain whether they will return here or go to You.

A Number of the Indians here have got the Small Pox, five have already died with it but none of the Six Nations are yet dead & I am in hopes that the Chief of all that have got it will recover. There has been a large Body of Catawbas & some Tuscarores at Fort Cumberland,<sup>4</sup> its said that they have been affronted & the most of them returned home. Its said there is upwards of 100 Cherokees upon the Frontiers of Maryland & Virginia who are going to War against the French at Ohio.

There has been some few People killed upon the Frontiers of this Gov<sup>t</sup>. but the Mischief is trifling to what might have been expected I beleive owing to this Meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Governor William Denny of Pennsylvania.

<sup>3</sup> Beef river.

<sup>4</sup> Fort Cumberland, Md., on Well's creek, the north branch of the Potomac river. See Evan's map in Hanna, *The Wilderness Trail*, 2:144.

The Bearers of this Letter Joseph & John have had some Difference amongst themselves upon which they detirmined to return home & I have ordered them to be well cloathed that they may go away well satisfied with us, they have been often in Liquor & very troublesome upon which some of the Heads checked them for it w<sup>ch</sup> I beleive is the only reason I am

Hon<sup>d</sup> Sir &c.

GEORGE CROGHAN

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*May 4-12, 1757*]

4 May 1757. Sir William sent out Six Mohock Indians to Crown Point or Tionderoga for Intelligence. Moses Chief of the Party.

Fort Johnson 9 May 1757.

The Four White Men who were sent by Sir William to Oswego to see whether the French were assembling or building there as was reported, returned, & reported, they had been as far as Oswego Point below the Rift from whence they had a fair View of the Place also of the Lake but made no Discovery They left Oswego May y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>. & arrived here this day they never met an Indian until they got to the German Flatts.

Tuesday 10. May Two River Indians arrived here from Schoheere letting Sir William know by several Strings of Wampum their Poverty & at the same time their readiness to join our Arms, as many as can be spared when called upon

Sir William desired the Messenger by 3 Strings of Wampum to acquaint their People at Schohere that he would order them some Provisions & at the same time recommended Industry &

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Planting Corn to them. he also desired they might hold themselves in readiness to march & join His Majestys Arms whenever called upon & that would give them a Claim to be supplied with further Necessaries.

gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Thursday 12 May Mons<sup>r</sup>. La Forge alias Gigunswe a Frenchman arrived here from Cayouge where he has lived some time with De Quoinie.<sup>1</sup> He delivered Sir William several Letters from Canada, inviting them both to return thither, but he declared neither of them would lieve this Country being sensible of the Freedom they enjoyed here.

N. B. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. sent the above Letters to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb.<sup>2</sup>

#### ORDERS TO JOHN BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>3</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, May 12, 1757*]

You are to proceed to the German Flatts & there to remain until further Orders

You are to forward all News you can learn from the Six Nations to me directly, and whatever Messages I may have occasion to send to the Six Nations you will see forwarded without delay

You will endeavour all in your Power to prevent any Misunderstanding from arising between the Troops posted there & the Indians

Lastly you are to use all Means to find out what Letters were sent from thence to Canada last Year & since & by whom, also to enquire & learn who sells Rum to the Six Nations & if any one

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<sup>1</sup> Jean Baptiste de Couagne.

<sup>2</sup> Major General Daniel Webb.

<sup>3</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Trades with the French Indians or with others for them & let me know it immediately.

Given under my hand at  
Fort Johnson this 12 day of  
May 1757.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fryday 13 May 1757*

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Dick a Mohock with 5 more of said Nation and one Canoy Indian were fitted out by Sir William with every thing necessary for Warriors & set off for Tionderoga or Crown Point from whence they expected to return in 20 days. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. gave them a red Flag & a Pass.

TO DANIEL WEBB

*A. L. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*Albany May 16<sup>th</sup>. 1757*

SIR

As You were pleased to tell me you would write his Lordship for what was necessary in my Department, I take the Liberty to beg the favour you would mention these few but necessary Articles to Him. Viz<sup>t</sup>. that I want Money much for Carrying on the Service committed to my Care. Also an Order from S<sup>t</sup>. Charles Hardy for the Indian Present, which his Majesty sent by Him for the Indians. & w<sup>h</sup>. I understand is in Albany. to know when I may expect the Indian foods Arms &ca. which his Lordship Said he would Send to England for.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



My Sallary by virtue of his Majestys Coms<sup>n</sup>. dated I think the 15<sup>th</sup>. of Febr'y. 1756. & that by Virtue of Gener<sup>l</sup>. Bradocks Comission Lastly to mention a Reward for Prisoners taken by the Indians, as the only way to remove any uneasiness that may attend the takeing them Out of their Hands.

Pardon my givinge you so much trouble, and believe me Sir  
MAJOR GENR<sup>L</sup>. WEBB

with the greatest regard  
Your Most Obedient  
& Most Humble Servant

W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

Sir I beg leave to observe that the discharginge the Indian who is now in Joal here, may be of more consequence than keeping him in y<sup>e</sup>. York Regiment, Should it appear so to You Sir, I hope you will order him his liberty.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
To M G. Webb  
Fort Johnson May 16<sup>t</sup> 1757

FROM JOHN BUTLER

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Burnets field May 17<sup>th</sup>. 1757.*

The 15<sup>th</sup>: Instant I heard that the French and their Indians were seen on the Oneida Lake, I sent an Indian to know the certainty, he return'd last night; Says, that as he was on his way there, about 17 miles above this, he saw two Indians, and made up to them, but soon found them to be Missasagas, and not understanding them brought them to some Indian Houses

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

that was near them on the River, where three of our Indians examined them, which way did you come? where are you going? what is your business? they said they were come from Oswego, and were going to the great Flats as spies; they were ask'd if there were no more than two of them; they said there were six more behind; our Indians did not know whether they meant 600, or six Men.

Observing their Shirts so much painted, they ask'd if they had none to sell, they said there were enough coming behind.

One of the two Indians that brings this News is the old Mans Son in Law that is at your house, Jacobus came to the house while the Indians were there, he came yesterday from Oneida, and says that the meeting is over at Onondaga, and that they will soon be down with the result.

Mr: Herkemer and I are doing all we can to get some white Men, and these two Indians out again on another Scout; I believe the white Men will be hard to be got, but the Indians are willing for any Service.

If this Alarm should be true, I believe Ryan Bowen, the Smith, going to Cayuga must be taken, as he must have been in the Wood Creek about the time they were there.

This is all I know as yet, but if these Scouts that are going out to day bring any further accounts I shall let you know.

I am, Sir, &c

J<sup>NO</sup>: BUTLER

A Copy.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson  
 To M G Webb  
 Fort Johnson May 17<sup>t</sup> 1757  
 with Mr Webbs of the 18<sup>t</sup> of May  
 Records  
 R May 22<sup>d</sup>

## ORDERS TO STEPHEN SCHUYLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[Fort Johnson, May 18, 1757]

You are with all Dispatch to proceed to the German Flatts, there make up a Party of as many of the briskest of the Militia & Indians as you can & march with them to the Carrying Place & Oneida Lake or where the Enemy may be coming this way in order to discover them & their Numbers if possible which you are immediately to acquaint me with by Express. You will act prudently & march cautiously so as not to be surprized by the Enemy.

Apply to the Commanding Officer at the German Flatts for Provisions for the Indians or whole Party if they want it.

Given under my hand at  
Fort Johnson this 18 day of  
May 1757

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

## ORDERS TO JOHN BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[Fort Johnson 18 May 1757]

As it is necessary to learn all we can of the Enemys Designs & Motions as well as the Disposition of the Six Nations. You are therefore to proceed to Onieda from whence you will transmit me all the News you can learn of any Moment or which may in any wise Affect His Majestys Interest.

As there has been a suspicion for some time that the Germans of Burnetsfeild have carried on a Correspondance with the French Governor of Canada by means of the Onieda Indians, you are therefore to endeavour all in your Power who the Per-

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

sons are concerned & to stop or intercept any Letters which you can passing that way or any other way to or from the French & send them to me.

You are also to get the best Intelligence possible from Oswego or Sweegachie & by all Means in your power to stir up the Young Men of the Six Nations to act against the French in any of the Settlements along the River St. Laurence & elsewhere in Canada

Given under my hand at

Fort Johnson 18 May 1757

W<sup>m</sup> JOHNSON

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, May 18–21, 1757*]

Wensday 18 May. 1757 Sir William received a Letter<sup>2</sup> from Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler acquainting him that some of his Scouts had discovered & spoke with two Messasaga Indians coming as Spies to the German Flatts Copy of which Letter he sent immediately to Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb by Express.

20 May. Sir William gave Peter of Connajohery a War Belt to get a Prisoner or Scalp in the room of Eserus a Mohawk who lately died here. He promised him to be here with his Party in a few days in order to go upon said Service. Gave him a Keg of Rum, Paint for his Party &<sup>c</sup>. & so parted.

N. B. Sr: W<sup>m</sup>. sent four Strings of black Wampum by him to let their People know that the French & Indians had begun to Scalp & take Prisoners, having killed four & taken 3 Prisoners at Fort Edward which behaviour of theirs (after what the French Governor said to the Six Nations in Cannada last Winter) he

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> John Butler to Johnson, May 17, 1757.

desired they would consider of & act thereon as became Bretheren & Friends.

Saturday 21. May 1757. Sir William received a Letter<sup>1</sup> from Sir Charles Hardy about the Stockbridge Indians behaviour in the disputed Lands at or near Livingstons Mannor, whereupon Sr. William wrote the following Letter<sup>2</sup> to said Indians.

MINUTES OF CONFERENCE OF CROGHAN WITH INDIANS

*Copy*<sup>3</sup>

[*March 29–May 21, 1757*]

To the Honourable Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>. His Majestys Sole Agent & Superintendent of the Affairs of the Six Nations their Allies & Dependants

May it please your Honour

In pursuance of your Instructions, as soon as I was informed of the Indians being come to John Harris<sup>s</sup>, I set off from Philadelphia to meet them and arrived at John Harris<sup>s</sup> the 29 March 1757 where I met<sup>4</sup> about 160 Indians Men Women & Children part of Eight Tribes.

The 30<sup>th</sup> I examined Joseph Peepy & Lewis Montour in regard to the Messages I had sent by them to the Susquahanna Indians. They informed me, that Tedyuscung was gone to the Seneca Country to get a number of the Senecas to come down with him, and they delivered me a Belt of Wampum sent me by Tedyuscung in return of mine, sent him by them, by which Belt he informs me that he will be down as soon as possible with

<sup>1</sup> Hardy to Johnson, May 16, 1757, printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:744–45; Q. 432–33.

<sup>2</sup> Johnson to Stockbridge Indians, May 22, 1757.

<sup>3</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>4</sup> The meeting mentioned in Croghan to Johnson, May 24, 1757 which lasted from March 29 to May 21, 1757 inclusive.

Two hundred Indians but could not tell whether he would come in at Easton or at John Harris's

The remaining part of this day I spent in getting what Intelligence I could of the Strength of the French on Ohio, and the Disposition of the Delawares & Shawanese and by the best Acc<sup>ts</sup>. I can get, I find the French have not had above Three hundred Men in Garrison at Ohio this Winter and that the Delawares & Shawanese on Ohio were divided amongst themselves, One half of each Tribe going down Ohio to where the lower Shawanese are settled & the other half were detirmined to go off to the Six Nations.

I am informed that all the Susquahanna Indians are disposed for Peace except the Monseys or Minisink Indians, yet I understand a Number of them will be down with Tedyuscung.

I am informed by a Six Nation Indian one of Reputation amongst them that resided at Tiaogo that as soon as Joseph Peepy & Lewis Montour had delivered their Message there, that the Council that night dispatcht two Men to the Ohio to inform the Delawares & Shawanese living there of this Meeting desiring some of them to come to it; but if none of them should choose to come these Messengers were then to insist that none of the Delawares & Shawanese living on the Ohio should come to War against the English till this Meeting was over & they have time after returning home to let them know how it ended.

At a Meeting of the Six Nations & their Allies, and George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Agent to the Honourable Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>. His Majestys Sole Agent & Superintendent of the Affairs of the Six Nations their Allies & Dependants, and by his special Order at John Harris's on the Susquahanna River in the Province of Pensilvania the first day of April 1757.

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. John Elder

Mr. Hugh Crawford

Capt. Thomas M<sup>c</sup>.Kee

Mr. John Harris

Mr. James Armstrong

William Prentup Interp<sup>t</sup>.

## Mohocks

Teakansorea  
 Connadagaueha  
 Sogehowana  
 Peter  
 with 31. others  
 Men Women & Children

## Tuscarores

Rut King  
 with 26 others Men  
 Women & Children

## Cayouges

Ogaratawrea  
 Orraroquare  
 Jenkasarone  
 with 20 others Men  
 Women & Children

## Nanticokes

Robert White  
 Joshua with  
 11. more Men  
 Women & Children

## Connestogoes

Sahays  
 Cap<sup>t</sup>. John with  
 29 More Men Women & Children.

## Oniedas

Thomas King  
 Scarooyady  
 Tannawquaanagis  
 with  
 13 other Men Women  
 & Children

## Onondagas

Ossaratonqua &  
 his two Brothers with  
 18 others Men Women &  
 Children

## Senecas

George  
 Eight more Men Women  
 & Children

## Delawares

Samuel  
 Joseph Peepy  
 Tho<sup>s</sup>. Evans  
 Jonathan  
 with 20 more Men Women &  
 Children

## Mr. Croghans Speech

Bretheren

I am sent here by the Honourable Sir William Johnson to represent him at this Meeting, & I desire you all to give Attention to what I am going to say to You in behalf of your Brother Onas & the Wise Men of this Gov<sup>t</sup>. who are truly sensible of your Afflictions occasioned by the Death of many of your Counsellors & Warriors since they had the pleasure of seeing you in this Government, and as they have ever looked upon your Misfortunes as their own, they mix their Tears with yours & have desired me to condole with you agreeable to the Antient Customs of our Forefathers

Gave a Belt

Bretheren

With this Belt of Wampum I wipe the Blood off your Seats round this Council Fire that your Old Men at this Critical juncture, when convened in Council may sit with Comfort & direct their Warriors with Wisdom

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

As I have wiped the Blood off the Seats round your Council Fire, I with these Strouds wrap up the Bodies of your deceased Friends & bury them decently, covering their Graves with those Blanketts & half thicks

Gave the Goods

Bretheren

As the Blood is wiped off the Seats of your Counsellors, the Dead decently buried & their Graves covered, I with this Belt of Wampum wipe the Tears from your Eyes & desire you may mourn no more

Gave a Belt

Bretheren

As you are now out of Mourning, I with this Belt of Wampum disperse the dark Clouds which are gathered over our heads that



you may see the Sun Clear & shake hands with your Bretheren when you meet in Council

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

As we have now gone thro the Antient Customs used by our Forefathers upon their Meeting I with this Belt of Wampum heal your Hearts & free your hands from trouble that we may meet each other in Council & brighten the Chain of Friendship

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

I now wipe the Sweat off your Body after your Long Journey & bid you a hearty Welcome to this Government In the name of your Brother Onas

Gave a String

Sachem & Warriors of the Six united Nations our Friends & Bretheren.

I embrace this Opportunity of acquainting you that last year your Brother Onas<sup>1</sup> held two Conferences at Easton with your Nephews the Delawares & your Brothers the Shawaneese that live on the Susquahanna, in order to settle the Differences subsisting between them & us, but as that good Work could not be accomplished at that time, they agreed to have a Meeting this Spring to finally settle all differences subsisting between them & us their Bretheren.

And that this Meeting might be the more general, I dispatched Messengers up the Susquahanna & to Ohio, and I wrote to your Brother Sir William Johnson desiring him to request a Number of You our Bretheren the Six united Nations, to be present at this Meeting, who I am heartily glad to see here and when Your Nephews & Brothers arrive, I am in great Hopes by your Assistance to be able to accommodate Matters to the Mutual

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<sup>1</sup> The Indian name for William Penn and his successors, the provincial governors of Pennsylvania.

Satisfaction of both them & us their Bretheren the English in the several Governments. And by this Belt of Wampum I request you to make use of all your Interest with your Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawaneese to bring about an Accommodation between them & us, that the Sun may once more Shine upon us in Peace & that the Peace may last as long as the Sun, the Moon & the Starrs give light

Gave a Belt.

At a Meeting with the Indians at John Harris's  
April the 2<sup>d</sup>. 1757.

Present

The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. John Elder

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Thomas M<sup>c</sup>.Kee

Mr. James Armstrong

Mr. Hugh Crawford

Mr. John Harris

The Deputies of the Six

United Nations

The Delawares & Nanticokes

Scaarooyady Speaker for the Indians

William Printup Interpreter

Brother

You & our Brother Onas wisely considered the Antient Custom of our Forefathers in condoling with us & mixing your Grief with ours, and as we make no doubt but some of your Wise Counsellors are Dead since we were here we wipe the Blood off your Council Seats & put them in order with this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt.

Brother

After wiping the Blood off your Council Seats we with these few Skins wrap up the Bones of our Bretheren that Died or were killed by the Evil Spirit & cover thier Graves

Gave a small Bundle of Skins

Brother

We by this Belt of Wampum wipe the Tears from your Eyes & desire you may mourn no more.

Gave a Belt

Brother

We with this Belt of Wampum disperse the dark clouds that the Sun may always shine upon us in Friendship. We heal your Hearts & free your Minds from trouble that we may meet each other in Council & brighten the Chain of Friendship made by our Forefathers & that the Council fire may burn clear we throw a few Chips on it

Gave a Belt

This Evening I had a Meeting of the Sachems & proposed their going to Philadelphia to hold the Treaty, but I could prevail on none of them except the Mohocks to go there, the rest were affraid of Sickness

When I found they were not to be prevailed on to go there, I called a Council & with a Belt of Wampum I removed the Council fire to Lancaster to which place they all agreed to go & wait the arrival of Tedyuscung with the Senecas, Delawares & Shawaneese

Gave a Belt to remove the Council  
Fire to Lancaster

April the 7. I arrived at Lancaster from John Harris<sup>s</sup> from whence Mr. Shippen, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Boude, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Cane with a number of other Gentlemen Inhabitants of that Burrough went out with me to meet the Indians (who I had left a few Miles behind) to bid them welcome to Lancaster. As soon as the Indians were settled at the place taken for them by James Wright Esq<sup>r</sup>. I then kindled a small Fire for them to sit by till they should hear from their Brother Onas of the arrival of Tedyuscung.

April 10. I received a Letter from His Honour the Governor acquainting me of the arrival of 50 Delawares & Shawaneese at Fort Allen & that they were ordered to wait there the arrival of Tedyuscung with the Rest of the Indians who were coming with him. Immediately ordered a Meeting of the Indians & acquainted them with what the Gov<sup>r</sup>. had wrote me about the arrival of the Delawares & Shawaneese at Fort Allen w<sup>ch</sup>. was very agreeable to them.

I then acquainted them by a Belt of Wampum that their Bro<sup>r</sup>. Onas had prepared a very convenient place for them within a Mile of Philadelphia, and that he Proposed to hold the Conference at Philadelphia, as Tedyuscung had at the last Treaty at Easton given his honour the Gov<sup>r</sup>. a Promise to come to Philadelphia this Spring

The Indians after considering what had been said to them returned the following Answer

Brother

We have considered what you have said to us from our Brother Onas. when you proposed to us at John Harris's to go to Philadelphia, we refused for the reasons we then gave you. By the Message you sent us by Joseph Peepy & Lewis Montour we understood that the Delawares & Shawaneese were to fix the place of Meeting where they thought proper. Brother we tell you we will sit where we are till they arrive & fix the place of Meeting with our Brother Onas.

Returned the Belt of Wampum.

April 11. I delivered the Goods purchased by James Wright Esq<sup>r</sup>. for the Indians in the presence of M<sup>r</sup>. James Webb which was well received by them. After the Goods were divided the Chiefs of the several Tribes came in a body & returned thanks to the Government for the Cloathing they had received.

The 13. The several Chiefs came to me & told me they observed that I gave no Cloathing to our Brothers the Connostoges

& desired that I would give them some else they should be obliged to give them part of what had been given them.

Gave a String

The 17. I called a Meeting of all the Indians & returned them thanks for condoling with me at John Harris's. for the Loss we their Bretheren the English had sustained by Death & the Evil Spirit

Bretheren

I return You thanks for mixing your Grief with ours & wiping the Blood off our Council Seats

Gave a Belt

Bretheren

I give you thanks for wrapping up the Bones of our Deceased Brothers & covering their Graves & wiping the Tears from our Eyes.

Gave a Belt

Bretheren

I return You thanks for dispersing the Dark Clouds from over our Heads, for healing our Hearts & freeing our Minds from trouble & for Brightening the Chain of Friendship made by our forefathers.

Gave a Belt.

April the 20. I received a Letter from His Honour Governor Denny inclosing two Messages from Tedyuscung to the Governor which were delivered to Major Parsons<sup>1</sup> in Easton & forwarded by him.

As soon as I received his Honours Letter I called a Meeting of the Indians & repeated over to them the Messages & let them know that Tedyuscungs being so long detained on the Way was the scarcity of Provisions & then acquainted them that his Honour the Governor had ordered a Supply to be sent to meet

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<sup>1</sup> Major William Parsons.

them for which the Indians returned his Honour the Gov<sup>r</sup>. their hearty Thanks and said their Brother Onas's sending Provisions to meet their Cousins on the Road was giving them the strongest Assurances of his Regard & Esteem for them.

Gave a String of Wampum

April 23. Six Onondaga Warriors applied to me for Liberty to go to Fort Cumberland to join the Southward Indians who they understood was going to War against his Majestys Enemys at Ohio, I granted their Request & fitted them out for their Journey.

April 26. Scarooyady with a Party of Mohock Warriors came & told me that they were apprehensive the French would make some Attempt against Fort Augusta & desired I would fit them out to go there, to which I agreed giving them orders to reconnoitre the adjacent Woods for a few days then to proceed towards the Ohio & reconnoitre the Country well, as they went, and if they discovered any Body of French or partys of Indians coming towards Fort Augusta or any part of this or the neighbouring Governments, they were immediately to return & give notice to the Commanding Officer of the Fort, nighest to that part of the Country where they should come into.

The 26. April P. M. The Chiefs of the several Tribes called a Meeting & sent for me and desired to know what time they might Expect their Brother Onas up & their Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawaneese to hold the Conference.

To which I answered I had not as yet received any certain Account of the arrival of the Delawares & until the Governor had fixed the place & time of Meeting with Tedyuscung I could not give them a full Answer.

To which little Abraham a Mohock Sachem spoke as follows in behalf of the Whole.

Brother

We have been here a great while & the Spring is coming on fast, it is time for us to think of going home to plant. We have heard what you said to us from our Brother Onas, both at John Harris's & here, that our Brother Onas proposed to hold the Treaty at Philadelphia, every time you spoke to us on that head, we gave you our Objections against going so far down, which we expected would have been considered before now, But as our Brother Onas has not yet agreed to come here, we have detirmined in our own Minds to treat with our Brother Onas here & go no further down the Country.

Brother

We have appointed three Men to go to Philadelphia to speak with our Brother Onas & request of him to come up & we desire you will find Horses for them to ride down & a Man to go with them to the Governor. And we have appointed Three more to go & meet our Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawaneese & bring them here, and we desire you will find them Horses & a Man to go & take care of them & provide Necessaries for them on the Road

Gave a String.

May 5. P.M. Cap<sup>t</sup>. Trent<sup>1</sup> returned from Bethlem with the Deputies that went from here to meet the Delawares & Shawaneese & brought with them Four Delaware Men & one Woman. About two hours afterwards Cap<sup>t</sup>. M<sup>c</sup>Kee<sup>2</sup> returned from Philadelphia with the Deputies who were sent down with the Gov<sup>r</sup>. to invite him here to hold the Conference.

May 6. I called a Meeting of the Chiefs of the several Tribes, when William Logan Esq<sup>r</sup>. a Member of His Honour the Gov<sup>r</sup>s. Council, returned the Governors answer to the Message sent him by Thomas King & Rut King.

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<sup>1</sup> Captain William Trent.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Thomas McKee.

Bretheren the Deputies of the Six united Nations & your Cousins our Bretheren the Delawares

I am sent to you by your Brother Onas from Philadelphia as a Member of his Council & your very good Friend, and I desire you will attend to what I am now going to say to you & consider my Words as if they were spoken by Onas himself

Gave a String

Bretheren

A few Days since Thomas King & Rut King, accompanied by Thomas M<sup>c</sup>.Kee as their Guide, came to me in Philadelphia & informed me by this Belt of Wampum that you held a Council fire at Lancaster & had sent for our Friend George Croghan to it, & had made a Speech to him, in which you acquainted him, that on his Invitation you came to John Harris<sup>s</sup>, understanding the Council fire was to be Kindled there; That after you had staid there some time, you were desired to accompany him to Lancaster & that I would meet you there That therefore you had appointed these two Indians to wait on me & to take me by the hand & invite me to your Council, that you had detirmined among your selves to come no further & would be glad to see me & that my coming would rejoice your Hearts.

Bretheren

You must be very sensible that in the transacting public Affairs in these troublesome times, many Difficulties & unforeseen Accidents happen which require my particular Attendance in Philadelphia, this is my present Case, and as Tedyuscung the Chief of the Delawares our Countryman & your Cousin with some other Chiefs & head Men of that nation has sent me lately a Message acquainting me that he was on his way with a great number of Indians coming to meet me in order to finish the Treaty of Peace begun last Year by our late Governor & myself with the said Chiefs, and desired me to be ready with my Councillors to assist in finishing the said Treaty, which was so happily begun & that I would be so kind as to send for Moses Titamy & John Pampshire (two Delaware Indian Interpreters) from the Jerseys to be present; And that as there was



so great a Number of Ind<sup>s</sup>. who were coming with him, they would want Provisions on their way & desired I would send some to Wyoming for them, which I immediately complied with. These Bretheren have been the reasons for my delaying my Journey to meet you at Lancaster & for my desiring George Croghan would endeavour to prevail on you our Bretheren to come to the Council fire at Philadelphia, where the old wise People who are your hearty Friends would have been exceeding Glad to see you & as I have heard nothing from Tedyuscung very lately, I am uneasy lest some Accident has happened to him. I thank you very kindly for your Affectionate Invitation. I accept of it & will with great pleasure come & consult w<sup>th</sup> you at your Council fire at Lancaster.

Gave a Belt of 8 Rows.

May 9. Three of the Messengers I sent to the Ohio returned & made the following Report.

That on their arrival at Wynango<sup>1</sup> (an old Indian Town) on Ohio, they found several Delawares there, one named Custaloga their Chief, they immediately called a Meeting & delivered the Speeches sent by them, which was very well received by the Delawares, who told them in Answer, that they would accept of the Invitation & come down with them, but that they must first go & consult their Uncles the Senecas, who lived further up the River. The next day they set off to a little Town up the River Ohio, where they summoned a number of the Delawares & Senecas together, after repeating the Messages over, one of the Senecas named Garistagee one of the Chiefs, said to the Delawares Nephews, You must not accept of that Call, for the Belts which are sent you are not proper Belts on this Occasion. I know George Croghan very well & would be very glad to see him & if he will send a proper Belt with Men wrought in it for the several Tribes he wants to meet with, himself

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<sup>1</sup> Venango at the junction of Venango (French) creek with the Ohio river.

taking us by the hand, made of old Council Wampum, which is the Custom of the Six Nations on these Occasions, I will go down with you & see him, to which the Delawares agreed & then returned the Belts.

They say that one of the Messengers proceeded further, to where the Delawares that lived formerly at Kittannen<sup>1</sup> were now settled, on Beaver Creek,<sup>2</sup> with a View of finding out the Dispositions of them, and they expect he will be soon down if not killed. These Messengers say there was but fifteen Frenchmen at Wynango & that the Fort there is very weak, and that the Indians in them parts are very much distressed for Provisions. They say that the Ohio Indians are much Affraid of the Southern Indians, having been struck three times by them this Spring, twice near Fort du Quesne & once at the Logs Town,<sup>3</sup> and that the Indians are moving fast up the Ohio towards the Senecas.

They heard from the Indians there that the French were defeated at Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry & that there was another party defeated by Sir William Johnson at the German Flatts and that the French were detirmined yet to make another Trial against the English but that they could not tell where to strike next

They say that the Two Men killed at Fort Augusta were killed by the Delawares & French w<sup>ch</sup> was the only Party of Delawares or Shawaneese come against us this Spring; that the other Partys that has been on the Frontiers of this & the Neighbouring Provinces was Indians from over the Lakes. that the Delaware Indians made great Game of the Lake Indians and told those Messengers that one Party of them who had been down had on their return killed & eat Three of the English Prisoners for want of Food

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<sup>1</sup> Kittaning in Armstrong county, Pa.

<sup>2</sup> Beaver Creek, a tributary of the Ohio. See Evans' map of 1755 in Hanna, *The Wilderness Trail*, 1:144.

<sup>3</sup> Logs Town, on the Ohio east of the union of Beaver Creek with the Ohio. See Evans' map of 1755 in Hanna, *The Wilderness Trail*, 1:144.

That there was an Account came there while they were at Wynango, that the French Cagnawagas had differed with the French because the French would not supply them with Provisions, the difference rose so high at last that they came to blows, that Sixty of the Cagnawagas were killed & a great Number of French.

(I Quere the Truth of this News as the French undoubtedly know their Interest too well to differ with the Cagnawagas at this time)

These Messengers on their return touched at Diaogo<sup>1</sup> where they met with Tedyuscung who enquired of them what they had been doing at Ohio, they repeated over to him the Messages that had been sent by them from this Government & the Answer they had received from the Ohio Ind<sup>s</sup>. on which Tedyuscung sent the following Message by them to their Brother Onas & me.

Brothers

You have been at a great deal of trouble in sending Messages to us, your Brothers the Delawares & Shawanese, but the Persons you employed are Young Warriors, & not Counsellors, therefore unfit for such Buisness, likewise the Belts you have sent in comparison are no more than Strings, but if you will send to call us together & send proper Belts & Wise Men to take us by the hand, we will come down with them & give You a Meeting, in which Meeting I hope we shall settle all Differences subsisting between us, and I assure you by this Belt of Wampum, that our Minds are well disposed, and that our Hearts are warm and true towards you our Brothers the English and we desire that you as Messengers from our Brothers, may take this Belt to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Thomas M<sup>c</sup>.Kee & let him deliver it in our Name to our Brother Onas & George Croghan

Gave a Belt.

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<sup>1</sup> Tioga.

## Brothers

There is one thing that gives us a great deal of Concern which is that our Flesh & Blood that lives among you at Bethlem & in the Jerseys, being kept as if they were Prisoners. We formerly applied to the Minister at Bethlem to let our People come back at times & hunt, which is the chief Industry we follow to maintain our Families, but that Minister has not listened to what we have said to him, and it is very hard that our People has not the Liberty of coming back to the Woods where Game is plenty & to see their Friends, they have complained to us that they cannot hunt where they are, and if they go into the Woods & cut down a Tree, they are abused for it, not withstanding that very Land we look upon to be our own, and we hope Brother that you will consider this Matter & let our People come into the Woods & visit their Friends & pass & repass as Brothers ought to do

Gave a String.

Lancaster Monday May 9. This evening the Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Denny Esq<sup>r</sup>. Governor of this Province, attended by a Number of Council & Number of the House of Representatives, the Commissioners for the Province with a great Number of other Gentlemen arrived here.

May 10. The Sachems of the several Tribes with a Number of their chief Warriors waiting on the Gov<sup>r</sup>. at Mr. George Gibsons at Lancaster, when the Governor with the Gentlemen that attended him took them by the hands, bid them welcome & his Honour made them the following Speech.

## Bretheren

I give you a very hearty Welcome agreeable to my Message by Mr. Logan.<sup>1</sup> I have waited all this time at Philadelphia expecting the arrival of Tedyuscung as the principal Buisness to be transacted at this Meeting is between this Government & your

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<sup>1</sup> William Logan, member of the Pennsylvania council.

Cousins the Delawares & Shawaneese, but receiving your kind Invitation I have hastened here & am glad to see you.

At a Meeting in the Court House in the  
Town of Lancaster on Thursday 12 May 1757.

P. M.

Present

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Denny Esq<sup>r</sup>. Lieut. Governor of the Province of Pensilvania, & Counties of Newcastle Kent & Sussex on Delaware

James Hamilton	} Esq <sup>rs</sup> . Members of the Gov <sup>rs</sup> . Council
William Logan	
Rich <sup>d</sup> . Peters	
Lynford Lardner	
John Mifflin	
Benj. Chew	

Isaac Norris	} Esq <sup>rs</sup> . the Speaker & Committee of the House of Represen- tatives
William Masters	
Jos. Galloway	
John Banton	
Geo. Ashbridge	
Will. West	

The Magistrates of the Burrough with a great Number of other Gentlemen

The Deputies of the Mohawks, Oniedas, Tuscarorees, Cayouges, Onondagas with some Senecas, Nanticokes with some Delawares

William Printup Interp<sup>r</sup>. for the Crown

Conraad Weiser Esq<sup>r</sup>. Interp<sup>r</sup>. for the Province

On opening the Meeting His Honour the Gov<sup>r</sup>. asked me, as I represented the Honourable Sir W<sup>m</sup> Johnson at this Treaty, if I was provided with a Secretary, upon answering that I was

provided with one, His Honour then gave orders that no Person else should take notes.

Then the Governor made the following Speech.

Bretheren of the United Nations

You are sensible of the Unhappy Differences which has subsisted for some time past, between us the People of Pensilvania the English in the several Colonies & our Bretheren & Countrymen the Delawares & Shawanese your Nephews & Brothers. By the mediation of Sir William Johnson His Majestys sole Agent & Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the Northern District of American a Cessation of Arms was agreed upon, and they at a Conference held at Otsiningo promised to lay down the Hatchet, which Agreement they since ratified & confirmed in another Conference with that Gentleman in your Presence, at which time Sir William desired to know what was the Cause of their committing Hostilities on their Bretheren the English which Question they did not then give a full Answer to, but at a subsequent Treaty with me at Easton in November last the same Question being put to Tedyuscung, he frankly acknowledged, that their foolish Young Men being deluded by our Enemy the false hearted French King, were persuaded to take up the Hatchet against us. this he said was the first & principal Cause, but that one reason why the Blow fell the heavier on us was, that their Brother Onas had fraudulently possessed himself of some of their Lands without having first purchased or given any Consideration for them.

Gave a Belt of Nine Rows.

Being very desirous that all Causes of Discontent should be removed, I proposed that the matter should be then finally accommodated, but Tedyuscung declared that he was not sufficiently empowered to finish that Buisness declined it and desired another Meeting this Spring when he engaged to bring with him those Indians to whom the said Lands belonged, at which time this Complaint might be fully heard & amicably adjusted.

Gave a Belt of nine Rows.

Having the greatest Confidence in the Friendship & Justice of our Bretheren the Six Nations, I immediately acquainted Sir William Johnson with these Proceedings & requested that he would be pleased to send some of the Wise Men of those Nations to be present & assist at the proposed Meeting. I expected Tedyuscung would have been here before this time & am greatly concerned at his Stay.

It would have afforded me great Satisfaction if it had suited your Conveniency to wait his arrival, but as you have informed me your Buisness will not admit of being longer absent from your Country. If you can now think of any Measure that may be likely to promote the good Work in which we are engaged, & establish a firm & lasting Friendship between us & your Nephews, you shall find me sincerely disposed to join with you in doing everything in my power conducive to so desirable an End. In confirmation whereof I give you this Belt of Thirteen Rows.

Gave a Belt

At a Meeting in the Court House Fryday,  
May 13. 1757. P. M.

Present

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Denny Liu<sup>t</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>.

The Council

The Committee of the Assembly

The Magistrates of the Burrough & a great Number of other  
Gentlemen

The same Indians Interp<sup>r</sup>. as before

Thomas King an Onieda Indian	} Speakers for
Little Abraham a Mohock Sachem	

Little Abraham opened the Meeting addressing himself to the Gov<sup>r</sup>. as follows

Brother

After you had done speaking to us Yesterday, you left the Appointing the time for the next Meeting to us. We are now in Council & I desire you to listen to what we are going to say.

Thomas King then got up & repeated over the two first Speeches made to them by the Governor Yesterday & returned His Honour thanks for acquainting them with the particular Circumstances that happened during the Course of the Conference at Easton last fall between His Honour & the Delawares & Shawaneese & expressed the great Satisfaction it gave them to hear that their Brother Onas was so fortunate as to find out the true Causes from whence the Differences arose between their Bretheren the English & their Nephews the Delawares & their Brothers the Shawaneese, for that they had taken a great deal of Pains to find it out without Success

Gave a Belt.

Thomas King then addressed himself to the Gov<sup>r</sup>. and said, that if they should make any Blunder or have forgot any part of the Speech, they hoped he would excuse them as they could not write therefore were obliged to keep everything in their Memory

Gave a Belt.

Little Abraham then desired the Gov<sup>r</sup>. to give attention as they were going to return an Answer to His Honours last Speech, and after he had repeated over the last Speech delivered them by the Governor Yesterday, he spoke as follows,

Brother

You desired our Advice in regard to the Differences which arose between you & our Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawaneese & you desired us to give you our Opinion which would be the best Method now to pursue to bring about an Accommodation, We have considered what you required of us.

Brother

We are disappointed by the Heads of our Relations not coming to this Meeting it was on their Accounts that we met our Brothers at this time. If they had come here at this time we should have sat still & heard the Complaints on each side,



then we should have been the better able to judge who was in fault & would have given our Opinion freely, however as things now stand we must inform you our Brothers, that in the time of our great Grandfathers, and when the Six Nations first united, it was agreed that the Seneca Country should be the Door to the Six Nations, into which all Messengers should pass in time of War & there deliver their Messages, & the Senecas our Brothers were to forward the Messages to all the united Nations — But on the Differences subsisting at present between You & our Nephews & Brothers we have heard nothing from that Quarter tho we are sensible that Messengers arrived there upon this Affair, and as we the Mohocks are a Door to the Eastward of the Six Nation Country established at the same time with that to the Westward, finding they neglected their Office we took the Affair in hand & sent Messengers to Otsiningo, & there a Council was held, and the Deputies we sent charged them to get sober, as we looked upon their Actions as the Actions of Drunken Men, this was the Substance of the Speeches sent to them. They returned for Answer that they looked upon themselves as Men & would acknowledge no superiority that any other Nation had over them — “We are Men & are detirmined not to be ruld any longer by you as Women, and we are detirmined to cut off all the English except those that make their Escape from us in Ships, so say no more to us on that head, least we cut off your private parts & make Women<sup>1</sup> of you as you have done of us. In the mean time tho they did not any longer acknowledge the Six Nations as their Uncles, yet they would listen to what Anugh Kary Tawy, Tionenkekorowy should say to them, him they only acknowledged for their Uncle. Notwithstanding this rash Speech they afterwards at the Instance of Sir William Johnson agreed to a Cessation of Arms & to come to an Interview with him & their Brother Onas.

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<sup>1</sup> For explanation of the expression “make Women of you,” see Hanna, *The Wilderness Trail*, 1:112.

Now Brothers our Advice is to you, that you send proper Messengers immediately to the Senecas to invite them with our Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawaneese to a Meeting with you here, and when they come be very careful in your Proceedings with them & dont be rash & it will be in your power to settle all the Differences subsisting between you & them & we assure you Bretheren by this Belt of Wampum, that we will continue our good Offices till the Affair is brought to a happy Conclusion

Gave a Belt marked G R

At a Meeting in the Court House Monday  
May 16. 1757. A. M.

Present

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. Denny Esq<sup>r</sup> Governor &c.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Colonel Stanwix

The Council

The Committee of the Assembly

The Magistrates of the Burrough & a great Number of other  
Gent<sup>n</sup>.

The same Indians

W<sup>m</sup>. Printup Inter<sup>r</sup>. for the Crown

Conraad Weiser Esq<sup>r</sup>. Inter<sup>r</sup>. for Province

Little Abraham a Mohock Sachem } Speakers for the

Tho<sup>s</sup>. King an Onieda Sachem } Indians

The Governor spoke as follows.

Bretheren of the United Nations

I have duly considered what you was so kind as to say to me the other Day in Answer to my Speech to you and I return you my hearty thanks for your Information & Advice as to what you judge proper to be done for the Restoration of Peace, between us & your Cousins the Delawares & Brothers the Shawaneese. We look upon your informing us of that Close

Connexion at present subsisting between your Cousins & the Seneca Nation, of which we were till now Ignorant as the greatest Mark of your regard & Esteem for us.

### Brothers

Your Advice is good & wholesome & I shall in persuance of it send an Invitation to Tediusing to come down & leave it entirely to his Choice to bring with him such & so many of his Uncles & others his Friends as he thinks proper, and will then cautiously & carefully pursue your Advice in Treating with him, in the meantime if on your return you should meet with Tedyusing I desire you will let him know what has been done between us at this Meeting and Advise him of the Continuance of the good Disposition of the People of this Province towards him & his People & that we are ready to fulfill the Engagements we entered into with him at Easton, and shall be glad to see him and his Friends as soon as they can conveniently come

Gave a Belt

Little Abraham then stood up with the Belt delivered them by the Gov<sup>r</sup>. in his Hand & repeated over the Speech made them on it. Then Addressing himself to the Gov<sup>r</sup>. spoke as follows

### Brother Onas

We return you thanks for accepting our Advice & we make no doubt if you pursue the Measures we have recommended but that your Endeavours will be crowned with Success. We have come a great Journey in order to see the difference subsisting between you & our Cousins amicably settled & could wish that they had met here at this time

On our return I assure you we will recommend it to our Nephews & Bretheren in the strongest manner we can to come down & meet you in order to have all differences subsisting between you settled in an Amicable manner

Gave a Belt.

At the Court House in Lancaster  
Tuesday May 17. 1757.

Present

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Denny Esq<sup>r</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>. &c.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Colonel John Stanwix

The Council

The Committee of the Assembly

The Magistrates of the Burrough & a great Number of other  
Gentlemen

The same Indians

William Printup Interp<sup>r</sup>. for the Crown

Conraad Weiser Esq<sup>r</sup>. Interp<sup>r</sup>. for the Province

Little Abraham a Mohock Sachem } Speakers for the

Tho<sup>s</sup>. King an Onieda Sachem } Indians

After the Minutes of Treaty were read & the Indians acquainted by the Interp<sup>r</sup>. what had been doing the Governor Spoke as follows

Bretheren of the united Nations

I desire to be informed if you have any Complaints against this Province with regard to Purchases of Lands or for any other Cause whatsoever. In expectation that you would freely open your Hearts to me on these Heads I give you this Belt.

Gave a Belt

I then acquainted the Indians by the Interpreter that I was going to speak to them in behalf of the Honourable Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>. His Majestys Sole Agent & Superintendant of the Affairs of the Six Nations & their Allies & Dependants & desired them to consider my words as if spoke by himself.

Sachems & Warriors of the Six united Nations our Friends & Bretheren

When Tedyuscung at the Treaty held at Easton, complained that the Indians had been defrauded of some of their Lands, this

Gov<sup>t</sup>. agreed to meet him upon his own Appointment this Spring, to which Meeting you were invited, that you might see & hear everything to be then transacted with your Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawneese.

You are now here on this Invitation & are Witnesses how ready this Government is to redress any Injuries done to the Indians whenever they can make that appear, and that they your Bretheren of Pensilvania are now attending for that purpose, and you must be convinced from their Conduct towards you that they are not come empty handed

Gave a Belt

Bretheren

His Majestys Subjects that have settled this & the Neighbouring Provinces, by Law are not allowed to buy any of your Lands and accordingly they have never done it & if those who only have right from the Crown to Purchase your Lands, have done you any Injustice or injured the Indians on this Account

The Governor of this Province with a Number of the Chief Men of this Gov<sup>t</sup>. are here & appear hearty & willing to make Satisfaction — but if they or the People of these Provinces should refuse doing you Justice, when you make it appear that you are injured. I will then carefully represent your Case to the King of England My Master & your Father, in order to procure you ample & immediate Satisfaction.

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

As Deputies from most of the Tribes of the Six Nations are now here who may not be present when Tedyuscung comes down, and as I am ordered & required by the Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>. His Majestys Chief Agent & Superintendant of the Affairs of the Six Nations their Allies & Dependants to enquire into & hear the complaints made by the Indians, & if justly grounded to use my utmost Endeavours to get them redressed. I do insist upon it that you open your hearts to me without reserve & inform me of every thing you know concerning

Frauds complained of by Tedyuscung or any other injuries or Injustice done to you or any of the Tribes of the Six Nations, or any other Indians in Alliance with His Majesty King George in this or the Neighbouring Colonies, that I may be thereby enabled to represent the true State of your Grievances to his Majesty.

Bretheren

After this Candid Conduct towards you & my thus preparing You to open your Minds to me, I do expect that you will hide nothing from me, but speak from the Bottom of your Hearts. And I expect that you will recommend it to your Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawaneese to come down & give your Brother Onas a Meeting to make your Complaints appear & have them adjusted, else I shall take it for granted, that they have no just Cause of Complaint to inforce what I have said I give you this Belt of Wampum

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren of the United Nations

You remember that your Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawaneese in a Council with you at Otsiningo promised to lay down the Hatchet, and in a subsequent Meeting with Sir William Johnson at his House in July last, ratified & confirmed it in the most Solemn manner in your Presence, then promising to deliver up all the English Prisoners that were by any means brought to their Country or in their Possession, and I desire on your return to your Country, you will remind your Nephews & Bretheren of their Promises to Sir William Johnson, and recommend it strongly to them to bring down what English Prisoners they have amongst them & deliver them up as that is the only Proof they can give of their Sincerity & good Disposition towards us.

Gave a Belt.

