

Narwin's? being just returned from Canada what passed since the
beginning of August cannot yet be acquainted with

This Day Charles Pearson went with some Men & the Indian to the
upper Village at San. Dacting to know the truth of the report of the Virgin's coming to
the assistance of the In. D. Nations

23. Pearson returned with a message from the Delaware great Sachawane &
In. D. at Phizzys Town asking a Hatchet & permission to use it against the Virgin
who had killed the Indian & were coming in a body against them

~~between the Indians~~

24. Pearson was sent back with a message much to the same purpose of what
they had been often told by. not to involve themselves in any difficulty for the sake
of a few foolish Virgin's. That if any number of them came in a hostile manner to
defend themselves & they should receive succour from this & informed them of
the success of His Majesty's arms over the rebels at N. Y. & that the plain, from which
they might see the forts, should not attempt any thing of consequence against them
as His Majesty was able to correct his rebellious children without spilling
the blood of his children the In. D.; nevertheless if anything of consequence was
undertaken against them, the Muscogees had some powder & Ball for their
distress which would enable them to defend themselves till they could get some
more — but desired them to remain quiet unless they were attacked

Decem. 2. Montour & his daughter with another Huron arrived with a message
from the Delaware — Huron. D. still expressing their fears — Montour, said he
had brought about twenty Delaware followers of his over the Huron Nations
in proof of great attachment to His Majesty's Government & said that
our Interpreter did not explain things to the Indians in the exact sense we gave it & took
a little liberty for the Huron, Phizzys Town & the Delaware, which he got to the same
purpose of their leaving him

21. Charles Neume returned after delivering the message & ammunition he was charged with, for the Hurons & Shawanese.

They were very well pleased at Gov. Hamilton's attention to their interest in sending them ammunition to defend themselves & said they would keep out warriors between them and the Ohio or Virginians & send them word upon the first appearance of an enemy - at the same would send to Sagoyew that notwithstanding the advice often given them of remaining quiet unless attacked they said they thought their Father was joking with them. That the ^{manner} ~~sentiment~~ ~~he gave~~ he ~~had~~ received the Belt sent by the Virginians in the latter end of the summer, made the young people believe he would not have been displeased at their taking up the Hatchet - Neume told said that Ojibwa the Huron told him that the Hurons at Sandusky made that excuse for to begin Hostilities as he and the rest of the Nation had very well understood it was their Father's intentions to be watchful and on the incase of their being attacked to take up the Hatchet in which case they would receive all the assistance their Father could give them -

22. Twenty seven Hurons arrived from Sandusky among whom were some that had been sent by their Nation to watch the Ohio to observe the motions of the Virginians & to learn whether they intended any thing against the Indians or not - They mentioned many things, among which was that the Virginians had assembled a Body of four thousand Men but that the Cherokee & other Southern Nations had committed such depredations on their frontiers that they had changed their route & were going against them - That after they had chastised the Southern Indians, they were to come this way and cut off the Indian Villages in their Route -

The above Indian brought a scalp which they said some of the Six Nations had given them and which they presented to their Father the Gov. - he told them he hoped it was in defending themselves it was taken, and that would

This Evening Sukato arrived & said he would speak to
the Genl. next Day ask Dabthle p. order? - which I gave
him.

14 July Sukahis told the Gov^t. he came in to beg he would give
a little Ammunition & powder. his Family being ^{small} & sickly
and those that were out had out a charge of Ammunition —

Mr. J. W. Drinker had I have seen
when he went away —

In the afternoon Mr Pittman, Mr. Norton &
some Chiefs of the Ottawa & Chippewas met according
to yesterday's appointment.

The Ottawa Indians after some difficulty, about speaking,
went away satisfied they began - But instead of saying any thing of their
own satisfaction that all the good & bad people there felt must be what he thought was their
right to the land, ~~in question~~ ^{in question} suppose up old ones, I said many things
to the Hurons - summing by calculation to cause breach between them -- which Mr.
Gov^t. Wapreman did them for - as ~~the~~ ^{the} Legation saw an Ottawa War Chief

The Herons insisted on the right and said that in a council held by the Late Sir Wm. Johnson. Nine different Nations agreed to their being the Proprietors of the Land on this side point or plain round the W. End of Lake Erie - -

Gov: Hamilton repeated to them that he would write to Gen: Carleton - who would at Col: Johnsons know. it, & when he got the Gen: answer he would let them know if & that they must abide by his decision -

17. Four Chiefs & Twenty Young Odawan & Ojibwa all came to ask for two Officers for a man. Salomon of theirs who died yesterday & something to cover that Body. ~~For~~ I then as their Mouth

I gave them something to cover the bodies with - and
 I went to work among their graves - & had two coffins made -

Now we had won the Wager - Which was the Land
from the Fort to the River Rouge - The Ottawa
then sent for the Puttawattamies at Saguinaw and placed them
near where we called our new lives - After this the Command
separated the Land among us - The Ottawa on the South side
of the river, the Puttawattamies below the Fort & the
Chippawas higher up - Theurons come after
and settled where young Savoyard new lives, from thence
they went to the mouth of the river on the South side, and some to
Sandusky - and their Chiefs came back to Savoyard & hale by land
they all came up & settled at the point of Montreal & that side
of the river was given them - They have one side & we the other

Father. If theurons insist on our Lands, we will
follow the Road they have traced for us, and go for our Brothers
at St Josephs - we do not want to injure them. ^{this going for their Brothers is}
about / - ^{in this of the Wampum - mind}
with some grain of white

Gov^r. Hamilton - It might these things should be settled amicably each
Nation should claim their own - but to render justice it is necessary both
parties are heard - for what purpose the Chiefs of each Nation must meet
face to face and assert their Claims in a friendly manner -

The Puttawattamies spoke

Father. If the Ottawa & other Nations do not say we speak
truth we will relinquish all Claim -

Gov^r. Hamilton -

Children When we are interested we often do not see, in things
they really are - When I hear both parties I shall be able to judge
without getting things ^{Nations} to interfere
Before I give you my Opinion I shall
weigh & deliberate what you both say and then speak to you -

As you did not speak to me about these things at the General
Council I suppose they have happened from the solicitation of white
people - you the answers I gave the Ottawa when they spoke to me on
the same Subject was, that I desired they would think of what they were doing
that no person could occupy Lands obtained from them, without the

Now we had won the Wager - Which was the Land
from the Fort to the River Rouge - The Ottawa
then sent for the Puttawattamies at Saguinaw and placed them
near where Mr. Caillier now lives - After this the Command
separated the Land among us - The Ottawa on the South side
of the River; the Puttawattamies below the Fort & the
Chippawas higher up - The Hurons came after
and settled where young Savoyard now lives, from thence
they went to the mouth of the River on the South side and some to
Landusky - and their ships came back to Savoyard & hale by land
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a threat / - ^{in the way of Mr. Wampum - mind}
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Therefore I give you my opinion I shall
weigh deliberately what you both say and then speak to you -

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Council I suppose they have happened from the solicitation of white
people - You the answers I gave the Ottawa as when they spoke to me on
the same subject was, that I desired they would think of what they were doing
& that no person could occupy Lands obtained from them, without the

as his Ancestor told him came there at the request of the
the first white men they had seen who were french -
the Nation at that time living at Lake Christinae -
that they had been along white men, and once went to
live in the Creeks Country but a dispute arising between
them & the Creeks they sought and after that they came
back to the Christinae Lake, where they received the above
message from the french to come to Michilimackinac.

