

1. Copy of letter from C. Williamson to
the Harrison (Counsellor at Law, N.Y.) @ 1793
money dispute between C.W. & a Mr. Berkeley
in regard to settling some Germans in Amer.

2. Canadian Archives. Colonial Office Records
Q 21 pg. 433

2 comes { Proceedings bet. Indians of 6 Nations &
Sir John Johnson at Niagara - July 1783
req. end of war bet. Eng. & U.S. (incomplete)

3. Genealogy chart of Walter Butler - father of
John - notes on life - home

4. Canadian Archives Q 46 -- 2 Col. Office Records
p. 502
copy re: purchase of Indian land by Phelps & Benton

25 Beverly Street
Rochester, Sept. 6
1930

Mr. Morley B. Turpin
Rochester

Dear Sir

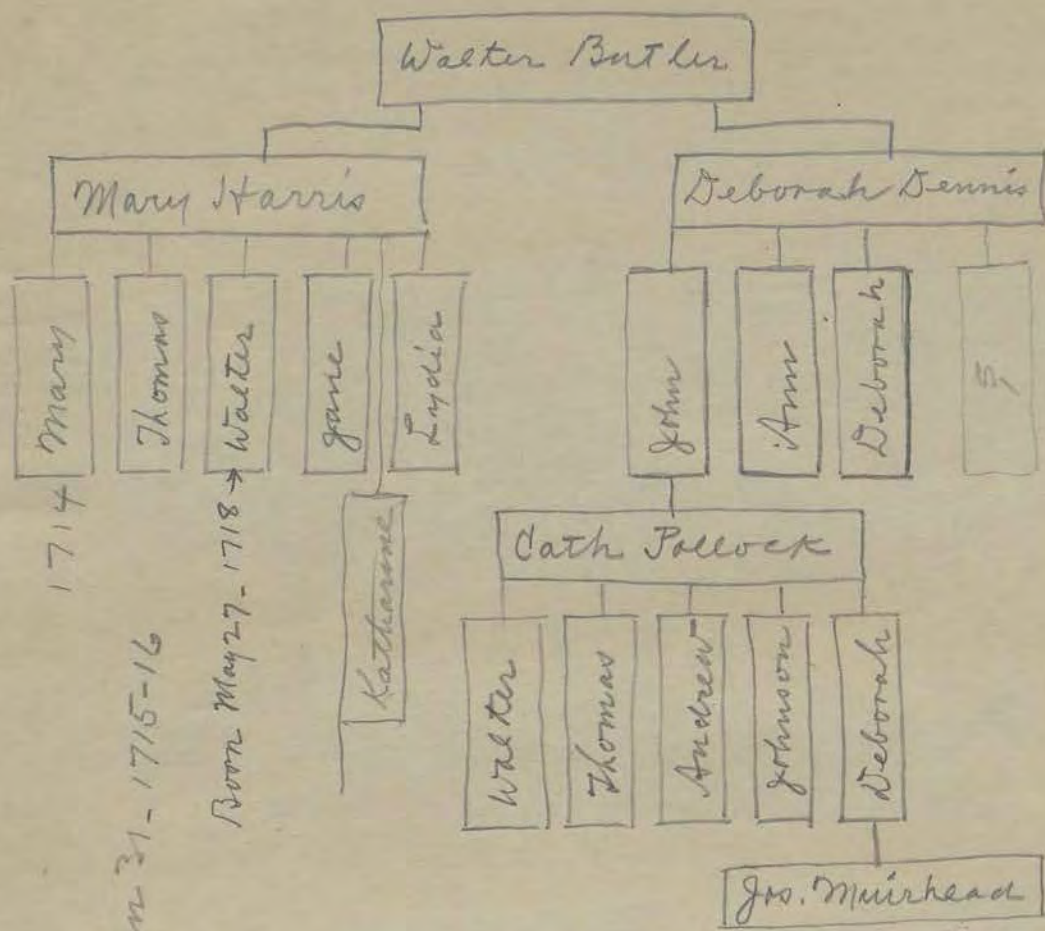
The Times-Union of Aug. 27
contained an article about
William Street.

Several years ago Mr.
William Stone, a descendant
of Enos Stone, told me that
Stone, James, George, William

and Clarissa Streets were
all named for members of
the Stone family. Stone Road
on which he then lived was
also named for them later.

Yours sincerely

(Miss) Marian H. Knight



1714

Jan 31 - 1715-16

Born May 27 - 1718

Katherine

1701
59
164

(1)

Thomas Butler of New London,
Conn died Dec. 20. 1701 aged 59.

(No record of family or marriage
is available)

His son was Lieut. Walter
Butler, father of John Butler of
the Rangers and grandfather
of Walter Butler (2^d)

Walter Butler (1st) married
(No date)
Mary Harris only ^{Child} daughter of
Thomas Harris — They
had six children

Mary born Aug. 29th 1714

Thomas " Jan. 31st 1715-16

Walter " May 27th 1718

2

Jane, Bop. July 10th 1720

Katherine, Bop. Aug. 26th 1722

Lydia Bop. Jan. 10th 1724-5

Mary (Harris) Butler died
sometime .
~~Sometime~~ after 1724-5 ^{for} and
in 1727

Walter Butler ~~married~~, in
1727, Deborah ^(Ely) widow of

Ebenezer Dennis - They had
~~a son, John, who was baptized~~
~~April 28th 1728 -~~

Walter Butler
Deborah Dennis

John
Cath Pollock

Ann
(Douglas)

Deborah
(Truman)

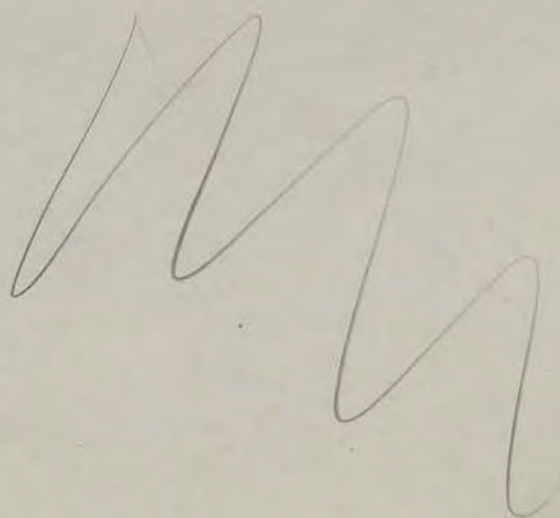
Walter

Deborah

Johnson

Thomas

Andrew



Lieut Colonel Johnson Butler
Commanding 4th Regiment

Lincoln Militia
died on Service

Dec. 1-1812

Son of Colonel Butler

John Butler had sisters
Ann Douglass

Deborah Truman

May 29-1793. Died Catharine
(Nee Pollock) Butler wife of John
Butler Esq - first Judge of
Common Pleas, Lieut - Col of
Old Rangers

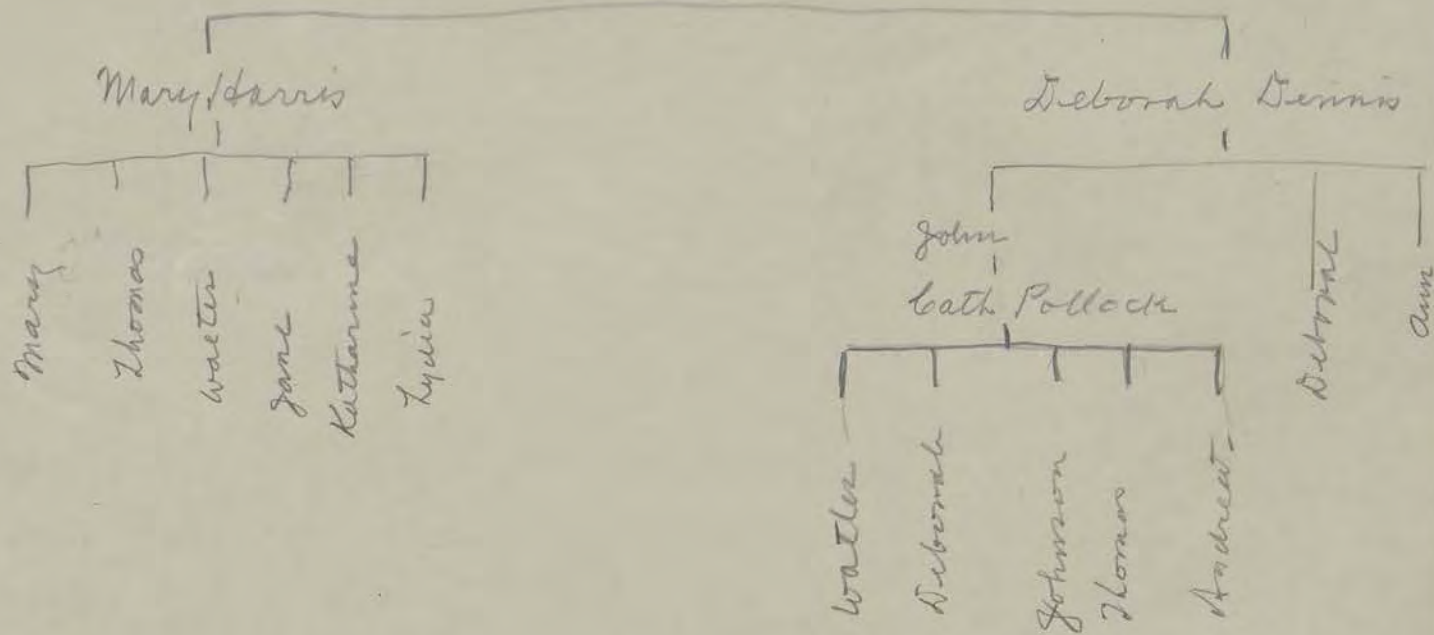
See History Niagara
(Janes)



Capt. John Butler was the son
of Walter Butler and Deborah
Dennis ^{of Lyme Conn} (the ^{born} Ely) widow of
Ebenezer Dennis son of George
Dennis of New London, Conn.

Walter Butler, father of John,
was twice married his first
wife being Mary Harris, only
child of Thomas Harris They had
six children the last, Lydia,
was baptized Jan. 10th 1724-5-

Waeter Butler



New London

Thomas Butler dies Dec 20 1701 - ag 59
had son

Walter Butler married 1st ~~1st~~
Mary Harris - ~~2^d~~ had 6 children
2^d ~~1st~~ 1727 Deborah widow of
Ebenezer Dennis - had one son
John - Baptized April 28th 1728 -

Rev Dennis married Elizabeth
widow of Joshua Raymond they
have one ~~son~~ child Ebenezer
Dennis born Oct 23^d 1682

1st wife Sarah Hough daughter
of Capt John Hough ^(Dennis) - 2^d wife

Deborah Ely of Lyme Conn -
~~1st~~ E. Dennis died 1726 - 1727
his widow married Lieut Walter
Butler -

~~182~~

1727

68

179

✓

Now I do hereby constitute
and appoint my Son Thomas,
The Honorable Robert Hamilton
Esq, The Reverend Robert Addison
and Francis Crooks executors
of this my last will and
testament

In virtue whereof I
have hereunto set my hand and
Seal this second day of October
in the year of our Lord 1795

Signed

John Butler Seal

Signed, Sealed in the presence of
John Powell, Parshall Terry, Joseph
Petrie

Copied from copy of will at
Niagara-on-the-Lake
Historical Society

George Dennis.