Sachems & Warriors of the United Nations

In that Meeting with your Brother Warraghyjagey, Your Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawanese, renewed & brightened the Chain of Friendship between them & us &

promised to fix their Eyes on you their Uncles, & regulate their Conduct by yours, and at the same time declared in a public Manner, by Dancing & Singing the War Song that they would turn the Edge of their Hatchetts in Conjunction with you their Uncles of the Six Nations against the French, the treacherous & faithless Invaders of the Property of Mankind, and I must now desire that you will insist upon their being ready when called upon, to join His Majestys Troops in Conjunction with you our Friends & Allies against the common Enemy; that this Speech may have its full force upon your Minds I present you with this Belt of Wampum

Gave a War Belt.

Little Abraham then spoke as follows.

Brothers the Speeches you have just made are of great Consequence both to you & us. We shall duly consider them & as soon as possibly we can we will return you an Answer

May 18, 1757. This day four Persons that were killed on the Frontiers in the Settlement of Swetara were brought to Town. In the afternoon the chief Sachems with a Number of their Warriors called a Meeting in the Indian Camp & spoke to us as follows.

Bretheren

We have called this Meeting with Tears in our Eyes on Account of seeing so many of our Bretheren killed by the Evil Spirit & we take this Opportunity as we have a good deal of Buisness yet to do, to Wipe the Tears from your Eyes so that tomorrow when we meet in Council we may see each other with the same good Will we have hitherto done

Gave a String

Bretheren

Now we have wiped the Tears from your Eyes agreeable to the Antient Custom of your Forefathers. We clean the Blood of your Council Seats that you may sit with Comfort & hear what we have to say to you.

No doubt but the French who takes Delight in Mischief has taken this Opportunity to send his Children down to commit these Murders with an Expectation of breeding a difference between You our Bretheren & us, but we desire you will hold fast by the Chain of Friendship subsisting between us & disappoint him in his Designs

Gave a Belt.

At a Meeting in the Court House at Lancaster  
Thursday May 19. 1757. P. M.

Present

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. Denny Esq<sup>r</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>. &c.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Colonel John Stanwix

The Council

The Committee of the Assembly

The Magistrates of the Burrough with a great number of other  
Gentlemen

The same Indians

Will. Printup Interp<sup>r</sup>. for the Crown

Conraad Weiser Esq<sup>r</sup>. Interp<sup>r</sup>. for the Province

Little Abraham a Mohock Sachem }  
Tho<sup>s</sup>. King an Onieda Sachem } Speakers for the Indians

After reading over the Condolence Speeches made Yesterday by the Indians on Account of our People that were killed by the Enemy. Little Abraham addressing himself to the Honourable Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>. & the Governor spoke as follows

Bretheren

Each of You made us a Speech Yesterday on the same Subject, both which Speeches I now propose to Answer at once. And then spoke as follows

Brothers

Some Years ago in the Jerseys one of the head Men of the Delawares had been out a hunting, on his return he called to



see a Gentleman a great Friend of his one of your People who he found in his Feild, when the Gentleman saw him he came to meet him. It was rainy Weather & the Delaware Chief had his Gun under his Arm, they met at a Fence & as they reached out their hands to each other, the Delawares Gun went off by accident & shot him dead. He was very much grieved at the Accident & went to the House & told the Gentlemans Wife what had happened & said he was willing to die & did not chuse to live after his Friend. She immediately sent for a number of the Inhabitants, when they were gathered some said it was an Accident & could not be helped, but the greatest number were for hanging him & he was taken by the Sherrif and carried to Amboy where he was tried & hanged.

There was another Misfortune that happened, a Party of Shawaneese who was going to War against their Enemies in their way thro Carolina called at a house not suspecting any harm as they were amongst their Friends, a number of the Inhabitants rose & took them Prisoners on Account of some Mischief that was done there, about that time suspecting them to be the People that had done the Mischief and carried them to Charles Town & put them in Prison, where the Cheif Man called the Pride died. The Relations of these People were much exasperated against you our Bretheren the English on Account of the ill treatment you gave their Friends & have been continually spiriting up their Nations to take Revenge.

### Brothers

You desired us to open our Hearts & inform you of every thing we know that might give rise to the Quarrel between You & our Nephews & Brothers

We must now inform you that in former times our Forefathers conquered the Delawares & put Pettycoats on them. A long time after that they lived amongst you our Brothers but upon some Differences between you & them, We thought proper to remove them giving them Lands to plant & Hunt on, at Wyoming & Juniattee on Susquahanna but you covetous of Land made

Plantations there & spoilt their Hunting Grounds, they then complained to us & we looked over those Lands & found their Complaints to be true

At this time they carried on a Correspondence with the French, by which means the French became acquainted with all the Causes of Complaint they had against you & as your People were daily encreasing their Settlements, by this means you drove them back into the Arms of the French, and they took the Advantage of Spiriting them up against you, by telling them: "Children, you see, & we have often told you, how the English your Bretheren would serve you, they plant all the Country & drive you back so that in a little time you will have no Land; it is not so with us. tho we build Trading Houses on your Land we don't plant it we have our Provisions from over the great Water"

We have opened our Hearts & told you what Complaints we have heard that they had against you, and our Advice to you is, that you send for the Senecas & them, treat them kindly & rather give them some part of their Feilds back again than differ with them. it is in your power to settle all the Differences with them if you please.

Gave two belts  
One for Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson and One for  
the Governor

Little Abraham spoke again as follows

Brothers

As to what passed between you & Tedyuscung last fall respecting the purchase of Lands we know nothing of, they are not here, and if we enquire we can only hear what you say on that head, we should have been glad our Nephews the Delawares & Brothers the Shawanese had been here at this time that we might have heard the Complaints on both sides, then we should have been able to judge who was in the Fault, and we were detirmined to see Justice done to the Party agreived. As

they are not here we can say nothing about it, but you yourselves between whom the Buisness was transacted must be the best Judge

Gave a String

Bretheren

You acquaint us that there is certain Persons empowered by the King to purchase Lands here from the Indians, We are unacquainted with that, niether do we know how our Father the King of England has divided his Provisions. You say if you have done the Indians any Injustice you are willing to make them Satisfaction We are glad to hear it, and as you have writings to refresh your Memories about every Transaction that has happened between You & our Nephews & Brothers the Delawares & Shawaneese, we recommend it heartily to you to do Justice. We are much concerned to see how you are used by them & the French every day, having Your People killed & you sitting with your Heads between your Legs & receiving the blow without resenting it, as if you could not or would not fight to defend your selves.

Brother Onas

We desire you may not think of great Expeditions far off, use your best Endeavours to defend your Frontiers & protect the Lives of your People. It is better for you to give up some Points to them than to contend provided they should be in the Wrong & settle all differences subsisting between you as soon as possible

Gave a Belt

he added Brother Onas takes Pattern by Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson he always keeps large Parties patrolling across the Frontiers where he lives & you dont hear of any Murders being committed there, that is the way to defend your selves. The Enemy is affraid to enter the Settlements there, & if you pursue the same Measures they will be affraid to come into your Settlements

Thomas King then spoke as follows

Bretheren

We have considered what you said to us, about our requesting the Delawares & Shawanese to bring down & deliver all the English Prisoners they have agreable to their Promises to Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

We will do every thing in our Power that will induce them to do it, but perhaps it will not be in our power to prevail on them to give them up.

Once more we desire that you may send for the Senecas & them & endeavour to settle all those Differences. It is in your power to do it when it is done you will certainly see some of your own Flesh & Blood again

Gave a Belt

Bretheren

It is true we were present when the Delawares & Shawanese brightened the Chain of Friendship with Sir William Johnson & promised to turn the Edge of their Hatchet against the French. But you must know that last Fall tho they went out to War with us they always turned back & did not perform what they had promised. so that we cannot account for what they will do now But for our parts the Six Nations have been engaged in the War with you & are always ready when we see an English Flag to join our Brothers, go with them & share the same fate

Gave a Belt.

At a Meeting in the Court House in Lancaster  
Fryday May 20. 1757. P. M.

Present

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. William Denny Esq<sup>r</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>. &c.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Col. John Stanwix

The Council

The Committee of the Assembly

The Magistrates of the Burrough with a great Number of other  
Gentlemen

The same Indians

W<sup>m</sup>. Printup Interp<sup>r</sup>. for the Crown

Conraad Weiser Esq<sup>r</sup>. Interp<sup>r</sup>. for the Province

Little Abraham a Mohock Sachem } Speakers for  
Thomas King an Onieda Sachem } the Indians

After reading over the Speeches made the day before & the Interpreter acquainting the Indians with what had been doing The Governor spoke as follows

Bretheren of the Six united Nations

I return you my hearty thanks for the kind & open manner in which you have informed us of the Causes from whence the Dissatisfaction of our Bretheren the Delawares & Shawanese first arose but as you have observed they are not present it must be deferred until we have the pleasure of seeing them. I shall only assure you that I think your Advice good & shall with great Satisfaction conform to it by sending for the People you have so earnestly recommended to be sent for.

I think with you that our Frontiers Should be carefully & strongly guarded & it shall be my particular Care to endeavour to have this done in which I shall take kindly any assistance you will give me

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

Soon after the present Troubles first broke out between us & the French some of the Six Nation Indians requested of this Government to build a strong House at Shamokin<sup>1</sup> & a Storehouse with Indian Goods & to give an Invitation to Indians as well of the United Nations as Delaware to come & live there. I must now inform you that in Compliance with their request, this Gov<sup>t</sup>. has built a Strong House where goods will soon be sent & sold as Cheap as any where on this Conti<sup>t</sup>. To this place I have appointed Mr. Thomas M<sup>c</sup>.Kee as many of you

<sup>1</sup> Now Sunbury, Pennsylvania.

as shall chuse to return that way, and shall leave it to you to settle as many Families as shall incline to live there promising you that Care shall be taken by this Government that as many as stay shall be furnished with such necessarys as they may want till they can support themselves.

Gave a Belt

Bretheren

I shall immediately report the whole that has past at these Conferences to Sir William Johnson who is glad of all Occasions to show his Attachment to our Friends the Indians & promote His Majestys Service. It is that Gentlemans peculiar Province to treat & finish all Treaties with the Indians.

Let me add my Bretheren of the United Nations that you shall find no De[c]eit in me & I shall be happy if my Conduct deserves your Esteem & Approbation

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

I have ordered the Presents provided by the good People of this Province to be carried to the Indian Camp early in the Morning & inform you that a part of these Presents is given by those who are the Descendants of the Inhabitants that first came over to this Country with your old Friend William Penn, as a particular Testimony of their regard & affection for the Indians.

I then spoke in behalf of Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

Sachems & Warriors of the United Nations

You see how the French the Enemies of Mankind set on their Children to murder in a barbarous Manner, your Bretheren that are settled on the Frontiers of this & the Neighbouring Provinces.

Bretheren

I must now desire you in the Name of the Great King of England your Father & my Master, that on your return to your own Country you will be active & not suffer any of the French

or their Children to pass over your Lands to murder your Bretheren & that you will let Tedyuscung & his People know that I expect that he will do the same.

Tell them it is not nor will not be their Interest to carry on the War against their Bretheren the English. Their Father the French makes Fools of them & will in the End make Slaves of them. but you Bretheren are convinced that the English have always treated you as their Bretheren & I expect a due regard & performance to this request on your side.

Gave a Belt.

Little Abraham made the following Answer to the Governor  
Brother Onas

We return you hearty Thanks for accepting our Advice in sending for the Delawares, Shawaneese & Senecas & we hope when you meet them you will be able to settle all Differences to your Satisfaction

Brother Onas

We likewise return you our hearty thanks for your kind Invitation to us to settle at Ginosas & your promise to supply those y<sup>t</sup>. will stay or come & settle there with Provisions & Goods. We accept of the Invitation & will take it into Consideration as we go home, how many of us will stay there or come back from our Towns to settle there, and we return you thanks for appointing our Brother Thomas M<sup>c</sup>.Kee to take care of us as he is a Person very agreeable to us.

He spoke again as follows

Brother Warraghyjagey

We have all given Attention to what you have said to us by Anagarunda & you may depend upon our being on the Active & doing every thing in our Power to prevent the French or their Children coming to murder our Bretheren & we will

recommend it strongly to Tedyuscung & his People to do the same

Brother

We must desire that you will assist our Brother Onas in settling the difference between him & our Nephews & Brothers the Delawares & Shawanese, which will be the only Method to prevent these cruel Murders daily committed on our Bretheren.

May the 21.

The Presents were delivered to the Indians in this Camp after which I condoled with them on Account of some of their People who died of the Small Pox since they came here & gave them a Peice of Stroud to cover the Graves of the Deceased agreeable to the Antient Custom of the Six Nations.

The several chiefs returned their hearty thanks for our condoling with them & covering the Graves of their Deceased Friends according to the Antient Custom used by their Forefathers & expressed great Satisfaction with the Treatment they met with in this Government & returned Thanks for the Presents they had received

May the 22 I called a Meeting of the Cheifs of the several Tribes & I repeated over to them the Messages going to be sent to Tedyuscung by this Govern<sup>t</sup>. agreeable to their request & at the same time I acquainted them that there was a small Present provided by this Government for their Bretheren the Cherokees who had come into this Government & was now waiting in Expectation of its being sent them agreeable to their Request. I then desired them to give me their Opinion about the Message to be sent to Tedyuscung & whether it was agreeable to them

Upon which they made the following Answer



Brother

We have considered every part of your Message to Tedyuscung & we approve much of it & think it will be acceptable to our Nephews & Brothers.

And we likewise approve of our Bro<sup>r</sup>. Onas sending a Present to our Brothers the Cherokees. You our Brothers the English took some Pains to bring about a Peace between them & us and we embrace this Opportunity of brightening the Chain of Friendship between us in your Presence. We have appointed Three Men to go with you to see them & hope you will provide for them on the Road.

Gave a String

The Speech sent by the Governor to Tedyuscung

Brother Tedyuscung

At the Treaty held at Easton last Fall, you complained to me that the Indians had been defrauded of their Lands this you told me was one of the Causes that alienated the Minds of our Bretheren the Delawares & Shawanese from us your Bretheren. Upon which I told you if you could make it appear that you had received any Injustice or Injuries from this Province I was ready to hear it & promised to make you full Satisfaction.

Brother

You then informed me that the People who claimed those Lands as they did not expect that Affair would come under Consideration at that Treaty were not present & had not empowered you to transact that Buisness for them & therefore you could not finish it at that time. But that you would come down again in the Spring & would bring with you as many of those Indians as could be got together in order to a full Settlement of all Differences between us, that a firm & lasting Peace might be established for ever.

Brother

As you had thus promised to be down in the Spring we were pleased to find a considerable Number of your Uncles the Six Nations were come amongst us, to be present & hear all your Complaints, they staid a considerable time for that purpose, in expectation of seeing you here, but as some Accident may have prevented your coming, Your Uncles grew very uneasy at being detained here so long & desired me to meet them at Lancaster, whither I went & opened my Heart to them giving them a full Account of all that passed between us at Easton, promising your Uncles that I would take care to see you redressed either on Account of your Lands or any other Injuries you may have received from your Bretheren of this Province.

Brother

Your Uncles the Six Nations at this Treaty shewed a great deal of Kindness for you & would have been extreamly pleased to have seen you here, being resolved to see Justice done to you, but as you were not come in, they advised us to treat you very tenderly & to advise you to bring with you some of your Uncles the Senecas that we might open our Hearts to one another freely by which means all Causes of Jealousie or Misunderstandings between us might be settled & taken away forever, and that they would join their best Endeavours to bring about a firm & lasting Peace between you & your Bretheren.

Brother

I gave your Uncles my hearty thanks for their good Advice & told them that as I highly approved of it as good & sound Advice, I would act as they had earnestly desired me to do, being sincerely disposed to hear all your Complaints and to do you Justice as I had formerly promised you at Easton

Brother

As I have now informed you of the earnest request of your Uncles the Six Nations & of my own Opinion which is the same

with theirs, I do by this Belt of Wampum invite you to come down as soon as it will suit your Convenience & leave it with you to bring with you your Uncles the Senecas or such of them as will be most agreeable to you to open your Hearts to us your Bretheren, and if it shall appear that you have been defrauded of your Lands or received any other Injuries from this Province, I do promise that you shall receive Satisfaction

Brother

By some late Letters received from your Brother Onas in England in Answer to my representation of the late Conferences & your Complaints at Easton he acquaints me he is willing to have the Injuries complained of fully heard & settled as soon as possible.

If you rather chuse Sir William Johnson should determine these unhappy differences I most warmly recommend it to you to apply to that Gentleman as he has the honour to be appointed Sole Agent & Superintendant of Indian Affairs in the Northern District

Gave the Belt.

After this Speech was delivered to the Messengers the Sachems of the several Tribes made the following Speech

Brother

As we have finished the Buisness for this time & we design to part tomorrow, you must be sensible that we have a long Journey & a Hilly Country to pass over, and several of our Old Men very weak, we hope you will not send us from your Frontiers without a Walking Stick (mean<sup>s</sup> a Cag of Rum.)

In answer I acquainted them that the good People of this Province had provided some Cags for them on the Frontiers which would be given them by the Persons employed to conduct them through the Settlements.

## TO THE STOCKBRIDGE INDIANS

Copy<sup>1</sup>Fort Johnson 22<sup>d</sup> May 1757.

## BREOTHEREN &amp; FRIENDS

I wrote you some time ago on your Peoples being concerned in a Murder committed at Claverack & desired & advised you not to interfere in the Disputes of the White People. You promised me you would not. I am sorry to find by a Letter I received Yesterday from the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of New York that some of your People have been since selling of Lands which are already patented & encouraging that unhappy Dispute between the two Governments — that some of your People were also present at this last Riot, where some of His Majestys Subjects of both Governments were killed and wounded. Such a Behaviour is unbecoming Bretheren and Friends & contrary to the solemn Promises you made to me when you entreated me to use my Influence with the Government to have van Gelden<sup>2</sup> & his Son removed to New England in order to have their Trial there

As I have exerted my utmost Endeavours for the Discharge of van Guelden & his Son & succeeded beyond what you or they could Expect, having got them set free without a Trial, I expect & advise you as a Friend, that you will call your People together & forbid any of them to interfere or concern themselves in their Bretheren's Disputes, lest it breed ill Blood & produce ill Consequences which I should be sorry for. take my Words

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> John Van Gelden, an Indian. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:206 for an account of the matter.

to heart, for I have nothing more in View than the Welfare of  
your People & all Indians under my Care

I am your Sincere &  
loving Brother

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

P. S. Let me hear  
from you as soon as possible

To the Sachems  
and Chief Men at Stockbridge

#### INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 22, May 1757.*

Sir William Johnson spoke with Nickus's Hans alias Tacarichogo a Conojohary Chief, who came to see him, and told him that as he was much concerned for the loss of his (the said Hans's) Mother who died lately. he expected he would remove his Concern by going to War & bring him either a Prisoner or Scalp to put in her room or stead, as is usual amongst the Indians upon which Sir William gave him a very fine black Belt to inforce his Request.

Taccarichogo returned Sir William thanks for the Concern he showed for the loss of his Mother, accepted the Belt & promised he would on his return home call his Young Men together & lay Sir W<sup>ms</sup> Belt & request before them.

22. May Moses with three Mohocks returned from Tionderogo where they lay waiting for a Prisoner 24 hours close by the Fort on the Hill on the other side of the River coming from

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Lake George which over looks the Fort, they say there is a small Encampment there besides the Garrison, The Troops in Camp have red Cloaths, those in Garrison wear the common French Uniform white & blew facings. No Morning or evening Gun fired there, the Retreat was beat by Six Drums, not above 10 Battoes there to be seen. they did not see an Indian about the Place. they have no advanced Post as yet along the Lake.

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. sent the above Intelligence to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb.

Eod Die John a Young Mohock arrived here from Lancaster in Pensilvania w<sup>ch</sup>. place he left Saturday May 7 and came by the Way of New York, brought Sir W<sup>m</sup>. a Letter from Mr. Croghan his Deputy who writes as follows.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*The German Flatts, 23 May, 1757*]

SIR

I am to acquaint you that Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Schuyler<sup>2</sup> with 12 Germans & 4 Oniedas went from this the 21. Inst on the Scout you ordered. Last night returned one of the Party by order of Mr. Schuyler who says about half way Casse's they found a French Hatchet & near to which discovered the Track of one Man, They proceeded forward & near to Sadaghwedne Creek saw the Track of three others & found a small Float tied to the Shoar side. Mr. Schuyler & his Party went from thence to Onieda & propose returning home by way of the Onieda Lake & Carrying Place. This morning as two of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Petre<sup>s</sup><sup>3</sup> Sons were working near the Mark Tree says two Shots were fired at them, the Report of the Shot were heard by several as it was near the Flatts.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Lieutenant Stephen Schuyler.

<sup>3</sup> Captain Mark Petry.

One of the Onieda Chiefs told me here that he had been one of those to Onondaga at the Meeting & that nothing was done in relation to your Speech to the Six Nations, wherein you desired them to declare themselves & no longer trifle.

He says the Indians who were present at said Speech did not come to the Meeting, mentioning some of the Cayouges, and that the Onondagas were drunk the most time he was there.

When the Oniedas & Tuscarores came away left the Sachems there but beleive they did not stay long.

I was told by another Onieda Chief here that a Message by way of the Senecas from Philadelphia is come to the Six Nations desiring them to go immediately there, that the English have some Indians there in Goal & upon the Six Nations applying for their Releasement it will be granted. Some of the Six Nations are coming down shortly & I understand have with them a large Belt of Wampum from the Cagnawagas, Skawandadees & Arondax to our Mohocks

I am told an Officer carried three Letters in the Night some time last year to a certain House where Gawikie lay & desired him to carry the same to Canada. I shall be able to let you know more about it very soon — here is several Onieda Women & Children Wives & relations to those on the Scout who applied to me for Provision saying they had nothing to eat, I went with them to the Commissary Mr. Trotter & with some Difficulty got them a little, he tells me he has no Orders & unless he gets one from the Contractors can give no more on any Account to the Indians

I shall be obliged to tarry here till I can meet with an Indian to go with me to Onieda which hope wont be long

I am Sir &c.

THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER

P. S. The Message you lately sent to the Six Nations about our People being Scalped at Lake George is turned to that of your stopping & Shutting up all the Goods so as the Indians can get none. I should be glad you would let me know by

whom you sent the Strings Wampum as he did not stop at Onieda, I imagine him to be the fellow who told the above.

## EXTRACT FROM JOURNAL

*Copy<sup>1</sup>**Fort Johnson 24 May 1757*

David of Schohere with nine more Indians arrived here in order to go to Canada for Prisoners or Scalps at Sr. Williams Request some time ago, one of which to be given in the room of Seth deceased, for which purpose Sir William gave said David 2 thousand black Wampum to give with either a Prisoner or Scalp — Wensday they were fitted out with every thing necessary for Warriors.

The same day Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler arrived here with a Letter from his Brother<sup>2</sup> at the German Flatts w<sup>th</sup>. Sir William forwarded a Copy of & Extracts from another Letter of the said Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler of the 23 Inst by Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler, to Major General Webb

## FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

*Copy<sup>3</sup>*

Copy of a Letter from George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Agent for Indian Affairs under Sir William Johnson to him by William Printup Interpreter, who was sent by Sir William to assist at the Meeting in Pensilvania & who delivered also the Minutes<sup>4</sup> of said Meeting mentioned by M<sup>r</sup>. Croghan in the following Letter.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Thomas Butler.

<sup>3</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>4</sup> Printed under date of May 21, 1757. The conference lasted from March 29 to May 21, 1757 inclusive.



Lancaster May 24<sup>th</sup>. 1757

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR

Sunday the Meeting between this Government & the Indians ended, and Yesterday the Mohocks set off for home by way of Philadelphia & today all the rest set off by way of Harris Ferry<sup>1</sup> to go by Shamokin

This Government has made the Indians very handsome Presents & they in general seem well pleased with the Treatment they have received since they came here, and this Day some Delawares set off to invite Tedyuscung with all the Delawares & Shawaneese he can collect & as many Senecas as they shall think proper to bring down to a Meeting between this Gov<sup>t</sup>. & them, agreeable to the repeated Advice given by the Indians.

Thirteen of the Indians have died since we came here, but none of the head Men, being chiefly Nanticokes & Delawares.

Momkatootha is lying Sick in the small Pox, but is likely to do well, About Six Weeks ago Sixty two Cherokee Warriors came into this Government at one of the out Forts from whence they went out in the Scout & fell in with a Party of the Ohio Indians of which they killed four & took two Prisoners.

This Government has provided a Present for them and Col. Stanwix has given me Orders to go & deliver it, & as soon as I have done that I shall make all possible Dispatch to wait on you

This Government seem well pleased with the Transactions of this Meeting, a Copy of the Minutes of which I send you by William Printup & hope it will meet with your Approbation.

There has been some People killed upon this Frontier by the Enemy Indians during this Conference, which threw the Frontier Settlements into great Confusion as they receive no Protection from the Provincial Troops.

Instead of Fourteen hundred Men that ought to be in the pay of the Government they have not Seven hundred, & them

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<sup>1</sup> Harrisburg, Pa.

they keep penned up in the Forts without ever ranging the Frontiers.

The Shamokin<sup>1</sup> Regiment has no Men, the Officers all a recruiting as the Men were enlisted for a certain time, they knew they would be free at the time that they would be most wanted, yet they had no Orders to recruit till they were all free and they obliged to Garrison the Fort with the Men that was stationed on these Frontiers.

All these Governments to the Southward are likely to break their Promise to My Lord about sending Troops to Carolina

I hear that Mr. Atkin<sup>2</sup> has got as far as Winchester in Virginia about 140 Miles from here in his Way to Carolina. there has been between 3 & four hundred of the Indians from the Southward at Fort Cumberland this Spring, the greatest part of them are certainly gone back disgusted with that Government.

I am with great Esteem

Your Honours

Most Obed<sup>t</sup>. hum Servant

GEO. CROGHAN

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup>

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart. &c.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>3</sup>

*Burnetsfeild 24 May 1757.*

HON<sup>d</sup> SIR

Two Indians of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Schuylers<sup>4</sup> Party arrived here from Onieda which place they say they left late Yesterday, these two

<sup>1</sup> Now Sunbury, Pa.

<sup>2</sup> Edmund Atkin, superintendent of Indian affairs in the southern department.

<sup>3</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>4</sup> Lieutenant Stephen Schuyler.

Men are come Express with inclosed Belt of Wampum from Nicknacksque, the purport of which Belt is to acquaint you that an Army of French & Indians are on their March hither & that they were within a few Miles of the Onieda Lake.

An Indian named Orawaraghtie is lately come from Canada & is now in the Onieda Castle at the Lake, says that the French are marcht from Canada with a great Army to Attack our Forts at Lake George, that their place of rendezvous will be at Crown Point or Tionderogo & are to be joined by a Number of Indians & give out that our Forts cant hold out long against them

This Indian tells further that 100 Cagnawagas are to Attack some part of our Country but where he dos not know and that an Indian named Anthony who formerly lived in Connojahary with a Party of 10 has undertaken to kill you — he designs to leave his Men at a Distance from your House & come himself in & pretend to be your Friend & if he cant get you conveniently out will take an Opportunity of destroying you in your House at all Events They suppose he may now be near your Place, his Indian Name is Turkey

My Brother<sup>1</sup> will wait on you with this. I wrote to you Yesterday by Arent Bratt a Battoe Man which hope you may receive

I am  
Sir &c.

THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER<sup>2</sup>

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

The names of the Two Indians who bro<sup>t</sup>. this News  
Tyonogo & Cranisse.

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<sup>1</sup> Captain John Butler.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Thomas Butler.

TO THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 25 May 1757.*

SIR

I received Yours of Yesterday by your Brother.<sup>2</sup> I would have you return what Oniedas are there my hearty Thanks for their Information, particularly Nicknaxques Family, as to the assassination undertook to kill me I wish I may see him fairly. I sent your Brother to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb<sup>3</sup> with a Letter, inclosing a Copy of yours of Yesterday & the day before. he is to return here as soon as possible in the meantime I send Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda<sup>4</sup> up to the Flatts to be an assistant to you or if you find it necessary to go to Onieda that he may stay in your stead at the Flatts & from thence send a few Indians out with every Scout of the Germans &c. that may go from thence. But I will have them always go a four or five days Scout otherwise it will be of little Service Therewith send the two Cap<sup>ts</sup> there an Order for such a Scout & if they are negligent of putting them in Execution I will certainly punish them or the Men according to Law. When you return the Oniedas thanks for me you will also return their Belt w<sup>ch</sup>. I sent by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda<sup>4</sup> it will be best that an Officer of you always go with the Scout by turns. The Message w<sup>ch</sup> you say was changed by the Bearer lately was sent by Peter of Connojahary alias Soawana-whisso & desired to forward it as far as Onieda, it was no more than this, to let the Fighters know that the French had killed

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Captain John Butler.

<sup>3</sup> General Daniel Webb.

<sup>4</sup> Captain Jelles Fonda.

& taken 7 of our People at Fort Edward & that I expected they would take it into Consideration, this was all

I am

Sr. &c.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To CAPT. THOMAS BUTLER.

FROM STEPHEN SCHUYLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Harkeman 25 May 1757.*

SIR

This morning I arrived here from Onieda & am very sorry I could not go on according to your Orders. On Sunday we came near Sadaghquadne Creek<sup>2</sup> where we found Tracks of three Indians, whereupon the Indians I had along with me would not go that way towards the Carrying Place because we had so small a Party. then I told them it was my orders to go if I was to be killed & then they resolved to go to the Castle & from thence to the Carrying Place on Monday night there came two Onondaga Indians to Tuscarore Castle who reported that there were two Messasaga Indians seen at the Bogert and on the North side of the River a large Path upon which the Indians refused to go any further as we were so small a Party

I refer for more particulars to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butlers Letter

I am

Sir &c.

STEPHEN SCHUYLER.

To SR. WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>. &c.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Saquoit or Sadaquoit creek. See Beauchamp, *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 141.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Burnetsfeild 25 May 1757.*

SIR

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Schuyler<sup>2</sup> & his party arrived this Morning from Onieda, the Inclosed is the Return of his Scout. Two Indians of Conochquiesas's<sup>3</sup> Family came with him & give the following Account. That an Indian belonging to the Onieda Nation is lately come home from Cagnawaga in Canada who says he was at Sweegachie That the French Priest there gave him two Strings of Wampum by way of a Letter to the Oniedas in general, telling them the great regard he had for the Welfare of their Souls & that they might depend that so soon as the troubles now subsisting between the French & English were ended to see him in their Towns &c. The 100 Cagnawagas I wrote you of Yesterday they say are those who were with the French this Spring at the Attack at Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry & are certainly out now with an Intent to do harm to some part of the English Settlements & gave out were designed for New England. The Indian I wrote you of yesterday named Anthony was to set off the Day after the above Onieda left Canada with 10 Indians & one French Man & said was coming direct to your House in order either to take or to kill you. That the French had dressed him up very fine in Laced Cloths, his Party is to lurk about your House for several days in order to get you out, if that fails he will come in & endeavour to make you beleive he is come to live in his own Country again & so take an Opportunity of privately destroying you. The Oniedas beg you will be very careful. Another party of 10 Cagnawagas are out for some part of this Country. That a considerable Body of

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Lieutenant Stephen Schuyler.

<sup>3</sup> An Oneida sachem.

Messasagas are out designed as the Oniedas think for to do Mischief hereabouts. That a large Road was seen on the North side of the Onieda Lake where they had walked. This it seems will be the Army the Belt gives an Acc<sup>t</sup>. of sent you Yesterday w<sup>ch</sup> will be only a Party perhaps of 50 or 60 Men. They tell that one large Ship with Soldiers are arrived in Canada & that 100 more were soon expected That the French had taken 4 English large Ships & sunk Two out of 8 at the Mouth of the River St Laurence.

Two of the Messasagas have been seen by the Oniedas a little above Casses, I suppose they will be those fired on Petre's Sons, tho the Germans think quite otherwise as my Brother will let you know. I expect him here tomorrow & then shall go for Onieda with two Indians I now have here, there is but very few at home there.

The Indians tell me they would not consent that Schuyler<sup>1</sup> should go to the Carrying Place Knowing a considerable Party of Messasagas were out & in all probability would take him & his small Party. here is several of the Oneidas who say they have nothing to eat at home & are come here to beg Provisions & are not satisfied that they can get none. I am plagued with them & have been obliged to give them some small matter of money to satisfie them. these Indians inform me that one of the Onondagas named Canadogte had like to have been killed or taken by two Messasagas on the Onondaga River. The French are moving from Canada slowly towards Crown Point as their Indians are not gathered as yet to join their Army, still talk of Attacking our Forts

I am

Sir &c.

THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER

P. S. the Indians tell me the Oniedas sent word, I must not come up without a good Party as it was dangerous, however shall venture with the Two not having more.

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<sup>1</sup> Lieutenant Stephen Schuyler.

The Indians complains of the Germans not giving Credit to their News, but says its our own Indians fires on them & endeavour by Lies to scare them, the Indians have heard this & desire me now to acquaint you of it.

FROM THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Burnetsfeild 26 May 1757*

SIR

I wrote you that I believed I should be able in a Short time to give you some Intelligence concerning Letters being sent last Fall to Canada by our People, all that I can learn about it is that Gawickie the Onieda with two others of his Nation came in the Night to the house of Mr. Rudolf Shoemaker, & after sitting a While said he had Letters with him for the French, upon which he showed two, One from the Reals, and one from a Man named Smith, being both unsealed. Shoemaker perused them & they were simple Letters only to the Friends Prisoners at Sweegachie. he showed another Letter which was sealed & said he had it from Mr. Wendal, Teady M<sup>c</sup>.Ginns Son in Law, w<sup>ch</sup>. he did not choose to take to Canada, till he knew the Contents, saying perhaps it contained something w<sup>ch</sup>. might prove of Damage to him & desired Shoemaker to read him the same, breaking open the Seal, Shoemaker says it was wrote in English & told the Indian he could not read it, as not suspecting any harm, what became of the Letter after, Shoemaker says dos not know, but heard Gawichie say he was something affraid to carry the Letter to the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada without knowing what it contained.

I am Sir &c.

THO<sup>s</sup>. BUTLER

To SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.



## JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[Fort Johnson, May 27–June 7, 1757]

[1757] Thursday Morning 27. May

Owiligaska, alias Peter Spelman, a German living among the Shawaneese arrived here & brought a String of Wampum to Sr. William from his Father in Law Parinosa Chief of the Shawaneese acquainting Sir W<sup>m</sup> of his loosing his Gun Hatchet & Hoes w<sup>ch</sup> he had given him by his Canoe oversetting in the Susquahanna & hoped Sir W<sup>m</sup>. would make up his Loss, also acquainting him of his going to Onondaga to a Meeting called of that & the Delaware Nation &c. at the same time desiring Sir W<sup>m</sup>. would send him a Belt of Wampum w<sup>ch</sup>. he proposed sending to call the Allegheny Indians to the Settlement where he lives & get them out of the French Interest if he can. The Bearer acquainted Sir W<sup>m</sup>. that he had considered of what he proposed to him last Month viz his going with a Party to Fort Toronto on the North side of Lake Ontario & endeavour to destroy it, and that he was ready now as soon as he got home to undertake it with his Brothers in Law & several more. On which Sir William ordered him a Gun Amunition &c. also an order to Mr. Layer<sup>2</sup> of Schohere to have an Ax & two Hoes made for him also Provisions. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. sent a good Belt of Wampum by him for his Father in Law & so dismissed him.

27. May in the Evening Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Schuyler<sup>3</sup> arrived here from his Scout to Onieda & made the following Report<sup>4</sup> in writing [1757] Fryday 27. May at 5 in the Morning Sir William sent

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Johannes Lawyer.

<sup>3</sup> Lieutenant Stephen Schuyler.

<sup>4</sup> Stephen Schuyler to Johnson, May 25, 1757.

the foregoing Letters of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butlers with Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Schuylers Report to Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb<sup>1</sup> by Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Schuyler.<sup>2</sup>

Sunday 29 May. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. gave a War Belt to a Mohock named Zacharius in order to go to War & get a Scalp or Prisoner to give in the Room of Anias a Jenundadie who died of the small Pox in the Mohock Castle, he accepted it & promised in two days to return an Answer.

Tuesday 31 May. Laurence a Mohock Chief with 4 more of that Castle & four Delawares came to Sir William's house in order to be fitted out with every necessary Warriors Require, and told him they would join the Schohere Indians who were then ready to march against the Enemy. They accordingly joined David of Schohere & were fitted out immediately with everything requisite. They then told Sir William they would set off from Crown Point the next morning being 15 Indians in Number & two white Men in all 17. the next morning were joined by 6 Indians more w<sup>ch</sup> made the Party 23. They set off 2 June.

2 June Zacharias & Seths Hans with Eight more of the Tribe of the Turtle were fitted out with all necessaries & told Sir William they would be ready to set off for Canada the 4 Inst & desired to know what part of the Country he would have them go to, to w<sup>ch</sup> he answered that at the Two French Forts he imagined the Enemy would be on their Guard therefore thought it best to Attack their Boats coming along Lake Champlain or the Settlements in Canada.

Eod. Die Cap<sup>t</sup> Dick with his Party returned from near Tionderogo in Seven Days & says that the Enemy have an advanced Post near a Saw Mill where they have about 40 Men who kept so close in & about the kind of Fort they have, that there was no possibility of taking any of them, besides there was a large

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<sup>1</sup> Major General Daniel Webb.

<sup>2</sup> Lieutenant Stephen Schuyler.

Party of the Enemy constantly scouring the Woods thereabouts whom they very narrowly avoided

Eod. Die Three Onondaga Warriors arrived here & told Sir William that the Sachems of their Nation & those of the Senecas were on their way hither & would be here in Two days unless stopped a little by the Oniedas whom they expected would come with them. they added that the reason of their not coming sooner with the result of their Meeting at Onondaga was owing to their Apprehensions of Danger from the Messasagas who threaten the Onondagas in particular for the [ir] being concerned in the killing one of that Nation last year at Oswego — this is the reason they also gave for the Warriors not coming with the Sachems. They then begged for some Rum, Arms & Cloathing &c. (as they had been with Sir William in the Engagement at Lake George) & said they were in great Haste to get back lest any Attempt should be made on their Nation before they got home by the Messasagas. Sir William granted their Request & discharged them.

3 June Zacharias & Seths Hans with 12 more of the Mohocks came & acquainted Sir William that Six more had joined their Party who were then present & fitted out as  $\text{¶}$  Book of Indian Parties will appear w<sup>ch</sup>. made fourteen, before they left the House Seth of Schohere told them he would join them with 5 of his People in 3 days at Sacondaga w<sup>ch</sup> they thanked him for & so parted with several Kegs & Bottles of Rum &c. for a Feast to be given to their Castles

Monday the 6 June The above Party amounting to 22 Men, arrived here with several Women &c. after an Entertainment which was made for them, at which they danced the War Dance, they were supplied with Provisions &c. for their Journey & then marcht acquainting Sir William that there were Six more from Schohere to join them at Sacondaga where they intended to make Canoes & go by water. They had a Pasport & red Flag from Sir William

7 June Abraham a Mohock Sachem David a Connojahary Chief & W<sup>m</sup>. Printup Interp<sup>r</sup>. arrived here from Lancaster in Pensilvania w<sup>ch</sup>. they left the 25 May after the Meeting was over & brought a Letter & the Minutes of said Meeting to Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson from George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Eod. Die Sayawasse alias Joseph a Mohock & his Son were fitted out with every thing necessary for War they are to Join Zacharias & his Party at Sacondaga where they are to make Canos & proceed.

Eod. Die a Party of Six Schohery Indians of w<sup>ch</sup>. an Indian called Hans Ury is the Head, and Nine Delawares of w<sup>ch</sup>. Jonathan's Brother is the Head were fitted out & left Fort Johnson to go against the Enemy.

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 18 June 1757*

SIR:

In consequence of a letter I received two days ago from the Lieut. Governor, I desire you will get me an exact return of the two Battallions of the Regiment of Militia of this county as soon as possible, with the vacancys in each company and that you will also name such men to me as are fit to fill up said vacancys, having regard to nothing but the good of the province.

You will send Lieut. Colo. Ranslear<sup>2</sup> copy of those orders, and also of the inclosed which I received from the Lieut. Governour. You will both see that those orders be strictly complied with.

I am Sir Your Humble Servant

WM. JOHNSON

To LIEUT. COLO. JACOB GLEN at Schenectady.

<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> Lieutenant Colonel John Van Rensselaer of Greenbush and Albany.

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

[Fort Johnson, 18 June 1757]

Whereas His Excellency the Right Honoble the Earl of Loudoun Commander in Chief of his Majestys forces in North America hath left Major General Webb<sup>2</sup> to command at Albany and the Forts with a body of His Majestys Regular forces, together with the troops raised by the Northern Colonies. And Whereas it may be necessary from the motions of the enemy that the Militia should march.

You are therefore on the requisition of Major General Webb, or the Commander of His Majestys forces in that quarter to march the Militia of the county of Albany to the aid and assistance of the forces under his command and to obey his orders, and for this purpose you are to take care that the Militia under your command be properly armed and furnished with ammunition, and hold themselves in readiness to march without delay upon such requisition.

Given under my Hand at Fort Johnson this eighteenth day of June 1757.

WM. JOHNSON Coll.

To LIEUT. COLL JACOB GLEN & RANSLEAR.<sup>3</sup>TO EDMUND ATKINS<sup>4</sup>*Copy*<sup>5</sup>*Fort Johnson, 21st June, 1757.*

SIR:

I have delayed answering your Favour of the 12th March last, from New York, in order that I might acquaint You with the

<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> Major General Daniel Webb.

<sup>3</sup> Lieutenant Colonel John Van Rensselaer of Greenbush and Albany.

<sup>4</sup> Superintendent of Indian Affairs in the southern colonies.

<sup>5</sup> Printed in *Pennsylvania Colonial Records*, 7:626-28.

Result of the Meeting at Onondago, at which the Six Nations promised what was laid before them here, last November, shou'd be taken into Consideration, and that I shou'd know their resolutions in Consequence of the same.

They have kept Me in waiting much longer than I expected; 'Tis but a few Days ago their Delegates arrived here. There came Deputies from the Senecas, both from the further (or Chinosia) and the Neither Castle, from the Cayugas, and Onondagos. They called upon the Oneidas, who, they say, refused to come; and the Tuscaroras (who are, as it were, under the Oneidas), I suppose, followed their Example. Some of the Sachems of each of the Mohawk Castles were present at the Meeting.

The above Three Nations, to wit: the Senecas, the Cayugas, and Onondagos, say, that they find themselves to be in a dangerous Situation. That the Messasages, who lay the Loss of some of their People to the Onondagos, have threat'ned Revenge; And that an Indian of the Latter Nation narrowly escaped, a little while ago, from being killed by a Party of the former, who met him in the Woods.

They say they are threat'ned from Several Quarters, and expect to be attacked in a few Months, tho' they cannot yet positively learn by what Enemy it will be. Thus Circumstanced, they say, their own Welfare and Preservation require them to stay at Home, and be on their Guard. Those three Nations have, therefore, determined, at least for the present, to be Neutral in the present Hostilities between the English and y<sup>e</sup> French.

Herewith I send a Copy of the concluding Speech I made to them in Consequence of this Resolution. They have given me the strongest Assurances that they are, Notwithstanding, determined to hold ffast the Covenant Chain w<sup>th</sup>. their Bretheren, the English, and will not quit their old Friendship and Alliance with them. I apprehend part of the Oneida and Tuscarora Nations (who are divided amongst themselves) will embrace this Neutral System. Most of the ffighters of the two Mohawk

Castles are now out against Canada, Crown Point, and Ticonderoga, in different Parties, and others of them daily making ready to follow, and unless we meet with some signal Misfortune this Campaign, the Mohawks will not, I believe, enter into the Neutrality.

Tho' there may be some Foundation for the Fears the Upper Nations have expressed for their own Safety, Yet I am far from believing the Reasons they assign for their Neutrality to be the true Ones. Our Ill Success hitherto hath intimidated them. Our Methods of Carrying on the War is not according to their Methods, And the present Prospect of Our Affairs doth not seem to please them. Hence they are not prejudiced in our Favour, but seem to think We are going wrong, and therefore will not go with Us. In short, without some striking Success on our Sides, I believe they will not join us.

They told me in a private Conference, that by the Time the Indian Corn is Knee high, they expect a grand Council will assemble at Onondago, at which they expect Deputies from all their Allies to the Southward & Westward. That Matters of the highest Moment are then to be deliberated on, and when all is concluded on, that I shall know their Determinations. But I expect, that as the Neighbouring Governments to the Southward are employing and pushing on the Catawbas and Cherokees to make War towards the Ohio, that they will be embroiled with some of the upper Nations, particularly the Senecas, some of whom, I suspect, will go out and aid the French that Way; some of them have been out, and some, I believe, are still out; And thus an Indian War be kindled between the upper Nations and perhaps all the Six Nations and our Indian Allies to the Southward and Westward. 'Tis what the French have been always, and are now more warmly promoting. I have constantly warned the Six Nations of it and against it. I have done so now, but I fear neither your Influence and Management, or mine, will prevent it. We cannot help it, and it must take its Course.

The Senecas are drawing all the Indians they can to settle near them; most of the Mohickanders, or River Indians, who used to be dispersed thro' this and the Neighbouring Provinces are removed and removing to Otsaningo, on one of the West Branches of the Susquehannah River, near to where the Cayugas & Senecas live.

A meer Indian War may be no essential Prejudice to the British Interest, but if the Southern Governments become Parties in it, and It seems at present they will be, or will be so Considered, then how it may turn out with regard to the Safety and Welfare of these Governments, I will not take on me to judge; but unless those Provinces exert themselves with more Vigour and Unanimity than former Experience justifies, I fear an Indian War will be a very distressing One to them.