16th January The Gov^l desired the Officer of the day to come & let me know a place ^{where} ~~where~~ ^{the Officer told me} he got for the Indian prisoner - I suppose would not kill the Indian / to die in the Guard House or Hospital as the Indian might think the Soldiers were the cause of his Death - who by duty & much obliged him with the Birth of his children in endeavouring to keep him quiet - The Interpreter took him to his House where the Doct^r could attend him -

17) - Per Can Acco. of Mr. [unclear] from Sir J. & Governor being gone from Caiashaga to Fort Pitt with all their goods - They having had permission to go and a [unclear]
18) - The same day being sent for by some of his relations on account of the

10- Mettussawgay being sent for by some of his relations on account of the murder committed by the prisoners above mentioned I arrived here this day at the time the Garrison & Vassall were giving for the anniversary of the Queens birth day - was told by the Governor what had been done in the affair and that next morning he would hear what Mr Mettussawgay had to say intending to put the management of the affair into his hands as being a good & wise man - & Chief of that Nation -

19. The Gov^t came to my House & sent for Mittenawgay & the Interpreters &
a Mission who then just arrived - having been prisoner with the
Virginians 27 Days -

When they were met The Huron said he was out before the others
that he had been sent to observe the Motions of the Virginians & was taken by
~~the Indians who had two Shawann with them on the 16th of this mo and was~~
a party of them and taken to a fort below the Shawann town on the opposite
side of the Ohio - that after he had been kept 27 Days, some Shawann
& Delawares came then with a white man a prisoner and changed

Snake Country
Connattasage Oct 17/17

I ^{have} the Most Agreeable news to Acquaint You
that my Last Information of the death of Mr Butler is
Contradicted by the Chiefs of the Six Nations who are
here now Assembled to Condole the Loss of the Warriors who
were lately killed. Although at first by several of the Indians
the Declared to me its being fact. That he was put to death
thus the Chief says that Mr Butler
was brought to the place of Execution where his grave was fixed and
dug. But no Executioner ^{was} found whereupon the Col. or Genl.
Commanding there said he would do it himself rather than he
should not be executed the Committee and people at the place
Immediately being Enraged at the proceedings and Determination
of the Bostonians Ordered him to be forthwith released and
sent to Albany where he still remains with the others who
accompanied him. Except the Indians who are released.

I hope this may serve to ease the mind
of Col. Butler and Every one who is Well Disposed which if
it had happened to have been Truth as at first it was
Represented to be it must ^{have} been a Most Barbarous
unhuman Disposal Scene -

My Advice by the Chief who are here now
Assembled says that some of the Indians informed
that there were in fort Stanwix a few days after our
Retreat and the place was greatly Shattered by our shells
and many killed and wounded a Woman being big with
child a shell fell just before her and cut off both her
legs of which she died Instantly. The Commanding Officer
Declaring if she had continued this Siege two or three days
longer he must have given up the Fort -

By an Onondago Indian who had a Letter
Hand and was with Lieut. Powell on Express to General Burgoyne
from fort Stanwix

Snake Country
Connattasage D^y 7/17

^{have}
In the Most Agreeable news to Regrant you
that my Last Information of the death of Mr Butler is
Contradicted by the Chiefs of the Six Nations who are
here now Assembled to Condole the Loss of the Warriors who
were lately killed. Although at first by several of the Indians
the declared to me its being fact that he was put to death
then the Chief says that Mr Butler
was brought to the place of Execution where his grave was fixed and
digged but no Executioner ^{was} found whereupon the Col. & Genl.
Commanding there said he would do it himself rather than he
should not be Executed the Committee and people at the place
Immediately being Enraged at the proceedings and Determination
of the Bostonians ordered him to be forthwith released and
sent to Albany where he still remains with the others who
accompanied him. Except the Indians who are released.

I hope this may serve to ease the mind
of Col. Butler and Every one who is Well Disposed which is
it had happened to have been Truth as at first it was
Represented to be it must ^{have} been a most barbarous
unhuman & cruel scene -

By Advice by the Chief who are here now
Assembled says that some of the Indians informed
that they were in fact Starved a few days after our
Retreat and the place was greatly Shattered by our shot
and numerous killed and wounded a woman being hit with
child a shell fell just before her and burst of both her
legs of which she died instantly. The Commanding officer
Declaring if we had continued this Siege two or three days
longer he must have given up the Fort -

By an Onondago Indian who had a long
Hand and was with Lieut. Powell on Express to General Burgoyne
from Fort Stanwix

Some time ago ~~who~~ and another Indian who left the Army some time ago about a month and informs that General Burgoyne was about 3 miles from Albany Indian at Old Co. Peter Schyler's House and the General told the Indians in about 15 days from that time he expected to be in possession of Albany a few days before thus left the Army that Luke De Coven's son arrived from the Army from under General Clinton as they say and that Co. Johnson was landed and as they say they had 300 shipping in the River & I suppose they mean Large and small Crafts included and the General told them that he expected that both Armies would meet in one day at Albany General Burgoyne returned the Six nations thanks for their gallant Behaviour Against the Rebels and likewise told them that very soon they might expect his majesty's thanks for their Loyalty in helping to support Government

M^r. Brant with his family and about 20 Men Women and Children of the Mohawks are now in Conneautago being Probd. of Every thing that ^{they} had and Distrust them in a most shocking manner by them especially Schyler that is David Schyler Hangest Schyler and the House with a Number of Withanous Oriskany Indian M^r. Brant's hear in Conneautago who came here yesterday to pay a small Visit

The Mohawks of Fort Hunter are all Run with their Women and Children a party of Caughnawagons coming from General Burgoyne's Army to fetch them some where Between the Mohawk river and Saratoga they met a Rebel scouting party and came to an Engagement they killing seven of the Rebel party the Rest making their Escape: one Mohawk was killed Aron Brother Cornelius

By name they are all safe Arrived at General Burgin.