The period of his death is uncertain. Previous to 1708. He came to New London from Long Island, and married Elizabeth widow of Joshua Raymond. They had one child, Ebenezer, born Oct. 23d 1682. The first wife of Ebenezer was Sarah, daughter of Capt. John Hough. His second wife was Deborah Ely of Lyme. He died in 1726. In 1727, his widow married Lieut. Walter Butler and removed with him to the Indian frontier in Western New York.

Lieut. Walter Butler, son of Thomas Butler, married Mary only child of Thomas Harris. They had six children, the last was baptized (Lydia) Jan. 10th 1724-5. Lieut. Butler married in 1727, Deborah widow of Ebenezer Dennis and had a son, John, who was baptized April 28th 1728. The name of Walter Butler is associated with the annals of Tryon County, N.Y. as well as with New London. He received a military appointment in the Mohawk Country in 1728, and fourteen years later removed his family thither.

"Nov. 6th 1743. Mrs Butler, wife of Capt. Walter Butler, and her children and family, is gone away by water to New York, in order to go to him in the Northern Countries, above Albany, where he hath been several years Captain of the Forts." Diary of Mr. Hempstead.

Capt. Butler was the ancestor of those Colonels Butler, John and Walter who were associated with the Johnsons as royalists in the commencement of the Revolutionary War.

See History of New London, Conn. F.M. Caulkins. New London, 1895. Pages 342-343. & 351.

Niagara 14th May 1796.

Dear Sir

I have this moment been informed that Colonel
Butler died about nine o'clock last evening.

I am &c.
W. Johnson Chew.

Joseph Chew, Esq.

Stkr. & Clk. I.D.

(m. 13, Surpin, June 1933.)

(Papers of John Graves Simcoe. Vol. 1V. P. 265.)

May 13th 1796 was Friday. (Leap Year.)

On the stone road leading into Niagara-on-the-Lake from the West and about four hundred yards east of the famous old Butler's Burying Ground, stands a quaint old house set well back.

To history lovers this is a place of much interest as it is said to be the oldest house contiguous to Niagara and was the residence of Colonel John Butler, the Commanding Officer of Butler's Rangers. When Niagara was burned, being beyond the confines of the Village, it escaped and when undergoing repairs recently it was found that ceiling and walls were literally riddled with bullet holes.

Through the panelled door which is still adorned with the ancient knocker, one enters a square hall where rooms on either side contain old fireplaces with the original fire dogs and andirons. Behind the door, placed high, are wooden pegs, where probably the doughty Colonel hung his garments and above the door a beautiful wooden lintel overhangs.

In the livingroom, on either side of the old fireplace are black walnut alcoves, one containing the wine cabinet and the other the desk of Colonel Butler.

The spacious grounds are full of old time beauty, with trees of a century of growth, a meandering tiny stream that trickles under rustic bridges, and poppies, larkspur and Sweet William bring fragrance of long ago days.

The place has recently been purchased by Miss Helen Macfarlane who has converted it into a delightful tea garden, and while the charming chatelaine serves "the cup that cheers", one may sit on the flag terrace beneath ancient trees whose murmurings bring to mind tales of the famous United Empire Loyalist to whose memory a tablet placed in St. Marks Church reads thus:-

"Fear God and honour the King. In Memory of Colonel John Butler, His Majesty's Commissioner for Indian affairs, born in New London, Connecticut, 1728. His life was spent honourably in the service of the Crown. In the war with France for the conquest of Canada, he was distinguished at the Battle of Lake George, September 1755, at the siege of Fort Niagara and its capitalization July 25th 1759. In the war of 1776 he took up arms in defense of the unity of the Empire and raised and commanded the Royal American Regiment of Butler's Rangers. A sincere Christian as well as a brave soldier, he was one of the founders and the first patron of this Church. He died at Niagara, May 1796, and is interred in the family burying ground near this Town."

currency. Mr Street said that would do for their parts for the first payment, and that he and Barton would endeavor to hold fourteen shares in Phelps purchase, as in a short time these lands must be very valuable. Powell and he gave the three hundred pounds, being easily persuaded out of their money, for which they have had no satisfaction, and were as much deceived in parting with it, as the Indians were in parting with their country.

The 19th of Septem. he received a letter from Colo. Butler informing him of the death of Mr Stevens, and that he had recommended him to Sir John Johnson as a proper person to succeed him as interpreter to the Six Nations, and desired him to come to Niagara as soon as he could, which he did. After being there a few days, he spoke to Col. Hunter about those who had lands in Phelps and Bentons Purchase. Colo. Hunter said he saw no impropriety in holding lands in the States, but advised him to make the most of them as soon as he could. He then enquired of Mr Street the quantity of land in a share, as he was to have one. Street said about twenty thousand acres. He then said, as he was in the service of the government, he did not think it proper for him to hold these lands and wished Mr Street would sell them for him. Mr Street answered that he and Col. Butler had more lands than they could dispose of. He then found out that the only money that had been paid to Phelps was his and Powells L- 300, for which they have nothing to show that they have any share or right to any part of the before mentioned lands, or has he concerned himself about them since.

The Senecas, Onondagas and Cayugas have lately given one Allen a township on the Genesee river for his two children he had by an Indian woman, for which he was to give the Indians sixty bushels of Indian corn annually. The deed was left with Col. Butler until Allen complies with his agreement.

Endorsed, 166
In Lord Dorchesters
to Mr Greenville, No/ 56.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

Q 44-2.

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS,

Page 302.

Nassau, 30th. August, 1790.

I have good reason to believe that much to my prejudice has been reported to his Excellency Lord Dorchester, but what it may be I have not as yet been able to learn. I must own I feel myself much hurt that anything of that nature should be surmised by his Lordship, without giving me an opportunity of exculpating myself. Some time ago you wrote me, and referred me to his Lordship, who would answer my letter fully, but as yet I have not had the honor of receiving it.

From some hints that have been given me, I am inclined to believe that I have been blamed on account of the sales of the Six Nation country to the Americans. I must now beg leave by anticipation, to disprove any thing that may have been said on that subject, and am happy I can now call upon you as a voucher for the greatest part of what I know of the transactions.

In July of the year 1754, at the Black Rock, the Governor of New York invited the Six Nations Indians (then in council) to a council at Fort Stanwix, in order, as he said, to settle their matters to their mutual interest.

The chiefs of the different nations being met, sent for me, and advised with me on the propriety of attending the meeting proposed. My advice to them was, that I thought they should attend, in order to make peace with them, and thought it was their interest to appoint such chiefs as were thought most proper to settle their matters; otherways, they might be imposed on by the Americans. I named five, who I thought the most intelligent, as well as being most attached to our interest, viz, Captain Joseph Brant, Captain Abel the Spruce Carrier, Schekess Schenada, or through the river Ontario the Fishers Nevi Coyajs. The Indians appearing very uneasy, they told me that the King their Father had ceded the whole of their country to the Americans, and had not named them. I told them that at this meeting they would be made acquainted, if that was the case, and whether the Americans would demand their country. If the Americans should propose making a purchase of it, it would convince the Indians that the right of soil was understood to belong to them (the Indians), and of course a right to sell or not as they

thought proper. A few days after this meeting, I left this on my way to England. The whole of the above you was acquainted with at the time. This is all I recollect relative to lands, that passed prior to my leaving this.

In May, 1786, I returned from England to Quebec. Lieut. Governor Hope then showed me the proceedings of some councils that had been held and said that another was soon to take place. That the Indians had then sold great part of their lands, and that the Americans was gaining over the Indians to their interest, very fast, and mentioned some things else to that purport, which at present I do not recollect, after which I believe he sent for you to Quebec, but what passed between you and the Governor, your recollection may not now assist you in.

Governor Hope informed me I was immediately to proceed to Niagara, and that the Superintendent would give me the necessary orders, but on my arrival at Montreal, you said you thought it unnecessary, except I myself choosed it. I mentioned this to the Governor, and received an answer; thinking it was very necessary for me to go to Niagara, and that he should not think me neglectfull, I showed you his letter, and said that I intended setting off next day. I arrived here in the month of August, 1786, when I found a meeting had taken place at Canadasaga. I set off immediately for Buffalo Creek, and overtook Captain Brant at Fort Erie, on his way to Detroit. I then made every enquiry to find out the purport of the meeting and was told that the Americans had called a council; that they had sent some chief warriors to cover up the Fire till another time, which they supposed was done. A few days after, some accounts were brought, that their whole country was sold to the Americans, by some of their young people, without the consent of the chiefs. This intelligence gave great uneasiness to the Indians at Buffalo Creek, &c. I endeavored to make the Indians as easy as possible until the chief warriors, that they had sent to cover up the Fire, returned. For the space of fourteen days after my arrival, I heard nothing of their return, when I was shown some papers, signed by four or five proprietors, that the Six Nation Indians had leased the whole of their country to Mr Livingston and his associates, for nine hundred and ninety-nine years, paying an annual rent of one thousand dollars. When some of the Indians returned, they brought Mr Livingston and his associates, note and copy of the lease, and some other papers which I then sent to you, together with every other information that came to my knowledge. I then

advised them not to allow any surveys to be made, nor any person to settle any part of their country, but to acquaint their Governor of the advantage that had been taken, which I believe they did, and received a letter and advertisement from the Governor, advising them not to let the lessees survey or settle, but that every justice should be done them. Those papers I also sent you at the time. Mr Livingston had in this lease included the lands ceded to the Massachusetts State, who had agreed with Messrs. Phillips and Gorham for the same. On Mr Phillips his arrival at Canadasaga, he found the Indians disputed the sale, after which, with some more gentlemen, he came to Niagara. I waited on Lieut. Col. Hunter and told him their business. After a consultation between him and I, we were of opinion by the Indians selling part of their country to Messrs. Phillips and Gorham, it might be the means of getting the lease invalidated. We accordingly told them if their intentions were fair, they ought to call a council at Buffalo Creek, and when the Indian council fire was kindled in the presence of the whole of the Six Nations Indians, to make their proposals, and if agreed to, would be looked upon as binding from the Indians, but that any transactions at any of their present meetings with a few young men, would never be esteemed fair or binding, nor would they ever allow a settlement to take place in their country by any such clandestine purchase. This being told Mr Phelps, he called a council at their fire.

The chiefs, previous to their council, came to Col. Hunter and myself for our advice and desired we would attend their intended council. Colonel Hunter declined, but said I should attend. I then asked that two or three of the officers of the garrison should accompany me and be present at the meeting to represent him. He agreed to this and then ordered Lieuts. Douglas and Vassall of the 65th. Regt. to accompany me, who were present during the whole treaty, at which time the lease taken by Livingston was made void and a new one taken for that part of the Indian country that lay within the State of New York, and that on condition that they should obtain the pre-emption right from that State, otherways to be void.