Pennsylvania[ns] have for some time been pursuing pacific Measures with their Neighbours, the Delawares & Shawonese, the matters seem to be in a promising Way. If they will keep up to that System I think they may succeed, at least with those Indians, and probably carry it further. But if they push Peace with one hand and War with another they will have a ticklish & hazardous Part to act. I have co-operated with them in their Pacific Measures, and not without Success.

Thus, Sir, I have given you in as short a Compass as I cou'd the present Situation of Indian Politics this way. I shall continue to do the same as Subjects may offer. Both in a public and Private Capacity I shall be proud of your Correspondence, and do sincerely wish you Health, Success, and Honour.

I am, with great Esteem, Dear Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

WM. JOHNSON

To The Honourable EDMUND ATKINS, Esqr.

Captain Wraxall is with me, and desires I will present his respectful Salutations and best wishes to you.



## JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[Fort Johnson, June 21-25, 1757]

Tuesday 21 June They received a Present and the 23<sup>d</sup>. they set off for their respective Castles except the Onieda Warriors who came down in order to be fitted out for war.

24 June Sixteen Warriors of the Onieda, Tuscarore, Onondaga, Cayouge & Seneca Nations were fitted out with every thing necessary for War.

the 25. after acquainting Sir William what Route they intended to take w<sup>ch</sup> was to the Baron Longeviele's<sup>2</sup> Settlement<sup>3</sup> near Montreal every nation sung their War Song & parted.

N. B. Sir William gave two Belts tied together to Tierhadanghria alias Peter being the Leader of said Party to bring him a Prisoner in the room of Cap<sup>t</sup> Teddy McGin<sup>4</sup> deceased, agreeable to the Indian Custom which he & his Party promised to do if in their Power.

## ORDERS FOR THOMAS BUTLER &amp; JELLAS FONDA

*Copy*<sup>5</sup>

[Fort Johnson, June 25, 1757]

As several parties of Indians of the Six Nations are now gone & constantly going to War against His Majestys Enemies in Canada & the Advanced Forts of the French & may in their

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5. The first part of this journal is printed in *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist.* N. Y., 7:254.

<sup>2</sup> Longueuil.

<sup>3</sup> Longueuil village.

<sup>4</sup> Teady McGinn (McGinnis).

<sup>5</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

way going or returning call at Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry or Fort Edward, at which places there being none that can understand or talk with them, Differences & misunderstandings may arise & may be prejudicial to His Majestys Service to prevent which as much as possible, you are to repair thither as soon as you can with Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda & there remain until further Orders, or as long as Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb thinks necessary. You are to give the General the earliest Notice of any Accounts the Indians may bring & apply to him or the Commanding Officer there for what Provisions any of the Parties may have occasion for. You will keep them while there as much by themselves as possible & prevent their getting Liquor, selling their Arms, shoes &c. or having an Inter-course with the Soldiers as it generally produces bad Consequences

You will in every respect act with the greatest Oeconomy, prudence & Circumspection in your Power & send me the earliest Intelligence of anything Material by Express through the Woods so that I may guard against any Attempts of the Enemy this way

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson this

25 June 1757.—

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

Lastly if any considerable Party of our People should be ordered upon any extraordinary Service & the Commanding officer desires the Indians should join them, One of you in that case or both are to go along with & encourage them.

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, June 26–30, 1757*]

[1757]

Sunday 26 June Peter alias Tageghsada<sup>2</sup> a Connojahary Captain of the Bear Tribe arrived here with 3 more in order to

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Tageghsada, the greatest sachem of the Senecas.

let Sir William know he & his Party consisting of 4 Men were resolved to go to harrass the French Settlements along the River St. Laurence in Canada & were now come to be fitted out with what Necessaries they wanted for such an Expedition, w<sup>ch</sup> Sir William immediately ordered for them together with some Money for a Feast in their Castle as usual

Monday the 27. June 1757. A Schohere Indian who was with a Party to Crown Point arrived here being sent before to acquaint Sir William they had taken a French Prisoner at Crown Point & would be here about 12 a Clock the same day having left them at Schenectady, at Two a Clock they arrived with their Prisoner,<sup>1</sup> whom Sir William examined & he gave the following Account.

That he was born in Lorraine, came to Canada near 8 years ago with 1600 Men more for the Marine Service mostly Germans, that he was part of the time at Louisbourg & trois Reviere. he was at the taking of Oswego in August 1756. went from thence to Cadaraqui where he was qua[r]tered some time last Winter. was sent to trois Reviere from thence to Crown Point, where the Troops assembled who marcht against Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry, 1800 French & about 400 Indians Commanded by Mons<sup>r</sup>. Rigo Vaudriel<sup>2</sup>. they marched with Snow Shoes & carried their Provisions &c. on Indian Sleds. they lost but 5 French there & 2 Indians wounded. The French lost but one Man in their return. he has been at Fort Frederick from that time until taken the 19 this inst. by our Indians. Provisions pretty scarce in that Garrison, a Man allowance being only 1½ lb of bread & ¼ lb of Porke  $\text{p}$  day & no Rum. They daily expected Relief from Europe on their arrival of which Mons<sup>r</sup>. M<sup>t</sup>. Calm<sup>3</sup> would join them with the remainder of the

<sup>1</sup> Jean Nerban, See his examination in *The Sir William Johnson Papers*, 2:717-19.

<sup>2</sup> Pierre Rigaud, Marquis de Vaudreuil, brother of the governor.

<sup>3</sup> Louis Joseph de St Verran, Marquis de Montcalm.

Forces & attack our Forts. No Vessells arrived from Europe this Summer, they sent a Pilot Boat from Quebec to see if any Vessells were coming up the River but had no Account of her return when he was taken. That Crown Point Garrison consists of 200 Marines commanded by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lousjane,<sup>1</sup> but 8 Men sick. No Works carrying on now there. They have a Redoute or out work of Stone the form of which he could not describe & says there are several peices of Cannon mounted thereon, but the number of Cannon in Fort Frederick & the Redout does not exceed 45. the largest 12 Pounders & but one small Mortar, Amunition very plenty. At Carillion or Tionderogo there are 2000 Men in Garrison & Camp with 150 Indians of w<sup>ch</sup>. Number there are 3 Battalions of Regulars about 400 Men each the rest are Marine & in general very healthy. The Troops had all double Mounting last Winter w<sup>ch</sup> he says is valued at 50 Dollars. They have 80 p<sup>s</sup>. of Cannon there the largest 24 pounders & some Mortars which they got at Oswego. they are building an Out work or Redoubt there with all Diligence. Their Pouder Magazine proved leaky w<sup>ch</sup> spoild all their Pouder. they are bringing more from Crown Point daily. they have 36 Battoes laying ready there for carrying their Artillery from Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry & more building at St. Johns. their Carriages are also ready for bringing the Cannon over the Carrying Place into Lake George & a great number of Horses. They heard nothing of Lord Loudouns Design towards Quebec. A Month before he was taken there was a Report prevailed that Louisbourg was blocked in by above 40 English Vessells. He says they have no Intelligence from those parts that he could learn but from our Prisoners who are well used & allowed to work at 15 Livres  $\text{P}$  Month & their Provisions. He says that nothing but the great Encouragment they gave could prevail on their Indians to act. they have as much Provisions as they call

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<sup>1</sup> Paul Louis Dazemard, Sieur de Lusignan.

for, all kinds of Cloathing Arms &c. whenever they call for them going on Service & on their return also. feasting continually. The reward for Prisoners & Scalps is very small this Year. He says that 600 Militia set off for Fort DuQuesne early in the Spring by Water with little Provisions, depending on what Provisions were taken at Oswego & Stowed at Niagara last Summer for that purpose. there were but 100 Men in Garrison at Fort Duquesne last Winter, 150 at Niagara & 50 at Frontiniac. No Acc<sup>ts</sup>. he says from Missisipi lately. it was reported in Canada last Fall that the Prince of Conti was expected there this Spring with a great Number of Troops. there are none of the Irish Brigades in Canada nor any who wear other than French Regimentals. there is one Battalion at Quebec he says, another at Montreal & a third at Fort St. Johns they are throwing up some Works round the latter. further the Examinant saith not.

Fort Johnson 27. June 1757.

Abraham chief of the Mohikanders living at Otsiningo, his Son Jonathan their Speaker & Eight more of their People arrived here & after being made Welcome they spoke as follows

Brother Warraghyjagey

We have now come along the Road you opened for us some time ago, the benefit of which we are already sensible of, and as we are now met at the Council fire of the Six Nations & their Allies, will let you know our Buisness.

You may remember Brother when we were last here & settled all Matters in an Amicable Manner, we told you we were resolved to gather together in a Body at Otsiningo & that we would plant there this Spring, which with your Assistance we have done, and now we are come to make our Petition to you for some support for our Families until our Corn is fit to use, after w<sup>ch</sup>. we hope not to be so burthensome to You, we are

indeed very poor, therefore by these Strings of Wampum beg you will consider our case & grant us some Provisions.

Gave 3 Strings Wampum

Sir William told them,

he was glad to find they saw the Benefit of the Road he had made for them & hoped they would take care to keep it always open & free from all Obstructions & further added, that it gave him pleasure to hear they had planted at Otsiningo & hoped they would become a flourishing People there w<sup>ch</sup>. with Industry & good Government they might soon be. He then told them that in order to supply the wants of such Indians as were our Friends he had got from New York a parcell of Indian Corn of which he would let them have 50 Schipple now to help their Familys, for which & some other Provisions he ordered them they returned many thanks & partea

returned their Strings

Wensday 29 June Daniel a Mohock Chieftain with Nine Men came to Sir William to be fitted out with everything necessary for War & told them they were resolved to go to harrass the Enemy & take Prisoners for Intelligence. Sir William ordered them what they wanted, gave them Money to buy something for a Feast at their Dance as usual, supplied them w<sup>th</sup>. Provisions & so parted singing their war Song.

Thursday 30 June, a Conoy young Indian, John George by name, set out from hence for his Country after having been to War with a Party of Mohocks & promised to be back again in a Month & bring with him some young Men of his Nation if he could, to go upon Service. Sir William made him a Present of several things for which he was very thankful also some Provisions & so parted.

## FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Halifax, July 1<sup>st</sup>. 1757.*

I send you inclosed Coppys of Intercepted letters<sup>2</sup> I have received from Gover<sup>r</sup> Littleton with the Treaty<sup>3</sup> they have made provisional with the Indians whose<sup>4</sup> Mon Vadrueil<sup>5</sup> approve of it with two letters in Cypher which we cannot explain hear

From Georgia I have strong remonstra[nc]es of their danger and tottal<sup>6</sup> of making any Resistance Lt Col Bouquet has orders to give them all the Support in his power but they are to far from him for him to be able to do any thing Matterial for them but as it is a fronteer province and tho it produces nothing at present Its being in the Enemy's hands would have very bad effects in the Nebour<sup>s</sup> Provinces

I have on Governor Ellese Strong Sollicitation given him a Credit on the Payments for £850 to support rangers for the Defence what with £150 that has been payed on the £200 which I agranted for Governor<sup>6</sup> had<sup>6</sup> me to support ranger and to which I have<sup>6</sup> hitherto received

<sup>1</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, vol. 38, London, England. The first part of this letter is printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:725-26.

<sup>2</sup> Kerlérec to the French ministry, December 13, 1756, and January 30, 1757.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary Articles of a Treaty of Peace, printed on page 574 of this volume.

<sup>4</sup> Evidently intended for "until."

<sup>5</sup> Vaudreuil.

<sup>6</sup> Blank in the manuscript.

## JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>[*Fort Johnson, July 1-14, 1757*]

Fryday 1 July 1757 Skanarady a Cayouge Chief with 5 young Men arrived here from their Country. after being served with a Glass of Rum round, Pipes & Tobacco, he spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghyjagey

I should have attended the late Meeting but was unwell at the time. I have taken this Opportunity of coming down as a Guard with the Smith whom you sent to mend our Hows &c. which are all done, and I am desired by our Nation to return you our thanks for your care of them.

I am now glad we have bro<sup>t</sup>. him home safe to you as the road between you & us is somewhat Dangerous having constant Accounts of the French's Design of marching a body of their People & Indians down your way.

Sir William told them he was glad to see them & wished their Chief had been able to have attended at the late Meeting as matters of Importance were then considered which required the Presence & Attention of their wisest & best Men of whom he reckoned him one. Sir W<sup>m</sup>. then told them he was glad to find their Work was done by the Smith he sent them to their Satisfaction & returned them Thanks for the care they had taken in escorting him hither for which Service he made them a Present of some Cloathing &c.

The same Day Nickus's Hanse of Connohohare named Tacarighogo with 3 more of said Castle came here & were fitted out for War with every thing necessary. gave them 8 Dollars for a Feast, Indian Corn, Sugar &c. the 2<sup>d</sup>. of July they set off for their Castle well pleased.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.



Tuesday 5 July Segehowana a Mohock Sachem & several more Indians asked Sir William what News he had, on his telling them he had none, but that he heard there were 15 french Deserters arrived at Albany & many more by the way coming to these parts, being half starved in Canada. he & the rest expressed a great deal of Joy at the News, but all of a suddain their Countenances altered, when they asked Sir William if he had no further News, he answered none, whereupon Segehowana spoke & said, he would tell Sir W<sup>m</sup>. what he had heard but added that he beleived he knew it already but did not choose to tell it. upon Sir Williams telling him he knew of none of any Moment, he said that Hans Croyn a whiteish Indian living at the Mohocks who had just come from Albany told him he had heard from some of the Dutch, that the French had taken 5 very large towns or Citys belonging to the English in Europe, and that the latter are ordered to keep it a Secret least the Soldiers here should be dismayed at it & not fight. Sir William assured him & the rest it was a Malicious & false Report propagated by some Villian who is an Enemy to the English & desired to know who it was, to no purpose, as they said the Man might be hanged.

Tuesday 5 July Seth's Hance's Party returned from Crown Point with two Scalps which they took of two Men whom they killed by the Windmill near to the Fort when 6 Cannon were instantly fired to Alarm, & the Garrison sallied out to no purpose, they saw 7 Canoes full of Indians going towards Tionderogo & but few Men at Crown Point

7 July Tagaghneragehty alias Nickus a Connojahary Chief Warrior with Abraham of the Mohocks & their Partys of both Castles set off for Canada amounting to 18 Men went in two Battoes as far as Schenectady.

the same day Daniel and his Party consisting of 18 Men came here, were fitted out with every thing necessary and Fryday the 8<sup>th</sup> they set off for Canada by way of Seraghtoga &c.

the same Day Nickus an Onieda chief of a Party of the Six Nations which Sir William fitted out some days ago for to go to War against the French with another Indian Brother of Aperigo <sup>1</sup> & brought an Account of his Brothers being murdered at the German Flatts & a Mohock Indian by one Thomas Smith an Albany Trader who was up there with some Goods to sell without Liberty. When he told Sir William the Affair he stripped off a Scarlet Laced Coat, a Gorget, Laced Hat & everything Sir William had given him together with a Testimonial of his Brotherly regard for the English w<sup>ch</sup> he had from Sir William four years ago & threw them all down at his Feet & said he would not keep or wear them any longer as his regard for the English was now at an end having lost his Brother & friend by them for which he expected to take Revenge.

Then an Onondaga told Sir William he was charged by all the Sachems of the Six Nations who were still at the German Flatts to tell him how the Affair was & desired to know by him what he intended to do therein as soon as possible

it being then late Sir William told them he would talk to them in the Morning.

Saturday 9 July 1757. A. M.

Sir William sent for Nickus & the rest who came Yesterday, to Attend, when met Sir William spoke to them by the Belt, alias Gaghwasagtancient a Seneca Chief as follows

Bretheren

I am very sorry to hear of the loss of your two Young Men & more so as you say they have been killed by one of our People. On my first hearing of it I immediately wrote to the Mayor<sup>2</sup> of Albany, to have the Man whom you suspect secured, in order to have his Trial and if found guilty he will suffer Death

<sup>1</sup> Omission in the manuscript.

<sup>2</sup> Sybrant Gozen (Goosen) Van Schaick, mayor of Albany, 1756–Sept. 28, 1761.

according to our Law, as that is the only satisfaction can be had or expected in this Case, and herewith I expect you will rest contented. Then cleared away the Tears from their Eyes according to their Custom with Six Strings of Wampum.

Six Strings of Wampum

Bretheren

Agreable to the Custom & rules laid down by your Forefathers, I by this Belt of Wampum take the Hatchet out of your Heads & throw it down the Stream so that it may never more be seen or found by either of us.

gave a large Belt of black Wampum

Brother Nickus

It surprized me to see you (whom I looked upon as one of my sincerest Friends) cast away all the marks of Distinction & regard w<sup>ch</sup>. I had given you heretofore; on this occasion you must not judge of all your Bretheren by the Behaviour of One worthless Fellow. I must tell You that your People are often over bearing in their Cups & not to be bore with which may have been the Case now. however as I beleive the Englishman has also been to blame, I now with these goods cover the Graves of the Deceased so as to hide them from your sight.

here gave 10 black Strouds

10 Shirts

7 Silk handkerchiefs

Sir William returned him all his Cloaths, Jewells &c. back again and desired he would rest easy in his Mind as the thing could not be helped now w<sup>ch</sup>. would be his most prudent way.

Gave a Belt

He went out of the Council Room & sent his Mother & an Indian in for the things who promised Sir William they would do all in their power to settle the Matter in the best manner Possible.

In the Evening Nickus came in to Sir William who had a long Discourse with him & settled his Mind so that he parted in a

better Temper than was expected at parting. Sir William gave him a Letter to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Williams<sup>1</sup> commanding at Fort Harkmemar<sup>2</sup> to let him & the Six Nations who were there, have some Provisions to carry them home as he could not send any up time enough for that purpose. he also gave him a Present of a sume of Money & so parted.

Tuesday 11. Sir William set off from his own House for the German Flatts in order to meet the Sachems of the Six Nations & settle the Affair of the 2 Oniedas killed by Thomas Smith which made a great Alarm among them. He also sent up two Battoes loaded with Corn goods &c. for the Indians of Conno-johary which he proposes to divide among them equally that is to the old People & Children, their Young Men being all gone to War.

Wensday he had a Meeting of the Connojojoharys when he told them what steps he had taken to settle the Minds of the Relations of the two Indians who were murdered at the German Flatts by Thomas Smith a Trader. also let them know that he proposed to send a Couple of his officers with a Belt of Wampum to settle the Minds of the Six Nations then at the German flatts & desired their Opinion on the whole. They withdrew for about an hour, and then told Sir William they approved much of the Method he had pursued as it was the only Method he could have taken, it being according to the Custom of the Six Nations & most agreable to them. He then sent Cap<sup>t</sup> Mountour<sup>3</sup> & Butler<sup>4</sup> with his Belt to the German Flatts where finding but few Indians, they delivered the Belt & Message to them desiring they would forward it immediately which they promised.

Fryday about 12 a Clock Sir William received a Letter from Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Claus letting him know that a Party of the Enemy had

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<sup>1</sup> Captain William Williams.

<sup>2</sup> Across the Mohawk river from the German Flats.

<sup>3</sup> Andrew Montour.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Butler.

endeavoured to surprize his Fort about 8 a Clock at night & that after several Shot being exchanged & some Cannon fired the Enemy disappeared.

On receiving this News Sir William set off from Connojahary & arrived at his own House about 12 a Clock at night, before which he cloathed 247 Indians at Connohary great & small.

the same day, a Party of Mohocks & Connoharys returned from Crown Point with a French Sergt Prisoner whom they took opposite to Crown Point on the other side of the River.

TO PETER AND ELIZABETH WRAXALL

*A. Df. S.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 17<sup>th</sup> July 1757*

DEAR WRAXALL

I recd [the first letter you wrote me] Since you left Us, just [as I was going to Canajoharie and] the German Flatts. [At the former I clothed] all their Women, Old Men, & Children [who are much more] numerous than I imagined, and gave [them provisions] w<sup>h</sup>. they are verry Scarce of, their Number [amounts to two hundred and forty seven] exclusive of the Young Men. at the latter I had that unhappy affair of the Ind<sup>s</sup>. (belonging to the Party of the five Nations whom I fitted out to go to Canada but were murdered by Tom Smith) to make up. it was the most difficult Jobb I ever had, as the five Nations who were at the Meeting lately were all there yet, and so enraged Saying these made five now murdered by Us within a Year that I had hard work to prevent their spilling blood for it. However by condoleing their Death, takeing our Hatchet out of their Heads and severall other forms used by them, & at a verry considerable expence besides I made them easy for this time. this conduct of ours towards them is a verry great obstruction to y<sup>e</sup> Service, & must weaken my Influence. Just as I had finished,

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<sup>1</sup> Missing sections supplied from Stone's *Johnson*, 2:36–37; printed without insertion of missing sections in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson*, 2:726–28.

Ferrall Wade arrived at Conajohare with y<sup>e</sup>. inclosed letter from Lieut Clause w<sup>h</sup>. hurried me down a Day sooner than I intended. on my arrival rec<sup>d</sup>. your last letter &<sup>ca</sup>., also one from M<sup>rs</sup>. Wraxall with a Bill of Exchange for £100 Sterling. I should be glad to know whether I am to pay Major Van Der Heyden the amount of Both, and whether You can soon give me another Bill of £100 Sterling, if not that I may purchase it elsewhere. I have now five partys out different Days, some of whom I expect daily, others makeing ready to go out. I hear some of y<sup>e</sup>. Oghuagas are comeing here in order to go out unasked. All the Indians daily asking me when the Army is to move towards the Enemy, & when I go. I have six of my People in the Small Pox, and Several Ind<sup>s</sup>. in y<sup>e</sup>. Outhouses. it rages verry much in this part of the Country, and the five Nations have carried it w<sup>th</sup>. them. the two Young Fellows who took it at my House dyed at the German Flatts. Viz<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. Bunts son & nimble rists. [I write now to Major General Webb — from whom I had a letter the same time I received yours — wherein he expresses great satisfaction at my taking the first prisoner brought in, out of the hands of the Indians. It was] w<sup>th</sup> a good deal of difficulty, [and I much doubt my being able] to get all they may take from them [without giving such um]brage, & dissatisfaction as may overset the [whole — as they] well know the French Indians are allowed [to keep and] dispose of their Prisoners as they please, w<sup>h</sup>. is the [greatest] encouragement they can have given them. However I [shall] endeavour all in my power to follow the Genr<sup>lls</sup>. directions in that point as near as I can. I have nothing to write You from this Quarter all our hopes and expectations are from his Lordships Success, & Yours that way

I am Dear Wraxall

Your Sincere Welwisher

& Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

no news of Croghan Yet.

TO CAP<sup>t</sup>. PETER WRAXALL

Your fa[avour  
 £100 [ a Bill] of Exchange for  
 [ ] Yesterday. as you did  
 [ ] please to have the Money  
 paid [ ] to Capt<sup>n</sup>. Wraxall, about  
 another Bill [ ] at the same time, I desired he would  
 let me know [ ] I should pay them. As soon as I  
 know his pleasure [I] shall order the money to be paid accord-  
 ingly.

I am  
 with cordial sincerity  
 Madam  
 Your Most Obedient  
 Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To M<sup>rs</sup>. ELIZABETH WRAXALL

INDORSED:

Fort Johnson 17<sup>th</sup> July 1757  
 Letters to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Wraxall  
 & M<sup>rs</sup>. Elizabeth Wraxall  
 abt. Bills of Exchange  
 for £200 Sterling.

FROM JACOB CHEEKSONKAUN

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Stockbridge July 21. 1757*

HON<sup>BLE</sup> SIR

Last year you proposed to us that we might possibly be wanted this year to go against the Enemy, I have heard nothing from you whether we are needed or no, but some of our Young Men being very desirous to go on the Scalping Design [to] wait on You with Nottingshun at their Head for your Advice & Direction in that matter. As you Sir are appointed to order

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 5.

& Direct the Indians, so I judged it proper for those Persons to Attend on you for Directions. I should be glad Sir if you would let them know if they take any Scalps or Prisoners what reward they shall have for it, I hope you will please to take Care of the Men

I am Sir

your most Obed<sup>t</sup>. hum serv<sup>t</sup>.

JACOB CHEEKSONKAUN

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup>

SIR W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>.

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[*Fort Johnson, July 18-31, 1757*]

July 18. Sir William sent a long string of black Wampum to acquaint the Aughquaga Indians of the French & their Indians being always buisy about the Lake, Fort Edward &c. scalping our People, and that he expected according to their Promises made when last here, that they would come & assist the Mohocks & Oniedas who were now heartily engaged & detirmined to revenge the Injuries done to their Bretheren as far as in their power, assuring them that he would provide such as would come with that Design with everything necessary & that afterwards he would always look upon them as Friends to the English.

three Strings black Wampum.

Fort Johnson 18 July 1757.

Sir William sent a String of Wampum by Moses to let the Mohocks know that he intended to enter their Castle tomorrow & desired they would all be present, Men, Women & Children & all Children whose Friends were out against the Enemy.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.



Sir William went to the Mohock Castle accordingly, when he cloathed all the old People Women & Children to the Amount of 236 & gave them 100 Schipple of Indian Corn & two fat Cattle for the use chiefly of them who had recovered the small Pox.

Fort Johnson 22. July 1757.

Two Onondagas viz. the Red Head's Son Ononwarogo & Corn Milk with Hannis an Onieda arrived here from the German Flatts & brought the following Account to Sir William Johnson.

That the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada sent several Indians from Swe-gachie<sup>1</sup> to Onondaga acquainting them that he was assembling a Body of Men at Cadaraqui which he designed to send against the German Flatts, in revenge for the affront some of the Six Nations had given him by rescuing a Prisoner from his Children which they took at the German Flatts. at the same time he desired them that if the Six Nations had anything to offer for themselves they must come & speak it before he marched from Cadaraqui otherwise it would be in vain, if he was once on his March he would not stop to hear them or listen to any thing they had to propose as he was detirmined to see who would attempt stop<sup>s</sup>. him and if the Six Nations would not join him in his Attempt he would look on them as Enemies.

Upon this the Onondagas sent to Acquaint the rest of the Nations with their News. That the Oniedas were so nettled with this Threatening Message of the French, that they without much Hesitation refused going to speak with the French or having any thing to do with them. but directly dispatched the three before named Messengers to Sir W<sup>m</sup> Johnson to let him know what had past & earnestly requested there might be a large Body of Men ready to meet the French in the Woods & not let them come to the Flatts & that they would join & give us constant Intelligence of their Approach & Motions. for it was their Opinion if the French could once come to the Inhabitants they would obtain their <sup>2</sup> and as they might provide

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<sup>1</sup> La Présentation, Oswegatchie, Ogdensburg.

<sup>2</sup> Word omitted in manuscript.

themselves with Provisions &c. which would enable them to go on vigorously.

Sir William returned them thanks for the Intelligence & good Dispositions they shewed & told them he was always on his Guard & desired by a Belt of Wampum that they, the Oniedas & Onondagas would keep a good lookout & constantly acquaint him of the Enemys Motions & approach which when he was certain of they would soon see him & a number of Men up there to oppose the Enemy when he hoped to have a Number of their Nation to join him

Gave a belt

He gave them some Cloathing Cash &c. and a Gun to Onowaroge & so dispatched them.

Tuesday 26 July Two Onondagos, some Chucknutts & 1 Tuscarore named Rut from Aughquaga arrived here & acquainted Sir William that the Aughquaga Indians, Nanticokes &c. were on their way & would be here in two or three days.

the same Day Nine Indians from Stockbridge arrived here & brought Sir William a Letter<sup>1</sup> from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jacob<sup>2</sup> of said Place w<sup>ch</sup> is as follows.<sup>3</sup>

After reading the Letter Sir William bid them welcome & told them he was very glad to find them so well inclined, after telling them the Manner in which he used the Warriors of the Six Nations, he told them they should be as well treated, & accordingly cloathed them all & furnished them with everything necessary for War. gave the head Man a Shawaneese, a Pass, a red Flag & a Silver Gorget as a Marck of Distinction & the next day they marched for Crown Point very well pleased with the treatment they received.

the same Day three Cherokee Indians arrived here with several Mohocks, Lewis Montour<sup>4</sup> & an Irishman who accom-

<sup>1</sup> Dated at Stockbridge, July 21, 1757.

<sup>2</sup> Jacob Cheeksonkaun to Johnson, July 21, 1757.

<sup>3</sup> The letter is printed in its proper chronological place, July 21, 1757.

<sup>4</sup> Louis Montour, brother of Andrew Montour. His Indian name was Tanweson.

panyed the Cherokees; after saluting Sir William their Chief spoke as follows

Brother

We have often heard of your being a great Friend to the Indians & one who is liked by them & has now the Mannagment of their Affairs.

We are come a great way to see you & are now glad to meet you here where we understand the Fire burns & the Tree of Shelter grows for all your Friends. then gave a Belt of Wampum

Sir William answered

Bretheren of the Cherokee Nation

I heartily bid You welcome to this Meeting place where I am always glad to see any Indians who are Friends to the great King of England and his People, and I am the more pleased to see you here as I hear you have lately joined your Bretheren the English to the Southward, against that decietful Nation the French & their Indians & given some Proofs of your Brotherly Regard & Manhood by spilling some of the Enemys blood.

gave a Belt

As you are no doubt fatigued after so long a Journey I shall defer opening my Mind to You yet awhile. I now wipe off your Sweat & refresh your bodys with these Cloaths &c. here Sir William gave them a pretty present of Cloathing & sundry little necessaries which they were very thankful for & so parted for that time.

P.M. eod. die Three of the Mohock Chiefs came to Sir William & begged he would let their Bretheren the Cherokees know that their People would come to see them tomorrow morning here & thereupon

gave 3 Strings Wampum

28 July several Sachems from the Mohocks & some Warriors from Connojahary &c. attended accordingly, but to no purpose, the Chief of the Cherokees who went to the Castle the

Evening before was not returned so in the Evening they went back to the Mohocks promising Sir William they would come the next morning.

29. Daniel & his Party returned with 2 Scalps w<sup>ch</sup>. they took near Tionderogo where they say there is a large Encampment also a considerable Number of Men at the Advanced Guard near the Saw Mill. Sir William showed the Scalp to the chief of the Cherokees who after looking at them locked his hands together as hard as he could & endeavoured to make him understand they would be firm Friends to the English & that nothing but Death should separate us. Sir William gave all the Party New Shirts, paint, victuals & Liquor enough & some Cags of Rum to drink with their Friends in the Castle & so parted well pleased.

N. B. niether Cherokees nor Mohocks came this day as was yesterday promised they being all rejoiced at their Friends the Cherokees Visit & all Drunk together.

Saturday 30 July 1757. Thomas, Nicholas, Rut, Peter, Joseph, Peepy &c. chiefs of Aughquaga arrived here with about 30 of their People.

Sunday the 31. The Nanticoke Nation from Otsiningo came also here to the Amount of<sup>1</sup>

N.B. The Speeches of the Cherokee Indians & the Speech of the Aughquaga & other Susquahanna Indians recorded pages 195. 196. 197 & 198. should have been recorded after the above & have followed here under but they being taken down in rough Minutes & the Alarm from Fort Edward coming on, those Minutes were mislaid by w<sup>ch</sup>. means they do not stand here in order of time

french Peter a Mohock Indian was sent to the Cherokees to their Encamp<sup>t</sup>. at Harris's Ferry<sup>2</sup> in Pensilvania with a message from the Mohocks

<sup>1</sup> Blank in the manuscript.

<sup>2</sup> Harrisburg, Pa.

The Speech of the Aughwuaga & other Southern Indians to  
Sir William Johnson & the Indians of the Two Mohock  
Castles

Brother & Bretheren

By these two Belts we condole with you the loss of your People which you sustained since we have seen one another, we take their Bodies out of your sight & cover their Bones that you may look up & speak freely, we heartily pity your Case as we know the loss of your Chief Men & Warriors grieve you

Gave 2 Belts

Brother Warraghyjagey

You gave the Hatchet into our hands & we are resolved to take fast hold of it. dont imagine because we hereby return the Belt we intend to give up also the Hatchet. No Brother we will join & assist you for ever & whatever you demand of us shall be complied with, if God gives us Life and we will rise at a Moments Call, We hope He above us will give us his Blessing to overcome our Enemies, it seems the Ax you gave us proved a good One as it killed two of the Enemy already.

returned the Belt.

Brother

We the Aughquagas & our Bretheren of the 6 nations extending as far as Chucknut, have often told you & repeat it now again, that we still keep fast hold of the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain of Friendship subsisting between you & us & shall do so till we are no more, but our Success over our Enemies the French depends on him that is above; this you may be assured of that we are detirmined to share the same fate with you be it what it will.

gave a large white Belt.

Listen Brother

We have something to lay before You in the name of all our Bretheren on the Susquahanna. We have consulted together & agreed to speak to you to do us the favour to comply with our Desire in letting us have some Trade in our Towns, it is too

tedious & hard for most of our People to come such a great way with our Skins, wherefore we entreat you to send Traders to Aughquaga with such Goods as suit us, we shall all take care that such Traders shant be touched or hurted

gave a Belt with 1 String of Wampum

One thing more we have to request of you. As the Life of Man is uncertain & we are not sure how long you may live, We therefore should be glad you would grant us a Testimonial of our Fidelity & Attachment to our Bretheren the English, that if hereafter we might be suspected as Enemies we might produce this testimonial

Gave a Belt with 2 Knots

Brother

You say you frequently take a great many French Vessells at Sea & as we dont doubt they are full of Goods we therefore should be glad to see some of the French Goods that we may convince the French Indians of your success against the French at Sea

gave a String

gave 2 Strings Wampum, requesting to have a Smith sent to Aughquaga where there is 200 fighting Men, & that they would pay him themselves. Another String Desiring somebody might be appointed at Schohere to assist them with Provisions, when they came backwards & forwards to & from Fort Johnson.

TO MONTAGU WILLMOT

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

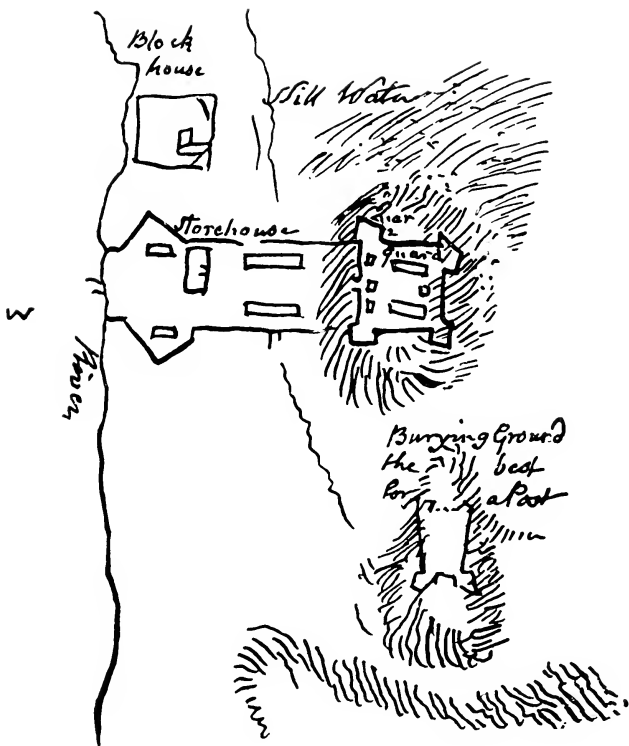
*Saratoga 5<sup>th</sup> August, 1757.*

CAPTAN WILLMOT it is General Webbs orders that you send up all the scows and battous that you can fit out to carey Down all the Provisions possably you can to Stilwater in this fail not.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



Tracing from a pen and ink drawing by  
Co<sup>3</sup>. James Montresor.





## JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Copy<sup>1</sup>

[Fort Johnson, Aug. 1-21, 1757]

Fort Johnson 1 Aug. 1757.

At a Meeting of the Two Mohocks, the Aughquagas, Tuscarores, Nanticoches, Connays and 3 Cherokee's lately come from the Southward in the Whole about 70 or 80 fighting Men

Present —

Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>.The Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Ogilvie<sup>2</sup> MissionaryLieu<sup>t</sup> ClausCap<sup>t</sup>. Montour<sup>3</sup> Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Canadagaye Chief Sachem of the Mohock Castle after he had addressed himself to the diff<sup>r</sup>. Nations present, spoke in the name of Sir William as follows

That about midnight an Express arrived from General Webb<sup>4</sup> at Fort Edward acquainting Sir William that a party of 300 English went out upon Lake George to discover the Enemy's Motions at Tionderogo, & coming within 10 Miles of said place in the Narrows were attacked by a much superior Number of the Enemy who fired with such an Advantage & briskness upon them that no more than 100 made their escape and that Gen<sup>l</sup> Webb was convinced by the Enemy's Motions that an Attack upon Fort William Henry was their Design & therefore desired Sir William to raise all the Militia upon this River except the Flatts and with as many Indians as he could muster together, to march himself & join him as soon as possible at Fort Edward, that on the Enemy's Approach they might jointly

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. John Ogilvie.

<sup>3</sup> Captain Henry (Andrew) Montour.

<sup>4</sup> Major General Daniel Webb.

make such a stand as with the Assistance of Heaven might frustrate the Designs of the Enemy. Sir William told them all he was resolved to go & join the General with all the Militia he could Muster & threw a War Belt to them desiring they would join His Majestys Arms. After some Consultation they returned the following Answer

Brother

We have heard the News you told us with Attention & it is what we have for some time expected. When we left home our Intention was to come & speak to you on matters of a good deal of Importance to us, however as every thing must give way to the Affair you are now going to pursue, we shall not think of settling Matters until this is over. As you desire our Assistance we promise it you sincerely & hope that he who rules above will give us Success over your & our Enemys but this we must tell you that most of our People are without Arms, Amunition, Shoes or Cloaths w<sup>ch</sup> we doubt not you will supply us with

Sir William returned them Thanks & told them he would order them Arms, Amunition &c. & recommended the making a good use of them. He also sent away a black Belt to the Schoharys & Susquahannas, another to the Connojaharys Oniedas & Tuscarores inviting them to come & join him.

2 Aug<sup>t</sup> As many as were present of the diff<sup>t</sup> Nations were armed & fitted out, also several Mohocks, the rest they said would be here the next day, also the Connojaharys. When they arrived Sir William ordered an Ox to be dressed for their War Dance & the next day set off with near 100. several more followed the 2<sup>d</sup>. & 3<sup>d</sup>. Day to the amount of 180 in the Whole. they arrived at Fort Edward Satturday Morning about 9 a Clock 6 Aug<sup>t</sup>. with about 1500 Militia. 46 of the Stockbridge Indians joined Sir William the 9 who were very serviceable scouting.

Sir William returned to his own House Satturday the 20 Inst where he found several Nations of Indians waiting his Return to the Amount of near 300.

Sunday 21. the Cheifs of the several Nations came to wait on Sir William & bid him Welcome home. he returned the Compliment & told them he would say something to them the next day as he was then buisy writing to the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of New York who was then in Albany also to several others.

## AN INDIAN COUNCIL

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[August 23–29, 1757]

Fort Johnson 23 Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1757.—

At a Meeting of the Oniedas, Aughquages & other Indians living on the Susquahanna River

Present —

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>.Cap<sup>t</sup>. Thomas & Cap<sup>t</sup> John Butler, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour

The Aforesaid Indians spoke as follows

Brother Warraghyjagey

We are heartily concerned at what hath happened at Lake George & that our Enemies obtained their end in destroying that Fort. We are sensible no blame can be laid upon you as you were willing to go & Succor them at the Lake, therefore you must submit to Him above who rules & orders everything. At the same time we assure you that this Affair dos not in the least alter our Attachment to our Bretheren the English as we are of the same Resolution to live & die with them

Brother

The Misbehaviour of some of our People in your & our Absence gives us great uneasiness. those who were with you have taken several Horses in their return from Fort Edward,

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

They have turned those Horses into your Feilds of Peas, Corn, Oats &c. they have killed some of your Cattle & in short have done a great deal of Dammage upon your Plantation. Brother we have made them sensible of their Misbehaviour & they are convinced of it, and therefore in the first place, they will immediately deliver up to you 14 strange Horses — they are very sorry for what Damage they have done to you & promise hereby in the Presence of you & us their Cheifs that they never will be guilty of the like Misconduct for the future & beg you'l forgive them for the present & that hereafter they never will transgress again. This you may depend upon & we give you this in Confirmation thereof.

Gave a String of Wampum.

Sir William replied

Bretheren

I take your Concern for our loss at Lake George very kind, and your Brother-like Resolution of remaining our Stedfast Friends gives me great Satisfaction

Bretheren

the loss of that Fort affected me a good deal as I was the first beginner & founder of it, however these things being the effects of War must not discourage us but rather make us more alert & active w<sup>ch</sup> if we are I am sure with the blessing of God we are able to bring the French to our Terms & secure a lasting Peace to our Posterity. I am sensible of the readiness shown by the Militia & you to go to the relief of our People engaged there, but the Gen<sup>l</sup>. who was the best Judge from his Knowledge of the Enemy's Numbers & ours, did not think it prudent to run so great a risk

Bretheren

Your Peoples misbehaving at my place in my Absence, I assure you fretted me very much. Such Proceedings from People whom I looked upon as Bretheren & firm Friends I could never suspect. Moreover as I am employed to maintain, Cloath & arm

you & your People whenever in want makes the Crime more unpardonable, & made me think of leaving you in a short time & let the King my Master know the Reason. However Bretheren as I see you confess the thing to me & are sorry for what your People have committed (& as I know they are not under a perfect Obedience to You) it makes me something easier in my Mind, & as you so sincerely promise you will take care the like shall never happen again & beg my forgiving you this time; On these Conditions only I will listen to it & by this Belt of Wampum assure you that I will forgive you at present & alter my resolution of leaving you

Gave a Belt.

Fort Johnson 24 Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1757.

Sir William Johnsons Answer to the Aughquages Nanticokes & other Indians Speech to him & the Mohocks.

Bretheren of Aughquaga &c.

I do in conjunction with the Mohocks heartily thank you for your Cordial Condolance for the loss we have sustained of late & as we are sensible we have had several of your Chiefs &c. snatched away lately by the Small Pox & other Sickness, We sincerely condole with you and by these Belts of Wampum cover their Graves that the sight of them may no more be a Cause of Grief to You.

gave 2 Belts of Wampum

Bretheren

The Belt you have returned me was only sent by me to invite you last Fall to come & join Lord Loudoun when he was on his March to Fort Edward. I do not take your returning it as a refusal of joining us or throwing up the Hatchet. far from it as you have in a former Speech fully satisfied me with regard to your not coming at that time, and now by your readily joining & marching with me to Fort Edward, I have not the least reason to doubt your good Intentions, and the fresh & hearty Professions you now make give me the greatest pleasure. It

also highly pleases me to find you put so much Confidence in Him who rules over all the Princes in the World & in whose power it is to overset our Proud & Ambitious Enemy when he pleases.

This Belt you will see again whenever I have occasion to call for your Assistance & I expect you will be ready on the Sight thereof to rise immediately & join His Majestys Arms.

gave a Belt

Bretheren

Your renewing & strengthening the Antient Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain of Friendship & Alliance between You & your Bretheren the English at this time, together with the assurances you give me of your fixed Resolution to share our Fate is Brother-like & very pleasing to me as it will also be to the Great King of England your Father & all his Subjects. I do in return in the Name of the Great King George my Master & of all his Subjects, renew, Strengthen & brighten the same Chain so that nothing shall be able to break or even crack it and while we keep it so, you may depend upon it nothing can hurt us

gave the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain Belt 16 Rows.

Bretheren

Your request concerning Trade I have heard & duly considered. I have only one Objection to it which is this, that by sending a Trader or Traders to your Towns the Enemy Indians may also have the Advantage of it, which would by no means be proper at this time, as it would be like giving a Knife to cut our own Throats, wherefore I insist upon it that before such a thing be allowed that you promise no Enemy or Enemy Indians shall enter your Towns knowingly or that you suffer them to trade there, as it would appear very bad on your side & also occasion me to withdraw from you that which is designed for your Ease & Interest.

A Belt.

Bretheren

You justly observe that the Life of Man is uncertain & mine very much so at present and as you desire I would give you a Testimonial of your Fidelity & Attachment to His Majesty, I will readily do it being fully satisfied you merit it & I hope ever will even after my Death, which I most earnestly recommend to You. Here it is signed with my Seal of Office & I hope it will be of Service to You.

Gave them a Testimonial in lieu of a Belt

Bretheren

You have informed me that the Number of your Men able to bear Arms from Aughquaga to Chucknut amount to 200 and as you desire much to have a Smith amongst you, who can mend & keep your Arms & working Utensils in order & that you will pay him for his Work. I readily comply with y<sup>r</sup>. Request & will write to a good Man to go along w<sup>th</sup>. you whom I expect you will take good care of & see him safe back when he has done his Work.

A String of Wampum

Bretheren

I have already complied with your request of employing proper Persons to supply those of your People who may be coming to me on public Buisness with Provisions Viz Josias Swarrt & Bartholomew Vroman of Schohere and I must desire you will not make a bad use of this Indulgence.

A String returned

Bretheren

Our taking numbers of French Ships & Vessells is so notorious that I thought it needless even to mention it to you as I know you must hear it daily from all the Country People, besides our Bretheren the Mohocks &c. in this way lately from Philadelphia saw several bro<sup>t</sup>. in from New York the little time they were there. As for your not seeing any French goods is easily accounted for, the Vessells w<sup>ch</sup> our Privateers from time to time

take are homeward bound & loaded with Rum, Sugar, Molasses, Indigo, Cotton &c. those which are bound to Canada generally fall into the hands of Privateers from home & are carried into England. I beleive the French Ind<sup>s</sup>. have a convincing proof of our taking many french Vessells by the scarcity & dearness of Goods in Canada & they may feel it more & more every day. I assure you there is scarce a day passes but there are quantities of French Goods sold at New York, Boston, Rhode Island, Philadelphia & all the English Towns along the Sea Shore.

a String of Wampum

Bretheren

I have now answered to all the Articles of your Speech of the 31 July & I hope to your Satisfaction. I shall now only say a few words more to you w<sup>ch</sup> I desire you will give Attention to.