Army four Indians are now in Albany now as spies in order to see and discover the Movements of the Army and as soon as the General is in possession of it to immediately forthwith to return and give Information of the success. Yesterday an Express Arrived here whom I had Dispatch'd to Oswego in order to see if Col Butler was Arrived there as he promised or not that way; who brings me a Letter from Lawson

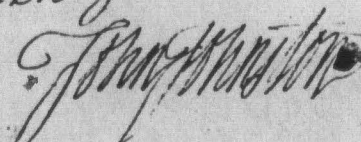
Parkes he being the only person now residing

there the Army being Long gone from there. he informs that a few days ago four Rebels Deserted Arrived from Fort Stanwix at Oswego with a Large French Balm and say that when they left it there was no more than 300 Men in the place and the one half was waiting for an opportunity to Desert they are gone to Canada —

a few days ago a Deserter Arrived here to me at Connetquot from Washington's Army who says that when he left it Washington was within 26 Miles of Philadelphia and was preparing to go down to meet General Howe at the head of Elk river about 60 Miles from Philadelphia: and at his Arrival at Wyomans on the

Musquahanna an Express Arrived that General Washington was Defeated and that he and 2 other Commanding officers had made there Escape to Philadelphia when it was said he intended to make a Stand with the Militia and other Scattering Troops Mr Brant's people to about the

Number of about 200 Mohawks will want assistance of 6000 and that soon to keep them from the Lake as they are strict as aforementioned to conclude with my Respect, To the Commanding officers Col Butler and Mr Pollard.

Remain Gentlemen Y^r Humble
To Col John Butler... Word 

Mr Brant's Compliments to ~~Col. M.~~ Mr Pollard
and desires if you would be so good as to Credit
him to send him a piece of your Best small flowered
Cotton as Likewise 2 ^{lb} of Tea

Nagare Nbandagoe
 A Message from Col. L. Butler, the Mohawks, and the Oneidas, in the Interest of Government to the Onondagoes.

After the usual Compliments, and desiring them to open their Ears and be attentive to what we had to say to them, we deliver them the Message as follows.

Brothers!

We are very much alarmed at hearing that some of your People who are in the Interest of the Rebels, and the Oneidas have attempted to carry away Part of the Fire to Oneida without our Leave. The Fire belongs more properly to us than to them, and we have certainly the greatest Right to dispose of it, as we are three of the Parties concerned in kindling the Fire, and they but one; we are therefore the fittest Persons to remove it and appoint another Place for it, and besides, all the western and Southern Nations have left their Hearts and Minds, which are at that Fire, in our Care; we therefore desire all you of the Onondagoes who are still our Friends, carefully to gather up this Fire, and bring it away with you in your Pouch, which we cannot in the least doubt but you will do, as you have declared in every Village thro' which you passed, that you were resolved to remove, and we know you will not break your Word. It is become necessary to remove the Fire, as it is impossible to do Business at it where it now is, from the many bad People there, who are in the Interest of our Enemies; we therefore desire you to gather up immediately all the Hearts & Minds that have been left there, and bring them carefully wrapped up to our Brothers the Senecas and Cayugas who will fix upon some Proper Place for rekindling the Fire, and depositing the Hearts and Minds of all our Friends and Allies that had before been left at Onondagoe. We have it not in our Power to allot any Place for it, as the Rebels have taken all our Lands from us. We also desire you to draw after you the Silver Chain of Friendship which bound and connected us together; this you will find no Difficulty

Niagara March 29th 1779

A Message from Coln. Butler, the Mohawks, and the Cayugas, in the Interest of Government to the Onondagoes.

After the usual Compliments, and desiring them to open their Ears and be attentive to what we had to say to them, we deliver them the Message as follows.

Brothers!

We are very much alarmed at hearing that some of your People who are in the Interest of the Rebels, and the Cayugas have attempted to carry away Part of the Fire to Cayuga without our Leave. The Fire belongs more properly to us than to them and we have certainly the greatest Right to dispose of it, as we are three of the Parties concerned in handling the Fire, and they but one; we are therefore the fittest Persons to remove it, and appoint another Place for it, and besides, all the western and Southern Nations have left their Hearts and Minds which are at that Fire, in our Care; we therefore desire all you of the Onondagoes who are still our Friends carefully to gather up this Fire, and bring it away with you in your Pouch, which we cannot in the least doubt but you will do, as you have declared in every Village thro' which you passed that you were resolved to remove, and we know you will not break your Word. It is become necessary to remove the Fire, as it is impossible to do Business at it where it now is from the many bad People there, who are in the Interest of our Enemies. We therefore desire you to gather up immediately, all the Hearts & Minds that have been left there, and bring them carefully wrapped up to our Brethren the Senecas and Cayugas who will fix upon some Proper Place for rekindling the Fire, and depositing the Hearts and Minds of all our Friends and Allies that had before been left at Onondagoe. We have it not in our Power to allot any Place for it, as the Rebels have taken all our Lands from us. We also desire you to draw after you the Silver Chain of Friendship which bound and connected us together, this you will find no Difficulty

nor drawn by anyone. The Reason is that we wish to extend it to our western Brethren and Allies to bind them more closely and strongly to us. By bringing away this Fire we do not intend that it should be for ever removed, but only till the present Troubles end, or till our Brothers, who are drunk, recover their Senses. Whenever this happens we mean to settle the Fire again at the same Place in which our wise Forefathers first kindled it.

Marge, black & white Belt.

Brothers! We now desire you to pull up the Tree which was planted at the Council Fire by our Forefathers; and carefully wrap it up and bring it with you to the Place which the Senecas and Cayongas shall appoint, where will plant it again, and rekindle the Fire, that the Tree may rise so high, that its Top may be seen by all our western Brethren, and that the Smoke of the Fire may ascend up to the Heavens. In taking up the Tree you will be careful not to leave the smallest Root remaining in the Earth, that may not grow up, and appear in the Place where it stood.

A Belt.

Brothers! We also desire that you will take care to bring with you the Mats and Seats and every other Thing from your Council House, and be particularly careful to bring away the Wings, with which you sweep it out. With these Strings we provide you with Canoes, Paddles and Poles, that you may convey your Baggage, and yourselves, off without Delay.

A Belt, and six Strings.

Brothers! All that has been said we only whisper in your Ears, and would not have you declare it openly in Council for fear you should be obstructed in coming off with the Fire and the Tree. With these Strings we stop the Cars of our Enemies, remove every Obstacle, and desire you to come to us as quick as possible.

Three Strings.

We send this Message of ours to our Brothers the Senecas and Cayongas that they may hear it, and make such Additions to it as they shall judge most proper. we desire them to hasten the Messenger and charge him to deliver his

Conmutary. April 1. 1779

I Received Your Letter as Well as those Directed to Gen Clinton
In Answer to which By Aron who was returning to Niagara I Mentioned in
a few words the Sentiments of the Chiefs and Warriors as at that time I
had not Leisure to Mention the Opinions and Determinations of
the Indians By reason the next Morning after the Receipt of these Councils
the night Before Aron returned; the Indians for the most part being in
Liquor.