Mr Phillips got a deed for all the lands east of the Genesee river as far as claimed by the Massachusetts State, and that on west of said river was released to the Six Nation Indians free of all claims or

pretensions whatever. After the deeds were fully explained to the whole of the Six Nations by Captain Brant several times, and the consideration money agreed upon, they signed the deeds in presence of four officers and twenty or thirty other persons, and appeared to be fully satisfied, except that they had forgot to reserve a tract of land left to me by Sarahawana a Seneca chief who died during the time I was in England, but on its being mentioned to Mr Phelps, he agreed to give me twenty thousand acres in lieu of it, and if that was not sufficient, I might have another share, paying proportion of the first cost. I then told him I wanted no more than would accomodate some friends I had in the States of Connecticut and desired him to give them deeds for twenty thousand acres, which he promised to do, and has since granted them part, with his obligation for the remainder. At that time, he, the said Mr Phelps, then made an offer to a number of British subjects then there, of becoming proprietors, paying proportion of the first cost, which was excepted of Mr Street and sundry other persons, but nothing was agreed upon by me, or any other subject, until Lieut. Colonel Hunter's opinion was asked, who said could see no impropriety in it, but added that the sooner we got rid of it, the better. The whole of the above was done after Mr Phelps had obtained his deeds. Thus substantially have I narrated facts and given you an account of every thing I know of all these transactions, and had time permitted at present, should have still given you more corroborating evidence by the affidavit of different people acquainted with every circumstance I have advanced, and who can prove far from advising the Indians to dispose of their lands, was not made acquainted with the sales, for a day or two after it was made.

As you have promised to transmit this to his Lordship, I could wish to anticipate every change that could be brought against me. Among other things which I have heard suggested since your arrival here, and what I understand has come to his Lordship's ear, I must beg leave to answer to, viz, 1- An opinion or report that has got abroad of my intention of leaving this country, and alienating myself from the interest of Government; at such an idea, I spurn with indignation and contradict any such assertion most flatly. Who could harbour such a thought after a moment's reflection? ! ! ! !

From my youth to this time, my services have been employed, and I trust not unacceptably, in the interest of the British Government, whose mildness and benignity I have often experienced. At my advanced age, and in this settlement whose interest and welfare I have had much at heart, little did I imagine that the shafts of calumny should have been pointed at me, and misrepresented matters so egregiously to his Lordship, in the full assurance of the probity of my intention.

I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient & humble servant,
John Butler.

To

Sir John Johnson
Superind. &
Inspector Genl.
Of Indian Affairs.

Endorsed, 169.

In Lord Dorchester's
To Mr Greeville, No. 56.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

Q 46--2.

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS.

Page 498.

Nassau 30th August, 1790.

Sir:-

Some time in the month of May, 1788, being at Buffalo Creek at a council held with the Indians and Americans in order to make a purchase of part of their country, Mr William Johnstone came up to Lieut. Col. Butler and told him that they must be on their guard what they did say, as there was a certain person then present who had come as a spy and had no other business but to hear and get what information he could. A short time after that, the same evening, Col. Butler said that this was the second or third time that the Indians had asked him to their councils, in order to be a witness to the sale of their lands, and that some of them were against it, and had still put it off, but he had told them at that time that the spoon and dish were offered them, and if they did not accept of it and feed themselves, that he would not attend any of their calls after that time. Some time in the fall 1788, I met Col. Butler in the lane near the ferry-house opposite Niagara, when he asked me if I had been spoke to by Mr Street to go upon a survey at or near the Genesee river. I told him that I had, but that I was in employ here by Mr Frey, and that I thought it would hurt my interest by it. He told me it was nothing to him, only that Mr Barton had left a negroe with him, and desired him to send him along as a hand, and if I went he would be glad to know. A few days after this I saw Mr Street, who asked again whether I would go on a survey for him. He said that they wanted me to go and begin at the mouth of the Genesee river, and take the course of it, and lay it out in Townships, beginning at the mouth of the said river. I told him as before, (to Colo. Butler) and he said that he had mentioned it to Lieut. Col. Hunter, and he said that I might use my pleasure. This is nearly as I can recollect what passed.

I am, Sir,

Yours, &c., &c.

Augustus Jones.

Endorsed 18 e

In Lord Dorchester's to
Mr Greeville, No. 56.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

Q 46--2.

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS,

Page 491.

Nassau 28th August, 1790.

Sir;--

Permit me to offer for your perusal a few minutes I have taken since the purchase made by some Americans of part of the Six Nation country, being informed by Doctor Kerr that you are desirous of gaining every information you can relative thereto; as an officer and inhabitant of this District, I think it a duty incumbent to make mention of every circumstance that has fallen within my knowledge.

I stly. Some time in June or July, 1788, I accidentally met with a copy of a letter from Samuel Street, Esq., (of Nassau) to the principals of the Land Company acknowledging the receipt of their letters by Major Scott, Mr Shaw and Capt. Bartell, thanking them for admitting him amidst the number of intended proprietors, and as a proprietor, begs leave to give his advice, which was, that it would be well worth while to take in with them as proprietors, some people of this settlement, such as he could point out, and even to allow some of them a share gratis, who from their influence with the Indians, would be able to make the purchase with more ease, and not that only, but would, from being amongst them, in time be able to prevail upon them to move over to those lands granted them by government at the Grand river, by which means a purchase of the rest would be the more easily effected.

This is as nearly the purport of the letter as I can now recollect, having a few days after I met with it, sent it by Doctor Wright to Lieut. Col. Hunter, then our Commandant.

2ndly. Augustus Jones (acting surveyor) was at Buffaloe Creek the time of the treaty, who mentions that he heard Col. Butler say that the dish was now offered them (the Indians); if they did not feed themselves it was their own faults. That they before called upon him to witness their bargains; if they did not now determine, he should not attend again, as they had so often made a fool of him. That he heard William Johnson (now interpreter) tell Col. Butler that they should be cautious

how they acted, as he believed there were people there as spies upon their actions; after they completed their purchase, Captain Powell told him the reason they gave so high a price for the tract they had purchased, was in order to get a settlement; afterwards he was in expectation the remainder of the country would fall at a lower price, and further mentions that (Street) at different times wanted him to go out to survey the lands they had purchased, and that Colo. Butler afterwards asked him if Street had spoke to him about going out, (who mentioned he had) and if he intended it or not, when he told him (Butler) that he did not, who again made answer that it was nothing to him, only as a negroe man of Mr Barton's was at his house, and he thought if he did go he might take him as a hand with him.

3rdly. Mr Sheehan, acting secretary, and nephew to Col. Butler, mentioned (the time I cannot exactly remember), that Col. Butler had a pre-emption right from Phelps and Gorham, who had purchased from Congress, with the right of pre-emption and that the Country adjoining to Niagara would be his (Butler's) as no other person's purchase would be valid.

4thly. Some time in June, 1790, was informed by Timothy Murphy, one of those people who had a share in the purchase, that Colonel Butler had a very large share.

5thly. Was informed by Major Tice that some of Colonel Butler's relations in the United States held his (Butler's) obligation for a considerable sum of money, which he paid by transferring part of these lands purchased from the Six Nations.

6thly. Being in William Johnston's 16th August, 1790, I mentioned the circumstance of finding the letter first mentioned, who then told me how him and Captain Powell came to be admitted as proprietors, was thro' Street's asking them what sum of hard money they had, if any; that they had best put it in and take a share; accordingly they advanced L 300 N. York currency, at the same time mentioned that he was going from the place; the treaty was held to his trading house and was followed by Samuel Street, who asked him if he did not wish to have a share of the lands they had purchased. He replied he could not give an answer until he had seen Colonel Butler, which was soon after; and he then mentioned to him Street's proposal, and his advice was by all means to take a share if he could get it cheap, as he meant to take a share for himself and friends in the United States.

Previous to this, Mr Johnston told me that Mr Phelps gave him to understand that he would give him a share in case he would not endeavor to prevent the purchase taking place.

If any part of the above proves worthy your notice, I can at any time if called upon, with safety declare as to the truth of my assertions, and produce the people mentioned, who, I daresay, must corroborate the same.

I am, with every respect,

Your most obedient

and

Very humble servant,

Ralfe Clinch.

Sir John Johnston, Bart.,

Navy Hall.

Endorsed 16 C

In Lord Dorchester's to

Mr Greeville No. 56.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

Q 46--2.

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS.

Page 453.

Niagara 18th May, 1790.

Sir;-

Agreeable to my promise to you this morning, I send you an account as far as has come to my knowledge, respecting persons concerned in the purchases made of lands in the Indian country. Messrs. Oliver Phelps & Co. of the State of Massachusetts, had made a purchase from the Five Nations some time in the month of July, 1788, of a large tract of land, at which time Mr Phelps offered a part of that tract, by paying the same that he did for it, to some inhabitants of this place, which was accepted and went by the name of the Niagara Company, but thinking it improper to hold those lands, I believe most of them gave up their claim to them except Mr Street and Mr Barton, who I believe are now the only persons that claim lands in that country. In order to accommodate some of my relations in the New England States, I got a deed from them from Mr Phelps for 10,000 acres, with a promise of 10,000 more to be given them hereafter. The Five Nations had lately made Sir John Johnson and myself a present of a tract of land, for the purpose of accommodating our friends in the States, but Sir John having refused it, I have also done the same and given them back the conveyance (they had given us) in the presence of Doctor Kerr and Mr Wm. Johnston, the interpreter.

I had no other view in accepting that present than to give it to my friends in the States; and Lt. Colo. Hunter told me when he was here that he saw no impropriety in my getting lands from Mr Phelps for that purpose.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, and
most humble servant,
John Butler.

Lt. Colonel Harris,

Commanding the Upper Posts.

P.S. As Mr Street is the acting person in this business, he will on his return be able to inform you more particular than I can.

Endorsed, 14 b,

In Lord Dorchester's to
Mr Greeville No. 56.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

Q 46--2.

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS,

Page 451.

Niagara 26th May, 1790.

Sir;--

In my letter of the 26th of February last, I acquainted you Lieut. Coll. Butler had shown me a sketch of a tract of land to the eastward of this place, which he meant to take up. I expressed my disapprobation, and represented the impropriety of it to him, notwithstanding which the business was transacted, and a deed obtained from the Indians. This deed has been given up within these few days.

The inclosed I received from Colo. Butler in answer to some questions asked him relative to lands held in the States.

The true state of the case I have reason to believe is this;- a set of people call'd the Niagara Company have obtained land in the States (near Genesee) to the amount of fourteen shares, each share consisting of twenty-two thousand acres, and the members of the above Company, I am informed, are Messrs. Lt. Col. Butler, Capt. Powell, Lieuts. Johnson and Dockstader, Street, Barton, from the States (residing when here at Mr Street's) and Murphy the blacksmith, and I have understood the lands were to be held in the names of others, under title from Phelps, Gorham & Co..

When Mr Street went from this, he told me it was to bring in his property, mostly cattle, and asked me if it would be convenient to take them for the garrison, in exchange for salt, provisions;- his principal errand, I believe, is the land jobbing business above mentioned.

Mr Frey, notwithstanding his assurances to me of returning as early in the spring as possible, has wrote word to his creditors that he means to remain where he is.

I have the honor to be,
with great regard,
Your most obedt.
humble servt.,

Jne. Adolphus. Harris,
Lt. Col. Comg. Upper Posts.

Capt. LeMaistre,
M. B. &c..

Endorsed 14 a,
In Lord Dorchester's to
Mr Greville No. 56.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

Q 46-2

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS.

Page 496.

Nassau 28th August, 1790.