Bretheren

We have now lost Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry a Fort build by me 2 years ago at the desire & earnest Request of the Six Nations who were present at the time, looking upon it to be a good Barrier to secure their Hunting Grounds which the French Indians are daily encroaching upon, as well as Check to their little Scalping Parties, as it realy was. This is the Fortune of War, Bretheren, let it not discourage you in the least, but rather rouse up your Spirits & Resentment against the French whom you now plainly see invading your & our Country on all sides. By this Belt of Wampum I earnestly recommend Unanimity to you in your Councils & Actions, which will enable us to stand firm against all the Attempts of the French or any other Enemy. let us behave as our Forefathers have done & we will drive the French out of our Country & get rid of such troublesome Neighbours & until we do it we shall have no Peace in our Country.

Gave a very fine Belt



ATAQUES  
de FORT  
WILLIAM-HENRI

Le Tellier  
1757



ATAQUES DU FORT WILLIAM-HENRI  
en Amerique

par les troupes françoises aux ordres de M. de Montcalm  
Prise de ce fort le 7 Août 1757.

Le Tellier

A. Site de la ville de Frontenac. B. Cavalerie de Françoises la nuit du 4 au 5 Août.  
C. Place retranchée que les Anglois alloient occuper lors de l'arrivée des françois.  
D. Ville en la bruyere. E. Batterie de leur artillerie. F. Batterie de huit  
canons de six livres. G. Batterie de six canons de six livres. H. Batterie de six  
livres. I. Batterie de six livres. J. Batterie de six livres. K. Batterie de six livres.  
L. Batterie de six livres. M. Batterie de six livres. N. Batterie de six livres.  
O. Batterie de six livres. P. Batterie de six livres. Q. Batterie de six livres.  
R. Batterie de six livres. S. Batterie de six livres.

C. P. C. M.

ATTACK ON FORT WILLIAM HENRY

From John Knox's *Historical Journal*, ed. Doughty, 1:68



Bretheren

As you daily hear the French & their Indians have for a long time threatened the Destruction of this River & the German Flatts, & now renew their Threats, & I am apt to beleive they mean to put them into Execution & that very soon. I expect that all those who are our friends will hold themselves in readiness to join me at a Call without Delay, by which means I hope we shall be able not only to defeat the Enemy but to preserve our Country & also soon to restore a lasting Peace to us w<sup>ch</sup> will tend as much to your happiness as ours

Gave a Belt.

Fort Johnson 26 Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1757.

The Reply of the Aughquagas & other Nations to Sir William Johnson Speech to them of Yesterday  
Prest.

Sir William Johnson

Captains Tho<sup>s</sup>. & John Butler

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Daniel Claus D. sc<sup>ry</sup>.

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Mountour Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Adam of Aughquaga Speaker

Brother Warraghyjagey

We have deliberately consulted with one another upon every Article you left us to Answer Yesterday, & are now come to let you know the Result, which the Schaniadigroenes<sup>1</sup>, who as well as the rest of our Bretheren at Otsiningo understand your own Language, will now deliver to you

Brother

You have told us Yesterday, that tho it gave you a great deal of Concern to see the Fort at Lake George destroyed by our common Enemy the French, yet notwithstanding you was not

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<sup>1</sup> Schahandoana (Scanandanani), the Iroquois name for Wyoming.

cast down or discouraged thereby, but to the contrary it animated you the more to have revenge against them & therefore exhorted us likewise to be of good Spirit & act up to the Rules our Forefathers gave us, never to give up to our Enemies whilst we could make any Resistance.

Brother

We have taken to heart your Advice & are very thankful for it and you may depend upon it that this Affair at Lake George shall not despirit us in the least or weaken the Covenant Chain between us, it hath rather Strengthened it for we shall stedfastly adhere to all the Obligations thereof & follow the Advice of our Wise Forefathers in every respect & this you may be assured of from all our Bretheren living at Otsiningo being 6 different Nations.

then showed Sir William a Belt & said they would send a Belt in Exchange having none answerable to it with them

Brother

You told us likewise that it gave you great Satisfaction to hear of our having 200 Warriors ready to come to your assistance whenever called upon & that you expected they would not be backward upon your sending for them in case of our Enemys Approach. Brother any time you may send for us on such an Occasion it shall give us the greatest Pleasure to shew our readiness in rising up to join you and we assure you that we always shall be prepared for such a Call

shewed Sir William a Belt & promised to return another as soon as they got home.

Brother

You told us in Answer to our Desire to have some Body at our Towns to trade with us, that you was very willing to comply with our Request, but at the same time you told us to consider that at present it was an improper & Dangerous time for any of your People to go to a Place not very distant from our Enemy

who might try all means to take such a Person & seize his Goods. Your Apprehension in this respect is very well grounded & such a thing might happen in spite of all the Care we could take. Wherefore we will for the present drop our Request & hope Affairs might turn out so as to enjoy peaceable times before long when we dont doubt but you will chearfully comply with our Request.

Shewed the Belt.

Fort Johnson 28 Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1757.

At a Meeting of the Mohocks & Connojaharys

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sir William Johnson Bar<sup>t</sup>.

Cap<sup>t</sup> John Butler

Cap<sup>t</sup> John Lotteridge of the New York Reg<sup>t</sup>.

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Claus Dep. Sec<sup>ry</sup>.

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour Interp<sup>t</sup>.

Little Abraham of the Mohock Castle Speaker

Broth<sup>r</sup>. Warr<sup>y</sup>:

We came here to our place of Consultation in order to condole with you for the loss you lately sustained by having the Fort at Lake George taken & destroyed by our Enemies the French. We are equally affected & by these Strings of Wampum we remove all uneasiness & trouble from your Breast & wipe away the Blood of those brave Men who were slain there.

Gave 3 Strings Wampum

Brother

When you acquainted us (the Warriors of both Castles) of the Enemys approach towards Fort William Henry & desired our joining you & marching to the relief thereof, we did not deliberate long upon your Desire, but immediately rose up in Expectation not to stop until we arrived at that place, but when we came to Fort Edward a Stop was put to our Proceeding further which we understood was by orders of the Great Man

commanding at that place, so that we would not blame you for it. You then desired us to send out scouts to Lake George & if possible to bring a Prisoner from the French. We accordingly went but when our Young Men came within sight of the Fort they saw that their Attempt was in Vain, for they discovered the Fort to be surrendered & in the Enemy's hands & so they returned. Immediately after this we had the unlucky News that Moses a head Man of ours was taken in Attempting to spie the Sittuation at Lake George and that he was made a Sacrifice to the Enemy. This Account was backed by another that an Army was on their March against the German Flatts which made us consider the helpless Condition we left our Families in at home, many of whom had the Small Pox very bad at the time of our Marching. All these bad Acc<sup>ts</sup>. & Circumstances will we hope convince you Brother that we had suff<sup>t</sup>. reason to hurry to our Castles & therefore we hope you will not take it in a bad Light but be assured that we keep as fast a hold of the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain as ever & are firmly resolved to act up to the Directions of our Forefathers, let our Fate be what it will. We are resolved to stand by You till Death, as our Minds are bent no other way than towards our Bretheren the English.

Gave a large black Belt of Wampum

Brother

We hope the Affair at Lake George<sup>1</sup> w<sup>ch</sup>. happened two Years ago and our Conduct since will confirm our Attachment to You when so many of our People were left dead in the Feild who sacrificized their Lives for their Bretheren the English. We beleive you cannot lay to our Charge that we ever refused you anything you demanded of us, we therefore hope you will not resent this our first Fault in not staying & accompanying you home again from Fort Edward, for we assure you Brother the several bad Accounts we received there turned our heads entirely.

a Black Belt

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<sup>1</sup> Battle of Lake George in September, 1755.

Brother Warraghyjagey

The Warriors having now spoke for themselves to You, we the Sachems of both Castles shall speak a few Words to You

It came to our Ears that upon our Peoples leaving you at Fort Edward your Mind was in a manner altered with regard to us, & that you seemed inclined to throw off your Friendship & love towards us. this alarmed us very much & we hope you will not perservere therein but let the Advice of our wise Forefathers direct you which was not to be uneasy & loose Temper when any unhappy difference should happen between Bretheren but immediately have it cordially settled. Therefore with this Belt we settle your Heart & entreat you to drop your Intention of leaving us, for if you persist therein it will certainly be the Ruin & end of us. Pray consider it cooly Brother & let this our earnest Request have an Impression upon you

Gave a Belt

Brother

We now come to appologize in the best manner we can for the late Conduct of some of our Young Men & to assure you that we their Chiefs will for the future make it our Buisness to admonish them & prevent the like being done again. We acknowledge & so do they that their carrying away their Bretheren's Horses was very wrong & I hope on their delivering them all up you will forgive them.

Gave a Belt.

Lower Mohock Castle 29 Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1757.

Sir William Johnson's reply to the Speech of the Connojahary & Mohock Indians of Yesterday.

(N. B as the Indians of the upper Mohock or Connojahary Castle left many of their People very ill of the small Pox & they being in a hurry to get home, Sir W<sup>m</sup>. went over to the lower Mohock Castle where the Connojahary Indians also were, in order not to detain them by returning to Fort Johnson & there made the following Speech)

Bretheren

I thank you for your Condolance on the loss we have sustained at & of Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Henry. I condole with you also upon it as it was a Security to your Hunting Ground w<sup>ch</sup> before said Fort was built you often complained was encroached upon by the French Indians. I condole with you also for the loss of several of your Nephews (meaning the New England Indians) who were killed & taken at Lake George.

Bretheren Warriors of both Mohock Castles

I acknowledge Your readiness in rising up & joining me in our late March to Fort Edward & the good Disposition you showed to have gone to the relief of our Bretheren at Lake George. As your leaving me at Fort Edward whatever reasons you might have for it, it dos not justify your doing it without first giving me your Motives for it. I am convinced from the constant Tenor of your Behaviour since this War, that you are sincerely attached to your Bretheren the English — I am upon that Account & the Appology you have made, disposed to beleive that your quitting me at Fort Edward was not from want of Zeal for the Common Cause & therefore I am willing to overlook this Error in your Conduct & hope & expect you will avoid the like for the future.

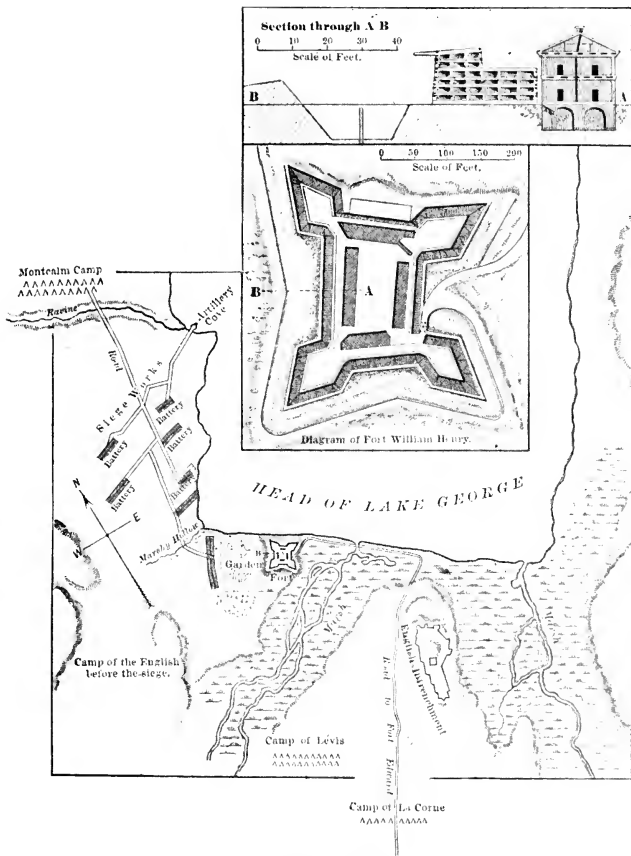
Gave a Black Belt of Wampum.

Bretheren Sachems of both Castles

Tho the treatment my Family & estate met with from those Indians of sundry nations who were at my House during our Absence at Fort Edward, was such as if continued or repeated must break the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain & render my stay amongst you useless to the King my Master: yet as the Chiefs of the other Nations have & you now add your Disapprobation of such Behaviour & promise the like shall not again happen, I am willing to pass this Fault also over & agree to continue to act in my Station as usual

Gave a large Belt





PLAN OF FORT WILLIAM HENRY AND VICINITY AT THE TIME OF THE SIEGE

From Avery's *A History of the United States and Its People*, 4:142



FROM JACOB VROOMAN

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>

[April 1756–August 1757]

1756: april I was out on his Maj<sup>ts</sup>: Sarvices  
6 Days with 34 private men to Canagoharry as  
Captain . . . . .JACOB W: VROOMAN

1756 agust I was out on his Maj<sup>ts</sup>: Sarvices  
14 Days with 49 private men to the Garmen  
flats as Captain. . . . .JACOB W: VROOMAN

1757 march I was out on his Maj<sup>ts</sup>: Sarvices  
24 Days with 47 private men to the Garmen  
flats as Captain. . . . .JACOB W: VROOMAN

1757 agust I was out on his maj<sup>ts</sup>: Sarvices  
18 Days with 53 private men to forth  
Edward as Captain. . . . .JACOB W: VROOMAN

honourable Sir

This above is a true list what I have Done on  
his maj<sup>ts</sup>: Sarvices no more but I Do  
Remain Sir Your must humble Sarv<sup>t</sup>:

JACOB W: VROOMAN

ADDRESSED:

To the honourable  
Sir William Johson  
att  
forth Johnson

INDORSED:<sup>2</sup>

Capt<sup>n</sup>. Swarts Return  
rec<sup>d</sup>. Decbr. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1757

<sup>1</sup> In New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> This indorsement which is in Johnson's hand, evidently has no relation to Vrooman's letter.

TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Albany 3<sup>d</sup> of Septbr. 1757.*

MY LORD

The 31<sup>st</sup>. past I received at Fort Johnson a letter from M. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb a copy of which I herewith inclose, and conformable to it. I now do myself the Honour to write Your Lordship.

As to the present state of Indian Affairs so far as they fall within my department, I shall give your Lordship a general and as Just a View of them as in my power.

Last June I had a meeting at my House with the Senecas, Cayugaes, & Onondagaes, a few of y<sup>e</sup> Tuscaroras, Oneidaes, & Mohawks were present, but did not consider themselves as Principalls in the conferences which then past.—The former three Nations avowed they had no intentions of breaking the antient covenant chain between them & the English, but were unanimously, & sincerely determined to hold it fast, & preserve inviolable the Antient Brotherhood. They said they were in comparison with the Nations of Indians surrounding them but a small hand full of People—that they were menaced & threatened from severall Quarters, particularly from the Messisageys who had actually taken one of their People Prisoner who was out a Hunting in the Woods, & did by a stratagem make his escape from them. That they looked upon the present times to be extremely criticall, and that their Welfare & safety depended upon keeping all their warriors together, & ready at hand to preserve & defend themselves from those attempts against them which they had reason to suspect might be made & therefore they had come to a resolution to stay at Home, & be on their guard. However there was speedily to be a considerable meeting of various Nations held at Onondaga, & when that broke up I should know the result of it.—

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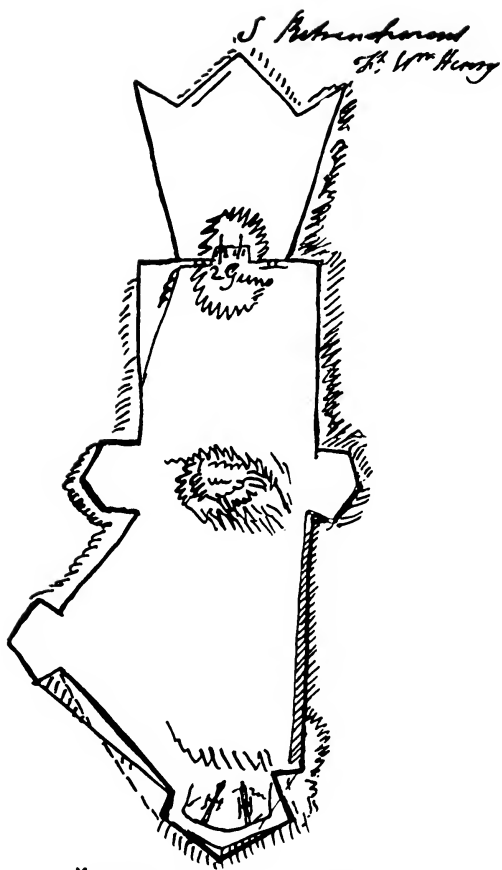
<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

As I looked upon this to be a clear Declaration for a neutrality I concluded the meeting with a speech of w<sup>h</sup>. I inclose your Lordship a copy, as also of the answer made to it. Since which I have heard nothing from, nor said anything to the said three upper Nations. It does not yet appear that the said Nations have broke their Neutrality, but whether they will continue strictly to adhere to it, is more than I can take upon me to be certain of, for if the French labour the point for their breaking thorough it, & should succeed in any considerable attempts they may make to the Southward, & where I suspect they will make some attempts, it is not improbable the said Nations may Judge themselves under the necessity of breaking their Neutrality with us.

The Tuscaroras, & Oneidaes have not as a general Body made any express declaration to Me. few of the former I believe are well inclined towards us, the latter are divided amongst themselves, and the greater part under the influence of those of their Nation whom the French have drawn off to live at Swegatchy, & at whose scalping partys w<sup>h</sup>. molest the German Flatts they do at least contrive. Other of y<sup>e</sup>. Oneidaes seem as yet hearty in our interest, & one of the chief Warriors of that Nation with a party of ten or twelve is gone to War about 3 Days ago from my House towards Canada, & this upon an invitation I gave near three Months ago, w<sup>h</sup>. I did not since renew.

The Murder of Jerry still sticks in y<sup>e</sup>. stomachs of the Tuscaroras, which together with their Cheif Sachims being brought over to the French Interest has cooled their affections towards us so much that I have not seen any of them this long time.— the late Murder of two Oneidaes by one Smith, a Trader at the German Flatts has given the French Party amongst them a handle to encrease their influence over that part of the Nation who have been, & still remain advocates for the English Interest, and here I think it necessary to acquaint Your Lordship that I find the Frenchified Oneidaes are carrying on a considerable

trade for the Swegatchy Indians at y<sup>e</sup>. German Flatts, where the People are now carrying considerable Quantity of Rum & other goods, so that the pernicious trade formerly carried on from this town with the Cajhnawagey Indians is like to be revived under another Dress at the German Flatts, & it is not in my power to prevent it, I must therefore refer it to Your Lordships consideration and authority. It seems to me as far as our present circumstances will enable us, it will be adviseable to distress the French Indian Interest as much as possible, & to prevent their haveing Indian goods thro our hands will undoubtedly be some means of doing it. Indeed unless sufficient protection be speedily given to the Mohawk River, & German Flatts this Trade will drop of course, for y<sup>e</sup>. Inhabit<sup>s</sup>. particularly at the German Flatts are on the point of totally abandoning that part of the country, w<sup>h</sup>. is at present a scene of Desolation & distress. They have made a formal application to me in writing, in which they sett forth their calamitous scituation, and that they can no longer hold their own. Our Friend Oneidaes say that if there were a proper Body Rangers to scour the Woods constantly there abouts, they would Join them, & doubt not but it would intimidate the Enemy from venturing at least in small scalping Partys that way the inhabitants say they are too few, & too poor to defend themselves by this measure. I now proceed My Lord to the Two Castles of Mohawks who have hitherto stuck firm to us, tho at a very expensive Premium. Since the loss of Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Hennery they have shewed to me the strongest assurances of their zeal & fidelity and I think they are sincere, tho our scituation makes them very mercenary, & some of them, as well as the other Nations, a little Insolent.—A Number of the Six Nations who are settled at Oghuago on the Susquahana River, have always & dureing this war, as well as those liveing at Schohare constantly shewn themselves firmly attached to our interest, & no Indians have been more ready on every summons to come & Join his Majestys arms; they are a flourishing & encreasing People,



Fort Wm Henry in 1757  
Tracing from a pen and ink drawing by  
Col. James Montross.





as many of our freind Indians amongst the Six Nations who are disgusted with the ruling Politics of their People leave their Castles and go & settle at Oghuago. These Indians if no unforeseen accidents prevent, may I think be depended on, and they have since our loss of Fort W<sup>m</sup>. Hennery (to the releif of w<sup>h</sup>. severall of them, who were at my House upon business, marched with me) given me the strongest assurances that our misfortunes do not shake their former resolutions, but they are determined to live or Die with us, and there were all the appearances of sincerity in their Professions.—As to the Delawares, & other Indians settled near Tiaogo, the negotiations which have lately been carried on between the government of Pensilvania & them seem to have put matters rather upon a conditional truce, than a final pacification of mutual aid offensive & defensive, Mr. Croghan is but just returned from Pensilvania, & I have not had time to read over all the transactions which have lately passed between gou<sup>r</sup>. Denny Mr. Croghan (as my Deputy) & those Indians, which from some Papers I have perused & the conversation I have had with Mr. Croghan, together with some dispatches I have received from the Lords of Trade relative to the landed Disputes in those parts, seem to open an Important Feild of future consideration, & prudent management, these things I proposed to lay before your Lordship, & take y<sup>r</sup>. Direction upon. This already strikes me, that the unhappy Divisions in Pensilvania have infected their Indian Proceedings, & will I fear without a proper & prudent interposition, throw all Indian Politicks into confusion, and perhaps into a Flame which may not be easily quenched.

As to the Shawanese, Mihicanders, Nanticokes, & some other Tribes settled at Otsiningo, on one of the Branches of the Susquahana if they are at liberty to act according to their inclinations, I am persuaded we may have a considerable assistance from them, but as they look upon the Senecas as their Patrons & are in the Neighbourhood of that, & the Cayuga country, the Influence those people may have upon them, must be taken into the Account when we calculate our dependance

upon them, however I am of opinion a number of their People would fulfill their engagements, & come on a call from me.

The Indians settled at Stockbridge, & on the Borders of New England I look on as our fast Freinds, they have given me Notice that they had some Matters of Importance to lay before me, & that they would speedily do it. I expect a meeting with them in a few Days, when I shall probably be able to speak of them & their resolutions with a greater degree of certainty.—Thus my Lord I have in the most concise & candid manner I could, given your Lordship a general view of his Majestys Indian Interest this way, as it appears to me under our present circumstances. Your Lordship hath often observed, & with great truth & judgement, that the retention & extending our Indian Interest, hath its essential dependance upon the Success of his Majestys arms on this continent, and with regard to a People of the Indians character who are not, or do not consider themselves as principals in the present war, the Maxim is as natural as it is just. — I am far from being even inclined to stand up for an advocate in behalf of the conduct, or characters of Indians, but this I must beg leave to observe to Y<sup>r</sup>. Lordship that the intemperate, & imprudent sallies of prejudice & resentment which escape from many of our European Bretheren, & w<sup>h</sup>. is fed by the old leaven of Provincial Faction, has I am persuaded, & will if not curbed tend to weaken the little Indian Interest we have left, and I could wish that gentlemen who have had neither time or opertunity sufficient to be competent judges of the subject, would at least not suffer their too ready prejudices to break out into language before Indians, who many of them understand English well, & most of them a little. It would be happy if People would prudently treat Indians at least with a silent indifference, where speeches, & opinions can be of no real use, & may be attended with ill effects, for my own part tho I often hear my management & conduct is loudly censured I am no ways sollicitous to silence impertinent murmurs, with an impertinent vindication.—I have wrote to the Lords of Trade that whenever his Majesty is of opinion his Indian interest can be thrown into abler hands

for his service, I shall resign them without a murmer, & with a most Dutifull gratitude for all his distinguishing favours to me. I am truly in point of fortune a looser by that Post of Honour which seems to create so much Envy & disturbance in the Breath of many.— I hope your Lordship will excuse this degression as I have been informed that letters from private Hands have gone Home tending to censure my conduct, & mould my character as agent for Indian affairs, I thought it therefore necessary for me to give the Lords of Trade the hint I did, and to mention the same to your Lordship, as I apprehend some of these criticisms may have reached your ears, and I own myself not indifferent to your Lordships opinion of me.

I come now my Lord to the second thing contained in gen<sup>l</sup>. Webbs letter to me, namely what number of Indians I can in case of necessitty bring into the Feild. Things remaining in the present situation with regard to our Publick affairs in generall, & the Indians in particular, and haveing 3 Weeks notice given me for the distant Indians to receive my summons and act upon it, I am of opinion I could March from my House with about three, or four Hundred Indians, of severall Nations, but I must acquaint your Lordship that I am without proper arms, that I am totally in want of a sufficient quantity, & proper assortment of goods, & that I am oblidged to supply myself, & w<sup>h</sup>. I cannot do properly, with what I want imediately at the extravagant prices the Albany & Schenectady Traders insist on, who have no conscionable bounds when Profit is to prey upon Necessitty. I have a number of arms which want repair & cannot be used without it, and the Indians constantly coming to get Smiths Work done. I applied to M. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Webb. He could not assist me with a gun Smith, I have looked out & employed People to get one in this, or the Neighbouring Provinces, but without success.

Arms at present are a verry expensive, but an Indispensable article, and if I should be called on to raise what Indians I could for service, I shall want Arms, & goods to fitt them out with. I had the Honour of your Lordships favour from on Board the

Man of War before you sailed from New York, but as it contains many important Points were I to answer them now, it would swell this letter beyond all moderate Bounds, and I should not at present have given your Lordship so long an interruption, if Genr<sup>l</sup>. Webbs letter had not made it my Duty so to do, and I have been as speedy in writing your Lordship, as the Matter, & length of this letter would allow of.

I have the Honour to be with the

Highest Respect — My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Obedient

& Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup>.  
the EARL OF LOUDOUN.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson,

Albany, Sept. 3d 1757.

Account of the state of the Six Nations at Present.

Account of whole numbers he thinks he can rais of  
Indians.

Appliants of work on arms or goods. . . .

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF REWARD

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>

[Albany September 16, 1757]

[Whereas Two French Cana]dians Prisoners *Lecoigne* [and *Le fforge* who were held in] the ffort at Albany on Suspic[ion of having carried on corres]pondance with the Enemy, fo[und a way of escaping on Fr]iday the 16<sup>th</sup> Cur<sup>t</sup>.<sup>2</sup> in the Night

<sup>1</sup> In New York State Library, Albany, N. Y., Sir William Johnson manuscripts.

<sup>2</sup> September 16, 1757 fell on Friday.

[This is to give] Notice to all his Majestys [subjects that any person who shall a]pprehend and bring them to Alban[y shall receive Ten] *pounds New York Currency* *rewar[d]*  
 Ten pounds New York Currency

[All civil officers] and Military are Desired and required [to do their utmost in as]sisting in apprehending and Securei[ng the aforesaid Lecoigne] and Le fforge

[by comm]and of the General

G. CHRISTIE A. D. Q. M. G.

INDORSED:

Reward for  
 takeing 2 French[men]

INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[Sept. 15–20, 1757]

Fort Johnson 15 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1757.— p. m.

Four of the chief Sachems & three Warriors of the Onieda Nation who arrived here Yesterday, having desired a Meeting this afternoon with Sir William Johnson, met & Conochiquisa spoke as follows

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sir William Johnson

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Peter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

M<sup>r</sup>. Montour & M<sup>r</sup>. Arent Stevens Inter<sup>s</sup>.—

Brother Warragh<sup>y</sup>.

As it is now too late in the day to enter upon the chief Buisness which brought us down hither we shall defer that till tomorrow & at present only let you know what News & reports our Castle Affords.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Bro<sup>r</sup>.

Gawickie & Taghawawagh are lately arrived at our Castle from Canada with all their Families.

Bro<sup>r</sup>.

We have sent Four Belts of Wampum at four different times to Canada, to desire the Gov<sup>r</sup>. would restrain his Indians from committing Hostilities any where upon this River, particularly upon the German Flatts, as it will be in effect destroying of us, for we get a great deal of Provisions from the Settlements there, & reap many Advantages from our Neighbourhood with the Settlers there — besides when the 5 Nations come our way & are hungry it is from the German Flatts they are fed. but notwithstanding these repeated Messages we find our Belts have not been regarded by the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada. Two large Belts tied together were very lately sent by the Onondaga & Tuscarore Indians to the Sweegachie Indians upon the same Subject, but these Belts were stopped at Cadaraqui & not suffered to go to Sweegechie, upon which Kinderunte a chief Sachem of our Nation is gone in person to Sweegachie upon this Buisness.

They then gave Sir William a relation of what they had heard from the French Indians since the taking of Fort William Henry in which they mentioned that the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Canada told his Indians it was no wonder the English Army was always beaten by the French, for that they minded nothing but eating, Drinking & Women & paid no Worship or regard to Him that rules above & did not seem to know where he lived — whereas the French never proceeded upon any Enterprize or fought any Battle but they all first put up their Prayers to God for Success & therefore he gave them the Victory. That the French Gov<sup>r</sup>. further said, that if he found the English wanted any more fighting, he would pass by Fort Edward & come down & destroy Albany That the groote Jonge<sup>1</sup> (a great Seneca Warrior in

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<sup>1</sup> Groote Junge. See *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:233, 262.

the French Interest) before his Death, told the 5 Nations that a particular Friend of his in Canada told him as a Secret, that the present War between the English & French was but a pretended one & that by & by they would make Peace & unite to destroy the Six Nations —

that the Onondagas had of late given several warnings to the Oniedas to take care of themselves for that a French Army would soon come & destroy the German Flatts &c. upon w<sup>ch</sup>. the Speaker said to Sir William we know not where to go out of the Way, but among our Bretheren the English with whom we are resolved to live & die & to hold fast by the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain we have made with them.

They then desired Sir William would tomorrow let them know what News he had, and what was become of our great Fleet & Army which they had heard so much talk of, and that tomorrow Morning early they would let him know what was the chief Errand w<sup>ch</sup>. had brought them down hither

Sir William answered that he had attended to the News they had acquainted him with and that tomorrow he would let them know when he was prepared to meet & hear them.

When this Meeting with the Oniedas was ended Sir William sent for the heads of the River Indians (a number of whom residing about Schohere & Kats Kiln had been for some days encamp<sup>t</sup> over the River) & acquainted them that he was informed three of their People had yesterday attacked, Wounded & Robbed an Express which Cap<sup>t</sup> Lottridge<sup>1</sup> had sent from Fort Hunter to the Commanding officer at Albany about 4 Miles beyond Schenectady & taken his Dispatches from him & then threatened to have Sir Williams Scalp in three Days — Sir William told them that before he could do any Buisness with them he expected they should enquire into this Villanious Affair & give him some Satisfaction thereon.

& hereupon he gave them 3 Strings Wampum.

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<sup>1</sup> Captain John Lottridge of the New York regiment.

Fort Johnson 16 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1757. A. M.

The Information of Schanaradya a cheif Cayouge Sachem who has always been a firm Friend to the English

Present

Sir William Johnson

Cap<sup>t</sup> Peter W<sup>r</sup>axall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

Mr. Arent Stevens Interp<sup>r</sup>.

That he left Cayouge 5 days ago & that 5 days before that, Two Delaware Indians arrived at that place & told the Informant they had been sent by the French two Years ago amongst some very distant Nations of Indians to the Westward to invite them to come to the Ohio & make War upon the Neighbouring English Settlements, that they had fulfilled their Commission — that a great Number of these distant Indians were arrived at the Ohio & the Road full of others coming along — that when they were gathered together they would make a Vast Army. Being asked how the French would be able to supply such a great Body of Indians with Provisions on the Ohio where they had not plenty for themselves he answered, that he understood these Indians were immediately to march over the Mountains towards Virginia, fall upon the Settlements & maintain themselves with the Provisions they would find there.

Being asked whether the Ottawawa Indians who were lately at Lake George were returned back to their own Country, Answered they were not for if they had, they must have known it at Cayouge.

He further says that on his way here he met 8 Tuscarores who were going to join some Onondagas who live at Ganughsharaga<sup>1</sup> from thence they were to set off in two days for Fort Cumberland<sup>2</sup> or wherever they could find the Catabaws whom

<sup>1</sup> Ganaghsaroga, an Indian village in the town of Sullivan, Madison county, N. Y. *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 8:229.

<sup>2</sup> Fort Cumberland, Md., on Wells creek, the north branch of the Potomac river, built in 1754 by Colonel James Innes.



they heard were assembled in that Neighbourhood & that he understood they intended to Attack them.

Fort Johnson 16 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1757.

At a Meeting with the Onieda Indian Chiefs as mentioned Yesterday

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sir William Johnson

Geo. Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Agent

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda<sup>1</sup>

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Peter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

Mr. Montour<sup>2</sup> & Mr. Arent Stevens Interp<sup>rs</sup>

The Head Sachems of the Mohock Castle

Two Seneca Sachems, One Cayouge Sachem who came today & the Chief of the Four Cherokee Indians

Conochquiesa one of the head Onieda Sachems spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghyjagey

We yesterday told you that we proposed this day to acquaint you with the Buisness which brought us down hither. We are glad to see present at this Meeting chief Men of several other Nations, that they may hear what we of the Onieda Nation have to say to you

The Speaker then showed the Belt which Sir William sent to the Nations at the German Flatts upon the late Murder of the Two Onieda Ind<sup>s</sup>. by Tom Smith & repeated what Message Sir W<sup>m</sup>. then sent to them. after w<sup>ch</sup> he proceeded & said

Brother

We are thankful to you for the right & prudent Steps you took on this unfortunate Affair. It is only our Concern & belongs to no other Nation to make it up, as the Deceased were our People. You must not be angry at the hasty Message we sent

<sup>1</sup> Captain Jelles Fonda.

<sup>2</sup> Andrew Montour.

you upon this Accident. We were greatly touched to see our Friends they lying dead before us, but the matter is now ended & composed.

then gave a Belt of Wampum  
in return for the one Sir William  
sent them.

Brother

When you first entered upon the Administration of our Affairs you removed the Embers from Albany & lighted up a Fire here of good & pleasant Wood, You also planted a Tree of comfortable Shelter for us, & swept this Council Room free from all Defilement. but Brother as we have lately lost Blood on both sides, we by this Belt wipe it all clean away & put every thing upon a friendly footing between us. Our Ancestors formerly did, when anything disagreeable had fallen out, pull up a large Pine Tree by the roots & bury deep in the Earth every thing w<sup>ch</sup>. might obstruct a good Understanding between Bretheren, they advised us when occasion required to do the same, w<sup>ch</sup> Advice we now follow & desire that a chearful Confidence may take place between us.

Gave a Belt.

Brother

Some flying Reports have reached our Ears that you have lately been displeas'd with the 6 Nations, and that you intimated as if we held the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain but loosly in our hands, and that you have hinted as if you designed to leave us & give up the Mannagment of our Affairs.

Brother

The Governors who formerly were at the head of Indian Affairs, when things went cross to their Wishes & Inclinations, used to have Patience & not give up the Cause — indeed the Commissioners at Albany were apt to listen to idle Stories, by which they were discouraged & lost all hopes, for which reason the Great King swept them away & appointed you to the sole Mannagment of our Affairs. Brother it is true there are some

of our Nation in the French Interest, but we that are present & many more of our People, are detirmined to keep fast hold of the Antient Cov<sup>t</sup>. chain with our Bretheren the English & will not quit it, do not therefore Brother harbour an ill Opinion of us all & let not your Discontents turn your Heart from us, but go on, act for the best & persevere.

Gave a Belt.

They then desired the Heads of the River Indians might be sent for, which was done & when they came & were seated, the same Speaker said to them,

Nephews

We were very much concerned Yesterday when we heard the Affair of some of your People attacking an Express upon the Road between Albany & Schenectady. Nephews we speak now to you in the name of the 5 Nations & we do insist upon it that you take care & not behave after this manner, but live peacably & carry your selves in a Brotherly manner towards our Bretheren the English as we the 5 Nations do

and hereupon gave them a Belt of Wampum

The Speaker then said

They had ended what they had to say when Sir William told them, that as their Belts lay before him he should take into Consideration what they had said upon them & give them an Answer when he was ready.

Fort Johnson 17. Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1757. A. M.

At a Meeting with the Onieda Indians

Sir William Johnson &c. present as Yesterday & the Indians as then mentioned except the Cherokee Indians.

Sir William's Speech

Bretheren of Onieada

(holding up the Belt w<sup>ch</sup> they returned Yesterday in the room of that Sir William sent them upon the Murder of their two People by Tho<sup>s</sup>. Smith)

I am well pleased the Steps I took on this Unfortunate Accident, were agreeable to & approved by you & that your Minds are composed thereon. Notwithstanding the Measures I took to apprehend him, Tho<sup>s</sup>. Smith made his Escape, but I am not without hopes I may yet get him & bring him to Justice for his Behaviour, which I greatly resented.

Bretheren

As you have on your side cleaned away the Blood from this Council room w<sup>ch</sup> we have on both sides lost, so I on my part do the same, and I shall take care as far as is in my power to keep this Floor clean & undefiled. I expect you will contribute your best Endeavours to the same purpose.

Gave a Belt

Bretheren

When the three upper Nations were down here this Summer with the result of the Council at Onondaga & at which time I expected to have seen Deputies from your Nation & Tuscarore, I did tell them that it seemed to me as if the old Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain was very much rust-eaten & held so loosely by the 5 Nations that I thought it in Danger without better care taken on their sides, of slipping out of their hands, and as I think it to be the true Interest of the Six united Nations to preserve this Chain bright & keep a firm hold of it, I was very much concerned to see it in so dangerous a Sittuation, especially at a time when the French our common Enemy, are by Act & Force endeavouring to break this Chain in peices which must end in the Destruction & Slavery of the 5 Nations.

Bretheren,

Several things have happened since that time which tended to confirm me in the above opinion, particularly the Liberty allowed to the French Indians to pass thro the Country of the Six Nations & murder our People at the German Flatts & many other Things too notorious to require Instances — all

which makes it appear to me, as if your Nation as well as the others, were laying either asleep or Drunk whilst the French were creeping along with a Knife in their hands to cut your Throats & that you seemed to forget your Antient Brotherhood with the English & were indifferent to whatever happened to them. Such a Behaviour from the 5 Nations after all my Endeavours & their fair Promises, together with the great Expencc which the King Your Father has been at since I had the Mannagment of your Affairs, made me sick & tired of my Office, and I did threaten to leave this Country & give up my care of the 6 Nations, as they seemed to take to Heart so little what I said to them or the Promises they made to me. As I think some amongst the Six Nations are still in their Hearts true & faithful Bretheren & have right Notions of their real Interest, and as you now have by a Belt of Wampum given me such Strong assurances that you and a part of your Nation are detirmined not to forsake their bretheren the English but stand by them to the end, I will have patience & not Dispair, but hope all the Six Nations will awake & rub their Eyes, that they may see before it is too late, that if they continue to be deluded by the French, those faithless People will watch their Opportunity & make an end of them.

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

The Senecas, Cayouges & Onondagas sent their Deputies down to me after the Council at Onondaga was broke up to let me know the Intentions of their People with regard to the present War between the English & French. but niether your Nation nor the Tuscarores have yet given me an Answer to what I spoke last Fall to the Six Nations, and which they all promised to give a positive Answer to, when the Council at Onondaga broke up

Bretheren by this Belt I desire to know what part your Nation do intend to Act.

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

Your Bretheren the Cherokees have sent Deputies here, I would recommend it to the Six Nations to strengthen their Alliance with those Brave People & good Friends to the English & send such a Message by them as will be both for your Interest & ours.

Gave 3 Strings

Sir William added That as they knew he had constantly & warmly recommended it to them to strengthen themselves by fixing firm & extending their Alliances, by which Means they might recover their former Consequence amongst all the Nations of Indians, they had now a good Opportunity of pursuing this Advice by sending proper Messages by these Cherokee Indians.

When this Meeting ended

Fort Johnson 18 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1757. p. m.

At a Meeting of Indians as before mentioned.

Present as Yesterday. also the heads of the River Indians

The Speech of the Six Nations to Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

An old Onieda Sachem spoke as follows.

Brother Warraghyjagey

After holding up the 3 Strings of Wampum which Sir William gave them yesterday to consider of a proper Message to be sent by the Cherokee Indians & repeating what he had said on that Subject, the Speaker proceeded.

We have indeed taken a great deal of time to consult upon this affair, for ever since you spoke to us we have been debating upon it, We are no more than Infants in comparison of our Fore-fathers, & not having their Abilities & Experience, we are obliged to take more time informing our Resolutions in matters of Moment.

Brother

When you have heard & taken down in writing what we propose to say to the Cherokees (w<sup>ch</sup> you are to understand as the voice of the whole Six Nations for we who are here present are a suff<sup>t</sup>. Body to represent & act for them) then if there is any Alteration you think proper to make or add anything farther to it, We shall be glad to know it from you, for we would have this Message go in your name as well as ours which will give it the greater Weight & render it the more acceptable & prevailing with our Bretheren the Cherokees.

Then Conochquiesa stood up & said

Brother

Now listen to the Message we propose to send.

First of all We would invite them to send a Deputation of their chief Sachems & Warriors to come hither to the Council fire of the Six Nations and to no other place, as this at present will be the safest for them, it being in the Neighbourhood of the Mohocks & Oniedas who are the heads of the Confederacy, and here the Chiefs of the Six Nations will meet them.

Secondly We would admonish them not to let our Message meet with the Fate which many of ours formerly did to the Ottowawas, namely not to make it known to the French who took Measures to obstruct our Meeting together — that as we send this Invitation with sincerity of Heart & from Motives of a Brotherly regard for our common Welfare, so we hope our Bretheren the Cherokees by whom we send it, will take care to deliver it to their Nation with Fidelity & Truth & that it will be received with a reciprocal Heartiness & good Will & produce the Meeting we have proposed.

Thirdly We would acquaint them that we have had experience of the French & have found them a perfidious People who deceive with enticing Words & at the same time mean no such thing in their Hearts, and therefore we would warn them

against being imposed upon by the Arts & Schemes of the French who will if they hear of our proposed Meeting, use every Cunning & wicked Method in their power to prevent it, for they are Enemies to the Union & Harmony of Bretheren & Jealous of their having friendly Interviews with each other.

Fourthly We shall desire them to communicate our present Message to all their Friends & Allies in those parts & use their best Endeavours to gather all their Hearts together as one Heart & to have but one Ear & one Mouth

Lastly our Brother of the Cayouge now here will on his return acquaint the upper Nations with the Message we now send & the Meeting proposed that all their Young Men may be kept from going to War towards the Country of these our Bretheren lest any Mistakes should happen which might Obstruct or prevent the proposed Meeting.

They said this was the Message they proposed to send & that now he might diminish or add to it as he judged proper.

Sir William withdrew with M<sup>r</sup> Croghan & the Sec<sup>ry</sup>. & upon his return said

Bretheren

I have heard & well considered the Message you propose to send by the Cherokees now here & I approve of it, I have only one addition & which I think very necessary to make to it, & at the same time I recommend it to you as what I will heartily join in

You know our Bretheren the Cherokees have taken the Ax in their hands & made use of it in Conjunction with our People with good Success against our Enemies the French & their Indians & as they have lost some of their People by it & have sent you & me word they were detirmined not to leave off while thay had a Man left alive, I think it would be very proper to encourage them by a joint Belt of Wampum w<sup>ch</sup> I have ready, to persevere in their Resolutions, go on & get Satisfaction, in which I doubt not they will be assisted by their Bretheren the English.



Such a Belt to encourage them, I think very necessary for another reason, the French will doubtless set every art at work to prevail on them to lay down the Hatchet & very probably endeavour to work them about to their Interest & Views.

This Addition was approved of by the 6 Nations.

Then Conochquiesa spoke to the River Indians who were present & told them if they had any thing to say w<sup>ch</sup>. they desired the 6 Nations should hear they had now an Opportunity to do it.

The River Indians said, they had waited these Two days with Impatience, to speak upon the Chief Buisness they came about to Sir William Johnson but it was now night, & as theirs was not Warriors News, they thought tomorrow Morning would be a more suitable time for it, when they would be ready to speak & desired their Uncles the Six Nations now present would Attend & hear them.

The Meeting then broke up.

Fort Johnson 19 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1757.—A. M.

At a Meeting of the Sundry Indians as above mentioned

Pres<sup>t</sup>:

Sir William Johnson

Geo. Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Agent

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Peter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

M<sup>r</sup>. Montour Interp<sup>r</sup>.

Conochquiesa the Onieda Sachem stood up & put the River Indians in Mind of what they said last night & told them the Meeting was now full & all parties were ready to hear what they had to say.

The River Indian speaker then addressing himself to Sir William & their Uncles the 6 Nations said, that they were very glad they happened to come here at a time when so many of the 6 Nations were assembled at this Council fire — that they hoped what past at Yesterdays Meeting relative to the Message proposed to be sent by the Cherokee Deputies now here, would be Attended with the desired Success and that God might bless

these & all other Endeavours of their Brother Sir William Johnson & their Uncles the 6 Nations for the common good & Interest.

That they were very sorry to hear of the ill Behaviour of some of their thoughtless young Men w<sup>ch</sup>. their Brother Sir Will. Johnson had complained of — that for anything they knew it might happen in the manner the Express had related it, as there are several of their People who live a wandering unsettled Life & will pay no regard to the Advice or Directions of their Wise & elderly People — & that some such sort of Persons the English had amongst them — that for their parts they were wholly Ignorant who the Persons were that committed this Outrage & are themselves equally innocent of it, they hope therefore it may be thrown on one side & not destroy the harmony & Friendship which all the Chief & wise People of their Nation, are truly desirous to cultivate & preserve with their Bretheren the English — that the Devil is very buisy to work evil between us, but that it should be our Endeavour to defeat his wicked Purposes — that they considered themselves as Children to the English, & therefore when they did amiss or wanted good Advice, they hoped to be treated with the forgiveness & regard of a Present

Gave Sir W<sup>m</sup>. two Strings of Wampum

Then addressing themselves to the Six Nations they told them they took kindly the good Advice & Admonitions they gave them two days ago with their Belt of Wampum, and which they should communicate to the rest of their People who were at home & should always receive whatever Advice the Six Nations would give them with due respect & pay a suitable regard to it.