The same day as Your Message Arrived a Boat in the
name of the French Arrived the purport of which I Inform wherein You will
Discover the Policy of the Rebels in Endeavouring to Insinuate themselves into
favour of the Indians which Makes the point be an open for Government the
more difficult to Confute I first I mentioned to them of the Indian desire You
had of exchanging prisoners with them as Likewise in particular Your most
Interesting Intention of seeing Your family one more whom You had so long
parted with in Order to support Government and Oblige them the Six
nations and that provided: Mr Campbell should Insist or Request that
some who are amongst the Indians should be Giving up in Exchange for
those You Nominated in Especial Manner Your family: that You hope that
they would Assist You therein if agreeable to them at the same time I Captained
Capt Butlers Letter to them Directed to General Clinton to Let them know that
neither You nor Capt Butler spoke positively that it should be done with
regard of the prisoners being Given up only that he would use his Influence
to have it Brought about for the sake of Your family if it was agreeable to
the Chiefs.

In which a Council was Call'd of the Cayugas and Senecas
and Your Messengers the Mohawks Onondago & Onondias which represented the Six nations
first asked who sent this proposal to the rebels to exchange prisoners with them
it was immediately answered by one and all of them that none of them knewed or were
made privy to it untill the answer came from General Clinton to Capt Butlers
Letter on which they asked myself if Capt Butler had showed me or acquainted
me that he purposed to the Rebels to exchange prisoners with them I told them
positively Not or Indeed Sir if I had been made privy to it I would not have told
them at that most critical juncture for in consequence of which they would
immediately have put every prisoner to death: which would further have added
to a Ruine of Blood Secondly say they Your promise was that such prisoners
as we Took was ours according to our rules and Customs as we are
a people which know of exchanging and pray if we deliver our prisoners who
will be able to deliver us living souls for our dead which lost there Live
at fort Stanwin against the Rebels in the next place Consider the French
Message which say there is only a few Took Belonging to the King of
Britain Left to deliver and never perform what they solemnly pretended
to us Brothers.

Some people might imagine what was said before to them was truth
By the French: and we on our Part the Chiefs of the Six Nations
think it highly necessary not to know any thing of the Exchange made
By Capt. Butler and we would that Col. Butler would settle the Affairs with any thing
agreed to but so contrary to the rule of us that we cannot approve of it
But Endeavour to follow every thing promised by us on the List who are recorded
friends to Government by them who will prove it therefore not satisfied that
we do not want to speak to them on no other Terms than bringing
them to a due thought of paying a Respect to them then have offered
Likewise Continued they if that we should Condescend
to deliver any one single one of these prisoners up they would imagine
that we was not able to withstand ^{them} which is all they want our Compliance
for in the Constant Distrust of ^{us} they let us thrusting
to put Both Men Women and Children to the sword to pay us in our own
Coins: and if he should attempt any thing of the Kind we have it in our power
to do the same

I have told them as I mentioned before that it was not
your Request that it should positively take place but only to ask their Opinions -
I have done My Endeavour as
you requested -

I am Sir Your Obedt^h Servant
J^r M^r Montfort

I further Acquaint you that there is Dissent Party, a young and young out
to war and impossible to stop them / some time ago ~~there was~~ the person arrived
who was in Albany, Kanyhaugers son of Rannepaage the printer forced who
informs that he see three different divisions of Rebels passing through Albany
designing as they ^{said} towards Canada / which makes agreeable to the General
Information from York / which makes every Matter appear more plainly
they are a lying then utmost effort to Turn the hearts of the Indians
and on our part I hope as I hitherto mentioned that nothing will be omitted
on our parts to confute these intentions. Provision I have hitherto
mentioned without exception would be a Means of Incouraging them as they
are in great Distress most of the Min-kind will be soon gone from this Village
so as it will make them Women and Children most Miserable without
to some timely Assistance. The rebels Indians and some Brantagons are
constantly employed at Cayuga with Messagers Backwards & forward
from Conawarochan in order to change their Minds. I never during
my tarry here was put to such a pinch as this present for to get the
People to accompany the General's Express for if I had offered 50 dollars a
Person not but would listen thus being all design for War untill I got
the Beara to oblige me whom I promised should be rewarded by you with
15 dollars and receive every Mark of kindness from you for his Compliance
as the river and Creeks are most Terrible high - - -
and the Message of the most serious Attention to forward you will
find by the french speech to the Indians that it agrees with what the
General mentions in regard of the necessity of the Canadian

Your Letter to me Dated March 16.

Mentioning to me that Provided any of those friends to Government
I acquainted you in My Last of should come this way that I would encourage
them from you by telling them they should draw pay from the 24 of Oct.
Last at the Rate of 2 P^{ts} Day all which I will do by giving them all the
Encouragement and Assistance in My Power the Arrival of the General
Express from York assisted me a great deal by confirming what I
had all along said before them as truth. I have explained to the Chiefs the
Contents and meaning of those Letters you sent Me from Detroit
I could by no Means fetch the provisions you acquainted Me with at Gorondago
By reason of a deep snow which fell and ruin and broke Most Excessively
high: so as was it not for my Landlady I could not be able to get any
Even provisions amongst them either for Me, self or any other travelers
as likewise any few things you send Me it waste like wax before
the fire. They will not on the least trifling occasion speak and
a pair of Stockings or a shirt it is Black Times here so as I am almost
sick of it. I return you thanks for acquainting Me of the provision
at Gorondago. I am when opportunity may serve afraid to fetch
it as there is so many families here with their Mouths open I am
in with My Compliments to Co. Bolton and the rest of the Gent^l

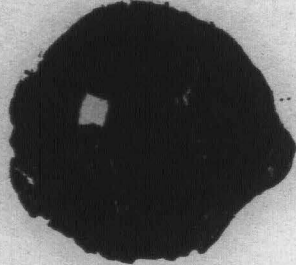
Y^r Obedt Serv^t
J. B. Sturges

I think that it would be highly necessary for
you to be acquainted as speedily as possible if the seven
nations were in the rebel interest or not. J. B. Sturges

I was obliged to kill two Deer for the treaty but the other day as Mr. S. orders
to you will express and another for my self and friends (Whiskey)

If the Beaver you could procure upon the river
to bring me a small bag of good stuff would
be very acceptable as the little you sent me
the Chief never let me rest whilst the
were dry and I had to give them —

Copy of Letter...
Indian Dept.
C. N. 36


Guy Johnson Esq: Colonel of His Majesty's faithful Subjects, and
Allies the Six united Nations of Indians; and their Confederates in North
America, sole Agent and Superintendant of the said Indians and their
Affairs &c.

Whereas the Beaver Ingaio, was formerly appointed
to be a Sagua Chief, in the place of Ingaio deceased, whose name he thereupon assumed, and
was approved of by me, and received my Testimonial thereon, on the 16th Dec: 1774 —
Since which time, he has continued to follow the advice I then gave him, and has acted with
great Fidelity, and Zeal for His Majesty's Service during the present War. I do therefore
give him this Testimonial, in Token of His merits that he may meet with the ^{favorable} and attention
of all His Majesty's Officers; and other His faithful Subjects. — — — — —

By the Colonel's Command —
Rich: Cartwright as Secy

GIVEN under my Hand, & Seal at Arms at
Niagara, the 20th Day of November — 1779. —

G. Johnson

Torgaie's Testimo
niaf. —

GUY JOHNSON Esq^r Colonel of His Majesty's faithful
Subject and Allies, the six united Nations of Indians, and
their Confederates in the Northern parts of North America
and Agent and Superintendant of their Affairs &c.