Sir;-

Having reason to suppose that Government wishes to get information respecting the late purchase of the Six Nations Country, and the proprietors; as I am one of these people called the Six Nations, wish to give you every information in my power, as the proceedings were in my opinion, not considered with either honor or justice, from my knowledge of the weakness of numbers of us, who think whatever an agent recommends ought to be complied with, and as our agent Col. Butler and some half pay officers, adherents of his, interested in the purchase, inclined towards the American commissioners, at the treaty when the purchase was made, as an Indian I am highly of opinion that if matters are fully explained, it will be made appear that those from whom the purchase was made were swayed by those white men in power in our department. The agent being the person placed over us by Government, is the man we look up to for advice when in critical situations, and I should think would lay private interest aside when the interest of numbers, and those of the people for whom he receives his salary are at the same time interested; however I am sorry to think it has not been the case.

Colo. Butler, our agent mentioned to me that Mr Phelps, who is at the head of the Land Jobbing Company, had been at this place and he believed meant to deal fairly, and was duly authorized to make the purchase, and told him that if his (Phelp's) intention was really just, he had no doubt but that I could assist him- and at the treaty frequently said that the depth of twenty or thirty miles would be as much as we would wish to reserve, and if we did not now sell, that Phelps would go and join with Livingston & Co., by which we would lose our country by force. I shall at any time if called upon, be ready to explain matters fully, till when,

I have the honor to be

Your most obedient humble servant,

Jos. Brant.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

Q 50--1

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS.

Page 128.

Extract of a letter from Mr
Samuel Street, dated,-
Grand River,
4th March, 1791.

"As agent for the following persons in this settlement, viz; John Powell, William Johnston, Timothy Murphy, Mr Butler, Sheehan and Street and Butler, and some relations of mine in the States, I purchased fifteen shares or fifteen one hundred and twentieth parts of the Genesee purchase from Mr Phelps at the time he treated with the Indians at Buffalo Creek for the lands in July, 1788. Sheehan and Murphy were included without their knowledge in order to assist them in extricating themselves from some heavy debts with which they were burthened, as were several others who were rejected. Colo. Butler had two like shares allowed him, said to be in consequence of some lands promised him by Theoquanda, which lay within the purchase, one of which he gave to the Compa., and the other to his brothers children in New England. My intentions were and still are to sell off as soon as possible, which I supposed might be done to much better account than has yet appeared, for which purpose I authorized a Mr Barton to manage the business, who not succeeding to my expectation, has obliged me to take more of the management on my own hands than I intended.

The unsettled state of my affairs here prevents me from going into business again till I have collected and discharged my debts, therefore I proposed attending to that business this summer, in hopes of bringing it to a period. Many have been the reports which have circulated to my disadvantage no doubt, and I have found no friend candid enough to tell me particularly what they are, to give me an opportunity of clearing them up."

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

Indorsed 18,

In Lord Dorchester's to
Lord Greenville, No. 4,
of the 14 June, 1791.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

Q 46--2.

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS,

Page 479.

William Johnstone, interpreter at Niagara for the Six Nations; his account of the transactions with respect to the sale of the Indian lands.

Mr. Livingston and Doctor Benton sent a message to the Six Nations inviting the principal chiefs to their fire place.

Old Smoake and the chiefs sent the farmers brother, a Seneca chief, and two or three of each nation, to let Livingston and Benton know the season was too far advanced for them to attend the meeting, and many of the principal chiefs were absent; that those warriors now sent were to cover over the fire until the spring, and not to enter on any business whatever.

Mr. Livingston and Benton had said in their speech they were empowered by Congress to hold a treaty with the Indians of the Six Nations at Canadadaga.

Several of the warriors sent by Smoake to cover up the fire, returned from Canadadaga and informed him and the chiefs that Livingston and Benton had taken a lease for the whole Indian country; that when they signed the paper, they were told it contained speeches that passed between them and an agreement to see each other in the spring at that place; there is every reason to suppose Abael and a few others were bribed to get the lease signed.

Old Smoake being unwell and not able to do business at this time, the chiefs applied to Colonel Butler for advice, as they heard all their country was sold by a few young men, which sale they did not think legal.

Livingston and Benton being to pay for the country sold in the spring at Canadadaga, the chiefs wished Colonel Butler to be there at that time, as they were determined not to agree to the sale or to part with their country. Colonel Butler said everything in his power should be done to assist them, but he could not see what steps to take in order to recover the country, as they had given a lease for the whole of it; that if he could think of anything proper to be done, he would let them know. He then said there was one thing he thought of that might serve them, which was for the chiefs to give him and some other persons a lease of the country and date it before the date of that given to Livingston and

Benton. He desired them to consider of it and if they agreed to do it they might keep the land or he would keep it for them. The chiefs readily agreed to this and in March he, Capt. Powell and Mr. Murphy got the lease signed by the chiefs at Buffalo Creek, which Colonel Butler said was the only thing that could serve them.

The Six Nations had a general meeting at Buffalo Creek and sent for Colonel Butler to be present, as they had received a message from Governor Clinton inviting them to a meeting at Fort Stanwix. Colonel Butler and Lieut. Vassall of the 65th Regiment came to the meeting, when the chiefs agreed to send a message to Governor Clinton, Mr. Livingston and Benton, inviting them to their fire place at Buffalo Creek, where the business of the Six Nations was done: the chiefs then insisted on his going with them to Canasadaga to take Messrs. Livingston and Benton by the hand and lead them to Buffalo Creek, the fire place of the Six Nations. He told the chiefs he could not do this without leave of the commanding officer, and advising Colonel Butler of it, and it was inconvenient for him. The chiefs still insisted on his going and some of them went to Niagara and acquainted Col. Hunter and Col. Butler that were they desirous, he should go with them, which they approved of.

In May he left Buffalo Creek with three or four chiefs of each nation of Senecas, Onondagas and Cayugas. On the way he strongly recommended it to the chiefs not to accept of any present from Livingston or Benton, but only deliver their messages, get an answer and return. The chiefs requested he would use his endeavors to prevail on Livingston and Benton to go with them to Buffalo Creek, where the business could be settled in presence of all the Six Nations.

In June they arrived at Canasadaga, when the chiefs delivered their message to Doctor Benton and Mr. Gilbert, Livingstone not being there. Benton said he did not intend to comply with the chiefs request, not thinking himself safe in going to Buffalo Creek, and their agreement with the Six Nations was to pay them at Canasadaga, and as there was a sufficient number of Indians present, he would pay them for the country they had purchased. He then told the Doctor he thought the lease was not legal which they had taken for the Indian country, as not one principal chief had signed it, and that those who had were not authorized to do it. That he thought for their own safety they should go to Buffalo Creek and have the matter settled, as the Indians in general were greatly

dissatisfied, and that any agreement he might make there would be by the consent of the whole of the Six Nations. Benton then said he was informed some gentlemen at Niagara would do all in their power to prevent the Indians parting with their country, which was one reason he declined going to Buffalo Creek. He said he knew nothing of this, and that the Indians could act as they thought proper respecting the sale of the lands; that he could see no danger in their going to Buffalo Creek.

Mr. Barton, Benton and Gilbert then had a long conference together, and the next morning Benton and Gilbert told him they had agreed to go to Buffalo Creek and that Doctor Kirtland would go with them. The third day after they left Canasadaga, and about twelve miles from it, met Mr Phips and Mr Lee, who had been at Niagara and were returning. Phips told Benton he was glad to see him, and wished no time might be lost in their going to Buffalo Creek, where they arrived the _____ of June. He left them in the Indian village and went to his trading house at the mouth of the Creek, where Colonel Butler arrived in a few days and desired him to go with him to the village, which he did.

The first business the chiefs entered upon was an inquiry about the lease taken by Livingstone and Benton, and desired to see all the papers, and have a particular account of what passed at Canasadaga at that time.

Mr Phelps let the Indians see the authority he had to treat with them, having purchased from the State of Massachusetts Bay whatever claim or pretensions they had for making purchases from the Indians, and his business was now to treat with the Six Nations for a sale of land. Benton then told the chiefs if they agreed to dispose of a part of their country, he would give up the lease he had taken at Canasadaga. They answered that they would ~~consult among~~ themselves. Colonel Butler then gave up the lease, which Powell, Murphy and he had got the Indians to give by the Colonels advice. The chiefs were consulting four or five days, but could not agree in opinion. The Seneca chiefs desired to have Colonel Butlers advice about parting with their land. He said they had not asked it before, which he thought they should have done, or why did they send for him. That it now appeared to him it would be best for them to part with some part of their country, as the lease they had given to Livingstone and Benton would not be delivered up if they refused it, and Phelps said he would join Livingstone and Benton; that it was better for them to have some part of the country than to part with the whole; that he now gave his advice and the chiefs might do as they pleased.

The chiefs frequently asked his advice. He said he was only a trader among them; that he wished they and the people of the United States might settle the business peaceably. Three or four days more passed in consultations when the Seneca chief sent for him and told him they had been all night with Phelps, Benton, Gilbert and Lee; that they insisted on having the country to the Genesee river, two miles below the Cananagaras village on that river and about _____ miles from Lake Ontario; then to cross the river two miles below _____ village, a west course twelve miles distance from the river, until it came to Lake Ontario, and then two miles below Cananagaras village up the Genesee, was to be the line between Mr Phelps and the Six Nations. That they had not informed the other nations of it, as they intended first to speak to Colonel Butler and then inform the other chiefs of it, and desired him to let Colo. Butler know they wished to see and consult him. When the Seneca chiefs informed Col. Butler of it, he said he was glad they were like to agree with Phelps & Co.; that they had been long about it, and he did not think they would have parted with so much of the country. The chiefs said it was not in their power to settle the affair in any other way.