Upon which they gave the  
Six Nations 4 Strings of Wampum

then speaking to Sir William Johnson they said

Brother

As we knew the Council fire of the Six Nations burnt at this place, & that here all Matters for the general good of

Indians are debated & agreed upon, we came to have our Recourse to it.

We have heard what has past between you & our Uncles the Six Nations since their arrival here & we are well pleased with it & shall report it to our People at home who we are assured will rejoice to hear it from us.

gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Brother

We are sprung from those Indians who antiently lived near the Sea shoar — from our Fathers we have heard of the Covenant Chain of Peace & Friendship agreed upon between your Ancestors & ours — We are on our parts detirmined to keep fast hold of this Chain, and we hope our Bretheren the English will do the same on their side.

Gave 3 Strings.

Brother

We are very much obliged to you for introducing us to this Meeting between you & our Uncles the Six Nations, by which means we have had an Opportunity to hear & see the Method of carrying on public Buisness & more fully to know the nature and meaning of the old Agreement of Peace; friendship & Brotherhood between the English & the Indians, w<sup>ch</sup> we who are but like Children in these Affairs wanted to be particularly informed about — We shall lay up in our Hearts all we have seen & heard & teach it to our Children, that so the Antient Ties between us may last from Generation to Generation

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Brother

By our being present at this Meeting & from what some of us have heard at others you have held here, We find the Great King our Father has appointed you to transact all his Buisness with the Indians in these parts & to take care of them. This we are exceedingly glad of as also to have heard that the King is ready & willing to show his Love & regard for all his Children the Indians. Now Brother we are a dispersed & unsettled People

& have no Land to plant or fixt Habitations to dwell in, by which means we are not capable of being of any Consequence as a People or Nation, niether with regard to ourselves or to you our Bretheren the English — We therefore desire you would make use of the Power given you by the King to help forward the collecting ourselves into one Body & fixing on some detirmined place where we may live together with our Families, plant Corn for our Maintenance & render ourselves useful to our Bretheren the English — If you will do this we will be ready at all times & in all things gratefull & Brotherlike & teach the same good Principles to our Childrens Children.

Gave a large Belt.—

Brother

We earnestly request you will pay a regard to this our Application — everything we have said comes from the Bottom of our Hearts & he who is above & can see within us & who is not far from us, knows that we have spoke to you with truth & Sincerity. We are a poor scattered people without any Inheritance & we hope you will use your Endeavours that we may be settled some where, it will be both Advantageous to You & us.

We have said all this in the presence of our Uncles the Six Nations & we call upon them to bear Testimony to the professions we have made

Gave 3 Strings.—

We have now finished what we had to say from ourselves, we shall next proceed to acquaint you with what our Uncles the Six Nations have lately said to us, we are resolved Brother to conceal nothing from you & thereby convince you of our intentions to act like true Brothers & not keep anything hid from you. They then showed

1. a Belt given to one of the Chief of the Mohikanders (who destitute of Land or Habitation went to live at Wyoming on Susquahannah) by the 6 Nations who desired him to carry it or send it amongst all the Mohikander Indians to advise them as the present times were dangerous & troublesome to collect themselves

together at Otsiningo or some fixt place & not wander about in a scattered way as their continuing in that dispersed Manner might be fatal to them.

2. Four Strings, by which the Six Nations opened the Road for them to & from Otsiningo to their Bretheren the English & the 6 Nations & cleared their Hearts from all dirt or foulness and opened their Eyes that they might see clearly to travel two roads & not wander out of those Paths they had made for them.

3. A Belt sent to them from the Aughquages desiring them to gather all their People & come & live near them at Aughquaga where they should be protected & that they would live & die with them.

4. A Belt sent to them from the Oniedas telling them they might settle upon Land anywhere between Aughquaga & Onieda from every part of which they opened for them a good Road to this House & to the 6 Nations, and that they should fix somewhere within these Limits & not make a temporary stay or sojourn for a little while as their manner had been for many years past.—

Eod. Die p. m

The Mohocks of both Castles, the Oniedas, the Cayouge Sachem, and two Seneca Sachems with the River Indians met in Council & sent to Acquaint Sir William that they proposed this afternoon to deliver the Message agreed on the 18 Inst to the Cherokee Deputies.

When Sir William, Mr. Croghan, Cap<sup>t</sup>. Butler the Secretary & Interpreter came in & were seated

The four Cherokee Indians were introduced to the Council by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour & taking their Seats in four Chairs placed purposely for them. Sir William then lighted the Calumet or Pipe of Peace & friendship & after smoaking a Whif or two presented it to the four Cherokee Deputies holding to them while each drew a Whif, then the Gentlemen present took it & Mr. Montour handed it round to every Indian present. The Tobacco from whence it was filled was then put into a Bag to be carried home together with the Calumet by the Cherokees

Then the Belt a Seneca Sachem stood up & delivered to the Cherokees the Message proposed by the Six Nations at the Conclusion of which he delivered them a very long & broad White Belt which Sir William furnished.

Then he delivered to them the additional Message proposed by Sir William with his Black Belt for their Warriors —

The Speaker then acquainted them that what he had said was agreed upon by Sir William & the 6 Nations in conjunction — that the time of their Departure was left to Sir William who would take care to see them well provided for their Journey home & send them to New York by Water.

The Chief of the four Cherokee Indians then spoke & said

Brother Warraghyjagey & Bretheren of the 6 Nations

The reception we have met with from you both is such as fills our Heart with Satisfaction & Gratitude.

We have diligently attended to all you have now said to us — it is locked up in our Hearts & firmly fixed upon our Memories — we shall take care to deliver it to our Nation word for Word as you have spoke it — We expect to find some of them on the Frontiers of Virginia or Maryland, to whom we shall repeat it if they are there & by whom it will be forwarded without Delay to our Country — We doubt not but it will be very agreeable to all our People & that the Meeting you proposed will be agreed to, and when our Deputies are on the Road you may expect to see me running before them to give you timely notice.

Then George a Seneca Sachem stood up & said he proposed to accompany their Bretheren the Cherokees as far as Philadelphia & if his Shoes would hold out perhaps he might go farther with them

Then a Pail of Punch was brought in & the Meeting broke up.

Fort Johnson 20 Sep<sup>r</sup>. 1757. A. M.

Present all the Indians as formerly mentioned amongst which were the Cherokee Deputies.

Sir William Johnson's Reply to the River Indians Speech of Yesterday.

Bretheren

As you have declared you are innocent of the Outrage committed 'tother day upon one of our People between Schenectady & Albany & ignorant who the Persons were I shall say no more to you on that affair, but desire you will warn all your young People against any such unjustifiable Behaviour, and that they do act in all respects as Bretheren ought to do or otherwise they may expect bad Consequences will follow

Bretheren

All honest & faithful Indians who come to this Council fire will always find it burns clear & pleasant for their reception. I am glad to hear that what has past at this Meeting between me & your Uncles the 6 Nations hath been agreeable to you.

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Bretheren

We have not forgot the old Agreement of Brotherhood settled between your forefathers & ours, and I am glad to hear you remember them, and are resolved to hold fast by the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain. I shall on my part be always disposed to treat you as Bretheren & whilst you behave as such you may expect the same from all your Bretheren the English.

Gave 3 Strings

Bretheren

I am very glad my introducing you to this Meeting with your Uncles the Six Nations has proved so agreeable to you & I am much pleased with your Promise of making so good a use of it

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Bretheren

I long beheld your scattered Situation & wandering way of living with Concern, and as I was appointed to the Mannagment of Indian affairs when the present troublesome time first broke

out. I took your Condition into Consideration & held a Council about it with your Uncles the Mohocks, who agreed with me that as the Sky was overcast with many black Clouds & threatened Stormy Weather, it would not be convenient or safe for your People to continue in the scattered unsettled condition you were then in. upon which we agreed to send a Message to you to desire you would collect yourselves together, and that we would find out some fixt place where you might live together safely & comfortably. In consequence of this care for your Welfare I took Measures to bring up to this Council five, a number of your People from this & the Neighbouring Provinces & had several Meetings with them & the 6 Nations, about agreeing upon a proper place for their living together in a Body as a Nation ought to do. a great number of the Mohikander Indians in consequence of these Measures, are now settled at Otsiningo.

I am very well pleased to find that you are sensible of the many Disadvantages of living in a dispersed unconnected state, and that you are so desirous of fixing together in some appointed place, where you may have Land to cultivate for the support of your selves & Families. I think your request very reasonable & in consequence of it I have consulted with your Uncles the Six Nations upon it, who will now speak to you with a Belt in return for that you gave me on this Subject, and as they will acquaint you with our joint Sentiments, I hope & expect you will pay a due regard thereto.

Conochquiesia then spoke as follows.

Nephews

Our Bro<sup>r</sup>. Warraghyjagey & we also, have so often spoke to & advised your Nation to gather themselves together & live in some one place, that the Belts given upon this Subject, if put together would make a great heap, but it seems as if all we said to you on this Subject, went thro your Ears without entering into your Hearts. We now once more desire to advise you to settle at Aughquaga where you may have good Land to plant & hunt on w<sup>ch</sup> will enable you to support yourselves without



destroying the White Peoples Cattle & property, which if you dont leave off will end in a Quarrel between you, which we advise you to avoid.

Nephews

As you know where your scattered People are better than our Brother Warraghyjagey, so it will be easier & more proper for you than for him, to gather them together & when you have done this & are fixt at Aughquaga We shall look on you as a People & keep up a constant Correspondance with you & our Brother Warraghyjagey says he will then assist you according as your Necessities may require.

Gave a Belt.

Then Sir William proceeded & said

Bretheren

I have complied with your Request & you have now heard the Advice & offer which your Uncles of the Six Nations have made to you, and as you have given me such Strong assurances of your good Inclinations & Brotherly Dispositions, I hope & expect you will without any unnecessary Delay, accept of the offer & follow the Advice now given you, w<sup>ch</sup> will remedy the Inconveniencies & Distress you complain of, if you will do this, I shall be ready to make use of the power given me by the King your Father to help & assist you, which I dont see I can do to any good purpose while you continue in your present Situation.

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Bretheren

Here I return you the several Belts & Strings you yesterday showed me, & as these offers are again renewed to you I hope you will be wise enough to come to a fixt Detirmination upon them w<sup>ch</sup>. if you do I renew my promise as above given

Gave 3 Strings Wampum

The River Indians said.

That they would take the Belts & Strings which had been given them upon the Subjects of their removing & settling at

Aughquaga to the Chief Men of their Nation who lived at Otsiningo, & there report what had been said to them by Sir William Johnson & their Uncles the Six Nations, and if it was then agreed to that they should go & settle at Aughquaga their Chief Man (who was the Speaker) would come & acquaint Sir William of it & get from him proper Passes & Letters to the Chief Men or Magistrates near to where their People were at present sojourning to let them go away peaceably & without Molestation.

Sir William then addressed himself to the Oneidas & told them, they had not yet given him an answer upon the Belt he gave them to know what part they intended to act in the present War.

They said they could not give a detirminate Answer till they had consulted with their Bretheren the Tuscarores, that they would take the Belt with them, talk to the Tuscarores & let Sir William know their resolutions.

Eod. die p. m.

At a Meeting of the several Indians as before mentioned & with them the four Cherokee Deputies

Sir William in conjunction with the 6 Nat<sup>s</sup>. took a String of Wampum & told the Cherokees that Buisness being now finished between them, herewith they removed all Obstructions & threw out of the Road all Stones & Logs in order to make their return home easy & pleasant

Upon which the Cherokee Chief returned his Thanks & said that if nothing extraordinary happened to prevent or detain him, he expected to be in his Country within this Month.

Sir William then gave a large Black Belt to the Cayouge Sachem desiring him to acquaint the upper Nations with what had past & the Meeting proposed with the Cherokees & that he laid hold of the Warriors with this Belt to keep them from going out to War to the Southward & wait the coming of the Cherokee Deputies. for w<sup>ch</sup> Message the 6 Nations present returned Sir William their thanks & said it was very prudent & well timed.

Sir William then told the Indians that as it was rainy Weather he proposed to give them some Cloaths to keep them dry before they went home.

A Tub of Punch was brought in, the Council Fire covered up & all publick Buisness ended.

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N. B. From the foregoing date, namely from the 20 September 1757. to the 29. May 1758 Sir William Johnsons Indian Transactions are minuted in the Blue-covered Book and as Capt. Peter Wraxall Secry. for Indian Affairs was during the greatest part of that Interval, detain'd from his Attendance in his said office by the Earl of Loudouns Orders to him to join & remain with his Company. It was therefore judged proper by Sir Wm. Johnson that the recording of his Transactions in this Book, should recommence from the ensuing Period, as General Abercromby the present Commander in Chief in consequences of Sir Williams Application did some few Days ago consent that Mr. Wraxall should remain at Fort Johnson as secrry. for Indian Affairs. [Note in the manuscript.]

Wraxall was with his company from Sept. 20, 1757 to May 29, 1758. [ed.]

TO JAMES DE LANCEY

In *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:763; Q. 2:443 is a letter of Oct. 4, 1757, from Sir William Johnson to James De Lancey concerning intelligence brought by a Seneca Indian from the Seneca country that warriors had gone to join with the Delawares or River Indians, and to fall upon the Southern Provinces, Minisinks and Esopus.

DANIEL CLAUS TO ANDREW ROLLO

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson*

*12 Novr. 1757.*

*8 oClock A. M.*

SIR

I am desired by Sir William Johnson (:who continues still indisposed:) to Send you the inclosed which he received this

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

Moment ☿ Express, from the German Flatts. He at the same time begs you will acquaint Mr. Jacob Glen his Lieut. Col<sup>o</sup>. of the Militia, to warn the People at Schenectady to be on their Guard and in Readiness if Occasion required

I am

Sir with the utmost Respect  
Your most Obedient  
and most humble Servant

DAN. CLAUS  
Lieut in the 60. Reg<sup>t</sup>.

LIEUT. COL<sup>o</sup>. ROLLO.<sup>1</sup>

INDORSED:

L<sup>t</sup> Daniel Claus  
Fort Johnson Nov<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>t</sup>. 1757  
From Sir William Johnson  
Intelegence  
R Nov<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>t</sup>

GEORGE CROGHAN TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*L. S.*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson*  
*12 Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1757*  
*9 oClock A. M.*

MY LORD

I am desired by Sir William Johnson (:who continues still much indisposed:) to send your Lordship the inclosed, which he this moment received by Express from Capt<sup>n</sup>. Townsend, comd<sup>g</sup> at Fort Harkemer.

Sir William Johnson acquaints your Lordship, that he has ordered an Indian Officer to proceed immediately with Some Indians of the Mohawks to Burnetsfield, and from thence to

<sup>1</sup> Lord Andrew Rollo, lieutenant colonel, 22d regiment.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

send out Scouts towards the Oneida Lake and Carrying Place in order to find out the Truth of this Account

Sir William has likewise sent a Copy of Capt<sup>n</sup>. Townsends Letter to Col<sup>o</sup>. Rollo at Schenectady.

I am with the utmost Respect

My Lord

Most Obedient

and most humble Servant

GEO: CROGHAN

Dp<sup>ty</sup> Agent

To His Excellency

The Right Hon<sup>ble</sup>. JOHN EARL OF LOUDOUN

INDORSED:

Mr George Croghan

Fort Johnson Novr 12<sup>t</sup> 1757

.. From Sir William Johnson

Intelligence

R Nov<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>t</sup>

GEORGE CROGHAN TO THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

Fort Johnson 20<sup>th</sup>. Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1757 —

MY LORD

Sir William Johnson being still so unwell as not to be in a Situation to write himself, I take the Liberty to give your Lordship the following Report of what has happened lately at the German Flatts, agreeable to your Lordships Desire in a Memorandum to Mr. Claus.

The Strength of the Party of French and Indians that have done the Mischief at Burnetsfield were according to the Acco<sup>t</sup>. of the Indians who brought the Intelligence with a Belt of Wampum, Eight hundred when they set out from Swegachy

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

or La Galette, One hundred of which the Oneida Ind<sup>s</sup>. told me returned by the Road, by Reason of their not being willing to join the French in the Attempt, and did not know by their leaving Swegachy that the French designed to march against Burnetsfield. And as to the Account of their Numbers the Germans gives that made their Escape at the time of the Attack, they make them no more than 3. or 400.—

The Redheads Son an Onondaga Indian, who had come down to the German Flatts with 8. or 10. Ind<sup>n</sup>. Women a few Days before the Affair happened, in order to trade with the Germans went out to see the Enemy after they had destroyed the Flatts and on his Return, said they did not exceed 400.—

As to the Mischief done by the Enemy, they have burnt and destroyed on the North Side of Burnetsfield all the Farm houses from Canada Creek to the upper End of the Settlement which may be upwards of 40. houses besides Barns and Outhouses, they have destroyed all the horn Cattle, taken with them all the horses, And there are 114. Men Women and Children missing, either taken or Killed 8 of which were found, and it is supposed some were consumed in the Flames. It does not appear that the Enemy endeavoured to carry off much plunder, as they immediately on their Attack set Fire to all the houses, and in Mr. Petrys house after the Enemy was gone, there was a Lump of Silver and Gold found which was melted together and lay near the place where Mr. Petrys Chest stood.

With Regard to the Intelligence the two Oneida Ind<sup>s</sup>. who were sent by the Sachems of the upper Castle brought of the Enemys Approach, it came to Fort Harkemer on Fryday abt. 12. oClock at Noon, and the Messengers said, that Seven Indians arrived at their Town the Evening before and informed them that there was 800 of the Enemy at the Carrying Place, on their March ag<sup>st</sup>. the German Flatts the Settlements on the Mohawk River, and Skenectady, that they were of Opinion the Enemy could be at Burnetsfield next Morning; On which Capt<sup>n</sup>. Townsend fired the Alarm Guns, in order to call in the People

from Burnetsfield, and desired them to bring their Women and Children to the Fort, but many of them paid little Regard to this Intelligence saying it would be time enough in the Morning. And Capt<sup>n</sup>. Pellingier of the Militia whom Capt<sup>n</sup> Townsend desired to send out 3. different Scouts, only sent out one up the Mohawk River, and which Route the Enemy did not take, as they came down Canada Creek, Some of the Germans who made their Escape at the Attack, aknowledge to have received 3. different Intelligences within a Fortnight before this happened from the Oneida Ind<sup>ns</sup>. of the upper Castle desiring to collect themselves together to the Breast Work near the Church as they had undoubted Intelligence from Swegachy that the French intended to destroy their Settlement this Fall, all which they paid no Regard to, and I suppose secreted the Thing for Fear of being hindered from Trading.

As to what Stock of Goods was in the Farmers houses on the German Flatts or on the Mohawk River when this happened I cant pretend to say, but believe not to any considerable Amount, and how this Trade has been carried on for some time past I believe has been done as formerly, every Person that had any thing to sell, made the most of it and took what Advantage they could, as it was an illicit Trade, and which I heard Sir William say he spoke to your Lordship of, and wished to have a Stop put to it.

As to what Communication or Correspondence has been held betwixt Cannada and the Inhabitants of the German Flatts I never understood there was any.

Concirning the Number of Indians that took up Arms on this Occasion for Us, there was but very few at their Towns, most of them being upon the Hunt, at the same time every One that was at home in both Mohawk Castles took up Arms and went with Us to the German Flatts. As to what Number of the 6 Nations or other Indians joined the French on this Occasion I cannot as yet say, but as soon as I get Intelligence thereof I shall acquaint your Lordship therewith.

The Rout of the Enemy by the best Information I could obtain was from Swegachy by Way of the Oneida Carrying Place which is the Route they took when Bulls Fort was destroyed.

On Wednesday when My Lord Howe left the Flatts, I sent four Mohawks up the River towards George Casses the uppermost Settlement, to see whether they could see any Indians from whom they might gain further Intelligence, who returned to me at Canajoharee on Tuesday Morning and told me they met w<sup>th</sup> 3. Oneida Indians who informed them, that they had been told by some Swegachy Ind<sup>s</sup>. that there was a larger Body of the Enemy behind with Cannon, who were to Join this Party that done the Mischief, and come down and destroy all the Settlements on the Mohawk River, upon hearing this dispatched a small Party of Mohawks to reconnoitre the Oneida Carrying Place and Lake, and bring the certainty of the Enemys Motions, upon their Return I shall immediately acquaint your Lordship with whatever Acco<sup>ts</sup>. they bring.

I cannot foresee My Lord what Credit may be given to the said Acco<sup>t</sup>. however it has that Effect upon the upper Inhabitants on this River that they most all quit their Settlements and move downward, some to the other Side of the River.

I am with the utmost Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most Faith full and

Most Obedient humble Servant.

GEO: CROGHAN

Depty Agint





COLONEL JAMES MONTRÉSOR

From a painting by an unknown artist in New York Historical Society, New York City



JOURNALS OF COLONEL JAMES MONTRESOR<sup>1</sup>*Extract*<sup>2</sup>

[Nov. 20, 1757.]

Sunday—20 press by M<sup>r</sup> Green from Schenectady that came from Sir W<sup>m</sup> Johnson with an acc<sup>t</sup> that the French & Indians had taken Post on the great carrying place. That by the same conveyance there is an acc<sup>t</sup> that out of the settlement of the German Flats are 114 persons missing that out of that number are only 8 found dead. That the horses they drove away & the Cattle they destroyed & set fire to all the houses. The oxen & cows they cut their tongues out.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>3</sup>*Fort Johnson**3. Dec. 1757.*

Copy.

SIR

Pursuant to your Orders of the 27<sup>th</sup>. of Nov<sup>r</sup>. at 5.oClock P: M: after you received Capt<sup>n</sup>. Townsends Letter w<sup>th</sup>. the Alarm of the Enemy's being on their March.

I set out for the German Flatts with Cap<sup>t</sup>. Montour on the 20<sup>th</sup>., & about 3. oClock p. m. we arrived at Canajoharee, where we found the Indians as many as were at home, sitting in Council. They enquired of us if you had sent us to go to the German Flatts on this Alarm, we told them you had, they said that also was the Occasion of their Meeting, and that they expected us, and had agreed to send all the Men that were at home with

<sup>1</sup> Colonel James Gabriel Montrésor chief engineer in America, major in 1757, director and lieutenant-colonel in 1758.

<sup>2</sup> Printed in *Collections of New York Historical Society*, 1881, p. 49.

<sup>3</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

us, to assist in Scouting or any other Service they could do, and that they were all ready to Set off. On which I returned them Thanks for their Readiness on the Occasion, and we sat off with 19. Indians, and arrived at the German Flatts that Night, Where I heard that the Oneidas and Tuscaroras/: who had been down condoling with the Germans on Acco<sup>t</sup>. of the Loss of their Friends:/ were chiefly returned home, but that about 4. Miles above the Flatts there remained one Oneida Sachem named Canaghquayeeson and two more Ind<sup>s</sup>. As soon as it was Day I sent two Mohawks to acquaint Canaghquayeeson that I wanted to see him; And sent six more young Indians on a Scout up the River, with Orders that if they discovered any Enemy or Tracks, to return immediately to me with the Acco<sup>t</sup>. [*immediately to me*], after they had reconnoitred the Enemy, so as to form a Judgment what their Numbers might be.

About 12 o'Clock the two Mohawks which I sent for the Oneida Sachem, returned with the three Oneidas in Company.

After the Usual Ceremonies on those Meetings Canaghquayeeson spoke as follows, directing his Discourse to you.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

There has been a Number of our People down here from our Castle and from the Tuscaroras, and we have condoled with our Bretheren the Germans on the Loss of their Friends, who have been lately killed and taken by the Enemy, we would have been glad to have seen you here at that Time. But that Ceremony being over 3. Days ago, the most of our People set off 2 Days ago, and the rest yesterday, perhaps if they were here yet we might say something to you, but as I am alone I cant take upon me to say anything of Consequence.

But Brother I cant help telling you that we are very much surprised to hear that our Bretheren the English suspect and charge us with not giving timely Notice of the Designs of the French; As it is well known we have not neglected to give every

piece of Intelligence that came to our Knowledge, on which he stood up and called in four Germans, and said,

Brother

About 15. Days before this happened, we sent the Germans Word, that some Swegachy Indians told us, that the French were determined to destroy the German Flatts, and desired them to be on their Guard, about 6 Days after this we had a further Acco<sup>t</sup>. from Swegachy that the French were preparing to march; I then came down to the German Flatts, and in a Meeting with them, told them what we had heard, and desired them to collect themselves together in a Body at their Fort, and secure their Women Children and Effects, and make the best Defence they could, and at the same time told them to write what I had said, to our Brother Warraghiyagey. but they paid not the least Regard to what I told them, but laughed at me, and slapping their Hands on their Buttuks said they did not value the Enemy, on which I returned home, and sent one of our People to the Lake, to find out if he could, whether the Enemy was coming or not, after he had stayd there two Days, the Enemy arrived at the Carrying Place, and sent Word to the Castle at the Lake Side, that they were there, and told them what they were going to do, but charged them not to let Us at the upper Castle Know any Thing of their Design, as soon as the Man I sent there heard this, he came off to us with the Acco<sup>t</sup>. and brought it to Us that Night. As soon as we received it, we sent the Belt off to confirm the Truth of this Account, which got here the Day before the Enemy made their Attack, but the People would not give Credit to the Acco<sup>t</sup>. even then, or they might have saved their Lives.

This is the Truth, and those Germans present knows it to be so, here the Germans could not but acknowledge that what he said was true, that they had got such Intelligence. Then he said

Brother.

Notwithstanding we are unjustly charged and suspected, we assure you we will continue to give the best Intelligence, and earliest Notice we can, of the Enemy's Motions.—

I then asked him if the Enemy was yet gone home or not, and desired him to let me know every particular Circumstance about them, as we have had Accot<sup>s</sup>. of their Building at Lake Ontario, to which he answered he would and then related as follows.—

That as the Enemy was coming down as Casses, the Cagh-nawags and French differed, as the former did not approve of destroying the Settlement, that 40. Caghnawagoes returned home, that after they destroyed the Settlements, they mostly all got drunk and traveled very slow, That on Thursday the Enemy was yet at Casses 10 Miles above the Flatts, frolicking and drunk, that when they came to the Carrying Place, they was out of Provisions, and sent to the Castle at the Lake to purchase Provisions; that the French, said they would not come again till the Spring, but that then they would come and destroy the whole River and Skenectady and perhaps go to Albany. But some Indians who were with the French said we must not believe all the French said for they knew that the French intended to come ab<sup>t</sup>. Christmas, and had provided every Thing for their Journey.—That as to their Building at Lake Ontario, he believed they were not, that when they came to destroy the Flatts they left 10 Men there with Provisions but no more as he heard, at the same time he could not be certain this was true, that they were not building at the Carrying Place, or Oneida Lake, neither was there any Enemy thereabouts.—

The 30<sup>th</sup>. I sent a party of trusty Mohawks on the Scout with Orders to go to the Carrying Place and reconnoitre the adjacent Woods well, then to proceed towards Lake Ontario, and if they could discover any Tracks of the Enemy, not to return till they saw them and reconnoitre their Situation so as to discover what they were doing and to form a Judgment of their Numbers.

SIR

I have nothing more to report to your Honour but that Canaghguayeeson said the Number of the Enemy that destroyed the Flatts were 260. Ind<sup>s</sup> and 90. French

I am with Great Respect —

Your most Obedient humble

Servant

GEO. CROGHAN

Dep<sup>y</sup>. Agent.

To The Hon<sup>ble</sup>. SR. WM. JOHNSON, Bar<sup>t</sup>.

JOURNAL OF HENRY WENDELL

A. D. S.<sup>1</sup>

December 14 (?), 1757

HONOURED SIR

The Following is a true and exact Journal of our Proceedings according to your Instructions.

On Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup>. of December we came to Fort Harkemer, where we heard a Number of the Oneida Nation were ab<sup>t</sup> 3 Mile above the Flatts from us, upon which we sent for them, and told them we were sent by the General and you to the Carrying place and Oneida, at which last Place we would call a Meeting, and deliver to them the Instructions we had received from the General and You, and desired them to go up to their Castle where we would meet them after we had been at the Great Carrying Place, upon which they answered they would, after which I desired Capt. Montour to ask them if some of their Young Men would attend us, upon which they answered with all our Hearts, and will stand by You as long as we have Blood, and we will send off 3. of our Young Men to acquaint our People at our Castle that You are coming, and we will meet you there.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>. of December marcht up the River four Miles from Harkemers in order to keep the Indians sober, but were followed by a Number of Oneidas all the night who were Drunk and craving us for more Liquor, who kept a Disturbance all Night.

Fryday the 9<sup>th</sup>. of December marcht as far as Steels Mills, where the 6 Mohawks left us, after we had supplied them plentifully with Victuals and Drink, Powder and Ball, Shoes and other Articles, and carried with them all our Provisions, so as we would not delay His Majestys Service, marched without Provisions till we came to an Oneida house, who supplied us with what Provisions they had, after which we proceeded to the great Carrying Place, Sanoughsise and his Son two Oneida Chiefs, and Lieut. Johnson with 18 of the Newyork Forces. After we came to Fort Harkemer, there came one Jemmy Campbell an Irish lad who was taken at Oswego, and is married to an Oneida Squaw and lives at Oneida, who told Capt. Townsend and me, that he had heard from an Oneida which came from the Oneida Lake who told him there were 4 Battoes of French seen in the Oneida Lake, which made me take so large a Party.

Saturday Decem<sup>r</sup>. 10<sup>th</sup>. marcht for the great Carrying Place, and lodged within 6 Miles of it, there met with a German who was cruelly murdered by the French whom we burried.

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>. Dec<sup>r</sup>. came to the Great Carrying Place, where I thoroughly viewed every part of it but could not find any Signs of the French building any Fortifications any where there, but it is my Opinion that Fort Williams may be built up in a very short time, as half of the Fort is standing, and all the Timber about it but very little damaged.

Monday the 12 Decem<sup>r</sup>. came to Oneida after a fatiguing March through Snow & Rain, but was very well received by the Oneidas with Victuals in plenty which came very well for hungry Bellies. After my Arrival at Oneida I called all the Chiefs together, the Oneidas and all those from the Oneida Lake and



Tuscaroros, after my repeating my Instructions to them they answered in the following Words.

Brother Warraghiyagey, The Belt you sent us is your Own Belt, which Mr. Croghan left here for a Token that we should send the earliest Intelligence of any Approach of the Enemy upon His Britannic Majestys Territories, which we have done, and will do, and we return you your Belt.

With this String of Wampum which we return you, we assure you we never heard of the Enemys Approach till they were at the great Carrying Place, as soon as we heard it we sent down to the German Flatts the Belt of Wampum for you, and acquainted the Germans of the Enemys approach, but as you desire we should send every Intelligence of the Enemys Approach to Canajoharee, we now tell you we will. And we now tell you that the French told us they would be back after Christmass when there is Ice in the Lake, and destroy the whole River to Schenectady. You believe every old woman that comes down and brings you News, we will send the News down, and if we send it, we will send the Belt of Wampum down with it, and the writing Capt. Croghan left with us if there is any true News, and there ought to be an express sent down from Herkemers with the News.

Brother Canaghquaneges it is very true you are sent here by the General from Albany and from Sr. Wm. Johnson, Brother it is very true you was sent by them to the Carrying Place, and from thence to Oneida and tell us you are going to the Lake, and tell us you had many Reports that the French were going to build a Fort and Church for a Priest at the Lake, Brother you desire us to give you a true Acct. We tell you that there is no French at the Lake nor nothing a building there by them, but as you are ordered by your General you must go and see as you have been to the Carrying Place, you must go & see with your own eyes, as you believe every old Womans Story. We tell

you we have allways sent you a true Acct. and always will and return you this string of Wampum.

They told us likewise to go and see, and leave our lame Men behind us, and they would find them provisions. They further told us that the French brought four Battoes of Provisions thro the Lake for the 300 french and Indians that destroyed the German Flatts, and that the main Body of the French came the Swegachy Road and returned that way.

Tuesday 13th. Decr. the Chiefs met all together again, upon which we told them we were so well convinced, that there was no Enemy at the Oneida Lake, that we purposed to return home; Upon which they answered that Mr. Croghan & Capt. Butler came there to see whether the French were building a Church at the Oneida Lake, they told them no, and desired them to go and see, but they did not go, but returned home and said that the Oneidas told them not to go there which was false, therefore you may go too, and say so, but we desire you to go and see, for we told Capt. Butler and is open still, if the General does not believe it he must come and see and we will accompany him.

It is now almost Dinner time, and you and your People have nothing to eat. You must stay till Morning and we will find Victuals for you and your People, and they may in the mean while make themselves ready to march thro this deep snow, and you may depend upon the earliest Intelligence from Us if the French make any Encroachments upon His Majestys Territories any where to our knowledge.

On Wednesday 14. Decr. I had a great feast given me of Venison by the Oneidas, as being one of their Tribe, at which was present One hundred and fifty Oneidas and a great War Dance.

Upon my March to Fort Herkemer I met with an English Lad, who lives with the Oneidas at the Lake, who told me he had heard a french Captain say at the Lake to the Oneidas, that they would as soon as there was Ice in the Lake send a large Army to attack

Fort Edward, and at the same time come down with a Thousand Indians and destroy the whole Mohawk River.

Which is all the Intelligence I could get.

I am with great Esteem

Honourable Sir

Your Most Obedient humble Servant

HENRY WENDELL

TO SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

Bart.

INDORSED:

Ensigne Henry Wendalls

Scout from the 7<sup>t</sup> of Dec to the 14<sup>t</sup> 1757

TO JACOB GLEN AND JOHN VAN RENSSELAER

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

[December 16, 1757]

That you make me a fair and full return of the number of times and companies of Schenectady have on service the last and present year, by my orders, also those of Schoharee with an exact number of officers, private men and days at each time; This to be made in one general return, within 18 days, without fail, and of Albany Battallion also that I may send them to the Governour, in order that he may procure payment for the same.

As the enemy (by all accots we have) threatens to make another more formidable attempt this way soon. You are to hold the militia of Albany Battallion, as well as those companies at Schenectady, Independants, and all in the greatest readiness possible to march at a moments notice, and none to be excused on any account who are able to march.

You will transmit a copy of these orders to Lieut. Col. Ranslear immediately.

Given under my Hand at Fort Johnson this 16th day of  
December 1757

W<sup>m</sup> JOHNSON Coll.

TO LIEUT. COLO. JACOB GLEN  
and JOHN VAN RANSLEAR

At Schenectady.

<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>*New York January 16th, 1758.*

SIR,

On seeing by a Letter from Major General Abercromby that you had consulted him on an application made to you, by the Sennecas, to send a Smith, and Two Traders among them, and on seeing at the same time, that you had an Invitation to a meeting, with the Western Indians at Onondaga, in order to form an alliance against the French.

I would not lose one moment in writing to you, my opinion on this subject, as it seems to open a door if properly managed, that may at once bring back the Indians to our Interest, and I am sure you will not let slip an opportunity that may at once, do the King so much Essential Service in his Indian Interest, and yourself so much Honour.

I think no time should be lost in sending a Smith to the Sennecas, and every means taken in order to bring them to our Interest, and none seems to me to be so likly to have that effect, as in place of sending two traders to them, to purchase a proper assortment of goods for them, at the Kings expence, and then you should fix the price of these goods as low as possible, to defray the expence, and send them there, with a person, who will strictly obey your orders, and take no more from the Indians, than the price you fix on the goods, by which means the Indians will receive these goods cheaper than the French can afford them, from where, as they are a sett of people, who study their own interest as much as any sett of men whatever, they will see the advantage they will receive from keeping their treatys with us, and the great attention the King has to their Interest, in all His dealings with them, which I think will probably not only have the effect of securing the Sennecas but may probably bring in

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

many other Nations, who are at present in great want of goods, from the French not being able to supply them.

I must further observe that great care should be taken of two things, in making out this assortment of goods, first, that there should be no arms sent them, till we are better assured of what use they will put them to, and no more ammunition should be send on it, than sufficient to kill their game, and prevent them from being under a necessity of applying to the French for it. If they join us next campaign we shall be able to supply what is wanted of that sort.

The next care is, the quantity of goods to be sent, that they should be no more than what is necessary to supply them, to prevent the French by the means of their Friends, among the Sennecas, from being able to supply their Indians, which they can in no other shape do at present, and this can in no shape be prevented, except by your sending a proper person in the Kings service, who will dispose of those goods in such proportions as may answer the purpose, and not supply them in such quantities, as may enable them to supply others.

I am clearly of opinion that there has been no such appearances for reestablishing the Kings interest among the Indians, nor of diminishing the great expence the Nation is at, in that article, I am sure you will exert your self to the utmost, on this, so essential, and critical an occasion.

As to the Invitations the Quakers of Pensilvania, have given to several tribes of the Indians, to meet, and treat, and trade with them, no one can be more sensible of the fatal consequences such measures have to the whole Indian interest on this continent, and of such measures being in direct contradiction to the Kings Instructions, and I will do what lays in my power to prevent it going any further.

I did represent this affair to the Kings Ministers in August was, a Twelve month, but I have had no directions on it as yet, and shall again lay this affair fully before them, that they may be enabled to apply a proper remedy.

I am extremely glad to learn that your Health begins to be reestablish'd, and I assure you none rejoices more on the occasion than I do. who

Am with great Regard

Sir &ca.

To SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON.

INDORSED:

To Sir William Johnson  
January 16th, 1758.

FROM JOHAN JOOST PETRY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Montreal 19<sup>th</sup> January 1758*

[        ]

Since I got the favour of the General & other Officers; I have taken the liberty to write to my Acquaintances by this opportunity, & let them know that our people have been taken by the Indians and French, (but the most part by our own Indians) and by our own fault, since they have not been more than two hundred and fifty men; by the Gen<sup>ls</sup>. own saying, but I find many good people here especially of the highest kind, I have no complaint for myself of the French, they doe me all the good they can, in this hard and dear time, my desire is to you or to M<sup>r</sup> Robert Sanders, if you would do so much for me, and write a letter of Credit to M<sup>r</sup> BeLettes or to M<sup>r</sup> St. Sover in France who have kept me already, & offered me by a letter since, as it is so difficult to get money in War time.

To my Children I let you all know, that we are all well at present, and I and your mother are in Montreal & John Jost, but his wife with the youngest is in Caderaqui, that Anne is in Cacknawaga, & Mary is here by a French officer, the Gestrat

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

is at Swegatchi. Peter Bellinghen is very well beloved by the General, I cannot write you all the circumstances by this opportunity I hope to see You very soon, which is promised me by the General, if you are not unlucky and visited from here no more for this time, then I remain all your friend & a careful Father of my Children to my death

JOHAN JOOST PETRI

INDORSED:

Copy of Justice Petris  
letter to Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson  
Montreal January 19<sup>th</sup> 1758

FROM JOHN BUTLER

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Harkemer, Jan<sup>y</sup> 31<sup>st</sup>, 1758.*

*Tuesday 12. oClock noon.*

SIR

This moment came one Hamilton, who lives among the Indians, and says that the Oneidas sent him Express to let you know, that the French were on their march this way, and says that the old Cag and Capt<sup>n</sup>. Montours Brother in law saw their fires, on the east side of the Oneida Lake They saw through a spy glass some slays, and think they have canon with them. They think they are a large body, it is now the fourth day since they were seen. This is all he says.

If this is certain, an old Indian that is here now says we shall have another Express this night, I shall write you as soon as I hear any thing farther.

I am

&ca.

JOHN BUTLER.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

I have acquainted  
Capt. Townsend and Capt. French of it  
who was here.

## INDORSED:

Copy Butlers letter to Sir Wm.  
Johnson with Hamiltons account of a Body  
of French cong. by the Onida Lake.  
January 31st, 1758.  
Received with M.G.Abercrombys letter  
of Feby. 3d 1758.

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>[Fort Johnson, Feb<sup>y</sup>. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1758]

As I have last night received intelligence of the enemys  
approach this way.

You are to march immediately with all the men of the militia  
you can now muster there, and leave orders for the rest to be  
ready on occasion to follow or join me at the German Flatts or  
Canajoharee. You are to see that they be fully equipped with  
every thing necessary for a march of the kind, and fourty rounds  
of powder and ball, with six days provision;

No man to be excused at any rate who is able to march.

Given under my hand this 1st day of February 1758.

P. S. You are to acquaint Major Van der Heyden<sup>2</sup> there-  
with and that he holds himself in readiness to march with the  
1st Battallion if required.

TO LIEUT. COL. GLEN or the next Commanding officer at  
Schenectady.

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<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> David Van Der Heyden.



TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>[Fort Johnson, Feby. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1758]

SIR:

As the good of his Majestys Indian Interest requires my attending the general council soon to be held at Onondaga; and as it is not improbable the enemy may in my absence make an attempt on this, or any other part of this province, and to prevent as much as in our power such an attempt succeeding, you are hereby required and strictly commanded to hold the two battalions of the Regiment of Militia of this county, constantly in readiness to march to any place where you learn the enemy is coming to, and give them battle.

You are, should you have the earliest intelligence, immediately to acquaint the General, or Commanding officer at Albany, and Schenectady with it, also the Lieut. Governour; and follow their directions and orders as far as is consistent with your duty.

In case of a greater force coming against us, you are to order as many men from the Regiments of Ulster, and Dutchess county, as the General and you may think necessary.

Lastly you are to have a general return of the Regiment ready for me against I return.

Given under my Hand at Fort Johnson 4th February 1758.

W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON Col.

TO LIEUT. COL. JACOB GLEN at Schenectady.

TO JACOB GLEN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>Fort Johnson Febr<sup>y</sup>. 8<sup>th</sup> 1758

SIR/

I send you fourteen Commissions which you will Issue to the Persons for whom they are as Soon as possible & have them

<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

qualified, so that they may be ready to Act whenever occasion requires.—receive their Fees at the Same time. I have given Dennis Madden and Francis Rupert Lieut<sup>s</sup>. Commissions, and an Ensigns Commission to George Kass, their Fees I answer, let them Sworn when they go down.

I am

S<sup>r</sup>.

Your Most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup> JOHNSON

To LIEU<sup>t</sup>. COLL<sup>o</sup>. GLEN —  
on His Majestys Service

ADDRESSED:

To

Jacob Glen Esq<sup>r</sup>.  
Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Coll<sup>o</sup>. of the 2<sup>d</sup>. Battallion  
at Schenectady

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*In the Woods near Kashes February 17<sup>th</sup>. 1758*

DEAR SIR

This Day, a Deputation of five Onondagas met me here, who were sent by their Nation to acquaint me that the proposed meeting of Onondaga was for the present postponed, for the following Reasons Viz<sup>t</sup>. that the Senecas were in a few Days to meet some of the Western Nations at a place called Kaná-wagan near the Head, or Source of the Ohio on business of importance, so that they could not attend the proposed meeting properly, before they knew their resolutions, & that as soon as that meeting was over, they would be ready to attend the other at Onondaga; the next, & most material reason they give is, that by the last accounts they have received by some Onondagas

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

who lately arrived from Cadaraghqui, there is a very considerable body of French, & Indians preparing to sett of for this part of the Country with the Moon, and determined to lay waste the Country, as far as Schenectady, and that they only wait for the Snow being a little Settled to put their Design in Execution. This induced the Onondagas to send these Messengers with all expedition to stop, & acquaint me with the designs of the French, & to desire I would defer coming until we had further Intelligence of the Enemy's designs, & the Senecas were ready to attend the meeting. Upon this Intelligence, & advice of the upper Nations, it was the Unanimous opinion of all those who accompanied me Viz<sup>t</sup>. the two Mohawk Castles, some Senecas, & Delewares, in the whole above 60 Men, that we should return, & wait the event of the above mentioned threats of the Enemy, and also to be in readiness to attend the General Meeting of the 6 Nations when more convenient, to which I agreed, and shall take care w<sup>th</sup>. your assistance to endeavour to frustrate any attempt the Enemy may make, I dispatched four trusty Mohawks 3 Days ago to Oneida, to let them know I was coming to attend the Meeting, on receiving these accts. by the Onondagas Deputies, I sent them orders to remain there some Days, to learn the further Designs, or motions of the Enemy, and should they hear the Enemy was certainly marched, to bring me the account immediately

I am

Dear Sir Y<sup>r</sup>. most Obedient

Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

MAJOR GENERAL ABERCROMBIE<sup>1</sup>

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnsons  
Letter to M G Abercromby  
dated Casses feby 17<sup>th</sup> 1758

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<sup>1</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

A. L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Harkemir Feby. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1758*  
*5 A Clock*

DR. SR.

Att 3 A Clock a house & Barn opersit y<sup>e</sup>. fort was Sett a fier by y<sup>e</sup>. Enemy I was then in the fort on which I went up to Franks and Sent out three oneidas to See if they Could Discover y<sup>e</sup>. Number of y<sup>e</sup>. Enemy who is this moment returned, and Says they See a large fier above y<sup>e</sup>. Mills on y<sup>e</sup>. other Side which they think to be the Encampment of y<sup>e</sup> Enemy, y<sup>e</sup>. Bearer Can Inform you as he was one of the party I sent out, all y<sup>e</sup>. Indians here is come into y<sup>e</sup>. fort, and Sayes they will stay with us, which gives me some Rason to think they knew Nothing of this party Coming att this time, butt they have Nott own gun with them, this is all I Can Write you att present as I Know No More of y<sup>e</sup>. Enemy.