The Braver Howland Montour is a Chief Warrior, and Man of Consequ-
ence in the Village of Chechqua-go. His Family have been always attached to
His Majesty, and were taken Notice of by the late Sir William Johnson
(His Brother Joseph since dead), attended me to Canada in 1775, and retur-
ned with a Message to his Brothers; soon after they obtained favorable
Testimonials from the late Colonel Caldwell who then commanded at
this Post; and have since, upon all Occasions, remarkably distinguished
themselves as Zealous Partizans in His Majesty's Cause, and have beha-
ved in such a manner as to entitle them to the Notice and regard of his
Majesty's Officers, and all other his faithful Subjects.

Given under my Hand, and Seal at Arms
at Niagara, the 16th Day of January 1780.

G. Johnson

By the Colo's Command
Rich^d. Cartwright as Secy

To
Roch^d Montour

1.
Proceedings with four Indian Chiefs in the Rebel Interest, who came from Albany to hold a Conference with the Six Nations in Feb. 1700.

Feb. 12th late at Night, Col. Johnson received a Note from Capt. Brant who had marched the Day before with a large Party of Indians against the Enemy, Informing him, that he had met with four Rebel Indians, Tigoransera alias Little Abraham and Unaguandahoojie alias Beans, Mohawks, the only disaffected Persons of that Nation; and Shandong & Orandajats, Oneidas, and that he should detain them till Col. Johnson could be notified of their Approach.

Sunday 13th. This Morning Col. Johnson dispatched an Officer and some Men in Quest of the Rebel Indians, with Orders to bring them immediately to him and not suffer them to stop at any of the Indian Bets by the Way. - The Officer returned with them about Noon, and Col. Johnson in the Presence of Major Lornoult and the Officers of the Department, told them, that he little expected, when he left them, that in Violation of all their Promises and Engagements they would have acted as they had done, and differ so widely from the Rest of the Indian Confederacy; that ^{much} a Conduct appeared exceedingly strange to him especially in the Mohawks, whose Nation was, and ever had been particularly attached to the British Government with which all their Treaties and Engagements had been made. -

Little Abraham answered for himself and the rest, that they wished to live in Peace, and had therefore taken Part with neither Side in the Dispute, but had observed a strict Neutrality. He then delivered the Letter N^o 2. in answer to N^o 1. written in consequence of one addressed to Major Butler; both the Letters are annexed. -

After

2-

After having read the Letter, Col. Johnson asked them whether they had come merely to convey him this Letter. - They said no, that it was only Part of their Errand, and that they came to hold a Meeting with the six Nations. - He then asked by whom they were sent, or in whose Name they intended to hold the Meeting. - They answered they were come of their own Accord, and to hold the Meeting in their own Name. - Col. Johnson told them he did not imagine the Indians would be much pleased to see People who had taken Part with their Enemies, and pursued a Conduict so different from all the Rest of the Confederacy; and that he had sent a Guard to conduict them in, for Fear they should feel the Effects of that Resentment which their Behavior must have excited in the Indians now at this Place.

Being asked if they had no other Letters they produced several for Loyalists. &c. from their Families among the Rebels, of no Consequence. -

Col. Johnson then sent for Aaron the Mohawk Chief, & before them gave him a particular Account of every Thing they had said as above; Observing that he and the other Chiefs well knew how little Attention was due to any Thing that People who had behaved as they had done could say; and that at best it would be only some Story to blind and deceive them; and thinking it improper that they should be allowed free Intercourse with the other Indians, in which he was joined by Col. Bolton; Quarters were provided for them in the Fort, to which they were removed in the Evening. - Previous to their going they told Col. Johnson they meant to do Nothing in Private, but would speak what they had to say to the Chiefs in his Presence. - He told them he should always be ready to hear any Thing they had to say to him, and

3,

and sent an Officer to conduct them to their Quarters. -

Monday 14th. Col. Johnson sent for Sayangaraghta the Seneca Chief to the Indian Camp, and after acquainting him with every thing necessary for his Information, desired to know how he thought they should proceed with these Rebel Indians, and said he should be glad to know the Sentiments of the Rest of the Chiefs upon that Head. - Sayangaraghta undertook to consult them upon it, and promised to let Col. Johnson know their Opinions Tomorrow. - In the mean Time it was thought proper to send for, and examine, the Rebel Indians separately, which was accordingly done in the Afternoon, in the Presence of Sayangaraghta. What they said at this Examination is the same, in every ^{thing} material, with what they delivered in their Speeches to the Chiefs at the public Meeting following. -

Thursday 17th. The Chiefs had resolved to give the Rebel Indians a Hearing, but had been so employed in fitting out Parties that they could not meet them till to Day. - In the Afternoon they assembled at Col. Johnson's, and the four Rebel Indians were sent for from the Fort.

Present at the Meeting.

Col. Johnson Super-Intend.
Major Butler
Mr. Dease } Dep. Agents
Capt. Hare
Capt. Towel
Capt. Johnston
Lieut. Hillyer

Lieut. Lottridge
Lieut. Dochstader
Lieut. Rippler
Lieut. Johnston
Rich. Cartwright as Secy
Lewis Clement } Interpreters
Nich. Stevens

When

4.

When they were come and seated, it was signified to them that they might now deliver what they had to say. - Accordingly Abraham the Mohawk got up, and first addressed himself to Col. Johnson as follows. -

Brother Gorah, Uraghquaderha!

We by this Belt entreat that you will give us a patient Hearing while we address ourselves to our Brethren of the Six Nations, on what we think nearly concerns their Interest and Welfare.

Gave a Belt.

He then addressed himself to the Chiefs, in the Name of the Sachems, mentioning each Nation in their Order, according to their usual Forms. -

Brothers!

You have already heard what I have said to your Superintendant in order to make his Mind easy, and I shall now proceed to speak to you about your present Situation in his Presence, which we hope he will have no Objections to. -

Brothers!

We have often observed to you that it was not the Business of us Indians to take Part in any Quarrels between the white People, as they are of one Flesh and Blood, and their Affairs do not concern us. - This has often been told you as well formerly by Government, as since by the Rebels, who desired Nothing but that you would be neuter. If you had observed this prudent Conduct, you would not have been obliged to leave your Country, and abandon those Habitations which must have been so dear to you. -

The disagreeable Situation which a contrary Behavior has brought on.

5.

brought you to, as affected us much, and induced us to come hither at this Time, and we dare say your Superintendant must be also affected at it. - We are now come once more to desire you to lay down your Arms, and be neuter, in which case we can assure you, that the Rebels will allow you to return, and enjoy your Lands and Villages again in Peace and Security. - We the Mohawks and Oneidas, the Heads of the Confederacy while undivided, have remained neuter as we said we would, and ^{we} entreat you to accept of this Offer (as perhaps it is the last that will be made you) and return again to your former Habitations, that the Five Nations may by this Means, be once more what they have been, and that we may again see the Smoke arising from those Villages which are now desolate and abandoned. -

Gave a white Belt with 10 Squares. -

Agorandajato then got up, and spoke in the Name of the Warriors. -

Brothers!