The _____ June the whole of the Six Nations agreed to give Phelps and Benton a lease of the country according to the before mentioned bounds. Col. Butler, Captain Brant and Mr Kirtland were appointed by the chiefs to fix the price for the country sold. Phelps was to pay _____ Dollars at the first payment and five hundred yearly. Bentons first payment was to be _____ Dollars and one

thousand dollars every year. The chiefs signed the lease, and Colonel Butler and Kirtland signed as witnesses. As he was leaving the village, Mr Street told him that Mr Phelps wanted to see him. When Phelps and Benton asked him if he would have any of the land, they had purchased, he informed Col. Butler of this, who told him he saw no impropriety in his having lands from Phelps and Benton. That he intended to get some of his relations in New England, if he could have them cheap; Capt. Powell, Barton, Murphy and himself then agreed to take lands from Mr Phelps and Mr Street and Barton said if it was left to them, they would settle it with Mr Phelps, and Mr Street said some hard money would be wanting, and asked Powell and him how much they had. Powell said about three hundred pounds York

Original sent
by Albany

Copy of a Letter from C Williamson to
Mr Harrison Councillor at Law New York
a duplicate. --

Bath 2^d November 1793

Sir

Mr Thomas Morris in a Letter I received from him informed me that you had been so good as undertake my Business in the dispute Between me and the Germans under Berckzy -- the day before Berckzy handed me by two of these people/yesterday a Subpoena from the Court of Chancery on his own part and another on the part of the people. That on the part of the people explains to me that it is because I have charged them with unjust debts &c and to prevent all legal proceedings on my part The Subpoena on the part of Berckzy himself is not explained but Mr Morris writes me it is to prove I hold the Lands for and of course to endeavour to cause a forfeiture of the property This I am as well proposed to answer that I laugh at it but the one on the part of the people is much more serious.-- ~~Te-explain-te-you-what-it-is-necessary-I-conceive~~
~~te-be-my-situation.~~ - - It is necessary to explain to you what I conceive to be my situation. -

When I came to this Country if a Law could have been passed empowering Mr to hold Lands in this State it is very possible I should have in what concerned him acted as his Agent but as that could not be effected I granted my Bonds and took the Lands as my own property - In all the transactions with Berckzy and these people my Name but as a Friend and Agent is never Mentioned. I was never Consulted and never signed any Contract as agreement. I was in Fact as Mr P^S and Mr Colguhown's Friend when called on by Berckzy to advance ^{sums of} Money to fulfil an Agreement entered into between these parties and Berckzy tho' I see no names mentioned but Mr Colguhown's and the Business stands thus Mr Berckzy has

received

received from me large Sums of Money for which I have his notes of hand in drafts on me besides this I have supplied him and ordered him supplies from others of Provisions Necessaries &c to the amount of Several thousand pounds more. It was understood by me that Mr Berckzy was to give me security by getting the people which was his Business to sign and settle their Accounts that he never has done, of course untill that is done, I look on him as a security to me, the people failing to pay. -

The most disapiable effect of this of the Court is that I am prevented recovering my property now in the people's hands viz! Stock &c actually delivered them to enable them to live on the Lands which they will in the mean time not only make away with but also get out of the way themselves several's having already gone to Niagara Berckzy in common Justice should certainly have been obliged to find security for all damages that might accrue from this delay in recovering my Legal Claims after the people by their Conduct have forfeited every Claim in consequence of this agreement. -

no
As my friends were by ~~this~~ Agreement supposed to advance them more than One years provision that perion elapsed the 2^d of August last however I still Continued provision untill this day and have not stopped the provision in less than 2 Months notice and offered to continue an allowance to those to those who before the 1^s day of Novemb, would come and Acknowledge themselves under my controul and direction that this offer might be the more pointed and after personally acquainting such of the people as would hear me I gave it in writing that it might be Explained to them but such is the turbulence of these people that the person that attempted to explain it to them nearly lost his Life The actual debt incurred by these people to me since they Landed amounts to above £8000 currency

I see by Berckzy's answer to Mr Morris that

he

he has set forth some Claims against me As a man of honor I assure you that within my knowledge I cannot by any Transaction be Indebted to him one shilling the possibility does not Exist of himself since he landed he never had the means of procuring one dinner for himself or Family the most triffling Tavern expences for himself and them I was always under the Necessity of paying He set forth to me some claims against my Friends in England which however if such a claim did exist is no business of mine, of this Claim I acquainted them with ^{by} Letters, but they most positively denined that any such existed and indeed said it could not for they after Berckzy had engaged in the Business found that he had no recourse of himself - This I could help noticing when I observed his Family had been regularly supplied with small sums of-Money to pay their Monthly Expences - while he Berckzy was in Germany. -

With regard to the Road on which the Germans did some Work the History is shortly this - In Spring 92 I had applied to the Assembly of Pensylvania to patronize a Road to be cut between Lycoming and the Genessee Country - The Assembly voted £100.- to pay 2 Commissioners and Surveyor to examine the Line.- Anxious to forward the Business I went and marked out the Line and had the Governor acquainted therewith in July 1792 - I proposed a Journey to Philadelphia -a to go by New York and set out the Twenty first of July from the Genessee River for Albany a few days after I was taken sick on the Road and turned off towards New Town point where I arrived the first of August some particular Business with Mr R Morris relative to money occasioned be to send off from Newtown a Mr Dun Express to Philadelphia in about Fifteen days Mr Dun returned and then for the first Time I heard of the arrival of the Germans at Philadelphia Mr Morris by Letters Informed me of their Arrival and after various schemes to extricate them out of the difficulty that was occasioned by Landing at

Philadelphia in place of New York. Berckzy at last determined to open the Road I had marked out between Lycoming and the Genessee And Mr Morris Informed that in Consequence he had Marched from Philadelphia with a Waggen &c and every sort of Tools to enable him to go through the Wilderness - I immagine I heard of Berckzy arrival and he began his operations to make the Road about the same Time - Then let the World Judge how far his engaging in this Business arose from any previous arrangement with me - The fact is I could not even have been consulted - As soon as I heard of Berckzy^s Plan tho laying ill of a very dangerous nervous Fever I sent a Man down to explain to him my Ideas respecting the Business and sent him down a guide that had gone through with me to carry him through - About Six weeks after Berckzy had begun his operations I went down to Lycoming he had I understood been then 6 Weeks at Work in all and had advanced only Five Miles - it was by this time the Middle of October and had 50 Miles or more to Cut to the Settlement in the Genessee - Berckzy's management had been so uniformly foolish that I was astonished - and I told him unless I made some exertion they would all perish in the woods he Insisted they could go through but I saw the Impossibility and from Berckzy behaviour thought that under the appearance of accident he had some scheme of keeping the people from reaching their Settlement that season; I however very stiffly told him that I would procure people of the Country and open the road, and he and the Germans might do as they pleased

Berckzy remonstrated strongly against my Interference and with the utmost passion exclaimed that after he and his people had had so much trouble I had come to take all the Honor &c - I immediately procured 30 good axe Men and Two overseers and set them to work before the Germans and when there was little giging it pinched the Germans often to keep with the Road Workman employed by me, at last

the snow fell in december or late in November and had it not been for the people employed by me who made ^{canoes} and canoe'd the people down the South Branch of Tioga 30 Miles they must have all perished. --

During this Peregrination the Germans had Expended in provisions and waggons above £2000.- besides £720 I paid ^{for} their expence from Philadelphia to Lycoming and above £600 in Cloathing and other little Necessaries (It is worth Noticing that the whole number in this Body men Women and Children did not Exceed 129) - Except it should arise from some Alarm on me relative to this Business with all his Insultory I cannot Conceive where he can Ground a claim - and in fact the Execution of this Business was an Affair of necessity he brought on himself - contrary to every advise he had sent to my Friends in London he Landed at Philadelphia in place of New York and what was the ridiculous thing - having Landed at Rhode Island for water he sailed past Sandy Hook for the Delaware and Landed the people at Philadelphia From thence when the Susquehanna was low there was no possibility of marching such a Body of people in the Stile they moved into the Genessee - the fact was Berckzy must have either kept the people in the Low Country untill the Water Rose or taken the Route by New York - had he not made a Road as one been made -----

The other vessel with the remainder of the people as was expected by me Landed at New York by the arrangements I had made previously they had arrived at the Genessee Country before I knew they were in America. ---

By papers which Colo Walker will shew you amongst which are Berckzy's agreement with Mr Colguhown you will see that my Friends had engaged to Advance the Money necessary to Enable the people to reach their allotted Settlement on the Genessee River --

Each man or Family was there to have a Farm of 25 Acres the price to be fixed after they had worked

on them 6 years and they was to have them 10 per Cent under the then valuation. - There was to be advanced to them One years provision from the Time of their Landing To have the use of a Cow advanced to them a pig Cock and hen - To have an axe Hoe and Spade sold them - This was the Ground work of the Agreement made in Europe as you will see by the Agreements Lodged with Colo Walker. ---

In compliance with my friends engagements I either paid myself or to Berckzy^s own order all demands made by him for provisions or waggons to carry Baggage &c I also paid for much Cloathing and many Luxuries - In fact the manner in which these people have been treated has been matter of astonishment to every settlement through which they passed ---

I paid for 100 Spades many Shovels 100 Axes 2 Anvils 2 Smith's Vices Smith's Tools a quantity of Iron and many Broad Hoes and Grubbing &c And this spring that there might be no want of the most and only necessary tools for a back Settling I purchased at Philadelphia 60 Hoes which I delivered to them with my own Hands or saw them delivered which after all they had got was more than one for a Family Th'o obliged by no Agreement, to forward the possibility of the people providing for their own Subsistance I made every exertion to get a quantity of open Slats Ploughed for them and actually Ploughed Eighty Acres. -- This Land with care would have yeilded from 60 to 80 Bushels per Acre. - Th'o after repeated solicitations they would Neither plough nor even lead the Harrow the Germans planted 4 Acres - but Neither fenced it nor hoed it and the rest they never touched - I had an opportunity of shewing this peice of Management to Mr Melancton Smith, -- At this time at the end of May I delivered over to M^r Berckzy of my oxen to be used by the people 27 Yoke of cattle one Cart and one Waggon. - I also delivered to him some Iron and he had

before

received several setts of plough Irons which are now to be seen laying at the German Store House - I delivered them Two droves of Pigs and as soon as they could be got on a Cow for every two men or each Family excepting 6 or 7 and in June I sent them 300 sheep as a Stock to the Settlers - As to provision they had all along and untill this day so much as Berckzy chose to give out and much he allowed to spoil and waste the store I can bring proof was always full On the representation of Berckzy from the people of the Advantage they would reap from having a Crop of grain which they could Harvest themselves and have by this means the Grain cheap - I bought from two Gentlemen a field of Wheat and paid £200 for it This the Germans cut early in July and Stocked up but so little regard had these people for any property put into their hands that when I went to Williamsburgh on the 20th September I found the wheat still standing in the Stock on the flat - beat into the ground by the weather and in fact Absolutely lost - I set my own people to work to save and Stock what I could - This anecdote Mr Melancton Smith can also inform you of - The papers I lodged with Coloⁿ Walker will give you a more Minute account of the Transactions and their Outrageous Conduct By my apprehending a Number of the people and Lodging them in Goal I thought I had at least reduced them to common Good Behaviour But by the Copy of a Letter which I enclose you will see how wantonly my people or those living under my protection are abused and my property Sported with Mr Miller lives at my house and has taken my Farm on Shares. ---

Perhaps since Mankind first lived in Bonds of Civilized Society there does not exist such an instance of Rascallity I have suffered in my purse beyond any idea and are daily suffering in my Character from the Artful misrepresentation of a Man whom it will sometime or other appear is only an Artful Swindler and who to the disgrace of this Country has been supported by Characters who would Blush did they know him to acknowledge such an acquaintance - By the same Artful conduct my Friends were

deceived and Trusted the man - his conduct now shows what he is
I might also have remarked to you that in place of 25 Acres to each
Family I at once granted 50 Acres and to fix the price now as I sold
to others excepting that I agreed to take from them all sorts of
produce in payment and only for their Sum but debt incurred, -
From others I only take Cash or Cattle. --

Berckzy may probably have stated that I
denied the people such necessities as their Situation ~~of-the-people-~~
required - I certainly denied them many things he required for
his Ideas were those of a Child or a ~~madman~~ madman I stopped
him in the midst of a Contract for pokers Tongs Shovels Chamberpots
pepper Boxes Crates of Queens ware knives and Forks &c &c
But I supplied them with groceries, Liquors, for mixing with their
water, Cloathing, shoes, Scythes, Sickles, Hoes, spinning wheels
axes and every thing I thought useful. --

to give you an Idea of what sort of Indulgence
these people have had from me in this respect I have desired
one of my young Men to copy from the Book the account of 2
Families taken by accident from the rest - Mr Johnstone
at Williamsburgh supplied those there from spring to August
with above £800.- ^{worth} /of Necessaries, these are facts. --

You will please to remark that the
From the Chancellor did not reach me untill the 29th Octob
of course my attendance on the 1st Nov^r was Impossible - I beg
you will Inform me if my attendance is absolutely necessary
I can ill be spared such a Journey at this season - But I
will ever treat the Commands of the Chancellor with the
greatest respect and obedience. -

That the Laws of this country should
Enable an artful Man to procure a possibility for a whole
Body of people to move off with another's property before his
Eys is what I by no means Expected, two families that are
here with me and owe to a Store here by my allowance
near £20.- each are preparing to move off, to what

place I cannot say - The rest are also preparing to go off - You may depend on it Berckzy has no other Scheme that to gain the protection while he moves off with the people; and that the Laws should enable a Swindler to crown a Villanious Transaction with success under its wing is beyond my Comprehension. -

This I am the more certain of as I am ready to give oath that I never made any charge against any one of the people or ever asked one of them for the repayment of a shilling - I trust if it is possible Berckzy may be called on to give Security for the debts of all the people the whole Amount Contracted in the Country and Europe exceeds Twelve thousand pounds Currency. -

with the greatest Esteem

I am Sir

your humb^e St.