I am Sr. Y<sup>r</sup>. Most obeident humble Servant

GEO: CROGHAN

P S. Capt. Townsend gives his Compliments to you and Desires y<sup>e</sup>. plese to forward y<sup>e</sup>. News to Scanegady for him as he has nott Time to Write himself

To the Honourable SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON

INDORSED:

George Croghan to Sir William Johnson  
 Herkemer Febr 19<sup>th</sup> 1758

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Canajohare 19th Feby 1758*

SIR:

On my way to Onondaga, I was met by five Onondaga Deputies, who were sent to let me know that some of their People who lately came from Cadaraghqui, say that there were above 700 men assembled there, in order to make a descent this way, with this Moon, for which purpose they had Indian sleds, snow shoes, provisions &c ready, and only waited for a reinforcement of men they hourly expected: this and the proposed meeting not being yet compleat, occasioned my return in order to prevent as far as in my power the enemy putting their designs in execution, which is to destroy the settlements along the river to Schenectady. I have wrote to Gen. Abercrombie<sup>2</sup> more fully about it who I doubt not will take the properest steps, to defeat their wicked designs. I would have you exert yourself at the Juncture, and hold the Regiment in the greatest readiness to march at a moments notice. I have scouts out as far as Oneidas and shall send others to watch the road leading to the carrying place, so that I am in hopes I shall be able to have early notice of their approach in which case you may expect having the earliest notice possible; then you are to press, & take along all the sleds you can, to carry the men up expeditiously. I propose staying here until I hear something certain of the enemys designs.

I am, Sir, your Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON. Coll.

TO LIEUT. COL. JACOB GLEN of the  
Second Battallion of the Regt. of  
Militia of the county of Albany.

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<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.

<sup>2</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

You are to march the militia up here immediately without loss of time, march night & day as far as *Townsend*. Letter says the enemy is on the spot. Send this letter to Albany after showing it to *Coll. Whitmore*.<sup>1</sup>

TO EDWARD WHITMORE

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Canajohare Febr'y 19<sup>th</sup>. 1758 Nine at Night*

SIR

this Afternoon abt. 5 of the Clock I received a letter from Capt<sup>n</sup>. Townsend,<sup>3</sup> acquaint<sup>s</sup>. me that the Enemy had burnt a House & Barn opposite to his Fort, and taken four Prisoners, and Just now I received the Inclosed letter by a Second Express. the Bearers of which, being Oneidas, and Sent by Mr Croghan to discover the Number, & Situation of the Enemy, tell me that they saw a considerable Number of the Enemy cheiffly Indians w<sup>th</sup>.in five Miles of Fort Harkemer, and a verry great Smoke a little further which they Judge was their Encampment, that Some of the French Indians called to them to stand, and talk with them, which they refused, they called to them a Second time, & told them they would not hurt them, & that they were an advanced Body making a Road for the Enemy. they not choosing to trust them with much Difficulty made their Escape. As You have M: Genr<sup>l</sup>. Abercrombies<sup>4</sup> Orders to give me what Assistance you Can on such an Occasion, I doubt not but you will think it necessary to March all the Men in Your power, and with all expedition to Join Me.

As I have not time to write y<sup>e</sup>. Genr<sup>l</sup>. now, being unwilling to lose any time, I must beg You will communicate y<sup>e</sup>. Contents hereof to him, and press Lieut. Colo. Glen<sup>5</sup> to hurry up the

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Edward Whitmore of the 22d regiment.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>3</sup> Captain Philip Townshend of the 22d regiment.

<sup>4</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

<sup>5</sup> Lieutenant Colonel Jacob Glen.

Militia as fast as possible. I propose as Soon as I have gained some Intelligence of the Enemys Numbers, and that I am able to make any Head against them to March up with what Men I can Muster.

I am Sir  
 Y<sup>r</sup>. Most Obedient  
 Humble Servant  
 W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To COLL<sup>o</sup>. WHITMORE<sup>1</sup>

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson to  
 Col Whitmore  
 Conojahare Febr. 19<sup>t</sup> 1758

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

D.<sup>3</sup>

[March 11-14, 1758]

Fort Johnson 11<sup>th</sup> March 1758 —

At a Meeting of a Number of Oneidas, Tuscaroras Cayougas,  
 Delawares, Schoharees Mohawks &a

Pres<sup>t</sup>

S <sup>r</sup> Will <sup>m</sup> Johnson Bar <sup>t</sup> .	}
Cap <sup>t</sup> John Butler	
L <sup>t</sup> Guy Johnson	

Cap<sup>t</sup> Montour<sup>3</sup> Interp<sup>r</sup>:

Canaghquayeeson speaker, asked S<sup>r</sup> Will<sup>m</sup>: if he and the Mohawks &<sup>ca</sup>: were ready to proceed upon business, to which S<sup>r</sup> William answered that he was — Then the Speaker proceeded

<sup>1</sup> Colonel Edward Whitmore of the 22d regiment.

<sup>2</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, Vol. 39, London, England.

<sup>3</sup> Captain Henry Montour.

Brother Waraghiyagey

Our Bretheren the Cayougas Sent, a belt to know from us their Elder brother why we did not Call a Meeting, upon the Sachems and Warriours of the Onedias Tuscaroras Cayougas & Nanticokes met together, and returned the Cayougas Thanks for their advice, at the same time concluded to Attend the Meeting very soon at Onondaga Whereupon we Sent to the Delawares Shawanesese, and River Indians our Allies, to Acquaint them of our Resolution, never more to listen to the French, but firmly keep up to the Covenant made by our forefathers with the English, and therefore had taken the Hatchet out of the Hands of those who had used it against the English, and that we are now Come to Acquaint you therewith, and to let you know we have Shaken the Other Nations by the Head,<sup>1</sup> and are determined to speak our resolution boldly at the Ensueing Meeting —

Gave a Belt Wampum

Broy<sup>r</sup> Warriors

We being in great want of a Smith at our Castle as our Hatchets are all bad and Much out of order, we beg you will Consider and Send us a Smith to Mend and repair them and we shall take care to protect him —

Gave a String Wampum

Broy<sup>r</sup> Warriors

The Onandagas have given the Shout to Acquaint the Nations, that the Fire is kindled and we leave it Intirely to the Mohawks, whither they will choose to bring you with them or not, it being very dangerous now on Acco<sup>t</sup>: of the Severall Scalping partys which are out, and we now request you will let the Mohawks know what we have Said —

Gave a String

Upon which S<sup>d</sup> William told the Speaker that he had heard, what had been said, and would take time to Consider it, and

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<sup>1</sup> Evidently intended for "Hand."



when he was prepared to give them an Answer would give them Notice —

12<sup>th</sup> March

Sr Will<sup>m</sup>: sent the Interpet<sup>r</sup>: to let the several Nations then Assembled, at his House know that he was ready to Answer their Speech of Yesterday, and desire their Attendance —.—

Being all Met in the Council room Sr William asked them, if they were prepared to hear what he had to Say, upon their answering they were he Proceeded as follows —

Present as Before

Bretheren and Friends —

I have with due Attention heard and Considered what you yesterday delivered in behalf of the four Nations you then Mention'd—I must Say it would have given me much More Pleasure to have had the Intended Meeting take place when proposed then now, I was then so far advanced on My Journey to Onandago and that at a season of the Year and such a Deep Snow, as would Discourage any Man from proceeding who was not Moved by the Warmest Zeal for your welfare—

A Union among yourselves and with your Allies, is what I have repeatedly recommended to you and all the Nations, and Could I see it once Effected it would give me the greatest Satisfaction, having never had anything more at Heart (Since I have had the Care of you) then the reestablishing your Interest and former Consequence which I much Dispair of, untill your Actions not your words Show it— You assure Me that the four Nations whom you here represent, are resolved to listen no more to the French but keep Strictly to the Covenant entered into with the English This has been so Often promised by the 6 Nations and nothing done in Consequence of it, when at the same time you see your Brethren the English unalterable, nay his Majesty King George is vastly More Bountifull to you then ever he was, or you Could Expect that it requires More then mere Words to Carry due weight with it,— Wherefore as

your Friend and well Wisher I once more Earnestly recommend it to you, to keep Strictly up to that Alliance with your Bretheren as your wise Forefathers did, and which did then and may now prevent your Subjection to the French a people from whom (in that Situation) you may Expect little Favour —

Gave a Belt —

Bretheren

As to your Request of a smith being sent to your Country to Mend your Working Utensils &<sup>ca</sup>: I should be very ready to Oblidge you, could it be done with any degree of prudance and Safety —

From the Steps I have ever taken to Promote your Interest in every respect I could (particularly my Sending my Deputy Mr Croghan to reside at the German Flatts in order to prevent, your being Imposed upon in Trade and also by the late proposal which I made to the Six Nations when here, of Sending to there Country a large Assortment of Goods to Supply there wants at the Cheapest Rates that ever they bought any) You may be Convinced of My Inclination and readiness, to Serve you all, but as the present Circumstance of Affairs renders it both perilous and impolitic (The Enemy being daily in and about your Country) and as we find it is not at present in your power to protect your Bretheren at the Flatts from the daily Insults and Barbarities of the Enemy, I think it unsafe to hazard them at such a distance, especially as our Road is free and open for your people to pass and repass without any danger I believe you will soon be oblidge to come to our Towns for all your Necessaries, as that part of the Country is Now Chiefly depopulated and Consequently unsafe for any person to bring up goods —

3 Strings

Bretheren

You say the Onandago's have given the Shout to acquaint all the Nations of there having lighted the Council Fire, and Leave it to the Mohawks to Judge whether it be safe or prudent for me to go to the Meeting, as there are so many, Scalping

parties by the Road, I must tell you bretheren my Oppinion of the Affair Candidly, which is this that you either dont Choose I should be pres<sup>t</sup> at the Meeting, or that you are not Incl<sup>n</sup>'d to give offence to the French at any Rate — For surely it Cant be so low with you as not to be able to protect His Majestys Agent going upon his and your own Service, thro' your Country, from a handfull of Renagadoes who dare not from there guilt Stand a man or look him in the Face. In the whole I tell you that altho' no danger would ever deterr me or prevent me from doing my duty to My King and Country yet if My presence at the proposed Meeting be not thought Necessary I Shall wait the Result of it and Expect you will Not Delay, letting me know of it as soon as possible —

3 Strings Wampum

The Indians Replied —

Brother

We are heartily Sorry at your Doubting our pres<sup>t</sup>: declarations, there may have some been with you, who have Spoke otherwise as they thought, but we again asure you that what we now have told you is sincere and the reall Sentiments of the 4 Nations we represent. As the Mohawks have desired our oppinion on your Attending the Council to be held Soon at Onondaga, we have thoroughly considered of it, and now beg you will Stay at Home and take Care of your Country which is every day threatned by the Enemy, and be assured, that as soon as the meeting is over you shall know the result if it without delay

Brother

We the Oneidas and Tuscaroras beg once more that you will keep a greater Number of Men at the German flatts, and build a strong Fort there, otherwise we fear the French will Sweep away those that are there, and then you may be apt to blame us for it and Say we had a hand in it, as has been often told of us undeservedly —

Sr William told them that Nothing would give him greater pleasure, then there keeping up to there present resolutions, as it would be Attended with the best of Consequences both to them and us, and that he would Lay before the Gen<sup>l</sup>. their Advice & request —

This Ends the Meeting

After the Publick Meeting was Ended Sr William took the Chiefs of each Nation into his own Room and talked very fully to them, on the present Situation of Affairs and after giving them severall Severe Rebukes for there Past Conduct, Strongly recommended to them a union amongst themselves and then an Exertion of their Strength in Conjunction with there Bretheren the English, as the only Means of recovering and reestablishing their Pristine Alliances and Consequence to which they were very Attentive and seem'd thoroughly Convinced that all he said was Clear to them and fact and assured him in the Most Solemn Manner they the before mention'd Nations were firmly resolved to do every thing in there Power to bring the rest of the Nations to their way of thinking and doubted not of Succeeding —

14<sup>th</sup> March

Before the Indians, set off for their respective Countrys Sr Will<sup>m</sup>: reinstated Kindarundie an Oneida before all the Oneida Sachems with the usual Ceremony and Markes of Distinction giving him a Strict Charge at the same time to behave deserving that Notice taken of him, and the Rank he now bore, which he Sincerely promised, and he and all his Nation present returned, Sr William hearty Thanks for the wholesome admonition he had given them, and for Appointing him a Sachem to Assist them in their Councils —

After all this was over, Sr William gave them a pres<sup>t</sup>: in publick and a private present and some Cash to the Chiefs for which they were very thankfull and parted extreamly well pleased

14<sup>th</sup>: March

At a Meeting with the Schoharee and Delaware Indians

Pres <sup>t</sup> : Sr William Johnson	} Cap <sup>t</sup> Mountour Interp <sup>r</sup>
Capt <sup>n</sup> : Tho <sup>s</sup> & John Butlers	
Lieut <sup>s</sup> Claus and Johnson	

Bretheren of Schoharee and Mohickon —

As My Time has been so Much taken up with the Affairs of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Cayougas, Nanticokes &<sup>ca</sup> these Several days past, that I could not Possibly take that notice of you which I wished to do, I now take the earliest opportunity after there Departure to bid you welcome and thank you for your readiness, in Coming so Expeditiously on My Call. When I Sent for you there was reason (from the Severall Acco<sup>ts</sup>: I then received) to think the Enemy was near our Country, but it Seems there was no more than a Scalping party of 50 Men who killed two of the Inhabitants of Burnetsfield as they went to feed their Cattle, and so return'd —

Bretheren

It is not at all Improbable, but the Enemy may Attempt something this way before our Forces take the Field in the Spring, wherefore, I am resolved to keep the Militia under my Command in the greatest readiness to Meet them wherever they come and I doubt not but you will all be as ready to Join me then, as you have been now, in which Case you may Depend on His Majesty's Protection and Favour and all those who act as Friends and Allies with us, will ever be distinguished above the rest which you had already Several Proofs of this I Confirm with

A Belt of Wampum

Brethren

As you were present, the other day at the Meeting when the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Cayougas, and Nanticokes declared there resolutions and Intentions I need not now repeat them to you, but desire and Expect, you will follow their Example, then your

tribes will become once More a respectable body, then which Nothing would give me greater pleasure, as I have been at So Much trouble and the King at so great Expençe, to Collect your Scattered people together for that End —

As I have no Acco<sup>ts</sup>: of the Enemy's being yet on their March and as it Must be inconvenient to you to be absent any time from your Families I Shall for the pres<sup>t</sup> dismiss you, after I have given you some Cloathing and Money for an Entertainment at your Arrivall among your people, but at the same time must tell you, that I Expect you will be Ready when I may have Occasion to call upon you, & that in the Mean time you Strengthen your Alliance as Much as you can, which will be our Mutual Interest

A Belt

A True Cobby from the Records

Examined by me

D: CLAUS

Deputy Secretary

INDORSED:

Copy

Conferences between Sr W<sup>m</sup>: Johnson

the Oneida, Tuscarrora, Cayouga

Delawares, Schoharees & Mohawk

Indians at Fort Johnson

11<sup>th</sup>: March 1758 —

Enclosed in Sr Williams<sup>1</sup> of 24<sup>th</sup> March

CATAWBA INDIANS TO CHEROKEES

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

[*March 24, 1758*]

Friends and loving Brothers of the Mohock Nation

That grand chain of Friendship which has so long continued between us, still remains clear & bright, and we will as long as

<sup>1</sup> Johnson to Abercromby, March 24, 1758.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5. Presented by the Cherokees to Sir William Johnson at a conference held at Fort Johnson July 21, 1758.

the Sun & Moon shines Clear keep it so on our side. We herewith send you by our Friends & Brothers the Cherokees some white Strings of Wampum as a token of our Loyalty to His Majesty King George. We & our Friends the Cherokees have long since taken up the Hatchet against the French & their Allies and expect this Summer to use it with all our might & power. We have some time since sent to our Brothers the Creeks as they are a great Nation to come & join us to go against the French & their Allies & we do expect them soon with their Hatchets, We should have been out before now had it not been that we are obliged to wait for the Instructions of the Hon<sup>ble</sup>. Edmond Atkins.<sup>1</sup> sorry I am that it is not in my power to be the Bearer hereof. however what I have herein mentioned will be sufficient we hope to convince you how much we are your Friends & well wishers

We are heartily sorry to hear you have lost many brave Warriors & hope you'll have better Success for the future, we herewith send these Wampum as an Omen of Success against your Enemies. We have no more at present but remain your Friends & Bretheren as long as Fire burns or Water runs and this to be delivered in the presence of Sir William Johnson

Catawbaw Nation  
March 24. 1758.

KING HAGLER  
CAPT. GOODWILL  
CAPT. WATERS  
CAPT. SWOT.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 24th. March 1758*

DEAR SIR

Since I had the Honour of yours of the 8<sup>th</sup>. Inst., I have been so taken up with a Meeting of Some of the Upper Nations,

<sup>1</sup> Edmund Atkin (Atkins), superintendent of Indian affairs in the southern colonies.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

and frequent Alarms from the German Flatts (which occasioned my going up with the Militia of this River, & Indians) that I have not had a Moments leasure, I returned here but late last night, and now embrace the first oportunity of sincerely congratulating You on your late promotion, and most heartily wish You all the Honour, and Success that a Gentleman in so eminent a Station, and so High in his Majestys, and also his Subjects Esteem can desire.

I find that Severall of the Northeen Indians, as those about Lake Erie, are now pressing the Six Nations to desire, and allow a Trade may be carried on by the English in the Country of the latter, as they are now much distressed (they say) by the War carried on between English, & French, which prevents their tradeing with the English, and the French cannot supply them with the necessarys they want, So that their Familys are naked mostly. I find the Six Nations begin to feel the want of trade also, so that I expect (after the Severall Meetings they are to hold are over) there will be an application of some kind made for that End, when, you may be assured Sir I shall use all my Influence, & endeavours to get it made in such a manner as will be most for His Majestys Interest, & then lay it before You, in such case, I believe Sir You will think it proper to be prepared for an Answer.

As I expect to have a great deal of business to go there soon, on Acctt. of the many Meetings now holding, and to be held among the Severall Nations, the Results of which, will I expect be brought to Me, and must doubtless occasion a great deal of writing, I should therefore be extremely glad to have Capt<sup>n</sup>. Wraxalls Assistance, if it agreable to You. He haveing by his Application, & practice for these Severall Years past acquired so good Notion of Indian Politicks, that He would be at present of more Service to Me than any Man I know.

I have corresponded Since your departure with Lord Howe, and given him all the Intelligence I received, & shall continue to give him all that comes to my knowledge which may concern His Majestys Service.



If Indians should be wanting to Join the Army, or for other Service I shall be at a great loss for Arms fitt for them, as there are none here to be had, Indeed I would have sent to England for Such, & every other Article necessary for the Service (as it would be by the Half cheaper to import them, than purchasing them here) but that Lord Loudoun told me (above a Year ago) that he would send for those things himself, and had a List of Me for that End, but I never heard of their arrivall. I hope Sir, You will give me Sufficient time to Collect the Indians, (who live very dispersed) when You have occasion for them.

As I am a good deal Streightened for want of Money, I should be very glad You would please to give me a Warrant on the Pay Master *for my Sallarry*. I never received any, altho I have served now three Years.

there is a Young Gentleman a Namesake, & Relation of mine now a Lieut in the New York Service, Whom My Lord Loudoun was pleased to promise Me he would provide for in the Army. but, amidst the Multiplicity of business, I imagine forgot it. As He is very desireous of being in the Army, is qualified for it I think, and has some pretentions, I am (from the great politeness, & friendship You have always shewn me) emboldened to write this in his behalf, and beg the favour You would please to let me know, whether I may give him any encouragement, any favour done him will be quite fully by Me.

Who Am

with the greatest Respect

Dear Sir

Your Most Obedient

& Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

MAJOR GENR<sup>l</sup>. ABERCROMBIE<sup>1</sup>

P.S. I doubt not but there might be a Number of light Arms bought out

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<sup>1</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

of the French Prizes brought into  
our Ports, if orders were given  
for it.

INDORSED:

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson  
March 24<sup>th</sup> 1758

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*New York 4<sup>th</sup>. April 1758.*

SIR W<sup>M</sup>: JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>.  
Fort Johnson./

DEAR SIR,

On Saturday I was favor'd with Yours of the 24<sup>th</sup>: Ultimo, congratulating me on my late promotion<sup>2</sup> and kindly wishing me all Success; for which I beg leave to return you my most Sincere thanks: Assuring You at the same time, that I wish for nothing so much, as to cultivate & maintain the good understanding I flatter myself Subsists between Us; for which purpose, You shall always find me ready & disposed, to Correspond & Cooperate with You upon all occasions; and I make no doubt (so long as we remain thus Cemented for to which end, no endeavours of mine shall be wanting) but we shall be able to carry on the Service to our mutual Credit, and to the advantage of Our Royal Master's Interest.

The Application made by several of the Northern Indians & those about Lake Erie to the Six Nations, for carrying on a Trade, by the English, in the Country of the latter, I should think ought by no means to be neglected, particularly if you

<sup>1</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, Vol. 38, London, England; extract in C. O. 5:50 printed in *The Papers of Sir William Johnson* 2:812-13.

<sup>2</sup> Abercromby succeeded Loudoun as commander in chief of the British forces in North America in 1758.

should think them Sincere in their proposal, which I should hope for from the Information you give me, of their families being mostly naked & the french not having it in their power to supply them. The Six Nations beginning to feel the want of Trade also, is not a less lucky incident, since it must necessarily anticipate their application to You, for settling one, in which case, You will Act as You see best for the good of the Publick, of which you are by far a better Judge than I, that am so little versed in Indian Affairs; I shall therefore only observe, that I think it would be proper, if this Plan is to take place, that they should deliver you Hostages, to remain with You, as a Security for their adherence to such Treaties as shall be found necessary to enter into with them; which if you would Sketch out, & transmit to me, I then will give you my Opinion thereon

Capt Wraxall<sup>1</sup> is now here, Employed in Collecting & preparing Camp Necessaries for his Company but as soon as he can be Spared, You may rely on my sending him to You, and that I shall be glad of every opportunity to oblige You.

I beg you will continue to Correspond with Lord Howe & to give him all the Intelligence that comes to your Knowledge any ways relating to H. M.'s Service.

[*Indians will certainly be wanted this Ensueing Campaign, I would therefore have You lose no time in Collecting as many as you possibly can get;*]<sup>2</sup> As I am directed by H. M. to make an Irruption into Canada by the way of Crown Point, and [*am recommended to Acquaint You*]<sup>2</sup> that it is the Kings pleasure that you should Collect as large a body of Indians as possible to be Employed on that Service, I must recommend it to You, to use your utmost, to procure as many as possibly you can get for that purpose. And as to Arms, since you are so destitute of them, I will give directions to buy up those taken out of the french Prizes that have been brought into these Parts, if any

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Peter Wraxall.

<sup>2</sup> Words italicized and inclosed in brackets are crossed out in the manuscript.

can be found, if not I must light on some other Expedient, for that must by no means be a reason for Our wanting Indians, especially as the Enemy have so large a body of them.

With regard to Your Sallery, upon consulting with Lord Loudoun on that head, he told me that he had advised You, to Pay yourself out of such Monies as had been Issued to You for the Services of your Department; but as I find you have not done so, certainly for very good reasons, I will with all my heart grant you a Separate Warrant for it out of the Contingencies of the Army.

I shall always pay great regard to your recommendation, and could wish it were in my Power to convince You of it now, in favor of your namesake & relation, but the few vacancies there are at present already promised & in a manner filled up, prevents me at this time from pursuing the Inclination I have to serve You, but You may be assured I shall not forget him meanwhile it would be advisable for him to continue with the Provincials, where he may be of Use

By the enclosed Copy of a Conference between the Gov: of Pennsylvania to Teedyuscung, and Mr: Denys<sup>1</sup> Letter to me of the 24<sup>t</sup>: March, You will perceive that the Delawares & several of those Tribes of Indians that made Incursions on the Southern Provinces are turning fast on our side & that some of the Twigtwee Tribes & of the far Nations over the Lakes are of the same mind. You will likewise see that his (Mr. Denys) Assembly have advised him in pretty warm terms to invite some of the Chiefs of these Indians to their City, in order to confirm them in their friendship which he very Justly declined for the reasons given in the said Letter: And further desired my direction therein. My Answer to him was, that as You was Commission'd by His Majesty to Manage & Superintend all Affairs with the Northern Indians, exclusive of any other person whatsoever, I therefore should transmit these papers to you, for your Consideration and press you to send an immediate Answer thereto, which I must beg of You to do by the Earliest opportunity.

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<sup>1</sup> William Denny, governor of Pennsylvania.

I must at the same time observe to You that H. M. having directing me to Appoint Brig<sup>r</sup>. Forbes<sup>1</sup> to the Command of the Troops to be Employed to the Southward I have in Consequence of my Instructions appointed the said Brig<sup>r</sup>. Forbes to that Command & have wrote a Circular Letter to the Southern Gov<sup>rs</sup>. solely to Correspond with him in all matters concerning that department; pursuant to which and in order to give him all the lights I possibly could to enable him to carry the same into Execution, I Communicated to him Mr. Dennys Letter, from whence, not being so well Acquainted with the little dependence to be had on these Tribes, he was for closing with the advice of his Assembly; but upon representing to him the bad Consequences that might result from so hasty a step he waved his Opinion, yet is very desirous that You should send Mr Croghan to a Meeting with these Indians; if You think his coming might be attended with any Success and that you can possibly Spare him I should be glad You would send him without delay & give him such Instructions as You shall see necessary: or upon failure of Mr Croghan any other person you shall think equal to the task.

INDORSED:

Gen. Abercromby  
To Sr. William Johnson  
April 4<sup>th</sup> 1758 —

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

A. L. S.<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 13th April 1758.*

DEAR SIR

I am honoured with Yours of the 6th Curr<sup>t</sup>, at the same time received the conference held by govern<sup>r</sup>. Denny, with some Delawares, also his letter to you.

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel John Forbes of the 17th regiment was appointed Brigadier General in America and put in command of the southern district Dec. 28, 1757. *Pennsylvania Archives*, 3:579.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

Your verry kind, and oblidging letter has given me the most sensible pleasure of any thing I could expect, or wish for, and think myself Happy in the favourable opertunity offered me of mantaining and improveing that correspondence & freindship which you have honoured me with, and which I so highly esteem. Be assured Sir that nothing in my power shall be wanting to contribute to, and promote his Majestys Interest, and your success, & Honour, it being the Height of my ambition.

I shall endeavour all in my power to get as many Indians as I possibly can to Join his Majestys Forces both this Way & to the Southward, for which purpose I shall send Mr. Croghan as soon as He returns from the German Flatts to Philadelphia (in the mean while, I think Governour Denny should loose no time in sending Invitations to them Indians who are inclined to Peace to come to Philadelphia) with proper Instructions, & directions to assist, & cooperate with Gov<sup>r</sup>. Denny in bringing about, and settleing a Peace with the Ohio, & Western Indians, & try if He cant get a number of them to join Brigd<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Forbes, & endeavor to persuade the Rest to lye still if possible, which (from the steps I have lately taken) I am in hopes he will be able to accomplish.—The Cherokees will I am positive (by what they promised me last Fall when here) Join us heartily, if we do not by neglect, or some Mismangement overset the good Disposition they then were in, which I hope will be guarded against, & prevented, as their Alliance is in my opinion a matter of the utmost consequence, particularly to the Southern Governments, which I think should not stick at any thing now to engage them heartily.—I have allowed the Ind<sup>s</sup>. of the two Mohawk Castles to Hunt to the Northward of the Mohawk River towards Canada for twenty Days, it will answer the End of Scouts for the time they are out as they are imediately to come and give me notice should they make any Discovery of an Enemy. I shall loose no time in sending Messages & invitations to all the Nations in this Quarter to come & Join you when called upon. It will not answer to have them here before they are wanted for action, or the Troops take the Feild, as it would be an Immense

Expense, & trouble to keep them besides they are such an odd kind of People that they never can stay long in one place. If the proposed meeting of Onondaga was over, I should be able to form a Judgment how, and what number would act, as they will then determine what to do.—be that as it will, I flatter myself, (if I am to go with them) I can bring a pritty considerable Body of Indians into the Feild, which you will be pleased Sr. to let me know, and in what station.—it would greatly encourage the Indians If there were about a hundred of the briskest young men from this part of the country to join them, who would be of great service in scouting, bringing intelligence &ca, they need no other officers than those already in the Indian service, the same pay the Rangers have would suffice them, certain I am they would deserve it. If you approve of it, and will please to send me orders, I will have them raised imediately, & send them on service.—

I must beg leave to remind you of the absolute necessity there is of haveing a good Number of proper light arms for the Indians, also middle sized Pistolls, & Cutlasses for should they incline to Join us in great Numbers, and not have arms &ca for them, it would be the means of not only loosing their assistance, but perhaps occasion them to turn against us. All the other articles necessary for those who take the Feild, and their Familys I believe I can get at York and Albany, tho not so good, or near so cheap as they could be imported.—A good Armourer is very much Wanted here, to repair their arms when out of order, wh. they often are, and the want of such renders many of their arms useless altho almost new. If such a man could be spared from the Army, it would forward the service, & save the Crown a good deal of Money.—As there are a great many Ind<sup>s</sup>. here now from severall parts on Business, you will Sir excuse my not answering your letter fully, untill another opertunity.—I am preparing a Party of Oneidaes &ca to go to Canada, they are to bring me a Preist who lives ab<sup>t</sup>. half way between Swegatchy, & Montreal if possible, for whom I promised them 200 Dollars, or for another Intelligent Person 100 Dollars from whom you

might have a great deal of Intelligence.— I must beg leave Sir to observe to you, that when all the men who are inlisted along this River, for Rangers, new services, and Battoe service are drawn off, there will be very few left except the Old People.—

I am  
most Respectfully  
Dear Sir  
Your most obedient  
& Most Humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

PS. as I have not time to write Govr. Denny now, I doubt not you will give him your directions, and my opinion.

To His Excellency  
MAJOR GENRL. ABERCROMBIE.

INDORSED:

Sir Wm. Johnson,  
Ft. Johnson 13th Apr<sup>l</sup>. 1758.  
Recd. 22d by the Post.

TO JACOB GLEN

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 28th April 1758.*

SIR:

I received yours of this day and in answer thereto can only tell you what I have already said in my order of the 14th inst. viz that you order, or cause to be marched those raised on the Mohawk river to Schenectady, and those raised in the other parts of the county to the City of Albany, under the Command of their respective officers, and there to be delivered to the Officer who shall have orders to receive them.

<sup>1</sup> In collection of John E. Wyman, Fonda, N. Y.



I dare say there will be a Field Officer or some other at Albany to receive the Drafts when sent down, and the sooner they are sent the better.

As I propose setting of for Onondaga next week you will take care to manage every thing relating to the drafting, and seeing that the complement of this county be duly given of effective men and after all is over get a Return from all the officers of both Battallions of the number of men left, so that we may know the strength of the Regiment, and on my return to send it me. It will also be proper that the Commanding officers at Albany knows the strength of the Militia particularly of this River.

You are also to hold the Militia in the greatest readiness so that if the enemy should make an attempt, this or any other way you may be ready to join his Majestys Troops against them, or otherwise as the General shall think best.

I am Sir, Your Most Humble Servt.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To LIEUT. COL. JACOB GLEN or  
Next Commanding officer of the  
Militia of the county at Albany.

I herewith send you three commissions which  
you will deliver & receive Fees for.

Yrs. W. JOHNSON

FROM JOHN FORBES

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Philadelphia May. 4<sup>th</sup> [1758]*

SIR/

The Situation of the Publick with regard to the Indians you are too well acquainted with for me to give your further information, than what, you have already had from Gen<sup>l</sup>. Abercromby.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

I was given to understand by his Excellency that you design'd sending your Deputy here — Immediately, to adjust matters. I wish he may arrive in Time to be of any Service, for all those affairs have some how been cruelly neglected, and are at Present in the Greatest Confusion,

There is one Mr. Wade who has been some Days in this Town, buying up Goods for the Indians. and says it was by your orders, altho he had Persuaded some Merchants to let him have some Indian Goods that had been previously bespoke by the Qr. Mr. Genl. and others employed to Provide those Necessaries for the Cherokees, yet I was willing to let him carry them off in Part. But the pressing demands of about 800 Cherokees now present with us, obliged me to lay an Embargo on every thing of that kind, that I could find in this City, the whole being but scarcely sufficient to keep those people together and to Prevent their returning home.

I thought it proper to acquaint you of this, that you may provide what you may want at New York or Boston, and I am with great regard

Sir

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup>

Humble Servant.

JOS FFORBES<sup>1</sup>

SIR WILL<sup>M</sup> JOHNSTON

INDORSED:

Copy of a Letter from Brig<sup>r</sup>. Genl. Forbes  
to Sir William Johnson

Philadelphia 4. May 1758.

Enclosed in the Brig<sup>rs</sup>: of the same day.

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<sup>1</sup> Brigadier General John Forbes.

## SPEECH FROM MOHEGAN INDIANS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 9 May 1758.—*

Sir William received from Mr. Woodbridge<sup>2</sup> of Stockbridge the following Speech or Letter from the Mohegan Tribe of Indians living on the Borders of New England, upon their receiving an Account of what passed here between Sir W<sup>m</sup>. & the Stockbridge Indians in April last (vid. blue cover Book.).

To our Bretheren of the Mohocks & Stockbridge Tribe of Indians

We the Mohegan Indians having had laid before us the agreeable Resolutions of said Indians abiding firm by the old Agreement made by their wise Forefathers & to defend that Tree of Shelter planted by the King & our Ancestors do chearfully return our Bretheren our Minds — that we are resolved to adhere & stick close to said Agreement, & other Covenants made by our Forefathers & the English, and as our Bretheren the Mohocks some of them do intend us a Visit we shall be glad to wait on them at Mohegan, and then we shall be detirmined what number will join General Johnson in this Expedition. some of our Tribe are already gone under Cap<sup>t</sup>. Brewer. We heartily pray our Bretheren & all that go in said Expedition may do Justice against our Enemies for the Cruelties & Barbarities committed upon our Bretheren & Friends

This is signed by the Sachem in the name  
of this Tribe at Mohegan the 8 day of May  
1758.

BENJAMIN UNCAS.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy Woodbridge.

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>*Albany, May 13, 1758.*

SIR

being on my Departure for this place when I was favoured with your two letters of the 28. of April & postpon'd acknowledging the receipt of them till my arrival when being informed that a party of the enemy have again visited the German Flatts, I imagine their incursion may have prevented your attending the Congress at Onondaga in which case, if it does not interfere with, or be any hindrance to, your other business, I should be glad you would come down to Albany where we can more easily, and with much more expedition, than by correspondence, concert & settle such measures as are most proper to be pursued in the present urgent & critical situation of Indian Affairs; as I hope this will be no inconvenience to you, and that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you here soon, I shall till then deferr giving you my opinion on the matters contained in your above mentioned letters.

The Day before I set out I received a letter from Brig<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Forbes, together with the enclosed for you, which he desired me to forward, as likewise the copy of a certificate of Warr Hatchie one of the chief of the Cherokees, of the speech made, to him by one of the Mohawks, which I must own appears to me of a very extraordinary nature, and to merit your strictest enquiry into — I have transmitted a copy of your letter & intelligence from a Seneca Sachem to Brig<sup>r</sup>. Forbes with directions to guide himself thereby in his Negotiations with Gov<sup>r</sup>. Denny & the assembly of Pennsylvania relative to Indian affairs. before I left New York I repeated my orders for purchasing as many arms as can be found for your purpose but I am afraid we shall fall very short in that article, as we are in want of a great many to arm the Provincials Troops, by reason of those, I expected

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

from England not being yet come out in order to make up this deficiency as far as I can, I have been obliged to sett all our armourers to work to mend those that are out of repair, by which means I cannot at present send you the gunsmith & tools you require, but as soon as one of them can be spared he shall be sent to you: meanwhile I have sent orders to the commanding officers of the 44<sup>th</sup> & 46<sup>th</sup> Regt. at Schenectady that if they have any armourers among them to send them to you.

I am &c.

SIR WM. JOHNSON Barrt.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 17. May 1758.—*

SIR

Your Excellency having desired from me a Report of the present state of His Majestys Indian Interest relative to the Six Nations & the Indians of the Northern District. I will lay the same before you in the concisest manour I am able, and do it with the utmost candor & impartiality.

In order to throw a proper light upon this Subject, it is I apprehend necessary to premise, some Circumstances antecedent to the present date.

General Braddock's unhappy Defeat<sup>2</sup> which happened soon after my first meeting with the Six Nations, threw a Damp upon the good Inclinations which they seemed to show about that time.

From the loss of Oswego,<sup>3</sup> which the Indians in their figurative way called *the Door of the Six Nations*, and the subsequent

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in Peter Wraxall's hand. The copy in the Pubic Record Office, W. O. 34, vol. 39, London, Eng., is dated March 17, 1758.

<sup>2</sup> In his expedition against Fort Duquesne in 1755.

<sup>3</sup> The capture of Oswego in August 1756, with the destruction of the forts, was one of the important events of the French and Indian War.

abandoning of the Onieda carrying-place, I soon found the Three upper Nations, to wit the Senecas, Cayougas & Onondagas, were very backward in sending their Supplies to our assistance & manefested evident marks of their Dread of the French. As the Settlements of these Indians lay in a manner between Cadaragui & Niagara, if they sent their warriors to act with us, they suspected the French & the Indians in their Neighbourhood would fall upon their Towns & destroy the remainder of their People. Thus their proximity to the Enemy gave them all things to fear, & their Distance from us little hopes of our timely assistance.

The inactivity of that years Campaign on our side, not only produced additional Dread of the Enemy upon the aforesaid Nations, but greatly cooled what ardor there was towards our Cause in the rest of the Six Nations. At the same time these unfavorable Circumstances were improved by the French Agents & Emissaries with the utmost art & Diligence to the advancement of theirs & the decrease of our Indian Interest.

In November 1756. I held a Meeting at my House with some principal Men of each of the Six Nations. I then remonstrated to them in the warmest manner upon their late backwardness in assisting His Majestys Arms, & insisted upon a sincere & explicit Declaration whether they would or would not act with us against the common Enemy, agreable to antient Treaties & their Engagements to me at the commencement of the present War. They replied, that the affair was of the utmost moment to their welfare & therefore they judged it necessary to call a solemn Council, which I should know when it was over. I must observe to Your Sir, that the Two Castles of the Mohocks did not join in this Answer. They told me at a seperate Conference, that they looked upon themselves as Englishmen & were determined to live & die such.

In June 1757. Deputies from all the Six Nations came down to my House. The Senecas, Cayougas & Onondagas declared, they had no Intentions of breaking the antient Covenant Chain

between them & the English, but were unanimously & sincerely determined to hold it fast & preserve inviolable the old Friendship between us. They further said — they were in comparison with the Nations surrounding them (& who were in the French Interest) but as a small handful of People — that they were menaced from several Quarters — that one of their People was actually taken Prisoner by the Messasagas but escaped by a Stratagem that they looked upon the present times to be extremely critical, and that their Welfare & safety depended upon keeping all their Warriors together & ready at hand to defend themselves from those attempts against them which they had reason to suspect might be made, and therefore they had come to a resolution to stay at home & be upon their Guard.

As I looked upon this to be a clear Declaration for a Neutrality, I told them I should immediately acquaint His Majesty's Commander in chief with what had passed between us; and after explaining to them the obligations of a Neutrality, I told them that if they broke thro them they must expect to be looked on as Enemies.

From that time Sir, no Proofs have come to my Knowledge, that Nationally considered, they have broke thro this Neutrality. Their Deputies have been to Canada & treated with the French Governor, but from their assurances & from all the Intelligence I can depend upon, they have only asserted their Neutrality.

The Tuscaroras & Oniedas excused themselves from giving me their Determinations at that time. I found they were very much divided amongst themselves & that their intestine Broils took up all their Attention; These arose from a French & English Faction — to this day it exists; and as some of these Nations have & do act with us, so tis probable others do with the Enemy, however I judge the greater part are neutral Spectators.

Besides the Six Nations strictly so called, there are a number of almost every one of those Nations settled at a place called Aughguaga on the Susquahannah River. There is also a settlement of (chiefly) Mohock Indians at a place called Schohara about 40 miles from this Town.

These Indians have ever been firmly attached to our Interest, and no Indians during the present war, have been more ready on every summons to come & join His Majestys Arms. They are a flourishing and increasing People; as many of the upper Nations well affected to the English Interest & who are disgusted with the ruling Politics of their People, leave their Castles & go & settle at Aughguaga.

These Indians made me as warm Professions of their Detirmination to adhere to our Interest & support His Majestys Arms as the Two Mohock Castles had done.

The Delaware & Mohikander Indians settled on the Susquannah River, some of whom were present at this Meeting, declared their inclination of Peace & Friendship with us, and that they would send their young men upon any summons I might give them.

Thus Sir stood the state of His Majestys Indian Interest within my Department in June last.

What Influence the Events of the last Campaign, may naturally be supposed to have upon this part of His Majestys service, amongst a People who have never considered themselves as Principals in the present War, anxious for their own security & courted by Both sides; is too obvious to require my entering into the Detail.

I come now Sir, to the present state of His Majestys Indian Interest this way. [I have reason to believe that the Six Nations, & particularly the upper ones, alarmed at the present interesting situation of affairs upon this Continent, have shook off that inattention to their former Alliances & Connexions with various Nations of Indians, (with which neglect I have repeatedly & warmly reproached them) and in consequence thereof have for a considerable time past, been diligently carrying on very extensive Negotiations. This I apprehend hath produced some System or Plan, by an Adherence to or an Execution of which, they propose rendering themselves too formidable to dread, either any ill consequences to them or their Allies from a Neutral system, if they are detirmined to abide by that or to give such



a Weight to which ever side they may declare & act on as not to fear the other.

And this I apprehend Sir, is the grand Point to be debated & detirmined on in the present Congress at Onondaga, the result of which I conceive may be very important both to us & the French in the present War upon this Continent.

I am promised to have what passes at this great Meeting & the Detirminations thereupon, made known to me when it breaks up. till which time I look upon His Majestys Indian Interest to be in a state of Suspence.

I have already transmitted you some private Intelligence I have received relative to this meeting, and if that is to be depended on, we may hope very favorable things from the Indians. in such case I am inclined to beleive a considerable body of Indians will act against the French upon their own Plan in a seperate Body & in another part from our army, however I question not but I may then be able to bring or send into the Feild between 4 & 500 Indians.

Should the system proposed at Onondaga be a Neutrality, I apprehend some of our more neighbouring Nations will not fall into it; and that I may even then be able to muster near 300 to join His Majestys Arms towards Canada by way of Lake George.

But should the Indians at this Congress unfortunately detirmine to join the French against us; I cannot take upon me to say how extensive its influence may reach, or what Numbers in such case would adhere to us.]

Before I conclude I must beg leave to inform Your Excellency. The Indians in general are so devoted to & so debauched by Rum, that all Business with them is thrown into confusion by it & my transactions with them unspeakably impeded. The Mohock Castles in particular are become scenes of perpetual riot, and the Indians selling the necessaries they receive from the Crown thro me for Rum, to the infinite detriment of His Majestys service & the increase of Indian Expences. Provincial penal Laws have been made, but to no purpose. I have done all in my

power against this universal Enemy, to indeed His Majestys service in general, but it is too subtle & too powerful a one for me to reduce within proper bounds as to the Indians, and therefore I refer it to your more powerful Interposition.

I have the honour to  
be with the greatest Regard

Sir

Your Excellencys  
Most Obedient &  
Most humble servant.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

To His Excellency  
MAJOR GENERAL ABERCROMBY.

INDORSED:<sup>1</sup>

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson Bart.  
Albany 17th May 1758,  
R the 19th.

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Albany May 20<sup>th</sup>. 1758 —*

To S<sup>r</sup>. W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

SIR,

It being necessary under the present Circumstances to have as many Rangers as possible for procuring Intelligence & Watching the Motions and distressing of the Enemy; and as you think you are able to raise one hundred good Men every way fit for that purpose I do hereby Empower You to raise and form a Company of the same (to serve only during the present Campaign) upon the following Establishm<sup>t</sup> viz<sup>t</sup>: One Captain 2 Lieu<sup>ts</sup>. 2 Serjeants & 100. private Men; And as it behoves us to be

<sup>1</sup> Indorsement in John Appy's hand.

<sup>2</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, vol. 38, London, England.

as saving of the Publick Money as possible, I would therefore have you appoint to the Command of the said Company Such of the Officers belonging to the Companies of Indians & in pay that can at present be spared or are not in immediate Service; the Serjeants you will allow 4<sup>s</sup>. & the Private Men 2<sup>s</sup>. 6<sup>d</sup>. New York Currency  $\text{¶}$  diem each. & they shall be found Provisions & Ammunitions in the same manner & Proportion as the Kings Troops.

£1200. to Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson  
Bar<sup>t</sup>. for carrying on the Indian Service  
in his department.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 28 May 1758*

SIR

The two Frenchmen De Couagne and la Forge who arrived here two Days ago, with some Seneca and Cayouga Indians, will have the Honour to deliver you this Letter, which I send by them that you may have an Opportunity of asking them any Questions that you may judge proper.

They and the said Indians and several others concur in reporting that the French are extremely scarce of Provisions at Niagara, Cadaraghqui and Sweegachy, and that the latter Settlement is breaking up for Want of Provisions.

From what some Indians tell me the Meeting at Onondaga seems to be yet in Suspence, and Matters not yet quite ripe.

There is a party of 23 Mohawk Ind<sup>s</sup>. ready to set out to Morrow for Tiijondarogo, they do not propose to call at any of our Posts or Forts unless in their return they should be in Want of Provisions, and then to make for Fort Edward. They will carry a red Flag and a Pass from me, and give the Word *Johnson*.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

If you please to acquaint the Commanding Officer at Fort Edward hereof, that any Parties who may go out, or any advanced parties near the Fort may be apprized hereof and receive Orders hereupon.

Several other parties of the Mohawks want to go out, but I am unwilling to encourage it, lest it should disappoint my attending you in time with the Number of Indians I hope to bring with me.