We approve very much of what our Uncles the Sachems have said, which we beg you to hearken to and consider, as the Great Spirit loves People who will attend to good Advice. - We hope you will lay down your Arms and remain neuter, as it is not Our Business to interfere in the Quarrel of other People, and besides you see you cannot be supported, and that no other Nations of Indians act as you have done.

Gave a Belt. -

He then delivered another Speech in the Name of the Women of the Six Nations, desiring them to use their Influence over the Warriors, to make them comply with the Offer now made them.

Gave a large white Belt with Black Lozenges
Abraham

6.

Abraham then got up, and spoke again as follows.
 Brothers!

Being grieved at your distressed Situation, we went down to Philadelphia, and there proposed to sixty six Principles Men assembled at that Place, that they should allow you to return & settle again in your Country, on Condition that you lay down your Arms, and remain neuter. - They readily complied with our Request, and said it was what they had several Times proposed without Effect; they desired us to lose no Time to acquaint you with it, and to desire you to come down as soon as possible if you approve of it; and even though you should not, if any of your Chiefs will come down & speak to them, they promise they shall not be hurt, or detained against their Will.

Gave a white Belt with 4 black Squares. -

After he had ended, Col^d Johnson told them, that, agreeable to their Belt he had permitted them to deliver what they had to say, that the six Nations might have a free Opportunity to answer them, but as he could not take a Belt from People of their Character, to return theirs, and threw it towards them with Contempt. -

Sayangaraghta then told them, he and the other Chiefs had attended to what they had said, and would give them an Answer when they had properly considered of it. - And Liquor being brought, he drank to the Health of the other Indians, omitting the four Rebels as a Mark of his Contempt, and the Meeting broke up. -

Friday-10th The Indians came from their Camp to answer the Rebel Indians, and after some Conversation with Col^d Johnson and Major Butler, communicated the Sub-

-stance

substance of what they intended to say, which was much approved of by Col. Johnson, and accordingly they all assembled at his Quarters in the Evening. -

Present.

Col. Johnson Superintendent
Mr. Dease - Deputy Agent
Captain Powell
Lieut. Lottridge
Lieut. Doekstede

Lieut. Hillyer
Lieut. Young
Lieut. Johnston
Rich. Cartwright as Secy
Lewis Clement } Interpreter
Nich. Stevens }

The Rebel Indians were sent for from the Fort, and Sayangaraghta first addressed himself to them as follows.

Mohawks and Oneidas!

We have considered what you said yesterday, and think it Insolence in such inconsiderable People as you are to tell us what we are to do, or to say to us we ought to build or to settle at this or the other Place; it is great presumption in you to pretend to dictate to the six Nations. We have Land enough and shall choose out such Places as we think proper to settle and reside at. -

Sayangaraghta then sat down & Aaron the Mohawk Chief proceeded.

We the Mohawks, Part of the Oneidas, the Onandagoes, Senecas, Cayugas, Tuscaroras, Nanticokes, Shawanese & Delawarees, with our Superintendant now here assembled, tell you that we will take no Notice of your Message; and think it the highest Presumption in such a Handful as you, who are merely a few Individuals, to Offer to direct our Conduct. - Our first Engagements were entered into with our Father the great King, and his Officers, and we have kept

up

8.

up to them from the Beginning as we always meant to do; and you are mistaken when you say that we stand alone, for our Friends are many, and all the Nations from Canada to the remotest Parts of the West are our Confederates, who follow our Example, and are engaged in the same Cause with us. - We have no Reason to be ashamed of what we have done; we have acted agreeable to our Treaties and Engagements with our Father the King, with whom our Ancestors have for many Ages been connected, & let what will happen we shall never be ashamed to shew our Faces, for we have not been deceivers. - Even suppose the Rebels should get the better of us, it will not be in the Power of our Contemporaries or our Posterity to reproach us or to say that we acted wrong; but should the Rebels be overcome, how will you be able to look any Person in the Face; must you not hide your Heads after acting as you have done, in Violation of your most Solemn Engagements, and in Opposition to the Test of the Confederacy. - You Children, you say you come for the sake of Peace and Quietness, and for the good of the six Nations, but at the same Time bring a false Heart and a flattering Tongue to breed Confusion amongst us. - You say you are Neuters, that you take Part with neither Side, that you love both the King and the Congress, and would have us to do the same; but it is false that you have been Neuter. - Have you not taken Prisoners and Scalps at Oswegatchie? - Did you not fight against us at Fort-Stanwix? - Did you not go out to War against the Kings People at Saratoga, the Highlands and other Places? And did not some of you even join the Rebels who invaded our Country, and assist them to destroy us? And yet you have the Assurance to come, while the Hatchet you employed against us is yet in your Hands, and tell us that you have a great Regard for

9.

for our Peace and welfare.. Deceitful w^t! you tell us Nothing of these shameful Things which you have done, but boast of your good Behaviour. - If you had acknowledged your Faults, if you had asked Pardon for them and promised to behave better for the Future, perhaps we might have taken some Notice of what you said, and recommended you to Favor; but as it appears that you only come to disturb and divide the six Nations, who have all along, and particularly for these last four Years, acted as steady and zealous Friends to the King, we shall take no further Notice of you or your Message. - You imagine you are acting properly, but you deceive yourselves, and you attempt to deceive us. - You are despised and suspected on both Sides, and your Brothers, the Rebels, when they send you on their Errands, keep a watchful Eye over you, and have their Hatchet lifted up against you, ready to strike it into your Heads, if you do not act in every Thing just as they would have you; and the only Reason why they show you any Favor is, because you are mean enough to serve them as Spies upon us. - But we do not act in this Manner, neither are we treated like you. - We serve our Father the King faithfully, and do not even get an ill Look from any of his People, but are all of one Heart and one Mind. This is all we have to say to you, but you must not think of being dismissed Yet: We have several Parties lately gone to War, and if we were to let you go now, we know you would run and acquaint Schuyler of them, in order to shew what useful Spies you are. If we let you go at all, we shall let you know when we think it proper you should set off. - There, take your Belts again, as we shall pay no Regard to them. -

Gavey

10.

Gave back all their Belts.
Col. Johnson and the Chiefs then retired and the Meeting broke up. —

Extract from the Records examined & compared,
Rich^d. Cartwright as Secy.

1.

Copy of a Letter to M^r. Schuyler, Rebel Commissioner
for Indian Affairs.