(Signed) Chas Williamson

Bath 9 Nov^r 1793. -

To Mr Harrison

PS. Mr T Morris is just now arrived and tells me he only Mentioned to Mr Harrison to attend to my Account against Berckzy But I beg Mr Harrison to do me the favour of acting in conjunction with Colo Burr in the whole Business

(Signed)

(C W)

Canadian Archives
Colonial Office Records
Q 21 page 433.

Proceedings with the Indians of the Six Nations Confederacy and Sir John Johnson Bart: Superintendent General &c. held at Niagara in July 1783.

The Indians who had been summoned to attend being for the most part assembled, on the 22nd July, The chiefs &c. performed the ceremony of Condolence with Sir John Johnson, in order to be prepared to enter on business the next day.

At a meeting with the chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations and Confederates, the Deputies from the Hurons of Detroit &c. held at Niagara on Wednesday the 23rd July 1783.

Present

Bridr. General Sir John Johnson Superintendent
General &c..

Brigr. General Maclean.

Lieutt. Col. Dundass 8th Regt.

Lieutt. Col. Hoyer, 34th Regt.

Lieut. Col. Butler)

John Dease Esqr.) Deputy Agents

with a number of officers of the Garrison
and those of the Indian Department.

Chiefs.

Sayengaraghta)

Kayashota)

Diegwanda, Onondagas

Tagaia Cayugas

Capt. Aaron Mohocks

1685 Indians including 107 chiefs.

Brethren

I most heartily bid you wellcome to this great fire place, where I meet you with an Intention to remove all suspicions and Doubts which you may have harbor'd, and that have given you uneasiness and with a view to promote your happiness, and interest which I most sincerely have at heart. I therefore hope you will give due attention and pay a proper Regard to what I shall say, and that our proceedings may prove agreeable, and be conducted with Decency, sincerity and Candour.

Brethren

With a heart most sensibly affected by the misfortunes of our fellow creatures, I sincerely Condole with you, for the loss of the many Chiefs and Warriors who have unfortunately fallen in the course of the unhappy War, which has but too long subsisted between us and our Countrymen. I do therefore on the part of the King, your Father, and all his faithfull Subjects with this belt wipe away the blood of your Relations, and friends that has been shed and stained the Country around you, that it may no longer prouve a source of affliction to you, or be painful in your sight, and with this belt I collect their scattered bones, and carefully bury them so deep in the earth, that they shall never more offend your eyes.

A Belt.

Brethren.--

It was with no little concern that from the nature of the business I was sent upon, the pressing necessity of my speedy return to Canada, and the Orders I had received, I was prevented last autumn from shaking you by the hand, and from making known to you His Majesty's Gracious appointmt. of me to preside over your Affairs. It was my intention to have visited you very early in the Spring but the unfortunate event of the War, and the want of proper information relative to your situation as well as our own, prevented me, and would still have done so, until I should be fully acquainted with everything necessary for your information had I not been told of your impatience to see me, and been directed by the Commander in Chief to assemble you at this place, and give you his answer to your Speech addressed, and delivered to him by Captain Brant.

Brethren.--

Altho' the King your Father has found it necessary for the happiness, and ease of his more domestic Subjects to conclude a long bloody, expensive and unnatural War by a peace which seems to give you great uneasiness on account of the boundary line agreed upon between His Majesty's Commissioners and the United States, yet you are not to believe, or even think that by the line that has been described it was meant to deprive you of an extent of Country of which the right of Soil belongs to, and is in yourselves as sole proprietaries as far as the boundary line agreed upon, and established in the most solemn, and public manner (in the presence and with the consent of the Governors, and Commissioners Deputed by the different Colonies for that purpose) by your late worthy Brother, and friend Sir William Johnson in the year 1768 at Fort Stanwix, neither can I harbour an idea that the United States will act so unjustly, or unpolitically as to endeavour to deprive you of any part of your Country under the pretence of having Conquered it. The King still considers you his faithful allies as his Children, and will continue to promote your happiness by his protection, and reinforcement of your usual intercourse with Traders with all other benefits in his power to afford you. I therefore in the most earnest manner recommend to you for your own advantage to bear your Losses with manly fortitude forgiving and forgetting what is past looking forward in full hopes, and expectation that on the return of the blessings of Peace, and Cool, and just reflection all animosity, and enmity will cease, conciliation succeed, and friendships be renewed, and as a proof of your inclination to promote that desirable end, let me once more recommend to you to Collect, and give up without exception all prisoners that may be yet among you, and as an inducement to comply with what I recommend, and as a proof of his Majesty's bounty, and attention to you, I have brought up a Large Assortment of everything necessary to supply your wants, and I have further the Satisfaction to acquaint you that ~~so~~ far from being neglected or cast off when your Services can be no longer wanted as has been very unjustly imagined, and reported, the King has ordered out a large cargo of Goods to supply your further wants as well as to afford relief to all such among you who by the fortune of War, the loss of Friends, old age, or infirmities are rendered unable to support themselves.

Brethren.--

I must recommend to you to be unanimous among yourselves and not to separate, or scatter about the Country, and thereby weaken yourselves, and lessen your consequence, and to advise your young men to desist from all acts of hostility, otherwise they may draw on themselves the resentment of the people on the frontiers, which was very near being the case some time in May, in consequence of the Shawanese and Delawares on the waters of the Miamis having taken a number of women and children as has been represented by their Commissioner, who lately left this place for Albany.

Brethren.--

I have only to add that let my situation be where it will, I shall never lose sight of your interest, I shall therefore inform you from time to time of everything that may be of any consequence, or in the least interesting to you, expecting at the same time the like friendly communications on your part.

At a meeting with the Six Nations &c on Thursday the 24th July.

Present as before

Being all seated, Sagaugaraghta arose and addressed the Superintendent. as follows.

Brother.-

We the Chiefs and Warriors here assembled return you our thanks for your Speech of yesterday, to which we paid the greatest attention. The openness, and sincerity with which you spoke to us, the friendly pains you took to remove our Doubts, and fears, to make us easy in our minds and to promote our happiness, cant fail of being pleasing to us and impressing us with a deep sense of gratitude and acknowledgement. You may rest assured that the different subjects recommended to us in your speech shall be chearfully complied with, which we hope you'll consider as a convincing proof of our sincere regard.

Brother.-

We are sensibly affected by your kind condolence for the Loss of many of our Chiefs, and Warriors who have bravely fallen in the course of the War, and your compliance with the customs of our Forefathers has greatly lessened our affliction on that occasion.

Brother

You have with friendly care collected, and buried the scattered Bones of our Relations and Friends least the sight of them should renew our grief. We wish for the strongest expressions to assure and convince you how much your Brotherly attention has affected us, and the lasting impression it has made on us.

Brother.-

Altho' we sincerely regretted not having an opportunity of shaking you by the hand last fall, the different reasons you assign for your speedy return to Canada are so plain and satisfactory as to convince us of the propriety of your Conduct. We request you to accept our thanks for the friendly information and advise you gave us as also for Communicating to us the Commander in Chief's speech.

Brother.-

String Wampum.

We have duly considered the Commander in Chief's speech to us in answer to ours delivered to him by Captain Brant, we are both pleased, and satisfied with it, and are fully persuaded both by his answer and by his sending you to meet us here; that he is not inattentive to our Interests, and happiness, as by your timely arrival at this great Fire-place. We are relieved from that great anxiety and uncertainty which distressed the Six Nations, We again lift up our heads, and from his Excellency's words are induced to believe the Terms of Peace are not so unfavorable as at first represented, and we beg you to assure him that we shall strictly attend to his advice and patiently wait for further information relative to our affairs, with any other Commands which His Excellency should think proper to forward to us.

Brother.-

You informed us that the King our Father found it necessary to conclude a long and unnatural war by a Peace which appeared to give us great uneasiness on account of the Boundary Line, agreed upon by His Majesty and the United States, you also have induced us

to believe that by that line it was not intended to deprive us of our country of which the Right of Soil was in ourselves agreeable to the Treaty in 1768 at Fort Stanwix. Brother, we are exceedingly happy to hear your opinion on that subject, its true we have been very uneasy, and with much reason; our fears relative to our country haveing given us great concern, but should the Americans molest, or claim any part of our Country, we shall then ask assistance of the King our Father who still considers us his faithful allies, and children, and will continue to promote our happiness by his protection, and encouragement. We are undoubtedly are and hope he thinks us his faithful allies, and hope to be supported by him on all occasions agreeable to what you mentioned to us yesterday, and when you assured us that the King still considers us His faithful allies for we have assisted him in his Battles, and have done whatever was required during the War. Notwithstanding the War was entirely his own, and we had nothing to do with it further than assisting him as old allies. At the commencement of the War we were told both by the Commanding Officer at this Post, and by Coll. Butler that all the Rebel prisoners we should take, should be our own notwithstanding which at your request we are Determined to Collect them all, and give them to you without exception, we will moreover send messages to our younger Brethren the Western Nations strongly recommending to them to follow our example. We are extremely happy to find that the King has not forgot his Children, in proof of which you have brought us a supply of Presents for them and you say a greater quantity is yet to come, we hope and request that we may receive the Presents intended for us and that they may not be applied to the use of white people, and at the same time charged to us, which has often been the case, and has frequently and undeservedly given us the character of been extravagantly expensive to the King our Father.

(Here the speaker pointed across at some of the Officers and then proceeded).

Brother.--

You advised us to be united among ourselves and that our young men should desist from all hostilities, we thank you much for your advise which we are

convinced is good, and which we have strictly observed since we were first informed of the Peace. We shall still continue in the same Disposition, and bind ourselves in a small circle. And we the Chiefs and Warriors of the different Nations assembled here do request of the King our Father not to permit his Loyal subjects to wander, and scatter themselves but encourage them to settle on Lands on the opposite side of the waters and erect Posts for our mutual protection in Trade, and by this means cement us as one people which we are assured will be a general advantage to all concerned. We are now perfectly convinced of that regard and love which we always imagined you entertained for us, as we do with the greatest sincerity assure you of every confidence on our part, firmly convinced that both the Comm. in Chief, and yourself speak to us at all times the feelings of your Hearts with Candor, and sincerity for which we are truly thankful as you have relieved our uneasy minds, and given us every possible satisfaction that circumstances would admit of.