Inclosed are two French Letters which were sent me down, but through what Channel I cannot exactly trace. I suppose you will have no Objection to let the Prisoner in Virginia have the Consolation of hearing from his Family.

I am

With the utmost Respect

Sir

Your Excellency

Most Obedient

humble Servant

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

MAJ<sup>R</sup>. GENERAL ABERCROMBIE &ca.

INDORSED:

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

Fort Johnson 28<sup>t</sup>. May 1758

INSTRUCTIONS TO GEORGE CROGHAN

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Instructions for George Croghan Esq<sup>r</sup>. Deputy Agent  
upon his going to Aughquaga

*Fort Johnson, May 29, 1758.*

SIR

You will please to proceed with Mr. Montour with as much speed as possible to Aughquaga & acquaint the Indians living

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

there — That about a Month ago I sent them a large Black Belt by Jacob alias Canadiorke & a Tuscarora Chief Warrior, to acquaint them that it was His Majestys Pleasure that I should join his Army this Campaign with as many Indians as I could get, and at the same time I desired they would keep at home & expect my Call, and that none of their People would go to Philadelphia as they would by that means be out of the way when I might want them.

That the aforesaid Indians promised, they would faithfully deliver my Message & endeavour to bring as many Indians as they could from Chughnut, Tiaogo & Otsiningo

You will then please to deliver the Belt I send, acquainting them you are now come in my name to give them the Summons, and that I expect to be on my March from hence in 3 Weeks from this day. You will endeavour by every prudent Measure to prevail on as many as have Arms to bring them along for which a consideration shall be given them & to prevent Women & Children from coming with them.

Given under my hand  
at Fort Johnson this 29  
day of May 1758.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

INSTRUCTIONS TO JELLES FONDA

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Instructions

To Captain Jellas Fonda, going  
thro the Six Nations.

*Fort Johnson, May 29, 1758.*

You are to make the best of your way with the Indians who are to accompany you thro the Castles of the Six Nations ending at Chenosio in the Senecas Country & at each Castle you are

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

to deliver My Speech which you have herewith & Show the War Belt of Invitation.

At Onieda you are to leave three Belts, One being that they sent me to Connojahary to prevent my proceeding to Onon-daga — another in Answer to the Request brought me a few days ago from the 5 Nations by Ondatseghte a Cayouge Indian & others concerning a Trade at the German Flatts — The Third in Answer to the request of the 5 Nations delivered by the same Indian, that I would not take the Feild this Campaign but stay at home to take care of their Affairs.

If before you have finished your Tour you should find good reasons to beleive that a considerable Number of the 5 Nations will come down & go out with me send off one of the Indians Express with a Letter to give me notice of it that I may prepare accordingly, or if you should learn any News of Importance which may be depended on, & unless it should be necessary give the Indians Orders not to Show the Letter to any Officer at any of the Posts on this River. I would have you also Cautious in talking of Indian Affairs with any of those Officers either in going or returning from your Journey as an imprudent use is frequently made of such Conversations.

Given under my hand  
at Fort Johnson this 29  
May 1758

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

SPEECH TO THE FIVE NATIONS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Sir Will. Johnson's Speech to the 5 Nations  
by Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda.—

Bretheren of the 5 Nations

To the Subject of your Two Belts delivered me a few days ago (15 May vid. Blue Book) by our Brother Odatseghte of Cayouge, I now give you my Answer.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

With regard to your Request for establishing a Trade at the German Flatts, You know that an Attempt of that kind has lately been tried there, and you know also that the French & their Indians our open & inveterate Enemies have several times within these few Months, overflowed that place with the Blood of our defenceless People, who depending upon the encouragement of the 5 Nations, cultivated their Lands & brought their goods thither, without Suspicion that their Lives were in the least Danger.

Whether you have committed or connived at these Bloody Scenes, I cannot take upon me to detirmine; and whether you can or will prevent it for the future is a Point we cannot be certain of. But this I can assure you, that the Kings General & Commander in Chief, dos not think it expedient or safe to trust the lives & Properties of His Majestys Subjects in the present Sittuation of Affairs to the Assurances of those Indians who remain idle Spectators whilst the Blood of their Bretheren is Spilling, and therefore you are not at present to expect any Trade will be carried on at the German Flatts.

At Albany & Schenectady Goods are Plenty & Cheap & Beaver bears a high price. you are Welcome to come & trade at either of those places.

Bretheren

As to your Request for my Staying at home & not taking the Feild this Campaign I am to acquaint you that it is the King my Masters Pleasure that I join his Army with all the Indians I can prevail on to follow me; I am detirmed to Obey & I now give all you Warriors an Invitation to go along with me. I shall march in about 3 weeks time. You will remember you have timely Notice & an Invitation. Those of you who will come & join me shall be fitted out as Warriors ought to be. If you all choose to stay at home & smook your Pipes, I hope the Great Spirit above will give Success to His Majestys Arms without your Assistance.—

## INSTRUCTIONS TO JOHN BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Instructions for Captain John Butler going to the  
Stockbridge Indians

*Fort Johnson, May 29, 1758.*

You will make the best of your way to Stockbridge & on your arrival there I think it will be proper first to address yourself to Mr Woodbridge<sup>2</sup> & acquaint him with your Errand, show him my Speech & give him my Comp<sup>ts</sup>. & that I beg he will assist you.

You will then call a Meeting of said Indians & deliver my Speech & Belt.

If the Sachems advise your going with them to any of the Neighbouring Settlements in order to gather the Indians together, I would have you do it, but regulate yourself herein by the time of our March.

You will remember to use your Endeavours that they bring as many of their Arms with them as are fit for Service, and to desire them to leave their Women & Children at home as we must take the Feild without Delay.

You are to return hither with what Indians you may get, by way of Cocksakie & Schohary without calling at Albany & Schenectady

Given under my hand  
At Fort Johnson this 29 May  
1758.—

W<sup>M</sup> JOHNSON

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Timothy Woodbridge, schoolmaster in Stockbridge from 1734; a magistrate and councillor; died in 1774.



SPEECH<sup>1</sup> OF SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON TO THE STOCKBRIDGE  
INDIANS*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

Children of Stockbridge & New England.

As a Number of your Chief Men had lately a Meeting here with me & several of your Uncles the Mohocks & other Indians of the Six Nations; I need not repeat all which then passed between us. Amongst other Matters I then acquainted you, that it was the King your Father & my Masters Pleasure, that I should this Summer join the General of his Army with all his faithful & good Children the Indians & march against the Enemy in order to revenge the Blood we have lost & with Gods Blessing make a Vigorous Effort to do ourselves Justice and obtain for our Country that Peace & Security which the treacherous & restless French may not be hereafter able to break or endanger.

Of this good purpose I desired you would inform all your People wherever scattered & warn them to be in readiness to Attend whenever I might send them a Summons

You expressed your Approbation of this News & promised me your People would come at my Call.

Bretheren

The time is now come & I do by this Belt call on you to assemble here at the Fire-place of the Six Nations in three Weeks from this day in order to march with me, the Mohocks your Uncles & other Indians of the Six Nations in order to Join His Majesty against our Common Enemy.

Bretheren

How much it is your Interest as well as ours to humble the Pride of the French & give them such a Blow as it

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<sup>1</sup> Sent by Captain John Butler. See Johnson's instructions to Butler, May 29, 1758.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

may not be hereafter in their power to invade our Country & destroy us & ours is what I hope & believe you are already convinced of. And you may depend that those of you who by now joining His Majestys Arms manefest their Duty to him & give proofs of their Zeal & Bravery on this Occasion, will be looked on as His Good Children & will receive suitable Marks of His Majestys favour & Affection. And those who comply with this Summons, I shall take care to remember & will fit them out with all Necessaries becoming Warriors, and to all such as bring their own Guns with them I will pay them for the same in Money, as they may be better acquainted with their own Guns than with New Ones w<sup>ch</sup>. have not been tried.

## EXTRACT FROM JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>[*Johnson Hall, May 30, 1758*]

30 May. 10 Mohock Indians marcht this Morning from Fort Johnson in order to join a Party of 14 Schohere Indians who marcht from hence 2 days ago & halted a few Miles off. the whole Party of 24 to proceed to Tionderoga against the Enemy.

## FROM GEORGE CROGHAN

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>2</sup>

Extract from Mr. Croghan's Letter to Sir William Johnson dated from *Fort Hendrick 31. May 1758.*

Last night Mr. Mountour<sup>3</sup> & I got here about the same [time] the Scout returned from Oswego and says as follows:

"That as they went out above Casse's they saw tracks of the Enemy coming to wards the Flatts, they suspected them to be

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; inclosed in Johnson to Abercromby, June 18, 1758.

<sup>3</sup> Captain Henry Montour.

spies, they then proceeded to the carrying place & from thence to the Onieda Lake as they thought there might be a body of the enemy coming that way here. They got a canoe & so proceeded to Oswego where they could not discover that any body of the enemy had been there this spring, but they saw the tracks of several Indians pretty fresh, both women & children, either people coming from hunting or some flying from Sweegachie where it is said the Indians are almost starving. From Oswego they brought a peice of the Cross set up by the French when they took that place which I send you. in all their journey they saw no Indian till they returned to the Oneida Castle on the lake side, when they were told by the Indians there, that a body of French & Indians would soon come to the carrying place from Sweegachie by Land, that at the same time there would come another body by Oswego with artillery, that when the artillery arrived at the carrying place they would proceed down this river as far as they could & destroy every place they came to.

On their way down to the Flatts they see the Tracks of four Indians going from the Flatts which they took by the tracks to be the four they saw when they went out, and think they skult there about till they killed & scalpt two soldiers the day before yesterday just by the Fort. This is all they say."

FROM THE EARL OF LOUDOUN

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 31st. May 1758.*

SIR

This forenoon De Couagne & La Forge, delivered me your favour of the 28th;—by what I can learn from them they think themselves capable, by going to reside among the Onondaga's, of procuring us intelligence of every thing that passe's among the five Nations; as well as of the Motions of the Enemy, towards Oswego or elsewhere in those Quarters; for which pur-

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

pose they propose, that whilst the one remains at Onondaga, the other should accompany such of the Indians as stand well affected to H. M. Interest (of which they pretend to know some) on their scouts to that or any other place.—As from your knowledge of these men, you best know whether they may be relied on, and whether they really can fulfill what they propose, I have referred them to you, and beg in that case, that you would give them all the encouragement possible, and promise them in my name, not only protection, but a reward adequate to their services. I have sent notice to the commanding officer at Fort Edward, of the party of 23 Mohawk Indians, which are to set out the 29th for Tiyondarogo and have directed him to furnish them with provisions if they should ask for any; and to prevent all accidents from their falling in with any of our advanced parties, or such as may be out, I have acquainted him with the signal & the word you have given them, at the same time I could have wished that I had been apprised of it sooner, as it may happen that before these orders reach Fort Edward & are given out they may chance to meet with some or other of our parties, from which everything is to be feared, as our men will not be obliged to know whether they are friends or foes; upon this principle I am very glad to have discouraged the going out of the several other parties of Mohawks that have applied to you for that purpose, and must beg that you will continue so to do until we see what the congress of Onondaga produces, or until such time as it will be proper for you to join me.

I shall take care to forward Mr. La Forge's letter to Virginia.

We have accounts, to Day, of two men of Capt. Gates<sup>1</sup> company being scalped & two of Capt. Wraxall<sup>2</sup> being taken & carried off by four Onondaga's returning from your House; if this is the case, as it is asserted, I should think it would be right in you to prevent these people from coming down to you any more until the congress is over, when you will know what we

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Horatio Gates of the New York regiment.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Peter Wraxall.

have to depend upon & whether we ought to treat them as allies or as enemies.

I am &ca.

To S<sup>R</sup>. WILLIAM JOHNSON Bart.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

Fort Johnson 1 June 1758

6 oClock A. M.

SIR

I have just now received the inclosed Letter from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Gates,<sup>2</sup> and with it the Belt he mentions, which is one I lodged with the Oneidas not to be sent me unless the Intelligence of the Enemys approach was certain and which they never sent down before.

The Indian Scouts I sent to Oswego I hear are returned to Connojoahary & I am every Moment expecting their Report which when I receive shall be transmitted you without Delay.

Your Excellency knows the Militia on this River are almost all drawn off by the Battoe, Ranging Service, Provincial Levies &c. the remainder make up but an inconsiderable Body.

I am Sir

Your Excellencys

Most Obed<sup>t</sup>. hum Servant

W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

MAJOR GENERAL ABERCROMBY

&ca.&ca.

INDORSED:

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

Fort Johnson 1<sup>st</sup>. June 1758.

6 in ye morning

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Horatio Gates of the New York regiment.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 1 June 1758**12 oClock Noon*

SIR

Inclosed is an Extract from a Letter<sup>2</sup> I have just now received from Mr Croghan which contains the Report of the Mohawk Indians I sent out on the Scout to Oswego.

I have examined one of the Indians who was there & brought this Letter. He confirms all Mr. Croghan writes, and says the Oneida Indians living on the Lake Side said the French did threaten a Descent down the Mohawk River with Artillery, but they believed it would not be suddenly.

I hope to learn soon upon what Grounds the upper Castle of the Oneidas sent me the Belt. I imagine they have been imposed on by some false Intelligence, for as I think the Report of these Scouts may be depended on, there would be no Body of the Enemy coming by Water without their Discovering of them.

I am most respectfully

Your Excellencys

Most Obed<sup>t</sup>. humble

Servant.

W<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

MAJOR GENERAL

ABERCROMBY

&amp;c.

INDORSED:

1<sup>st</sup>. June 1758

Sir William Johnson

To Mr Appy<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Croghan to Johnson, May 31, 1758.

<sup>3</sup> John Appy, secretary to Generals Abercromby and Amherst.

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 1 June 1758*

SIR

Since my second Letter of this Day to your Excellency the inclosed from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Gates<sup>2</sup> came to hand, which according to his Request I forward to you.

I believe Sir I have the Honour of your Concurrance in Opinion that for the present at least, it will be both Politick and prudent not to indulge the Indians with a Trade at the German Flatts. In a Message I have just sent to the Six Nations, part of which is on this Subject, I have told them that you do not incline, to trust the Lives and properties of His Majestys Subjects to the Assurances of those, who late Experience shows are either not able or not willing to fulfill them, and that at Albany and Schenectady they are welcome to come and trade.

I have many Reasons to believe, and many Informations to strengthen, that some Germans are interfering with the Indians in a way that will be very prejudicial, and may perhaps be fatal to His Majestys Service. And I wish Sir, if there should appear no objections in it to You, that you would write a Sharp Letter in a General Way upon the Subject of Old Harkemer,<sup>3</sup> and order him to communicate it to all the Germans. The Officer at Canajoharee can deliver it.

Capt<sup>n</sup>. Gates expresses a great Uneasiness for want of an Indian Officer or Interpreter. The Indian Officers are gone to Summon the Indians, I have but one Interpreter and I cannot spare him.

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<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Horatio Gates of the New York regiment.

<sup>3</sup> Johan Jost (Hanjost) Herchheimer or Herkimer, father of General Nicholas Herkimer, of the Revolution.

Numbers of the Rangers in Wendells Company understand Indian very well, and are known to them.

I have the Honour to be with the greatest Regard

Sir

Your Excellencys

Most Obedient and

most humble Servant

WM. JOHNSON

To His Excellency

MAJOR GENERAL ABERCROMBIE &<sup>ca</sup>.

PS. My Sending the Ind<sup>n</sup>. Officers on other Service to distant parts prevents my getting as many Men as I expected, before they went away they got near twenty. I shall try to get some more, but Indeed I had Your Orders rather too late, the best men having been pressed, & employed otherwise before I got it.

INDORSED:

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson Bart.

Fort Johnson 1<sup>st</sup>. June 1758

R the 3<sup>d</sup>.

Ans. same day

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Albany 1<sup>st</sup>: June 1758. 4 oClock*

*P. M.*

SIR,

I have this moment received your Letter dated at Six this morning; before it came to hand I had order'd two Companies of the New York Regiment, from Nestaguina,<sup>2</sup> to Stone Arabia

<sup>1</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, Vol. 38, London, England.

<sup>2</sup> Niskayuna, the great corn land extending from present Saratoga county into Albany and Schenectady counties. See Beauchamp: *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 196.



& Conajahary, & Capt. Ogden with another Company of them was to have followed this morning had not the heavy rains prevented him; the two first Companies were to march this morning so that I suppose they are at Schenectady before this [*where they are to wait for Cap<sup>t</sup>. Ogden, to whom I have sent an Order to March tomorrow morning by day break with the other Company, to take them all three under his Command & to proceed without the least delay to Fort Hunter, and there to wait your directions, which I hope will quiet the Inhabitants of the Mohawk River.*],<sup>1</sup> and by the present Express they will receive Orders to proceed without any delay to Fort Hunter there to wait your directions & Capt Ogden<sup>2</sup> with the other Company will do the like to morrow morning by day break. besides these I shall order three more Companies of the New York Reg<sup>t</sup>. to Schenectady, with directions to be ready at your Summons; which together with 156 more Men of the New Yorkers at Stone Arabia & Conajahary, three Independent & two Ranging Companies up the Mohawk River, should I think quiet its Inhabitants & repell any Force the Enemy can bring there.

INDORSED:

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

1<sup>st</sup>: June 1758./.

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df.*<sup>3</sup>

*Albany 3<sup>d</sup>. June 1758.*

SIR,

This Afternoon I was favoured with Yours of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Enclosing one from Cap<sup>t</sup>. Gates<sup>4</sup> to you, which I herewith return, I am

<sup>1</sup> Words italicized and included in brackets are crossed out in the manuscript.

<sup>2</sup> Captain Amos Ogden.

<sup>3</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>4</sup> Captain Horatio Gates, of the New York Regiment; later major general in the Continental army.

sorry it is not in your Power to Assist that Gentleman with an Interpreter which he seems to be in much want of, as he says Cap<sup>t</sup>. Wendell & his Lieut. are the only People with him that speak any Indian to Signify, and they often Absent on Duty; but as you tell me there are Numbers of the Rangers in Wendell's Company that understand Indian very well & are known to them, I shall desire him to make a stricter Enquiry into it.

The several Murders & depredations that of late have been committed in those parts confirm me more & more in the Necessity there is of putting a stop for the Present to all Trade with the Indians above Schenectady, to which Purpose I shall repeat my Orders to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Gates & the other Officers commanding at the different Posts on the Mohawk River with further directions, to signify the same to the Inhabitants, which I apprehend will have the same Effect as if I were to write to Herkemer; however if this should be necessary besides, I think it would come better from you.

I am sorry you have been so unsuccessfull in getting the Men for the Company of Rangers you are Raising, which I see is occasioned by the absence of the Indian Officers on other Service. I hope that when they return, you will be able to get as many as you expected.

I am &ca.

P:S I set out from this, on Tuesday next to Fort Edward where I shall make as little stay as possible and then I proceed to Lake George, so that I should be glad you would join me there as soon as you can with so many Indians as you will be able to collect.

## REPORT OF JELLES FONDA

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Fort Johnson 12 June 1758*

The Report of Cap<sup>t</sup>. Jellas Fonda who was dispatched to go thro the Six Nations the 29 Ult<sup>o</sup>.—

The 4 Inst he set off from Connajohary with 5 Mohock Indians, altho all the Indians there said it was not at present prudent for him to proceed amongst the 5 Nations as they were well assured there was a great Number of the Sweegachie Indians at Onondaga & some probably at Onieda.

They arrived at the upper Onieda Town the 8 Inst. within an hour afterwards a Meeting was called, at which the Oneidas showed several Belts & Strings which they had received a Day or two before. viz

1. A String of Wampum from the Shawaneese & Delaware Indians with an Account that the English were building a Fort at Schohandawana<sup>2</sup> & that the English living at Canistio<sup>3</sup> had killed 4 white Men who were cutting Wood for said Fort

2. A Belt of Wampum from said Indians to the 5 Nations with which they said as follows. We hope you Uncles will hold your hands fast together keep a good lookout & not let go your hold but observe your former Promises.

3. A Belt which they had just received from the Governor of Pensilvania with the following Speech

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> "Scahandowana alias Wioming." The first is the Iroquois name meaning "great plains." See Beauchamp: *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 261.

<sup>3</sup> Canestio, Kanestio.

## Bretheren of the 5 Nations

I am sorry for you, you have the French all about you & you lye in Blood. We shall not be strong enough unless you come & join me, if you dont it will be all dark about you I fear before long.

4. Another Belt from s<sup>d</sup>. Governor w<sup>ch</sup> said

I am sorry to see you have my People Prisoners among you I would be glad you would send them home. I would be also glad if you would Stop the French & take their Hatchet away.

5. A Belt of Invitation to the 5 Nations from Senucchias inviting them to meet him at Chenossia<sup>1</sup> where he then was & particularly named Nicolaas an Onieda — Ottrowana & the Neager of Cayouge with several other Indians supposed to be the best affected to the English.— that this was the third Belt of Invitation Senucchias had sent to them — that as this Belt was passing thro the Seneca Castle at Canassidaga<sup>2</sup> the old Drunkard said he believed he would go to Chenossia & see what the French wanted —

After these Matters were over Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda<sup>3</sup> delivered Sir Williams Speech & Belts to the 5 Nations & left them with the Oniedas according to his Orders — he then showed them Sir William's War Belt & delivered them his Invitation to come down & go with him to War — they seemed in general well pleased & promised to come saying they would not go to the French Meeting at Chenossia but come down to Fort Johnson.

That the Mohocks contrary to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda's Consent invited some of the Onieda Sachems who are in our Interest to come down to Fort Johnson.

That the Mohocks & Oniedas told him the Belt of Invitation ought not to have been painted because it might give some

<sup>1</sup> Chenussio, a frequent form of Geneseo. See Beauchamp: *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 102.

<sup>2</sup> Canasadego, west of Seneca Lake. See Beauchamp: *Aboriginal Place Names of New York*, p. 156.

<sup>3</sup> Captain Jelles Fonda.

Jealousies to the upper Nations & they desired Sir William would forward immediately another Belt to take hold of the Warriors & bring them down which they said was the Indian Custom.

The next day another Council was held when the Oneidas told him & the Mohocks that he must not proceed as there were a great Number of Sweegachie Indians at Onondaga in their way to Chenossia & that they were of Opinion it would not be in the Mohocks or the Oniedas Power to save his Life as there was plenty of Rum gone up from our Settlements to Onondaga — he told them his Orders were to proceed & that he durst not disobey them — they replied that he would certainly be killed if he went there — that he should have no Blame for returning that they would take it upon themselves & answer for it to Sir William. he asked if he might not stay in their Castle till the Fighters went down to Fort Johnson to go with them. they said as the chief Sachems were going to Onondaga, some Swegachie Indians might perhaps pass thro their Castle in their Absence & therefore they did not think it safe for him to stay there.

The 9 Inst 3 Mohocks & several Sachems of Onieda & Tuscarora set off the former with Sir Williams Belt to the upper Nations, the latter to Onondaga & Cayouga which he understood was upon no other Account than to perform Ceremonies of Condolance.

He heard at Onieda that the French had Kindled Council Fires at Onondaga & Chenossia.

The Oniedas still say an Army will come down the Mohock River when the Corn is a Foot & a half high — that the French go to the Onieda Lake & buy Corn of the Indians there — that 400 Indians from Aughquaga & that way will come to join Sir William.

## AN INDIAN CONGRESS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[June 16–18, 1758]

Fort Johnson 16. June 1758

At a Meeting of 2 Chief Sachems & 15 principal  
Warriors of the Cayouge Nation.  
Kaghradodea (alias the Englishman)

Speaker — Jacobus Clement Inter<sup>r</sup>.

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sir William Johnson

Cap<sup>t</sup> Peter Wraxall secr<sup>y</sup>.

Lieut. Claas<sup>2</sup> Dep. Sec<sup>r</sup>y.—

Brother Warraghyjagey

We the Cayougas did take to heart & maturely consider the first Speech you made the Six Nations, this time 3 years ago when you were appointed to the Mannagment of our Affairs & Kindled the Council Fire for the Six Nations their Allies & Dependants at this House, where you also erected the Tree of Peace & Friendship, We have carefully resolved still to stand fast to the Antient Covenant Chain of Peace & Friendship with our Bretheren the English & we have strictly adhered to the Neutrality we agreed upon Two years ago.

gave 2 Strings wampum.

Brother

We the two Sachems here present are come to you upon the Request of all the Warriors of our Nation, the heads of whom you see here before you, who desire us to speak to you in their Behalf and lay their present Situation before you, as they thought themselves incapable of doing it in a proper manner.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Lieutenant Daniel Claus.

Brother

They the Warriors are at Present quite destitute of everything necessary for them as Amunition, Paint &c. It is true Brother you have last Winter made us the kind offer to let us have a Trade in any of our Towns. We are highly thankful to you for your kindness & Care for us — But the French have heard of this and gave us to understand that whenever they should hear of any Englishman's coming to Trade among us it would not be long a Secret to them & they would then immediately rise & destroy them. Wherefore Brother we could not longer defer but thought it necessary for us to come to you to have our Wants supplied, having the Confidence in you as our Brother, that you will let our Warriors have those Necessary Articles for their Livelihood, in return for which they have gathered among themselves some Skins which perhaps you may want for Shoes.—

threw down a pack of Skins

Brother

Our Women have likewise desired us to mention their Wants to you which are that you would let them have three large Kettles to Boil their Victuals & some Petticoats to cover their Nakedness, in consequence of which Request they have also sent you a Pack of Skins

threw down another Pack of Skins

Brother

We were told by a Squa at the German Flatts that all Trade with Indians was forbid. We would be glad to know from you how this Matter is, as you well know Trade preserves our Common Welfare & in a Manner keeps up our mutual Friendship.

Brother

you have now heard everything We had to lay before you at present & we are in haste to return home as some of our People were Sick when we set off. but before we return we beg you will order our Battoes to be caulked as they are very

leaky & some of the Guns of our Company want a little mending & we hope you will give us an Order to get them mended by any Smith along the Road.

Fort Johnson 18 June 1758 —

Sir William Johnson's Answer to the foregoing Speech.  
Jacobus Clement Interpr̄.

Bretheren of Cayouga

I have heard & duly considered what you said to me two days ago.

As I know it to be for your true Interest so I hope & doubt not you will hold fast the Antient Covenant Chain with your Bretheren the English; and whilst you do this you may depend upon our treating you as Friends & Bretheren.

Gave a String

Bretheren

I am much surprized at the great want & poverty of your Warriors, for as you say your Nation hath not for 2 years past taken part in the Disputes between the English & French, they had full Leisure for Hunting, by which means they might undoubtedly have supplied themselves.

Bretheren

It is not in my power to supply the Wants of your Warriors— All the Goods I have belong to the King my Master who has sent them to me & ordered me to give them to such Indians as will go out with me to War against his Enemies. If your Warriors are willing to do this, they shall be fully supplied & my Message is gone thro the Six Nations to make this known amongst them all.

I am a Servant to King George & I must Obey his Orders — I have no Goods of my own, and therefore as I can make your Warriors no Return for their Present, I think I ought not to add to their Poverty by accepting it. I therefore return their Pack of Skins with many thanks for their kind offer.

returned the first pack Skins.



Bretheren

As to the Request of your Women, tis not, as I have already told you, in my power to gratify them, however as I have some large Kettles by me & I believe they are not to be bought at Albany or Schenectady I will make them a Present of Three — you will please also to return them their Pack of Skins which they were so obliging to send me.

returned the other Pack

Bretheren

You say the French have sent you Word they will knock in the Head any Trader of ours who may come with goods amongst you — I am sorry to see the 5 Nations & their Country so much in the Power of the French that they are not able to protect a single Trader — Times Bretheren are much altered since the good days of your Forefathers, when a French Man durst not leave the Print of his Foot in the Country of the 5 Nations without running the risque of loosing his Scalp, and when an Englishman was Welcome to light his Pipe at every Coal of Fire in your Country.

Bretheren

Bever bears a high price at Albany & Schenectady & Goods are plenty. You are free & Welcome to go to either place & buy & sell.

The present times are troublesome & we have crafty Enemies to deal with, therefore no Trade is permitted at the German Flatts & those parts of the Country.

Bretheren

Our Smiths are all employed in mending & sharpening the Arms of our Warriors, so that I dont know any who can spare time to mend yours, as our Army is on the point of marching against the Enemy.—

## INDIAN INFORMATION

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

18 June [1758]

The Information of Taghannahirsa a principal Warrior of Onondaga who has always been judged faithful to the English Interest.

That about 22 days ago he called at Cadaraqui having been a hunting near that place. and whilst there he saw a great Number of Battoes arrive from Canada, loaden with Arms, Amunition & Indian Goods which he was told were to be Shipped for Niagara & the Commanding Officer said, that the French proposed to have two Armies this year, one of which was to come down the Mohock River by way of Oswego, and that these Arms &c. were for the Indians who were to Assemble at Niagara & proceed from thence to Oswego — The other Army was to assemble at Tionderoga.—

TO JOHN APPY<sup>2</sup>L. S.<sup>3</sup>*Fort Johnson 25 June 1758*

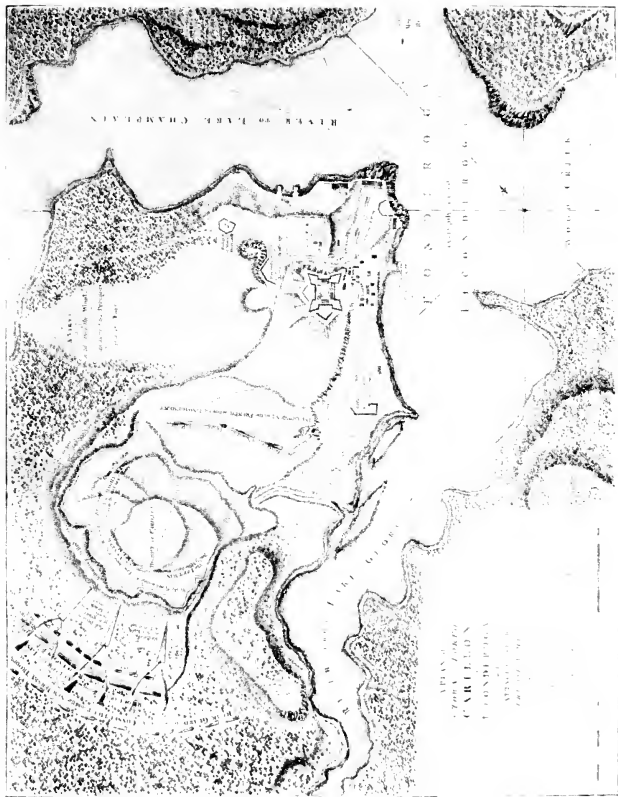
SIR

I kept the Express till this day in expectation of sending by him to General Abercromby some Intelligence of Consequence, which I hoped to have atained 'ere this from a French Prisoner which a Party of Indians took near Montreal as well as from the Indians. I have this day an account that yesterday they arrived at Connojohary Castle & I hope they will be down this Evening, but I was loth to keep the Express any longer. When this Party arrives I shall immediately transmit to the General Intelligence they bring & send down the Prisoner to Brig<sup>r</sup>. Stanwix, when I will also answer the General's favour of the 21. Inst.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> John Appy, secretary to Generals Abercromby and Amherst.

<sup>3</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.



PLAN OF FORT TICONDEROGA, 1758, BY JEFFERYS  
From Avery's *History of the United States and Its People*, 4:182



Mr Croghan was expected last night at a place about 25 Miles from here; I hope the 5 Nations Indians are set off from the German Flatts & will be also here as soon or soon after Mr Croghan.

I have sent Gen. Stanwix a peice of Information I had yesterday from a trusty Indian. I hope to learn more particulars soon. Whether there realy is any considerable Body of the Enemy ready to make an Attempt upon these parts of the Country, or whether these Threatenings are propagated by the French & their Indian Emissaries, to keep the Indians in our Interest at home, I am in doubt about, especially as the General writes he has good Intelligence such Numbers of the Enemy are assembled at Tionderogo, tho the 23 Indians who tell me they called at Fort Edward say they had a plain View of Tionderogo but a few days ago & could discover no Encampment there.

I am

with great Regard

Sir

Your most Obed<sup>t</sup>.

humble Servant

WM. JOHNSON

To JOHN APPY Esq<sup>r</sup>.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson

Fort Johnson 25<sup>t</sup>. June 1758

R the 26<sup>t</sup>. by Express.

TO JOHN STANWIX

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 25<sup>th</sup> June 1758*

This Day Ottrawane, & Squayuwis two of the Cheifs of the Cayuga Assured me by a String of Wampum that they would

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

always send me what news they could learn of any Moment, and would send the Original of this (which is wrote on parchment) with the Person who should bring me the News as a confirmation.

TO JOHN STANWIX

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 25 June 1758.*

SIR

An Indian whom I have very good reason to believe faithful to our Interest, informs me, That six days ago two Belts of Wampum were sent by the French or their Indians in a private manner, One Belt to the Chief Sachem of Onondaga, another to the chief Man of the Onieda Castle at the Lake, acquainting them that very speedily a considerable Body of French & Indians would set off by way of Oswego to attack the German Flatts, the Mohock River, Schenectady & Albany.

This peice of news was told to the Informant by an Onondaga Indian, whose Brother came in company with the Messenger who brought these Belts, as a very great secret. This Onondaga Indian is I understand coming down to my House with some other Indians of the 5 Nations who were two days ago at the German Flatts. I was in hopes to have seen him here before the Express which carrys this Letter went off, when I might have learnt more particulars & examined more clearly into this matter. However such as it is, I thought it my Duty to acquaint you with it, as I shall do without Delay of any farther Intelligence which may come to my knowledge.

A Party of Indians came in yesterday to the upper Mohock Castle from Canada, with a Prisoner they took near to Montreal. I expect them down with him every hour. I shall send the Prisoner<sup>2</sup> to you with what Intelligence I can get from him and

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> See Johnson to Abercromby, June 27, 1758.

also from the Party; from one or both of whom, I think we shall learn if the Enemy have made any considerable motions up the River St. Laurence towards Oswego.

In the mean time permit me Sir to offer my opinion, that if a strong Body of Troops could speedily take Post at the German Flatts, and about 600 be detached as a grand scout to the Oneida Carrying Place, their march thither would be very soon carried to Oswego, Fort Frontenac or Sweigachie, and if the Enemy had any Designs on foot, as I am apt to believe their Force consists chiefly of Indians, it would I think confound & over-awe them, & not improbably, cause the Indians to withdraw.

Capt. De Lancey<sup>1</sup> wrote me that there were 200 light arms which Capt. Cuninghame<sup>2</sup> bought at Boston & that if I wanted any & would apply to You, I might have them. If they are of such a light sort as are fit for Indians, I beg the favour of you to order 100 to be sent immediately to Justice Van Eps<sup>3</sup> of Schenectady with orders to forward them hither without Delay.

I am Sir  
most respectfully  
Your most Obedt. hum<sup>e</sup>.  
Servant.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

TO BRIGADIER GENERAL  
STANWIX<sup>4</sup> &c.

INDORSED:

Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson to Brig: Stanwix.  
Fort Johnson 25th June 1758.  
R the 26th by Express.

<sup>1</sup> Captain James De Lancy of the 60th regiment.

<sup>2</sup> Captain James Cunningham of the 45th regiment.

<sup>3</sup> Abraham Van Eps.

<sup>4</sup> Brigadier General John Stanwix.

## INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[June 21–July 1, 1758]

Fort Johnson 24 June 1758.

The Cayouge Indians who made a Speech the 6th Inst. having been down to Schenectady to Trade returned & made the following Speech to Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

Brother

As we understand Deputies from all the 5 Nations except ours are on their way down hither we hope you will not harbour any ill Opinion of our Nation, because they have sent none. Our Chief Men whom we left at home are gone to the French Meeting at Chenossia in order to forbid the French from enticing our young Men to go out to War & to acquaint them that our Nation is detirmined to observe a strict Neutrality in the present War between the English & the French. The Persons who are gone thither are your great Friends & you may depend they will act in such a manner as you will have no Cause to be offended at & will pick up & make known to you all the Intelligence they can learn.

Brother

You were acquainted last Winter that 5 Nations of us, namely the Oniedas, Cayouges, Tuscaroras, Nanticokes & Cannoyes had entered into an agreement to act upon one System—whether the rest of them will observe the Neutral Conduct we are detirmined upon, we cant say: but from the Oniedas who are the head Nation of the 5 you will know their resolutions.

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records. Vol. 5.



Brother

We shall on our return make known to the Warriors of our Nation, what you have told us, that no Goods will be given to any but those who go with you & join His Majestys Arms, & if any of them are so disposed we cant hinder them from going. There are a great many foolish & obstinate young People amongst us who wont listen to the advice of our wise & chief Men, the French by Speeches & presents prevail on such sometimes to go to War with them in spite of all we can do.

Brother

We have given you the reason that no Deputation is coming down from our Nation & we have told you our Mind & Resolutions. We hope that you will not entertain any hard or unfriendly thoughts of us & we give you these Strings of Wampum to keep everything of this kind out of your Heart

gave 2 Strings of Wampum

Sir William Answered.

Bretheren

You know my Invitation is gone thro the 5 Nations, that I gave it in Consequence of the Orders I received. When they come down I shall force no Man to go with me, those who are inclined to do it, shall be welcome & be provided for according to the Directions I have received from the King my Master. You also know that since your Nation with the Senecas & Onondagas, made a Declaration of your Neutrality Two years ago I have never before made any Applications to You to go out to War, but upon the present occasion as we hope to reduce the French to Terms I thought I would make a general Invitation to the Six Nations that hereafter they may none of them plead Ignorance or say I did not ask them to go along with me.

As to your Apology for none of your Deputies coming down with the other Nations I am satisfied with your reasons for it & thereupon give you these Strings of Wampum

Gave 2 Strings Wampum

Fort Johnson 24 June 1758

Twenty three Mohock and Schohary Indians returned from a Scout against the Enemy to Tionderoga & Crown Point — They lay 2 or 3 days near Tionderogo watching for the Enemy to take a Prisoner but without Success. They say they saw no Encampment there 7 days ago. They returned on the West side of the Lake. about the first narrows saw a great Smoak w<sup>ch</sup> they judged to be an Encampment.

the 24 June p. m. Sir William dispatched an Express to Cap<sup>t</sup>. Fonda<sup>1</sup> at the German Flatts with a Letter directing him to hurry along the 5 Nations & with a Letter to M<sup>r</sup>. Croghan to be forwarded from Flints to hurry him along with y<sup>e</sup> Susquahanna Ind<sup>s</sup>.

Fort Johnson 26 June 1758

Sir William Dispatched Cap<sup>t</sup>. Thomas Butler to hurry down the Connojahary Indians. in the Evening he sent off Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler with a Belt to the 5 Nations whom we heard were on the Road to tell them he should set off in 2 days. M<sup>r</sup>. Lutteridge<sup>2</sup> was sent in the Morning to call the Schohary Indians here immediately — Cap<sup>t</sup> John Butler carried a Letter to be forwarded to M<sup>r</sup>. Croghan to Hurry him — The Mohock Indians were sent to & acquainted that he would go off in 2 days. All the Indians at the House had notice given them of the same.

Fort Johnson 27. June a. m.

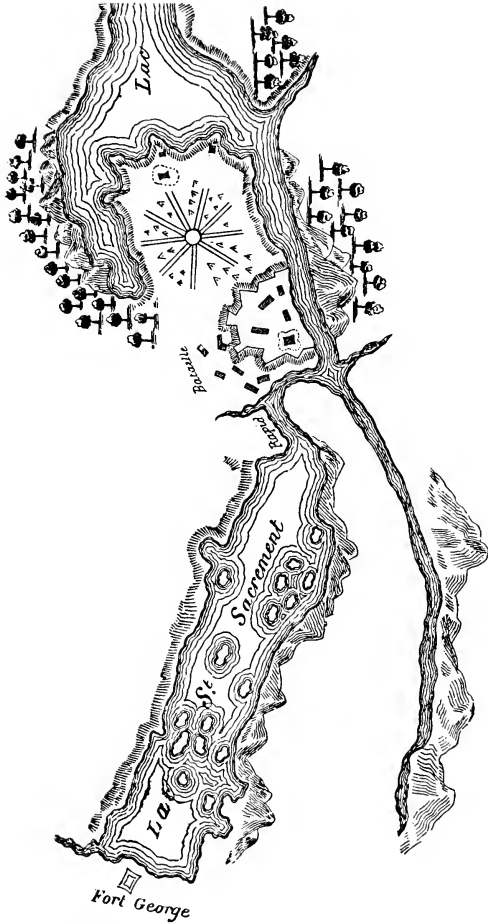
This Morning the two Chief Sachems & a head Warrior of the lower Mohock Castle came over & desired to speak to Sir William.

They repeated the Message Sir William sent to them Yesterday Evening by Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler to acquaint them of his Design to set off in 2 days & desiring they would be ready. and then returned the two Strings of Wampum he sent them upon it.

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Jelles Fonda.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Captain John Lottridge.



FORT GEORGE (FORT WILLIAM HENRY) AND TICONDEROGA  
From Winsor's *Narrative and Critical History of America*, 5:588



Hans the Wildt Chief Sachem of the Bear Tribe than spoke as follows

Brother

So hurrying & peremptory a Message as we received from you Yesterday, gave our Whole Castle great Surprize & Concern, as it was very contrary to our established Custom & manners to be as it were thus drove out to War. We are going upon a very serious Affair & as we are detirmined to act our parts with zeal & look our Enemies in the Face, it may probably put an end either to us or them. As You know the upper Nations are at hand & you every hour expect the Indians from the Southward — We think it would be a very rash & blamable part for you to march & turn your Back on them, especially as there is reason to believe they are coming down in a good Temper. It is a peice of Conduct we for our parts cannot justify to the rest of our Bretheren & it would occasion a fatal Confusion in our general Confederacy. We must therefore by these Strings of Wampum earnestly beg that you will maturely reconsider this Affair & not take a Step so inconsistent with your relation to us & so opposite to our general Interest & Welfare

Gave 2 Strings Wampum

Sir William told them he had received the Generals Orders which he was bound to Obey & that he must march at the day he had named, so that it was not in his power to reconsider the Matter for he was detirmined to go tho not an Indian went with him

returned their Strings

Eod. Die about 12 a Clock the Onondagas, the Oniedas & Tuscaroras arrived, & almost the same time the French Prisoner taken by a Party of Oniedas & Connojahary Indians.

When the above Nations were seated & Pipes & Tobacco brought Sir William came into the Room & passed the usual Ceremony of Condolance & welcome, which they returned. Sir William then desired 4 or 5 of their Chief Men to step up

Stairs with him. there he acquainted them with the Speech he intended to make to their whole Body. They spoke with great warmth against so short a day much in the same manner as the Mohocks had done. They told Sir William they looked upon the Kings appointing him to the Management of their Affairs, to have been done because he was the Person most agreeable to them & who best knew their Customs & manners, and that they must know such precipitate Measures as he was now upon were no ways consistent with the reasons of his Appointment & might have bad Consequences.

Sir William told them he was under the Generals Orders which he must Obey & march at all Events.

Upon which he went down with them into the Council Room where the rest were assembled & spoke to the Whole Body as follows.

Bretheren of Onondaga, Onieda & Tuscarora.

By the Message our Brothers the Mohocks brought me from you, I have impatiently expected to see you for some days past.

Bretheren

Three Messengers one after another have come running to me from the General to tell me he is waiting for me & the Six Nations the last Messenger who came here Yesterday brought me his Orders to set off directly with such Indians as were inclined to show their regard on this great Occasion for their Bretheren the English. This Order I must Obey, for part of the Army are already advanced to one of the Islands on Lake George; the rest have their Faces this way looking out for me & the Indians & if we dont run all the way, they will proceed without us.

Bretheren

Now is the time for such Indians as desire to be thought Friends & Bretheren to the English, to tuck up their Blanketts & run with me. Bretheren there is no time to be lost nor to think of any other Buisness. Those who go with me will I hope now see the English are Men, and with the Assistance of

the Great Spirit above, I trust we shall give the French such a Blow as will oblige them hereafter to be quiet & let us Smoak our Pipes in Peace & I hope every Indian that goes with me will have reason to rejoice that he fought on the side of the English & bring home with him some Testimonials of Victory.

Bretheren

This is the day of Trial & I shall now see what Indians are my Friends, for such will go with me. You who are detirmined to fight w<sup>th</sup>. me speak & you shall be immediately fitted out for War. remember Bretheren we were Successful together 3 years ago & I hope I shall now lead you to Conquest & Glory.

Sir William then threw down the War Belt & danced the War Dance, after which a principal Man of each Nation present also Danced.—

Fort Johnson 28 June 1758. p. m.

The Connojahary Indians arrived & marcht into the Fort. After being made welcome with Pipes & Tobacco &c. Sir William took up with them 4 or 5 of their Chief Men & repeated to them the same Speech he made yesterday to the Oniedas & Tuscaroras. they said his March was too sudden & they wished he would consent to stay a day or two Longer, however their People came down with a Resolution to Attend him & they would accordingly do it.

Soon after their arrival came the Nanticoke, Monsey & Mohikander Indians from Susquhannah River.

In the Evening Sir William made the aforementioned Speech to said Indians. the Nanticoke & Mohikanders agreed to go with him, the Monseys said they would give their Answer tomorrow Morning.

Fort Johnson 29 June 1758.

Sir William Johnson set off on his March to Join Major General Abercromby<sup>1</sup> at Lake George.

in the Evening the Schohary Indians arrived.

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<sup>1</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

30 June this day the Indians from Aughquaga arrived & Mr Deputy Croghan repeated to them the Speech Sir William made to the other Nations

in the afternoon a Belt came down from the 5 Nations with News that 20 Onondaga Indians were either killed or taken by a party of Englishmen to the Southward.