Niagara Dec. 7th 1779

Sir,

I have lately had a Letter laid before me which was address'd
to Major Butler, my Deputy at this Place, probably in Con-
sequence of some prior Overtures respecting the Exchange of some
Prisoners among the Indians, and proposing a Mode for the same,
with the Particulars of which the Indians have been fully informed.
The Commander in Chief has been likewise advised of it, who will
take such Measures thereon as he thinks necessary. - In the mean
Time I am particularly requested by the Indians to observe, that
(contrary to the unjust Charges made against them) they con-
tinue to use their Prisoners with Clemency & Tenderness, and that
they generously liberated a considerable Number of Persons who fell
into their Hands, as well at Cherry Valley as at other Places, for
which they long since expected an equivalent Number of People, more
especially those Families who are connected with their Friends, &
particularly certain Cayugas, and others who are detained and in
a Situation as irksome to themselves, as it is painful to the
Indian Confederacy, who expect that these People will be restored
to them, if they are to continue that Humanity towards their
Prisoners which they have hitherto generally done, and they have
now sent some Messages from themselves on this Occasion. - A Conduct
so reasonable on your Part from their Representation to me,
requires no Recommendation on mine, and therefore I have
only to add, that I have readily inquired of the proper Persons
respecting the Col. Thurston you mention, but have not been
able to find him in any List of Prisoners, and the Parties
concerned

concerned in the Affair near the Menisink inform me, that to the best of their Recollection he fell in Action, neither do I find any Prisoner here from that Settlement. - I have been particularly in my Inquiries from Principles of Humanity which I never thought inconsistent with the Duties of any Officer conferred by the just Sovereign of a generous Nation.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient Servant
(Signed) G. Johnson, Col. of the United Nat. & Confederate And His Majestys Sole Agent and Superintendant of Indian Affairs.

P. S. Major Butler, who took Prisoners on the Occasion, has informed me that an old Militia Captain, whose Name he thinks was Houghtaling, or Wood, was taken and sent to Canada. -

Mrs Campbell & Family are in Health, and I understand in Readiness to be exchanged for Mrs Butler & only.

A true Copy examined & Compared
Rich^d. Cartwright as Secy

Co 2..

Copy of a Letter from M^r. Schuyler, Rebel Commissioner for Indian Affairs, to Col^l. Johnson.

for:

Albany Jan^y 23. 1700.

Your Dispatch of the 7th Dec^r last was delivered to me this Morning.

The Address as far as it concerns myself, I should have considered with perfect Indifference. — To the sovereign Authority of the United States, whose Officer I have the Honor to be, it is disrespectful; and Nothing but the Cause of Humanity could have justified me in breaking its Seal.

The Indians who have made War upon these States, in Violation of their most Solemn Treaties, are very far from deserving the Communi-uns you hazard in their Favor. — They have not, it is true, destroyed, or carried away all the Inhabitants who have had the Misfortune to fall into their Hands; but that after the unexampled Ravages and Barbarities they have, without Provocation perpetrated, an Officer in high Confidence of what you are pleased to term a generous Nation, should speak of the Clemency and Tenderness of those Indians, is not a little surprising! You will pardon a Reflection which you have drawn forth by awakening a sense of calamities never to be remembered without Horror. — I do not mean to enter into Altercation.

On what Principle it is that the Indians expect an Equivalent for any of the Citizens of these States whom they did not carry into Captivity, I am ignorant, and you have not been pleased to explain. — Some of the unhappy Sufferers at Cherry Valley were left by the commanding Officer of the Party who burned that Village, and an

Equivalent

Equivalent was afterwards claimed for them by Capt. Butler in
your Service. — Such a claim could not have been supported on
any Principle whatever. — Unused to Favor or Clemency from
our Enemies, the Officer commanding in this Department, did
not avail himself of the obvious Objections to this Claim, but as
I am informed, complied with it on the first Application. —
An equal Number of Persons residing here, and whose Retention
had removed to Canada, had Permission to retire; ^{thor} many have
availed themselves of the Indulgence, and others who sat out late
in the Season on their Journey were retarded only by the severity
of the Weather. — The Indians expect nevertheless that their
People should be restored to them as a Condition of their continuing
that Humanity towards their Prisoners, which you seem to
believe they have generally exercised. — You, Sir, will do well
to put them in mind of the Treatment the Mohawks received at
our Hand, when they were seized near Lake George in the Act
of joining what was once your Army. — Let them also be remem-
bered that the same Lenity and Forbearance have been experienced
by such of the Senecas, Cayugas and Onandagoes as were in
our Power, and that we have even permitted the Cayugas to whom
you particularly refer, to proceed as far as Oneida, in the Prospect
that the Exchange I had proposed in my last Letter to Col. Butler
would have been accomplished. — This is a Lesson which should be
taught them for the Honor of the Nation for whose Generosity you are
an Advocate, and for the sake of that Humanity you seem to approve.
While they act under your Superintendence, every private and National
Consideration calls upon you to inculcate Principles of Humanity
to restrain them from Cruelties to Prisoners. — It is not from any
Dread of their Power that these Suggestions are dictated; — The
Barbarities they may commit upon Individuals will be deplored
and

and condemned by all Mankind, and they have a recent Proof that the just Resentment of an injured People, can reach the most remote Corners of their Wilderness. —

Mrs. Butler will be permitted to proceed to Canada with her Family whenever proper Assurances are given that Mrs. Campbell and hers will have the like Indulgence. —

Two of the Mrs. Mc Donalds & Mrs. Treaser have solicited to return to New York or Canada with their Families, their Wish will be complied with, whenever I am advised that Families who have been carried into Captivity from those States will be liberated.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient Servant —

(Signed) Th. Schuyler, President of the Board of Commissioners for Indian Affairs, in the Northern Department.

Col. Guy Johnson Secs.

A true Copy examined & compared.

Rich^d. Cartwright as Secy. —

Proceedings with four Rebel
Indians. Niagara Feb. 7. 1780.
before Col. Guy Johnson His
Majesty's Sole Agent & Superint.
Gen

Col. Johnson's Speech to the ix.
Nation ^{Assembly} on March 20th 1780.

Brothers, Chiefs & Warriors of the ix Nations & their
Confederates here assembled.

I take you all by the Hand and I rejoice to see you
all assembled, to day in good health at this place, which
I found ~~it~~ necessary to kindly some years since for your
Convenience. Having been for these several months past,
occupied in holding Conferences on various Subjects with you,
in fitting out large parties for War and in providing for and
relieving the wants of your people which have been so much
increased by your late losses, and the extraordinary numbers
that have wintered near this place. I ~~say~~ ^{say} therefore that you
a General Meeting, as well for their ~~meeting~~ ^{meeting} as to take all your Chiefs assembled together
tell a ~~case~~ ^{case} of ~~consequence~~ ^{consequence} ~~things~~ ^{things} the entering on publick forms
and General business, which I now intend ~~as the season is~~ ^{to}
advancing to enter, according to the Custom of our Ancestors
in the Season of advancing, and
I request you will particularly attend thereto.