A Belt.

At a meeting with the before mentioned Indians on Monday the 28th July 1783.

Present as before.

Sir John Johnson addressed the Indians in answer to their speech as follows:
Brethren.--

I meet you here this day with much satisfaction in Order to express to you my approbation of your conduct in our late proceedings, your precedence, (prudence) moderation and attention give me the sincerest pleasure and enable me to make the most favorable representation of you to the King thro' the Commander in Chief.

Brethren.--

The opinion I gave you relative to the Boundary Line agreed upon, I conceive to be just; and as we are yet uninformed of what secret Treaties may have ~~been~~ taken place or indeed that even the definitive treaty is as yet signed, I am in hopes that matters may turn out more favorably than we at present apprehend them to be.

Brethren.--

The many spirited and constant proofs you have during the course of the War given of your attachment to the King your Father can leave no room to doubt that you are his faithful allies and his great attention in supplying your wants in a generous manner will assure you that he considers you as his Children, and will give you every reasonable assistance when necessary.

Brethren.--

Since my appointment to superintend your affairs, I have studiously taken every precaution to Prevent His Majesty's Bounty to you from being applied to any uses but your own, and to abolish every abuse that might create unnecessary expence to the King, or make those of the Department appear greater than they really require to be.

Brethren.--

I have to thank you for the particular attention paid to that part of my speech that regards the prisoners, and your promise to deliver them up without exception, notwithstanding former promises. I consider it as a particular compliment to myself, and make no doubt that your message to the Western Nations will be such as will determine them to follow your example.

Brethren.-- You will certainly experience the good consequences of remaining united and collected, and refraining from Hostilities as recommended to you, and you may rest assured that I shall on my return to Canada take the earliest opportunity of laying before the Commander in Chief your request relative to the Loyalists, and the establishing Posts for the protection of Trade on the opposite side of the waters.

Brethren.-- I have now ordered to be laid before and delivered to you the fresh instance of His Majesty's bounty which I brought up for your use, and earnestly request that the Chiefs ~~and~~ of each Nation may make such an equitable distribution of the same as will prevent any complaints or jealousies.

Brethren.-- I cannot cover up our great fire-place without once more thanking you for the Cordiality with which you received me, your readiness in complying with my request, and the attention you paid to everything recommended to you. I have only to add, that

fully persuaded that my constant endeavours to promote your interest will be the most acceptable proof I can give you of my regard for you, I shall not lose sight of that object. His Excellency the Commander in Chief has on all occasions manifested so great an inclination to give you every assistance in his power, as must impress you with sentiments of grateful respect, and a strong belief in his Sincerity.

Then the presents being prepared and piled up, was delivered over, and divided by the Chiefs among the Indians.

At a Meeting held with the Senecas and Tuscarora Chiefs and Warriors from Chenuissio July 30th 1783.

Present

Brigr. General Sir John Johnson Bart. &c.
Lieut. Coll. Butler,)
John Dease, Esqr.) Deputy Agents
& some of the Officers of the Indian Department.

A Chief spoke as follows.

Brother.-- We yesterday on our arrival here waited on you at this great fire place, and complimented you, and are happy to tell you that we have impatiently waited your arrival. We thank the great spirit for conducting you safe here, and we yesterday told you, that we had something of consequence to communicate to you, which we shall now do, and require your attention to it.

Brother.-- On your arrival here you sent us a message that you were arrived, and would be glad to see us here, and that you had something of consequence to communicate to us and on the same strings you sent word that we should send in two of your people, and one prisoner with us, and that if they did not chuse to come in peaceably, or with advice that they shou'd then be pinioned and sent here. We looked upon this as a disagreeable thing for us to do but at the same time recollected that we had been told by Coll. Butler chearfully to do what was desired of us, and we would then not be blamed, we were uneasy in our minds, as we heard that we were blamed and that twas thought we had assisted those people to go off. We hope you'll not think we have assisted them as we have always chearfully obeyed everything desired or recommended to us, and have been faithful to the King our Father.

N. This part of their speech was a mistake, as the message they mention came from Brigr. Genl. McLean, and Lieut. Col. Butler, to whom Sir John Johnson referred them for an answer.

Brother.-- We the Senecas, and Tuscaroras are of one mind, and our minds are as firmly fixed as the Ground, this Country has been given us by the great Spirit, and we all intend to die as one man on those Lands, and not to be disturbed by White People.

We have always been true to the King, and assisted him as much as in our power, you the White People can leave these Lands, and move across the Seas, as you have land there but we have none, and are therefore determined to die on those Lands; altho our numbers are small, and have been much reduced, yet we are of one mind, and resolution, we have brought in those two people but Allen was gone. We hope you'll not be displeased at us, and that you'll not Hang these men as is requested. Brother.-- You yesterday informed us that you had explained your Speeches to the Chiefs in Council, and recommended to us to Request them to repeat it to us. We do not chuse to hear what you had to say to us from the Chiefs as it will be a greater satisfaction to hear what has past from you.

At a meeting held with the Chiefs and Warriors
of the Six Nations &c. Niagara 31st July 1783

Present

Brigr. General Sir John Johnson,
Superintendt. Genl. &c. of Indian Affairs.
John Dease esqr. Deputy Agent.
Major Scott.
Captain Parke, King's Regt.
Captain Brant, Indian Department.
Mr Nicholas Stevens Interpreter.

A Chief spoke.

Brother.-- We yesterday understood that you was soon going to leave this place, and some of ~~xx~~ us then took our leave of you, but some more of our people at that time absent having wished to see you occasions our waiting on you at this time, We therefore on behalf of the whole of the Six Nations, now wish you a safe return to Montreal. We cannot fail in repeating our thanks for the great satisfaction you have given us while here.

Brother.-- As we before have told you of the great satisfaction you have given us, since your appointment to Superintend our Affairs, we therefore beg that you'll not be discouraged by any Difficulties attending it, respecting the interference of other People, who are not connected, or acquainted with our Affairs, and those people will be soon convinced if our Affairs are managed under your particular direction, that it will be both our interest and an advantage to Government. Our feelings for our friend your Father (Sir William Johnson) were great and are now renewed at your sight. We hope that you will follow the steps of your Father, and hope, and request that the interference of others or any interruption you may have met with will not be a discouragement to you from following them, and that our Business may continue to be transacted by you with spirit.

Brother.-- We request that you will acquaint the Commr. in Chief herewith, and lay before him this Belt, and we beg that he will strengthen you to do our business freely, and without the interference of others, as has

been done formerly by our great friend Sir Wm Johnson, and we are well assured that if his steps are followed it will be both for our interest and that of the Government; we are convinced that the Commander in Chief takes our interests into his Consideration, and will fulfil our request on his part.

Brother.-- You mentioned in our last meeting that you wished we would send proper Messengers to our Western Brethren in answer to their Belt, and to Communicate to them the Business transacted here, we have now appointed proper persons for that purpose, and request your assistance in founding them, and wish one of the Agents wou'd accompany them. To which Sir John Johnson answered by returning his thanks for the tribute of regard they paid to the memory of his Father, and the friendly sentiments they entertained for himself, assuring them that he was thereby encouraged and determined to persevere in the faithful discharge of his duty by a steady attention to their interests, and that they might rely on his doing so, so long as he could do it consistant with the dictates of honor and Conscience. That he should lay the whole of his Transactions with them before the Commr. in Chief at his return to Canada and recommend their interests strongly in Expectation that their conduct wou'd merit the Continuation of his regard and favorable report of them. After which he took leave of them in the most friendly terms.

Sir John Johnson on his return from Niagara stopped at Carleton Island, to speak with the Chiefs of the Missisagas according to a promise he had made when going up the Country. Being assembled the Chiefs &c. after the usual Compliments told him that a report prevailed as if several of the Six Nation intended shortly to come, and plant on their Ground, on the North side of the Lake, that it had alarmed them greatly, as they apprehended it would be followed by disputes between them, and must terminate in the One or the Other leaving the Country, which they earnestly wished to prevent.

To which Sir John Johnson answered. That he then met them at the request made by some of their people when he was on the way to Niagara, that he had now heard with attention what they had said, and could

Canadian Archives
Colonial Office Records
Q 21 page 433.

Proceedings with the Indians of the Six Nations Confederacy and Sir John Johnson Bart: Superintendent General &c. held at Niagara in July 1783.

The Indians who had been summoned to attend being for the most part assembled, on the 22nd July, The chiefs &c. performed the ceremony of Condolence with Sir John Johnson, in order to be prepared to enter on business the next day.

At a meeting with the chiefs and warriors of the Six Nations and Confederates, the Deputies from the Hurons of Detroit &c. held at Niagara on Wednesday the 23rd July 1783.

Present

Bridr. General Sir John Johnson Superintend
General &c..

Brigr. General Maclean.

Lieutt. Col. Dundass 8th Regt.

Lieutt. Col. Hoyer, 34th Regt.

Lieut. Col. Butler)

John Dease Esqr.) Deputy Agents

with a number of officers of the Garrison
and those of the Indian Department.

Chiefs.

Sayengaraghta)

Kayashota)

Diegwanda, Onondagas

Tagaia Cayugas

Capt. Aaron Mohocks

1685 Indians including 107 chiefs.

Brethren

I most heartily bid you wellcome to this great fire place, where I meet you with an Intention to remove all suspicions and Doubts which you may have harbor'd, and that have given you uneasiness and with a view to promote your happiness, and interest which I most sincerely have at heart. I therefore hope you will give due attention and pay a proper Regard to what I shall say, and that our proceedings may prove agreeable, and be conducted with Decency, sincerity and Candour.

Brethren

With a heart most sensibly affected by the misfortunes of our fellow creatures, I sincerely Condole with you, for the loss of the many Chiefs and Warriors who have unfortunately fallen in the course of the unhappy War, which has but too long subsisted between us and our Countrymen. I do therefore on the part of the King, your Father, and all his faithfull Subjects with this belt wipe away the blood of your Relations, and friends that has been shed and stained the Country around you, that it may no longer prouue a source of affliction to you, or be painful in your sight, and with this belt I collect their scattered bones, and carefully bury them so deep in the earth, that they shall never more offend your eyes.

A Belt.

Brethren.--

It was with no little concern that from the nature of the business I was sent upon, the pressing necessity of my speedy return to Canada, and the Orders I had received, I was prevented last autumn from shaking you by the hand, and from making known to you His Majesty's Gracious appointmt. of me to preside over your Affairs. It was my intention to have visited you very early in the Spring but the unfortunate event of the War, and the want of proper information relative to your situation as well as our own, prevented me, and would still have done so, until I should be fully acquainted with everything necessary for your information had I not been told of your impatience to see me, and been directed by the Commander in Chief to assemble you at this place, and give you his answer to your Speech addressed, and delivered to him by Captain Brant.