1 July Mr Croghan marcht from Fort Johnson with a Party of Indians

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Camp at Lake George July 4<sup>th</sup>. 1758*

DEAR SIR,

Your Letter of the 27<sup>th</sup>. of June,<sup>2</sup> gave me the Greatest Satisfaction, in Learning that You was to set out on Thursday, with a Body of our faithful & good Allies the 6 nations; I am very well convinced, that you have used your best endeavours, to collect as great a Number of them as possible, and in Expectation of having the Pleasure of seeing you & them; this Day orders were given, for embarking the Troops to Morrow morning, which must be a work of some Hours, and as so large a Train of Boats must move slowly, I flatter myself, you will overtake us before we have any thing material to do; You may assure our good Bretheren, that we have a great Dependence upon them; as a proof of that, the Intelligence of their being in Motion, gave great joy to all the Troops; Battoes are ready for their Reception, & I have ordered Cattle to be killed for their Refreshment, and the Commissary will furnish whatever else You shall order.

I need not tell you, how impatient I shall be to see you and them,

I am &ca.

SIR WILL<sup>M</sup>. JOHNSON

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Johnson to Abercromby, June 27, 1758.







## SPEECH OF JAMES ABERCROMBY TO THE SIX NATIONS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>*Lake George, 8 July 1758.*

Bretheren

When you joined me you saw how much I was employed, that I had not then time to call you together or say anything to you. I take now this Opportunity of calling you together and return you my Thanks for your Good Behaviour on this Occasion, in which our Loss is not so considerable as was first apprehended. I hope with your Assistance it will be soon retrieved; You need be under no Uneasiness ab<sup>t</sup>. your Families & Country. I have sent a sufficient Force to protect them which is now assembling at the Great Carrying Place,<sup>2</sup> in order to keep a Post there for the Protection of your Families and the Settlers on the Mohawk River, as well as to enable us to carry on a more commodious and advantageous Trade under proper Regulations, and by which of Course you and your Allies will reap several advantages.

a String

I must earnestly recommend to you who are So well qualified for that Service to send out parties to different Quarters, as the most effectual Means to prevent Surprizes, and intimidate the Enemy from making Incursions on His Majestys Frontiers, and annoying his Good Subjects.

I am glad to hear you have not lost any of your People; Those who are wounded shall be taken proper Care of, and I give you these Scalps of the Enemy as a Salve to your Wounds,—

4 Scalps

Altho we have not been as yet so successful in this Quarter as we expected, yet we have great Success in many other Parts,

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Oneida (Oneyda's) Carrying Place.

which with what we may be able to do in the remaining part of this Summer with this Army and the Rest of his Majestys Troops on this Continent we hope will oblige the French to su[b]mit and let us live quietly and peaceably for the future.

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

2 July Mr. Claus<sup>2</sup> & Mr. Montour<sup>3</sup> marcht off with the Aughquages to join Mr. Crogan who lay about 6 Miles down the River.—

3 July received an Acc<sup>t</sup>. from Mr. Vrooman<sup>4</sup> of Schohary that a party of Tuscarores from Aughquaga, some Nanticokes & several Mohikanders from Otsiningo were expected there every hour. wrote him Word to send the Men forward by way of Albany to Lake George & give the Women Provisions to carry them home. that there was no Provisions, goods or anything necessary for them & that Mountings for themselves & Familys who went to join Sir William he would give them on his Return.

Fort John 6 July 1758

Printops<sup>5</sup> Son with five Onieda Indians arrived here this Morning & said they proposed to follow Sir William Johnson & begged some Necessaries. The Secret<sup>ry</sup> gave each a Shirt & Lap & Knife & three Skins for Shoes with some Paint. also a Pass. these Indians said News about Onondaga Indians being killed or taken was false.

Fort Johnson 11 July 1758.

Fitted out with Shirts, Paint, 2 Skins Leather, Pouder & Lead & 3 Guns. Seven Nanticoke Indians to go thro the Woods

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Claus.

<sup>3</sup> Henry (Andrew) Montour.

<sup>4</sup> Bartholomew Vrooman probably.

<sup>5</sup> William Printup, interpreter.

& join Sir William Johnson. gave them a Pass & a Letter to Sir William. they went off in an hour.

N.B. 2 Mohock Indians went off Yesterday.

11 July p. m.

Arrived at Fort Johnson Sack's wangarores an Onieda Sachem, Tiagewicke a Tuscarora Sachem & Warriors, another Young Warrior, several Women & children

The Oneida Sachem spoke in behalf of the Tuscarora Sachem & said to the Sec<sup>ry</sup>.

Brother

The Tuscaroras have been for some time as if their Eyes were bound & the light hid from them & the Road hither has appeared to them difficult & unpleasant to Travel. but now they see clearly & the Road is become pleasant & easy to travel. I am therefore come down hither, where the Fire of the 6 Nations burns, to see my Brother Warraghyjagey & to proff<sup>t</sup> the Continuance of my Attachment to the English Interest. I should have come sooner but I was out on the hunt when my Brothers Message came to our Nation to call us down hither & did not return til 'tother day.

Gave 2 Strings Wampum

Brother

I am come with my Family hither to see my Brother Warraghyjagey, who has frequently told me niether I or them should want & then when we were in Distress he would assist us. I have been seldom troublesome to him. We are now very much in want of Cloathing, & I have nobody to Apply to but to him & I give this Belt of Wampum to desire you will supply our wants

Gave a Belt of Wampum

he also showed a Testimonial in his favour under Sir Williams hand & Seal, and desired an Order to get 2 Hows & one Gun mended & a falling Ax made at Schenectady —

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<sup>1</sup> prove.

The Sec<sup>ry</sup>. Answered. that he was glad to see them, as they were known Friends to the English Interest. but that as Sir William was from home & with the Army, it was not in his power to supply their wants, but that he would Record what they had said that Sir William might see it when please God he came home. that if they would then come down no doubt he would do by them as friends to our Interest

That they should have an Order to a Smith at Schenectady to mend & make for them —

The Onieda Sachem said that a French Priest came to the Onieda Castle to enquire if they knew anything of the Prisoner who was taken away near Montreal (meaning the Pris<sup>r</sup>. bro<sup>t</sup>. hither by the Party of Oniedas & Mohocks the 27 Ult<sup>o</sup>.) that he belonged to him, & offered the Oniedas any Sume of Money they would ask, to tell him if they knew where he was, & the Priest said if he could find his Track he would follow it till he came where the Prisoner was & try to get him again. that the Priest was gone to the Onieda Castle at the Lake —

#### A LIST OF INDIANS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 16 July 1758.*

A List of the Number of the several Nations of Indians under Sr. W<sup>m</sup> Johnson which joined the Army under General Abercromby<sup>2</sup> the 8 July 1758, at the Saw Mills near Tionderogo

Mohocks of both Castles.....:	172.	—
Oniedas . . . . .	68.	—
Tuscaroras . . . . .	22.	—
Onondagas . . . . .	30.	—
Cayougas . . . . .	24.	—

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Major General James Abercromby.







Senecas .....	14.	—
Schohary Indians .....	18.	—
Mohikander d <sup>o</sup> .....	47.	—
	395	—
	395	—

The day after the Action Sir William was joined by 25 Mohocks & Schohary Indians at the Advance Guard.

The 11<sup>th</sup>. he was joined by 30 Tuscarora & Onondaga Indians who informed that many more of several Nations were to follow them to join His Majestys Troops.—

A Copy of the above Return was delivered by Sir William Johnson to Major Gen<sup>l</sup>. Abercromby at the Camp at Lake George after the Retreat of the Army from Tionderoge.

#### JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[July 19–20, 1758]

Fort Johnson 19 July 1758 —

This Morning arrived Ten Cherokee Warriors & in the afternoon, Sir William convened the Chiefs of the 6 Nations & susquannah Indians here present, into the Council Room & there in his own & their Names passed the Ceremony of Condolence to the Cherokees with 3 Strings of Wampum according to the Customary Form.

Sir William then gave them one of the Scalps taken at Tionderoga, & told them it was part of some French Meat the English had cut there. Also a Scalp to replace a Great Man of their Nation killed last year at Ohio.—

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Fort Johnson 20 July 1758.

Twenty Seneca Indians Men, Women & Children who arrived here yesterday, desired a Meeting this afternoon, when their Chiefs passed the Ceremony of Condolance as usual upon the first Interview and which was returned by Sir William who gave them also a Scalp to replace a great Sachem & friend of the English of their Nation who died lately.

They acquainted Sir William that Joncaire<sup>1</sup> & his Brother held a Meeting lately at Chenossia which he desired by a Belt of Wampum that they would seriously consider the present Situation of affairs & take prudent Measures for their own Security & Welfare. That he distributed some small presents of Goods with Pouder & Lead, and fixt a Smith at Chenossia to mend their Arms gratis, that our Smiths Bellows which lay near Cayouga was taken & carried to Chenossia

AN INDIAN COUNCIL

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 21 July 1758*

At a Meeting of the Mohawks, Senecas, Oniedas, Tuscaroras and the Cherokee Deputies. The Senecas by the Belt of Wampum, their Speaker & a Sachem of their Nation, made the following Speech to Sir William Johnson.

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Wraxall<sup>3</sup> sec<sup>ry</sup>

Mr Montour<sup>4</sup> & Mr Clement<sup>5</sup>  
Interp<sup>rs</sup> —

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<sup>1</sup> Joncaire Chabert.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>3</sup> Peter Wraxall.

<sup>4</sup> Henry (Andrew) Montour.

<sup>5</sup> Jacobus Clement.

Brother Warraghyjagey

This Spring (in march vid blue Cover<sup>d</sup>. Record) you sent by two of our nation now present a Belt of Wampum to carry to our Castle and in your Name to exhort our Chief Men, to take care of & attend to and exert themselves to improve, extend & make firm our several Alliances, that we might by prudent Negotiations become a strong & respectable People.

Brother

We delivered this your Belt of Wampum & are now to acquaint you that we did send Messages to all our Allies & have had Negotiations with the Messasagas, Jenundadees & several other Western Nations, and our Head Man your good Friend Tageghsadde — meaning the Drunkard the Chief Seneca Sachem, is still employed in this good Work, and he shortly proposes to come down here & pay you a Visit with a number of his Warriors in order to give you a full & particular relation of all his Transactions, and he will send a Man running before him to give you Notice when he is on the Road.—

gave a Belt

Brother

With this Belt we cover the Graves of your People who fell in the late Action at Tionderoga and heal the Wounds which you received there —

Gave a Belt.

When this Speech was ended the Cherokee Chief addressed Sir William & the Nations present & said that if they did not think it too late in the Day, he would now let them know what he had to say from the Cherokees of the Tsyody & Kohy Nations to Sir William & the Six Nations. he was told they were now ready to hear him, when by the aforesaid Seneca Speaker he delivered himself as follows —

Brother Warragyhagey & Bretheren of the Six Nations.

We have received your Messages sent last year by some of our People, and we have taken to heart everything you therein

declared to us with great Joy & Satisfaction. We assure you we will take your Advice & in every respect act agreeable to your Desire.

Gave 2 Strings

Bretheren

before we left home the first time we had some Reports in our Towns that you likewise in these parts, were at War with the French, wherefore we took a Resolution to go & find out the Truth of it, and we took with us an Old Ax almost worn out, This however proved so good that on our Journey we destroyed with it two of the Enemy. After this the Messages from you reached us and your War Hatchet was delivered to us in your Name, this we immediately received, and our Warriors took it up with the utmost eagerness, and we found it to be a very sharp one as we presently killed two others with it at the Ohio: One of these Scalps we thought proper to give to the Tsyody Nation, and the other to the General who is going to the Ohio, We then intended to have proceeded with 800 of our Nation to you in order to have joined His Majestys Forces this way, but as we understand an Army was ordered by our Father the king of England to the Ohio against the French, we listened to the Request & persuasions of the English General that way & joined him with the 800 Men, as we thought we should hereby do equal Service to the Common Cause and we hope you will not therefore take it amiss.

Gave 6 Strings black Wampum

Bretheren

We have maturely considered your Advice of having the Road between us clear & open, and we assure you Bretheren that we have on our side cleared the Road to you, so that we can constantly see you & we hope nothing will be thrown in this Road to obstruct our mutual Intercourse. On our side you may depend we will take care to keep it clean & open, and we hope you will do the same on your side, so that a mutual Friendship & good

Understanding may be constantly kept up between us. The Kohy Nation are next to you, and the Tsyody the furthestmost, as you will see by this Belt of Wampum. We have likewise thought proper that such Warriors, as may come our Road, have a Mark to Distinguish them from the Enemy, and we have for ours fixed upon a Bunch of Feathers to be fastened to the Muzzle of their Guns, and as they go along the Road to cut a Cross here & there in the Trees that we may know whether a Friend or Foe is past along.

Gave a White Belt with one black Row of Wampum in the middle signifying the Road and 3 Figures of Men, signifying Sir W<sup>m</sup> Johnson & the 6 Nations, and the Kohy & Tsyody Nations—

Bretheren

As the Road is now clear between us, we hope you will make the proper use of it, that wherever you have any News of Importance & Consequence, you will not fail to acquaint us therewith without Delay. You white People have a convenient & quick way of sending News on Horseback. and we assure you we will strictly observe the same & give you Intelligence of everything we think worth communicating to you. this will give us an Opportunity that if either of us is hurt by the Enemy we may know of it & wash his Wounds.

Gave 2 Strings Wampum

Bretheren

As our Minds & Resolutions are now fixed according to the Declarations we have made to you, We hope & admonish You & the 6 Nations to be equally steady & detirmined & to prosecute the present War with united zeal, stand by one another & then your Enemies wont gain any Advantages over you.

gave 4 Strings Wampum

Brother & Bretheren of the two Mohock Castles & the rest of  
the Confederacy

As at this present troublesome time we are not sure what our Fate may be. One day the Sun may shine clear upon us, another day may be cloudy & dark. Let us therefore Bretheren be united and keep firm & strong the mutual Friendship & alliance made between us, that so if any Storm should break out upon us we may after it is past come together & renew the Covenant now mutually agreed upon and reap the Benefits thereof.

gave 4 Strings

The following is a Speech of Exhortation from the Cherokee Women to the Women of the 6 Nations

Sisters

As it is our parts to furnish the Warriors with Provisions whenever they go upon any Exploit, it being our Duty to do so they being our Children & brought forth by us. We earnestly desire & request of you to take good care of them your way as we shall do here so as to fit them out with such Necessarys as Warriors stand in need of, so that they maynt want when they are on their March, and when you expect them home again you will have such Victuals &c. ready for them as may refresh them after their Fatigues.

Gave a Bunch of white Beads

Bretheren

By this String of Wampum we acquaint you that we are desirous to know the place where our Enemy the French lives in order that we may tell our People of it when we return, wherefore Bretheren we are resolved after resting our selves a few days to rise & find out our Enemy.

Gave one black String.

Brother (speaking to Sir William only)

We hereby present you with a Calumet & a Wing, as the Superintendent of Indian Affairs and beg you will keep it in



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*From an engraving in The European Magazine, November 1782*





remembrance of our Nation at this Council fire of all Indians in the English Interest. Light the Pipe whenever you meet upon Public Affairs, and dont let any People who bring false or trifling Reports smook out of it. Any time hereafter if we should come to your fire place upon Buisness we hope to find this Calumet & Wing, in order that we may light it & remember the Agreements now made between each other.

Gave the Calumet & Wing.

They then gave the following Letter from the Cattawba Nation with a String of Wampum by which those Indians send word that some of their People would have come but the Circumstances of Public Affairs would not permit it. here follows a Copy of said Letter,<sup>1</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> was translated to the Indians at this Meeting —

INSTRUCTIONS FOR GEORGE CROGHAN

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson, July 21, 1758.*

You will proceed with Mr. Andrew Montour to the Province of Pensilvania

You will in your Progress & Negotiations use your best Endeavours to conciliate & fix to the British Interest all the several Nations & Tribes of Indians who may fall within the reach of your Influence.

The Government of Pensilvania is to defray all the Charges of your Negotiations, Meetings & Treaties, in consequence whereof you will correspond & confer with the Governor of Pensilvania on all Matters immediately relative to that Province.

You will so conduct your Proceedings as to have an Eye only to the Good of His Majestys Service in general & avoid entering into the Views of any particular Person or Party.

<sup>1</sup> Dated March 24, 1758—printed under that date.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

You will from time to time write me an Account of your Proceedings & communicate to me without Delay all such Intelligence as may any ways affect the Service in these parts; and you will also commit to writing all your Proceedings for my future Inspection.

Given under my hand at  
Fort Johnson on this 21 day  
of July 1758.

AN INDIAN COUNCIL

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 22. July 1758 —*

At a Meeting of some of each of the Six Nations  
Except the Cayougas, Sir William Johnson made  
the following Speeches.

Pres<sup>t</sup>. Sr. W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Tho<sup>s</sup>. Butler

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Claus

Jacobus Clement Inter<sup>r</sup>.

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Peter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

Bretheren of the Six Nations

You know on our return to the Lake the General made a Speech<sup>2</sup> to you, in which he acquainted you that a considerable Number of Troops were assembling in order to take Post at the Onieda Carrying Place & by that means guard this part of the Country from any Attempts which the Enemy might make, of whose Designs against the Mohock River you have lately given repeated Informations. And that by this Measure we might also prepare things for carrying on an Advantageous Trade for & with your People and in which our own People may be secured & protected from the Insults of the Enemy.

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Speech of James Abercromby to the Six Nations, July 8, 1758.

At the same time the General also recommended to you to send out scouting Parties to different Quarters to watch the Motions of the Enemy & hereby to guard us against any Surprizes as well as to intimidate the Enemy from making Incursions on His Majestys Frontiers & annoying His good Subjects.

Bretheren

These Measures which the General acquainted you with, you expressed your Approbation of & the Scouting Service he recommended You promised you would duly execute & attend to.

Now Bretheren I am to acquaint you that last night I received a Letter from the General appointed to command the Troops at the Onieda Carrying Place, who is at Schenectady where everything is making ready for his march with a great Number of Men with which & those already at the German Flatts, he proposes in a few Days to proceed to the Onieda Carrying Place; with him comes Colonel Bradstreet<sup>1</sup> known to most of you.

In Consequence hereof I desire that your young Men will make themselves ready to join our Troops at the German Flatts & proceed with them to the Onieda Carrying Place where your Brother Col. Bradstreet will acquaint you with the Service you are wanted upon & have some Talk with you, and he will also settle every thing with you to your Satisfaction. I shall send Cap<sup>t</sup>. Thomas Butler to receive his Orders & take Care of you.

As the Defence of this part of the Country & establishing a near & convenient place of Trade for you, have been frequently & earnestly requested by you, I expect that you will now Show your readiness to aid & Effect these good Purposes by attending & assisting our Operations & accompanying your Brother Col. Bradstreet who will take care that whoever he employs shall be kindly used & duly rewarded for their Services.

Gave a Belt.

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<sup>1</sup> Colonel John Bradstreet.

## Sir William's Second Speech

Bretheren of the Six Nations

The Governor of Pensilvania has called a Meeting with the Delaware & other Indians living in that Province and is very desirous that some of your Chief Men should be present & hear what he has to say, and I am sending my Deputy M<sup>r</sup>. Croghan that way to be present at said Meeting and to Assist the Governor in carrying on the Affairs which are to be there settled.

I desire therefore that some Wise Men from each of your Nations, particularly from the Senecas would as soon as possible set out for Pensilvania & attend at said Meeting and as the Matters to be there opened and adjusted relate to our common Welfare, I hope & doubt not you will readily appoint Deputies to attend & hear what passes there and who will at the same time use their Influence to forward & give Success to every Measure which may be for the general Interest.

and hereupon I give you this Belt of Wampum

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY

*Df.*<sup>1</sup>

*Camp at Lake George, July 23, 1758.*

SIR |

After your Departure from hence, I wrote to Brig<sup>r</sup>. Forbes,<sup>2</sup> in answer to his letter concerning your seconding the intentions of the provinces of Pensylvania and the Jerseys with the Senecas & the 6 Nations; (of which you have had a reading) that you had agreed to send Mr. Croghan to them; and that I did not doubt, but he was on his road to meet them.

Yesterday I had another letter from him, of the 9th, Inst. from Carlisle, still complaining of your not having gone or sent some one to take the care and management of the Cherokees, and of your not having sent to treat with the Delawares, and

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Brigadier General John Forbes.

other Tribes of Indians that were inclinable to enter into a treaty of peace and alliance with us; in consequence of which, a message was sent to them, by one poste, a copy of whose journal, in June & July last he transmitted to me, as also that of the conference held at Philadelphia the 8th upon the said posts return. My answer to him of this day, repeats Mr. Croghan's being, I hope gone; that you cou'd not possibly interfere with the Cherokees, as not being within your department; and that I shoud forward the above copies to you, which I do herewith, and beg, that if these measures are consistent, with His Majestys interest & his instructions to you, you will do your utmost to see them put in execution, and if there shou'd be any necessity to write upon them, either to gov<sup>r</sup>. Denny,<sup>1</sup> Brig<sup>r</sup> Forbes or any one else, you will please to do it without waiting for my advice thereupon, as it will be a means of saving a great deal of time.

As capt. Butler has been with you some time, he will have given you a report of the intelligence brought by the scouts you left behind, which are likewise re[t]urned home.

I am &ca.

SR. WM. JOHNSON, Bar<sup>t</sup>.

INDORSED:

Sr. Wm. Johnson Bart.

July 23, 1758.

AN INDIAN CONGRESS

*Copy*<sup>2</sup>

*Fort Johnson 24 July 1758. p. m.*

alias the Negro a chief Sachem of Cayouga arrived & said he was come Express from that Castle w<sup>ch</sup>. he left 5 days ago. he spoke as follows.

<sup>1</sup> Governor William Denny of Pennsylvania.

<sup>2</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Brother Warraghyjagey

You know that I have been long a Friend to the English and that I have promised you that I would on every occasion act as such & communicate to you any Intelligence which might come to my knowledge that concerned your Welfare. You may remember that I warned you to be on your guard long before Oswego was taken. Now I am come down to acquaint you, that about 20 days ago I was at Chenossia, where Joncaire<sup>1</sup> & his Brother held a Meeting with those & sundry other Indians. As I was formerly very intimate with Senunchias Joncaires Brother, I had some private Conversation with him in which he told me that the French proposed coming by way of Oswego down this River & to penetrate as far as they could. that their force would consist of only 500 French & as many Indians as they could gather, that they proposed being down here about the decline of this Moon.

Brother

What I now tell you, you may be assured I heard with my own Ears, it may turn out true; it may be false, but however I beseech you to be upon your Guard & have a good Number of Men ready to oppose the French — if it proves true you will then be in a condition to Face them; if they should not make the Attempt you have done the prudent part & given due Attention to the Security of your Country.

I confirm my Intelligence & advice with these  
3 Strings of Wampum

gave 4 Strings Wampum

Eod. Die

At a Meeting of some Sachems & Cheifs of each of the 6 Nations, (except the Cayougas) with the Aughquagas; an Answer had this Morning been agreed on, to the Speech of the Cherokees delivered the 21 Inst and which having been proposed to Sir William Johnson and with some Amendments

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<sup>1</sup> Louis Thomas de Joncaire, Sieur de Chabert, a lieutenant in the Canadian army.

agreed to by him — Notice was given to the Cherokee Delegates that this afternoon they would receive an Answer which was accordingly delivered as follows by Thomas a Chief Sachem & Warrior of Aughquaga in the joint Names of Sir William & the Six Nations

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sir William Johnson

Cap<sup>t</sup>. Peter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>

Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Claus Dep. Sec<sup>ry</sup>.

Jacobus Clement Interp<sup>t</sup>.

Bretheren of the Cherokee Nation

We have heard & duly considered your Speech to us 3 days ago and we are now going to give our Answer to it.

Bretheren

We return you our Hearty thanks for receiving our Messages to Your Nation of last Year, with such friendly Disposition & Satisfaction, and you may be assured we on our parts do now receive what you have said to us with equal Pleasure & Approbation, we shall put all our Words in our Hearts & gratefully remember your friendly Expressions towards us.

kept their String.

Bretheren

We are pleased & glad you so readily took up the Hatchet in conjunction with us & our Bretheren the English against the French, and we approve of your 800 Warriors joining the English Army going to the Ohio, as it is assisting the Common Cause in which we are engaged —

gave 3 Strings Wampum.

Bretheren

We are thankful to you for the Caution & Prudence you have shown in opening & clearing a Road of Peace & friendship between your Country & ours, and for pitching upon such proper & distinguishing Marks for your Warriors to make themselves known to us by. You may depend upon it we will strictly observe the Measures you propose in your Belt, make

use of your proposed Marks & keep your Belt as a Remembrance of all you said upon it at this Fire place of the 6 Nations & their Allies. and we expect you will on your parts keep up to your Promises & Professions hereupon made, and keep the Belt we now give you at your Town of Tsyody as a Memorial on your side.

Gave a Belt.

Bretheren

Your desire that we should make use of the good Road now opened between us, to communicate to each other all Intelligence of Moment; is very agreeable to us, and shall be complied with on our side, and we expect it will be so on yours — We shall be always glad to see any of your people freely & safely come along this Road of Friendship, but should any accident befall them from the Enemy or by any other Means, We shall take care according to the antient Custom of Friends & allies, to wash the Blood off of their Bodies, and resent every Injury they may suffer —

Gave 3 Strings Wampum

Bretheren

Our Confederacy have always maintained their Unanimity and our resolutions are to continue firm & united together, and we recommend the same Resolutions to you, and by these Means both you & we shall become as one Body & one Heart.

gave 3 Strings —

Bretheren

We do on our parts assure you that we will at all Events hold fast the Covenant Chain of Peace & friendship with your People without wavering.

Gave 2 Strings Wampum

Bretheren

The Cherokee Womens Speech & admonition to our Women is Wise & right, and in behalf of our Women we exhort yours to continue & act up to this laudible Character of taking care to provide for the Warriors — in the name of our Women we send to yours this Bunch of Beads.

Gave a large Bunch of Beads.—



Bretheren

With pleasure & thanks we receive your Present of the Calumet Pipe & Wing, and you may be assured we will observe your Directions thereupon. It shall be preserved at this our Fire place together with your Belt upon opening a Road of Peace & friendship between us—And we desire you will with equal Care preserve the Calumet you received here last year, and observe the rules we then recommended to you.—

Bretheren

We applaud your zealous Inclinations of going out from hence to see where the Enemy lives this way, but as your Errand hither was upon peacable Negotiations, We conceive you had better at this time suspend your Resolutions & proceed with the result of this Meeting to your own People, besides should any accident happen to You who are sent hither as Delegates, it might raise some Mistrusts & Jealousies in your Nation against us & which subsists between us. We would therefore beg of you to return now & not put your Scheme into Execution. Let the French Scalp which you received from our Brother Warraghyjagey satisfy you on this point w<sup>ch</sup>. you can deliver to your People as procured by your Journey this way.—

Gave a String —

Bretheren

We are very much obliged to our Bretheren the Cattabas for their kind Letter & are glad to find by it that they keep in remembrance the Covenant of Peace & Friendship entered into between us some years ago when their Deputies came hither. We have desired our Brother Warraghyjagey in our Names & his own to write a Letter to the Cattawbas in Answer to theirs which he will do & give to you with a String of Wampum in return for theirs.

And now Bretheren we have finished our Answer to your Speech & hope everything is settled to our Mutual Satisfaction.

The Cherokee Chief made Answer, that he had attentively heard all they had said & which he would relate to the rest

of his People present in their own Language as they did not understand that of the 6 Nations. That he did not doubt but the whole would be very pleasing to all his Countrymen both here & at home. That if they had failed in points of Ceremony & order, he hoped the Six Nations would excuse their Mistakes or Ignorance, for that the Deputation now present consisted of Warriors who were not fully versed in the Mannagment of such Meetings as these.

The Speaker for the 6 Nations then went up to the Cheif of the Cherokees & saluted him & afterwards the rest by taking them each under their right Arms. this Ceremony was followed by several other Chiefs & Sachems of the 6 Nations then present.—

and they ended this Meeting.—

Hans the Wildt & Abraham Two Chiefs of the Mohocks desired the following Answer might be wrote & sent in the Name of the Mohock Nation to the Letter from the Cattawbas sent to their People by the Cherokees & which was accordingly wrote down upon Parchment.

The Sachems & Chiefs of the Two Mohock  
Castles to the King & Sachems of the Cattawba Nation

Bretheren

We have recieved & understood your very kind Letter to us by our Bretheren the Cherokees. And we are extreamly glad to find thereby that you keep in Mind the Cov<sup>t</sup>. of Peace & friendship which was agreed upon between us some few years ago.

Bretheren

When the present Clouds are blown away and the Sun Shines out we expect to see you here that we may have some friendly talk together, renew & brighten the Cov<sup>t</sup>. Chain of Friendship between us. and we would have you come the same Road you did before, for if you come by the way of Ohio there may perhaps be some Stumps in the Road which may hurt your Feet.

Bretheren

We are sincerely rejoiced to hear of your Welfare and to learn that you are so hearty in the Interest of our Bretheren the English, and that your Warriors have rose up & taken the Ax to assist the Arms of our common Father the Great King of England against the French King & his Children. We kindly remember our Love to you all, Sachems & Warriors & also to your Women, and from the bottom of our Hearts we send you all, our friendly Wishes.

Bretheren Sachems

We hope you on your parts will. animate & encourage your young Men to act with Vigor against the common Enemy. This we are daily doing to our young Men

Bretheren

We return you our grateful Acknowledgments for your Concern at the Losses we have sustained this War of some of our Warriors. We condole with you for any Losses you may have met with, and we hope the Great Spirit above will bless & give Success to our mutual Undertakings

We confirm what we have said to you & salute you with this String of Wampum as does our Brother

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 28 July 1758*

At a Meeting of the Seneca Indians

Pres<sup>t</sup>.

Sir William Johnson

Cap<sup>t</sup>. John Butler

Capt Peter Wraxall sec<sup>ry</sup>.

The said Indians by the Seneca Sachem  
The Belt of Wampum made the following Speech

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<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

Brother

When we set off from our Country our fixt Resolutions were to have proceeded & joined the Army. but on our arrival here we found you returned & all over. We are very sorry things have turned out so ill, but at the same time it gives us great pleasure to see you safe & well upon whose Life depends the general Welfare of the 6 Nations.

Bro<sup>r</sup>.

As we see nothing more to be done this Way, we are desirous of returning to our Habitations & propose setting off immediately. As many reports prevail that the French propose marching an Army down this way, should we on our return make any Discoveries or learn any certain Intelligence of their Approach we assure you by these Strings of Wampum that we will send off one of our People running to give you Notice & put you on your Guard and should you after our getting home learn that the Enemy is coming to Attack you that way we desire you will send to us & we will rise up & come to your assistance, for it is the Unanimous Resolution of the Seneca Nation to stand by our Bretheren the English & maintain our Antient Alliance & Friendship with them.

gave 7 Strings Wampum

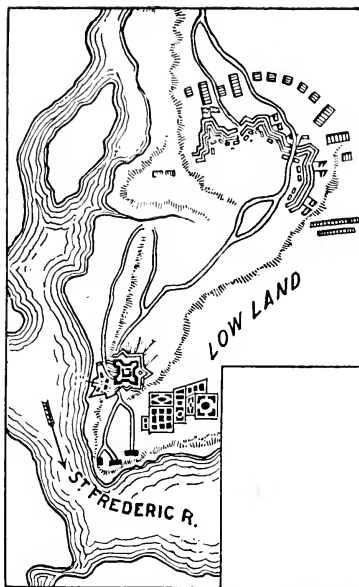
Sir William then made the following Answer to their Speech of the 21. Inst.

Bretheren

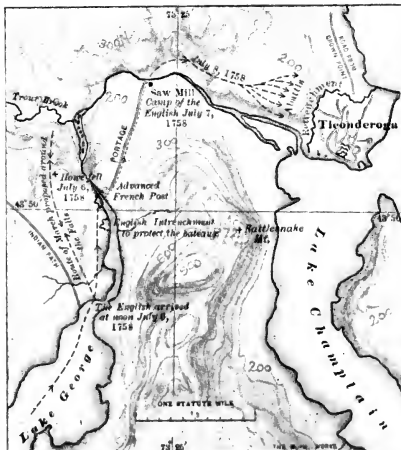
I take it well that you so punctually delivered my Belt to the Sachems of your Castle, and I am very glad to find it had such Weight with them as to put them on effecting the Measures I then proposed, which I still recommend to your Nation to pursue. the more strong you make your selves by Alliances the more you will secure your own Welfare

When my Brother Tageghsady has finished the Affairs he is engaged in, I shall be very glad to see him & to learn from him a particular Acc<sup>t</sup>. of his negotiations.

Gave a Belt



MAP OF THE FRENCH WORKS AT TICONDEROGA  
 From Avery's *A History of the United States and Its People*, 4:181



MAP ILLUSTRATING THE ENGLISH ADVANCE  
 AGAINST TICONDEROGA  
 From Avery's *A History of the United States and Its People*, 4:179



Bretheren

We are obliged to you for your Condolance on the Loss of several of our People who fell lately in Battle at Tionderogo, I do the same to your Nation for the Losses you have sustained by the Death of some of your Sachems & Warriors

Gave a Belt.

Skaanaey'y the Nephew of Tuenwhaagaraw a chief Seneca Sachem having returned to Sir William the Flag & Meddal which had been given to his late Uncle, Sir William gave them back to him, raised him up a Sachem in the room of his Uncle & Cloathed him accordingly, giving him an Exhortation to follow his Uncles Steps & be a firm & zealous Friend to the King of England & his Subjects

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

[July 30–August 2, 1758]

Fort Johnson 30 July 1758.

Sir William gave the Drunkards Son a Seneca Chief Warrior a String of Wampum desiring that on his Return to his Town he would take Measures to find out if the French were preparing to make any Attempts this way & let him have notice thereof without delay.

He promised that he would inform himself if the Enemy had any such Preparations in hand & as far as he was able find out their Designs. and that as soon as he learnt any thing certain of Importance he would himself run down to Sir William with the News.—

Fort Johnson 1 August 1758. p. m.

Sir William Johnson sent Capt Tho<sup>s</sup>. Butler over to the Mohock Castle to acquaint those Indians that he proposed

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

setting off to morrow Morn<sup>g</sup>. with Brig<sup>r</sup>. Stanwix<sup>1</sup> & L<sup>t</sup> Col. Bradstreet<sup>2</sup> for the German Flatts & desired those of their People who were inclined to go upon Service would be ready to meet him —

sent String of Wampum

They returned a String & sent word they would wait on him to morrow Morning.

Fort Johnson 2. August 1758

an Onieda Warrior arrived, and told Sir William he was sent Express by the Oniedas & Tuscaroras to acquaint him that in Consequence of his Belt sent thro the 6 Nations desiring they would send some of their Wise Men to meet the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Philadelphia & other Indians at a proposed Congress in that Province, the Oniedas & Tuscaroras had agreed to send from each Nation Two Deputies thither & desired Letters might be wrote to the Gov<sup>r</sup>. of Pensilvania to give notice of their coming that they might meet with no Interruption from any Troops or Parties which might be on the Road & that Provisions might be lodged for them at Shamokin

gave 3 Strings Wampum

Sir William Answered

That he took kindly their ready compliance with his Request, that our Army was marcht for the Ohio & were distant from their Road. That M<sup>r</sup> Croghan was gone before & no doubt but care would be taken to lodge Provisions for such Indians as stopt at Shamokin

gave 3 Strings

He further informed Sir William that as he set off from Onieda to come hither, some Sachems & Young Men of that Nation were going to Cadaraqui in order to discover if the French were preparing for any Attempt down this way. that if they found they were or met their Army on their Way, the Sachems

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<sup>1</sup> Brigadier General John Stanwix.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel John Bradstreet.



were to acquaint the French, that the 6 Nations desired they would not disturb this part of the Country w<sup>ch</sup>. was a road of Peace & that if they continued to harrass the Frontiers on this side the Indians must suffer for want of Provisions, as their Women were affraid to plant & therefore to insist with the French that they should not make War on this Quarter but go towards Lake George & fight there — that if the French would not listen to this remonstrance w<sup>ch</sup> they were to make with a Belt of Wampum, they were then to throw them another to enforce it more strongly & make the best of their way home. that upon making any Discovery of a French Army on the March, the Young Men were to run off & give notice at their Castle & the Sachems to remain & pursue the above Negotiations.

Fort Johnson 2 Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1758 p. m

Abraham a Chief of the Mohock Castle came over with some others, and spoke as follows to Cap<sup>t</sup> Thomas Butler on the Message he carried Yesterday to their Castle from Sir William Johnson.

Brother

at our Council this Morning we considered of Sir William's Message of Yesterday to us by You, in Answer thereto youl let him know, we send from our Castle to escort the General to the Onieda Carrying Place 22 young Men, and as you are left behind to take Charge of the Indians, they are ready for you as soon as you call upon them. At Lake George We & the other Indians of the upper Nations were told by Gen. Abercromby<sup>1</sup> that a Fort was to be built at the Carrying Place and a Trading House kept there for the Indians. the upper Nations seemed glad of it & promised our Brothers their Assistance. We hope they will be as good as their Words, as the Trade will be to their Advantage. after our young Men have seen the General safe there, they are to return & we dont doubt but the Oniedas &c. will take care to act like Brothers in Scouting &c.

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<sup>1</sup> Major General James Abercromby.

Brother

You will acquaint Sir William, We are very much concerned about the bad Behav<sup>r</sup> of some of our young Men Yesterday who followed a parcell of Sheep & Oxen that were drove thro our Castle & killed 12 of the Former & one of the latter. it was done without our Knowledge & we much disapprove of the thing.

Gave 3 Strings White Wampum

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOMAS BUTLER

*Copy*<sup>1</sup>

*Camp near Fort Harkemaer, August 6, 1758.*

You are to put your self under the Command of Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Colonel Bradstreet and receive from him such particular Directions with regard to the Indian Service relative to the Enterprize under his Command as he may judge necessary.

You are to keep Copies of any material Conferences w<sup>ch</sup> may pass or Messages which may be sent to the Indians.

You are to keep a regular Acc<sup>t</sup>. of Moneys which you may pay out to the Indians on this present Service, and herein to be as saving as Prudence will permit. be cautious in your promises to them & be punctual when you have made them.

Keep the Indians as much as you can from Rum, and both you & your Brother<sup>2</sup> who I have ordered up to assist you must be vigilant & careful of the Indians to prevent any just Cause of Complaint from them of Neglect or being ill used by any of our People, which latter upon your Application I make no doubt Col. Bradstreet will use his Authority to prevent, and you must caution the Indians on their parts not to give Cause of Offence, which I imagine they will not do if kept sober.

Any material Intelligence or Occurrances you will transmit to me as Opportunity may offer.

You are to use your utmost Endeavours & Influence to get as many Indians of the Six Nations as you possibly can to join

<sup>1</sup> In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada. Indian Records, Vol. 5.

<sup>2</sup> John Butler.

Col. Bradstreet in the present Enterprize under his Direction & Command & to make them sensible by Arguments & otherwise of the great & many Advantages [that] must acruë to them from the Scheme now on Foot should it succeed which with their Assistance & hearty concurrence there is no reason to doubt of.

Lastly you are to keep the Rangers under your Command properly employed in the Scouting Service with the Indians

Given under my hand in Camp near Fort  
Harkemaar this 6 day of Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1758.

WILL<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON

TO JAMES ABERCROMBY

L. S.<sup>1</sup>

*Fort Johnson 12th Aug<sup>t</sup>. 1758.*

SR.

I received from Brigadier Stanwix<sup>2</sup> Your esteemed favour of the 23 July. That day I dispatched Mr. Croghan & Mr. Montour<sup>3</sup> as an Interpreter, to the Province of Pensilvania to assist Governor Denny in his Indian Negotiations. I also wrote Mr. Denny my sentiments on the sundry matters contained in his Letter to me which I received from your Excellency at the Lake.

Brig<sup>r</sup>. Stanwix & Col Bradstreet called here in their way upwards. I gave them a copy of the speech I made to the Six Nations upon the March of the Troops to the Onieda Carrying Place, in which I recommended them to meet Col. Bradstreet at that place, where I told them he would have some talk with them &c. I have sent Captn. Tho<sup>s</sup>. & John Butler, Mr. Lutheridge<sup>4</sup> & some Rangers with Mr. Bradstreet to take care of the Indians, & receive his Directions, & upon his application, I put into Captn. Tho<sup>s</sup>. Butlers hands £500 ster<sup>s</sup>. as a Fund for the Indian service under Col. Bradstreet, and for which Brig<sup>r</sup>. Stanwix gave me a warrant upon Mr. Mortier.

<sup>1</sup> In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

<sup>2</sup> Brigadier General John Stanwix.

<sup>3</sup> Henry (Andrew) Montour.

<sup>4</sup> Captain John Lottridge.

Col Bradstreet desired to have Dequanie<sup>1</sup> & his Partner with him I spoke to them & they are gone.

I attended Brig<sup>r</sup>. Stanwix as far as y<sup>e</sup> German Flatts & sent about 70 Indians to guard him to the Onieda Carrying Place.

The Cherokee Deputies who came hither to confer with the Six Nations, have finished all their negotiations with great satisfaction on all sides, and I am now Dispatching them for their return homewards, A Copy of the Proceedings I am sending to Mr. Atkins<sup>2</sup> as I judge it proper & necessary that he should be apprized of what has past here, that he may co-operate therewith as far as his Influence extends.

I am preparing to make out an Acco<sup>t</sup>. of the moneys I have received & expended on the Indian Service, since the last Acco<sup>t</sup>. I delivered to the Earl of Loudoun, in Order when finished to lay before your Excellency. I find I am at present in advance, & as I am now quite out of Goods it will be necessary to provide some small Quantity to answer such unavoidable calls as will naturally occur. I beg therefore you will please to send me as soon as your time permits a Warrant for £1000- ster<sup>g</sup>. which if no unforeseen calls happen will I hope serve for some time to come.

I am most respectfully  
 Sir Your Excellencys  
 Most Obed<sup>t</sup>. & Most  
 humble Servant.

W<sup>m</sup>. JOHNSON.

To His Excellency  
 MAJOR GENERAL ABERCROMBY &c.

INDORSED:

Sir William Johnson,  
 Fort Johnson 12th August 1758.  
 R the 19th  
 Ans<sup>d</sup>. the 20th by Erhart.

<sup>1</sup> De Couagne.

<sup>2</sup> Edmund Atkin (Atkins), superintendent of Indian affairs in the Southern colonies.

FROM JAMES ABERCROMBY<sup>1</sup>*Contemporary Copy*<sup>2</sup>*Camp at Lake George 20<sup>th</sup>. August 1758.*SIR W<sup>m</sup>: JOHNSON Bar<sup>t</sup>.

SIR,

Yesterday I was favour'd with Yours of the 12<sup>th</sup>; [*and at the same time I received one from Brig<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Forbes of the 4<sup>th</sup>. mention<sup>g</sup>. that 46 of Mr*]<sup>3</sup> which has been the more welcome, as it has enabled me to Acq<sup>t</sup>. Brig<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Forbes with what you mention in regard to the Cherokee Indians, which he was very desirous of having back, as he says, they appeared much our friends; & if this be the case, they may perhaps answer the end he proposes, that of retain<sup>g</sup>. the few Indians he has left; few indeed since, as he says 46 of Byrds had left "him at Fort Cumberland & Bouquet leads a dogs life with those at Rays-town."

I have likewise Acquainted him with your having dispatch'd Mr. Croghan & Mr. Montour to Pensilvania, which I dare say will be equally agreeable to him.

I hope, that in favor of the Speech you made to the Six Nations upon the March of the Troops to the Oneida Carrying place, they will not only have met Col Bradstreet there, but will have proceeded with him; especially, as you have supplied Capt. Thomas Butler with £500. to answer all their occasions, which I find Brig<sup>r</sup>. Gen<sup>l</sup>. Stanwix<sup>4</sup> gave you a Warrant for; it would have saved some time, had you applied to him for the other £1000. You are in want of; for I should be sorry the failure of that Sum sho<sup>d</sup>. disable you from answering such unavoidable

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<sup>1</sup> Brigadier General James Abercromby.

<sup>2</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, Vol. 38, London, England.

<sup>3</sup> Words italicized and inclosed in brackets are crossed out in the manuscript.

<sup>4</sup> Brigadier General John Stanwix.

calls as you think will naturally occur, therefore enclosed You will find my Warrant on Mr. Mortier for £1000.—

I am,

JOHN FORBES TO WILLIAM DENNY

*Contemporary Copy*<sup>1</sup>

Extract of a Letter from General Forbes, to Governor Denny,  
dated 26<sup>th</sup>. August 1758

“I am very glad that Sir W<sup>m</sup>. Johnson has sent Mr. Croghan to attend the treaty, where I hope he will be convinced that it is not selfish, Provincial, or Proprietary Views, that influence the well wishers of this Treaty, but a noble zeal for the support of his Majesties measures in the defence of those Colonies, and the saving of the lives of the Inhabitants. I beg that you will let Mr. Croghan know, that I look upon myself as obliged to him for having sent these Messengers towards Niagara, as to any expence incurred that way, I shall settle that very easily & therefore beg he will do everything in his power to learn the force, and numbers of the Enemy, French, as well as Indians, upon the Ohio, and that as soon as he ever receives any intelligence that he will directly acquaint me of it by express, you may likewise assure him that his presence with me would be a real satisfaction to me, as he is both acquainted with the Country, & Inhabitants so that the sooner he comes (since left to his own disposal) I shall look upon it as a mark of favour towards me.

“I beg pardon for desiring of you to acquaint him of all this, but my not knowing either his address or himself personally, must plead my Apology.”—

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<sup>1</sup> In Public Record Office, W.O. 34, Vol. 39, London, England; inclosed in Johnson to Amherst, February 22, 1759.



















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Johnson, (Sir) William, bart.  
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