Brothers

Altho I have already ~~for your more speedy Information~~
acquainted most of the Head men with ~~the~~ what I was
Charged by the King ~~and~~ ^{and} the General, yet I with
pleasure take this opportunity of ~~repeating~~ ^{repeating} it to you all, & of
the King himself, of his esteem for your Love and Attachment
to his Government, and that he will pay strict attention
to the several points ~~in~~ which your Chiefs requested me
to lay before his Majesty, namely the redress of abuses in

Trade

SERIES 1, LOT 694

FADED INSCRIPTION IN RED INK, IN MARGIN PAGE 2"-

"LONG BK BELT OF NINE ROWS WITH (..I) & MY SEAL
AT THE END"

Trade & the preventing frauds and encroachments on lands
 as also the Maintenance of True Religion among such of
 your Confederacy as were professors of Christianity, on
 all these points I have the strongest assurances from
 the Great King and His Ministers of State to you, that
 so soon as Tranquillity is restor'd you shall have Met
 Justice and Security; On the latter I have a parchment
 here from his Grace the Lord Albemarle for your better
 Satisfaction, but as all these points depend on the
 restoring of peace and order to this Country, It is need-
 less to say more at present, to Warriors tell that hap-
 py event can take place, which will depend much on
 the Vigor of those engaged in his Majesty's Service,
 and therefore ^{the thing you must continue to exert your efforts} the better you behave, the sooner will
 your Wishes be accomplished. ~~I have also next to~~
 assure you of the Affection of his Majesty's Generals in
 America, of the High esteem in which they hold your
 Conduct, and of the particular Attention which General
 Haldem and ^{which you have had reason to know} pay to your interests, as far as the State
 of the Service will admit, and that altho the difficulties
 notwithstanding all his endeavors which attended the
 Transporting a Timely Supply of provisions ^{prevented}
 in a great measure the generals intentions the last year
 yet he is determined to use every effort for your Support & has
 taken such effectual Measures thereupon, as will best show
 his Approbation of your Conduct his Sense of your Losses &
 his desire to relieve you. ^{I need not repeat} ~~that your~~
 Friend & Col Bolton has always manifested a true inclination to
 serve you as far as in his power, and all other Officers at the North

Brothers I can also

Trade & the preventing frauds and encroachments on lands
 as also the Maintenance of True Religion among such of
 your Confederacy as were professors of Christianity, on
 all these points I have the strongest assurances from
 the Great King and His Ministers of State to you, that
 so soon as Tranquillity is restor'd you shall have Met
 Justice and Security; On the latter I have a parchment
 here from his Grace the Lord Ab of Canterbury for your better
 Satisfaction, but as all these points depend on the
 restoring of peace and order to this Country, It is need-
 less to say more at present, to Warriors tell that hap-
 py event can take place, which will depend much on
 the Vigor of those engaged in his Majesty's Service,
 And therefore ^{the thing expects, a continu'd & vigorous effort} the better you behave, the sooner will
 your Works be accomplished, ^{ABell} I have also next to
 assure you of the Affection of his Majesty's Generals in
 America, of the High esteem in which they hold your
 Conduct, and of the particular Attention which General
 Haldem and pays to your interests, as far as the State
 of the Service will admit, ^{which yourselves have had occasion to know} and that altho the difficulties
 notwithstanding all his endeavors which attended the
 Transporting a Timely Supply of provisions ^{frustrated}
 in a great measure the generals intentions the last year
 yet he is determined to use every effort for your support & has
 taken such effectual Measures thereupon, as will best show
 his Approbation of your Conduct, his Sense of your Losses &
 his desire to relieve you. ^{I need not repeat} ~~that your~~
 Friend & Col Bolton has always manifested a true inclination to
 serve you as far as in his power, and all other Officers at the Post

Brothers I can also

RED INK

of every thing that might interrupt our operations or our
 meetings from Canada to the Sioto, or to the end of your
 true Confederates. - This belt has in it one square mark
 for the King who by his great Officer & by myself your self
 and his Sole Agent with you retain fast hold of one end,
 and are ready to give all ~~you~~ their help, the other end
 will be kept as it has always been by the Western Door
 in which all your Confederates the Shawanese Delawares
 and others whose Hearts & mind are one way with you
 & I have sent to them to remind them of their obligations
 to you, - ~~Let~~ I recommend it therefore to you Brothers to
 enable me to report the contentment of your good conduct
 to the Great King by your keeping fast hold of this
 great belt & do renew and strengthen all the usual
~~best~~ conditions made thereby that it may last ~~to~~ as long
 as the Sun or Moon shall endure

Gave a great Road belt 14 rows Broad of Black
 Wampum with ~~ten~~ White Squares & one of them having
 G-I in black & white Road of 4 rows broad thro' the whole

Brothers.

Having now ~~delivered~~ ^{received} you according to our
 Ancient Customs to which I pay great regard renewed and
 enlarged my Road belt, I shall next consider what is
 necessary to be done farther for the protection of the Road
 and Support of the War in which we are engaged. -
 This, Brothers, is my ^{last} Axebelt which Major Butler
 delivered to you in 1777. I entirely approve of his conduct
 thereon & am highly pleased with yours. I know all your
 Gallant actions I have heard of them all, and I am sensible you
 have suffered much, In token of my Approbation of all which

as I am ~~dispossessed~~ from the Authority in me Voted to extend
 your Alliances & Friendships that all the Brothers of one
 Way of thinking throughout ~~the~~ your Confederacy may
 be enabled to help as it is their duty to do I do confirm what
 is past & with this Great Axe Belt do renew & enlarge and
 sharpen the same so that it may ^{reach far} ~~reach far~~ ^{cut deep} ~~cut deep~~ & that it may
^{on your side you get some strength and your own belt add that to strengthen it}
~~protect our communication~~ that nothing may venture
 to interrupt us without feeling its edge, I hope it will
 always be ready to turn its edge to wherever the Service shall require, & that
 it will be used with a strong arm.

A Great black belt of 16 Rows, with an axe at one
 end, & the letters G.I. at the other,

Brothers, Having so far ~~been~~ complied with the Ancient
 Customs & usages which were formerly ~~practised~~ ^{practised} between our Ancestors
 It still remains that in ~~in~~ order to render more effectual what
 was done we should bid the Warriors to the due observance of
 these Transactions. - I do therefore by this belt Take in all the
 Warriors of the Six Nations & their Confederates, ~~and~~ ^{and} who are of
 one Heart, & one Mind and I do bind them therewith that they
 may be strong & always ready to hear my call & that of their
 True Friends the Chiefs. - recommending it to them to pay
 due regard to the same, by which means we shall be
 Strong and enabled to support every part of the Road

^{15 Rows}
 a large black belt with a white stripe
 & 2 black figures ⁱⁿ white squares with
 the year 1788. -

Thoyashota Hood up with the 4 Beth, Had
 Brother, We have heard with great attention all that you
 have said on these beths & etc. which we find very agreeable
 & we thank you for the same, We shall accordingly to fasten
 take them into consideration and ourselves & give you our
 Ans. of which you shall have timely notice.

Spoken to the Legislature

Jan