Brethren.--

Altho^l the King your Father has found it necessary for the happiness, and ease of his more domestic Subjects to conclude a long bloody, expensive and unnatural War by a peace which seems to give you great uneasiness on account of the boundary line agreed upon between His Majesty's Commissioners and the United States, yet you are not to believe, or even think that by the line that has been described it was meant to deprive you of an extent of Country of which the right of Soil belongs to, and is in yourselves as sole proprietaries as far as the boundary line agreed upon, and established in the most solemn, and public manner (in the presence and with the consent of the Governors, and Commissioners Deputed by the different Colonies for that purpose) by your late worthy Brother, and friend Sir William Johnson in the year 1768 at Fort Stanwix, neither can I harbour an idea that the United States will act so unjustly, or unpolitically as to endeavour to deprive you of any part of your Country under the pretence of having Conquered it. The King still considers you his faithful allies as his Children, and will continue to promote your happiness by his protection, and reinforcement of your usual intercourse with Traders with all other benefits in his power to afford you. I therefore in the most earnest manner recommend to you for your own advantage to bear your Losses with manly fortitude forgiving and forgetting what is past looking forward in full hopes, and expectation that on the return of the blessings of Peace, and Cool, and just reflection all animosity, and enmity will cease, conciliation succeed, and friendships be renewed, and as a proof of your inclination to promote that desirable end, let me once more recommend to you to Collect, and give up without exception all prisoners that may be yet among you, and as an inducement to comply with what I recommend, and as a proof of his Majesty's bounty, and attention to you, I have brought up a Large Assortment of everything necessary to supply your wants, and I have further the Satisfaction to acquaint you that so far from being neglected or cast off when your Services can be no longer wanted as has been very unjustly imagined, and reported, the King has ordered out a large cargo of Goods to supply your further wants as well as to afford relief to all such among you who by the fortune of War, the loss of Friends, old age, or infirmities are rendered unable to support themselves.

Brethren.--

I must recommend to you to be unanimous among yourselves and not to separate, or scatter about the Country, and thereby weaken yourselves, and lessen your consequence, and to advise your young men to desist from all acts of hostility, otherwise they may draw on themselves the resentment of the people on the frontiers, which was very near being the case some time in May, in consequence of the Shawanese and Delawares on the waters of the Miamis having taken a number of women and children as has been represented by their Commissioner, who lately left this place for Albany.

Brethren.--

I have only to add that let my situation be where it will, I shall never lose sight of your interest, I shall therefore inform you from time to time of everything that may be of any consequence, or in the least interesting to you, expecting at the same time the like friendly communications on your part.

At a meeting with the Six Nations &c on Thursday the 24th July.

Present as before

Being all seated, Sagaugaraghta arose and addressed the Superintendt. as follows.

Brother.--

We the Chiefs and Warriors here assembled return you our thanks for your Speech of yesterday, to which we paid the greatest attention. The openness, and sincerity with which you spoke to us, the friendly pains you took to remove our Doubts, and fears, to make us easy in our minds and to promote our happiness, cant fail of being pleasing to us and impressing us with a deep sense of gratitude and acknowledgement. You may rest assured that the different subjects recommended to us in your speech shall be chearfully complied with, which we hope you'll consider as a convincing proof of our sincere regard.

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We are sensibly affected by your kind condolence for the Loss of many of our Chiefs, and Warriors who have bravely fallen in the course of the War, and your compliance with the customs of our Forefathers has greatly lessened our affliction on that occasion.

Brother

You have with friendly care collected, and buried the scattered Bones of our Relations and Friends least the sight of them should renew our grief. We wish for the strongest expressions to assure and convince you how much your Brotherly attention has affected us, and the lasting impression it has made on us.

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Altho' we sincerely regretted not having an opportunity of shaking you by the hand last fall, the different reasons you assign for your speedy return to Canada are so plain and satisfactory as to convince us of the propriety of your Conduct. We request you to accept our thanks for the friendly information and advise you gave us as also for Communicating to us the Commander in Chief's speech.

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You informed us that the King our Father found it necessary to conclude a long and unnatural war by a Peace which appeared to give us great uneasiness on account of the Boundary Line, agreed upon by His Majesty and the United States, you also have induced us

to believe that by that line it was not intended to deprive us of our country of which the Right of Soil was in ourselves agreeable to the Treaty in 1768 at Fort Stanwix. Brother, we are exceedingly happy to hear your opinion on that subject, its true we have been very uneasy, and with much reason; our fears relative to our country haveing given us great concern, but should the Americans molest, or claim any part of our Country, we shall then ask assistance of the King our Father who still considers us his faithful allies, and children, and will continue to promote our happiness by his protection, and encouragement. We are undoubtedly are and hope he thinks us his faithful allies, and hope to be supported by him on all occasions agreeable to what you mentioned to us yesterday, and when you assured us that the King still considers us His faithful allies for we have assisted him in his Battles, and have done whatever was required during the War. Notwithstanding the War was entirely his own, and we had nothing to do with it further than assisting him as old allies. At the commencement of the War we were told both by the Commanding Officer at this Post, and by Coll. Butler that all the Rebel prisoners we should take, should be our own notwithstanding which at your request we are Determined to Collect them all, and give them to you without exception, we will moreover send messages to our younger Brethren the Western Nations strongly recommending to them to follow our example. We are extremely happy to find that the King has not forgot his Children, in proof of which you have brought us a supply of Presents for them and you say a greater quantity is yet to come, we hope and request that we may receive the Presents intended for us and that they may not be applied to the use of white people, and at the same time charged to us, which has often been the case, and has frequently and undeservedly given us the character of been extravagantly expensive to the King our Father.

(Here the speaker pointed across at some of the Officers and then proceeded).

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A Belt.

At a meeting with the before mentioned Indians on Monday the 28th July 1783.

Present as before.

Sir John Johnson addressed the Indians in answer to their speech as follows:
Brethren---

I meet you here this day with much satisfaction in Order to express to you my approbation of your conduct in our late proceedings, your precedence, (prudence) moderation and attention give me the sincerest pleasure and enable me to make the most favorable representation of you to the King thro' the Commander in Chief.

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A Chief spoke as follows.

Brother.-- We yesterday on our arrival here waited on you at this great fire place, and complimented you, and are happy to tell you that we have impatiently waited your arrival. We thank the great spirit for conducting you safe here, and we yesterday told you, that we had something of consequence to communicate to you, which we shall now do, and require your attention to it.

Brother.-- On your arrival here you sent us a message that you were arrived, and would be glad to see us here, and that you had something of consequence to communicate to us and on the same strings you sent word that we should send in two of your people, and one prisoner with us, and that if they did not chuse to come in peaceably, or with advice that they shou'd then be pinioned and sent here. We looked upon this as a disagreeable thing for us to do but at the same time recollected that we had been told by Coll. Butler chearfully to do what was desired of us, and we would then not be blamed, we were uneasy in our minds, as we heard that we were blamed and that twas thought we had assisted those people to go off. We hope you'll not think we have assisted them as we have always chearfully obeyed everything desired or recommended to us, and have been faithful to the King our Father.

N. This part of their speech was a mistake, as the message they mention came from Brigr. Genl. McLean, and Lieut. Col. Butler, to whom Sir John Johnson referred them for an answer.

Brother.-- We the Senecas, and Tuscaroras are of one mind, and our minds are as firmly fixed as the Ground, this Country has been given us by the great Spirit, and we all intend to die as one man on those Lands, and not to be disturbed by White People.

We have always been true to the King, and assisted him as much as in our power, you the White People can leave these Lands, and move across the Seas, as you have land there but we have none, and are therefore determined to die on those Lands; altho our numbers are small, and have been much reduced, yet we are of one mind, and resolution, we have brought in those two people but Allen was gone. We hope you'll not be displeased at us, and that you'll not Hang these men as is requested. Brother.-- You yesterday informed us that you had explained your Speeches to the Chiefs in Council, and recommended to us to Request them to repeat it to us. We do not chuse to hear what you had to say to us from the Chiefs as it will be a greater satisfaction to hear what has past from you.

At a meeting held with the Chiefs and Warriors
of the Six Nations &c. Niagara 31st July 1783

Present

Brigr. General Sir John Johnson,
Superintendt. Genl. &c. of Indian Affairs.
John Dease esqr. Deputy Agent.
Major Scott.
Captain Parke, King's Regt.
Captain Brant, Indian Department.
Mr Nicholas Stevens Interpreter.

A Chief spoke.

Brother.-- We yesterday understood that you was soon going to leave this place, and some of ~~xx~~ us then took our leave of you, but some more of our people at that time absent having wished to see you occasions our waiting on you at this time, We therefore on behalf of the whole of the Six Nations, now wish you a safe return to Montreal. We cannot fail in repeating our thanks for the great satisfaction you have given us while here.

Brother.-- As we before have told you of the great satisfaction you have given us, since your appointment to Superintend our Affairs, we therefore beg that you'll not be discouraged by any Difficulties attending it, respecting the interference of other People, who are not connected, or acquainted with our Affairs, and those people will be soon convinced if our Affairs are managed under your particular direction, that it will be both our interest and an advantage to Government. Our feelings for our friend your Father (Sir William Johnson) were great and are now renewed at your sight. We hope that you will follow the steps of your Father, and hope, and request that the interference of others or any interruption you may have met with will not be a discouragement to you from following them, and that our Business may continue to be transacted by you with spirit.

Brother.-- We request that you will acquaint the Commr. in Chief herewith, and lay before him this Belt, and we beg that he will strengthen you to do our business freely, and without the interference of others, as has

been done formerly by our great friend Sir Wm Johnson, and we are well assured that if his steps are followed it will be both for our interest and that of the Government; we are convinced that the Commander in Chief takes our interests into his Consideration, and will fulfil our request on his part.

Brother.-- You mentioned in our last meeting that you wished we would send proper Messengers to our Western Brethren in answer to their Belt, and to Communicate to them the Business transacted here, we have now appointed proper persons for that purpose, and request your assistance in founding them, and wish one of the Agents wou'd accompany them. To which Sir John Johnson answered by returning his thanks for the tribute of regard they paid to the memory of his Father, and the friendly sentiments they entertained for himself, assuring them that he was thereby encouraged and determined to persevere in the faithful discharge of his duty by a steady attention to their interests, and that they might rely on his doing so, so long as he could do it consistant with the dictates of honor and Conscience. That he should lay the whole of his Transactions with them before the Commr. in Chief at his return to Canada and recommend their interests strongly in Expectation that their conduct wou'd merit the Continuation of his regard and favorable report of them. After which he took leave of them in the most friendly terms.

Sir John Johnson on his return from Niagara stopped at Carleton Island, to speak with the Chiefs of the Missisagas according to a promise he had made when going up the Country. Being assembled the Chiefs &c. after the usual Compliments told him that a report prevailed as if several of the Six Nation intended shortly to come, and plant on their Ground, on the North side of the Lake, that it had alarmed them greatly, as they apprehended it would be followed by disputes between them, and must terminate in the One or the Other leaving the Country, which they earnestly wished to prevent.

To which Sir John Johnson answered. That he then met them at the request made by some of their people when he was on the way to Niagara, that he had now heard with attention what they had said, and could

assure them that the Six Nations had not signified any intention of going upon their Lands, and he was persuaded that no such settlement, or any other would be undertaken without their knowledge, and Consent, adding that he should lay what they had said, together with the whole of his Transactions before the Commander in Chief on his return to Montreal.