

Mount Johnson on the 15. of May.
A 1755.

Proceedings of The Hon.^{ble} William
Johnson Esq. appointed by His Majes-
ties especial Power & Authority to His
Excellency General Braddock to the sole
Superintendency & Management of the Affairs
of the United Nations of Indians & their Allies
as is more particularly set forth in the Copy
of the Commission here following.

Louis Sigelli

By His Excellency Edward Braddock
Esq. General & Commander in Chief of all
His Majesty's Forces in North America.
To William Johnson Esq.

By Virtue of the Power & Authority to me
given & granted by His Majesty to appoint a
proper Person or Persons to have the sole Mana-
gement & Direction of the Affairs of the Six Nations
of Indians & their Allies, to the end that the said
Indians may be heartily engaged in & attached to
the British Interest, I do hereby appoint you
the said William Johnson in the Name & Behalf
of His Majesty to superintend & manage the Affairs
of the said Nations & their Allies, giving you full
Power

Power & Authority to treat & confer with them as often
and upon such matters as you shall judge necessary
for His Majestys Service & as shall be agreeable to the
Instructions herewith given you or which you shall
hereafter receive from me. And you are from time
to time to make Report to me of your Proceedings
herein. And of all material Occurrences which may
affect His Majestys Interest with the said Six
Nations or their Allies. And all Persons to whom
the Direction of the Affairs of the said Nations or
their Allies have been heretofore committed, and
all others whatsoever are strictly required & enjoined
to cease & forbear acting or intermeddling therein.

And as it may be necessary for carrying on the
Service with which you are charged by virtue of
the Power hereby given you to employ a Secretary
& one or more Interpreters, I do hereby give you
full Power to appoint them & make such rea-
sonable Allowance to them as you shall judge
Necessary. For all w^{ch} this shall be your War-
rant & Authority. Given at the Camp at
Alexandria this fifteenth day of April 1755.

By His Excellency C. Braddock
Command W. Shirley.

A true Copy
Peter Baxall
My Master Secy
for Indian Affairs.

Mount Johnson 15 May 1755. 3

The Speech of the Hon^{ble} William Johnson Esq.
Sole Superintendent &c of Indian Affairs to the Sackem
& Warriors of the upper & lower Castle of Mohock
Indians.

Pres^t Lieut Butler of Capt. Rutherford's Comp^y.

Mr. Tarrant

Mr. John Butler

Mr. Daniel Glasse

Peter Wray Esq. Sec^y for Indian Affairs.

William Brinkup

Jacobus Clement

} Interpreters.

Brethren of both Castles of the Mohocks.

I wipe away all tears from your eyes & clear
your throat; that you may attend & speak without
constraint.

I am glad to see you & heartily bid you
welcome.

(gave a string of Wampum)

I hope you have complied with my desire
signified to you by my Letter from New York w^{ch}
I sent you on my arrival there from Virginia, re-
-questing that all your Sackem & Warriors would
stay at home & wait my return hither to hear
what News & Commands I was charged with
from His Excellency General Braddock (a great
Warrior whom the King our common Father hath
sent over to this Country with a large Number of
armed Men, great Guns & other Implements
of War, to protect you & all his other Subjects on
this Continent from the Invasions & Inroads
of the French. I went to wait on this Great Man
with

4
with the Gov.^r of Boston, New York, Pennsylvania & Mary-
land, where we also found the Gov.^r of Virginia & a-
nother great Man who commands all the Kings Ships
& War in these parts of the World.

At this grand Council many important
Affairs were considered & agreed upon, amongst w^{ch}
the Welfare & Interest of our Brethren of the
Six Nations & their Allies bore a considerable Share.
Brethren

The Tree which you & the rest of the Six Na-
tions have so often & so earnestly desired might be
again set up is now raised, and fast in the Earth by
so powerful a hand, that its Roots will take a
firm & deep Footing & its Branches be a refreshing
& extensive shade for you & all your Allies to take
shelter under it; for I am to acquaint you, that
conformable to the great King your Father, In-
structions to Gen^l. Braddock, I am appointed
to the sole Management & Superintendancy
of all Affairs relating to you & your Allies w^{ch}
may be transacted in these parts. And I do
now invite you & all our Brethren of the Six
United Nations & your Allies to come & sit
under this Tree, where you may freely open
your Hearts & get all your Wounds healed, And
I do at the same time remove the Embers w^{ch} re-
mained at Albany & re-kindle the Fire of Coun-
cil & Friendship at this Place, and I shall make
it of such Wood as will give the clearest Light
& greatest Warmth; I hope it will prove com-
fortable & useful to all such as will come &
Light

5
light their Pipes at it, & dance & sport with all those who
are or may be enemies to it.

I expect that you Brethren will on your
part, increase the lustre & benefit of this Fire,
By keeping it dressed up & attending it with that
diligent & al as may render it a Blessing not only
to your selves but to your Posterity. To obtain &
secure these salutary Ends, it will be absolutely
necessary for you totally to extinguish all other
deceitful & unnatural Fires w^h are made up to
mislead & in the end destroy both You & yours.

(gave a Belt of Wampum)

Brethren With this String of Wampum I make
thy Council Room clean & free from every thing
offensive & I hope you will take care that no
Snake may creep in amongst us or any thing
w^h may obstruct our Harmony.

(gave a String of Wampum)

Brethren I give me no small concern to hear
on my return hither that some of you from
both Castles have Intentions of going to Canada.
I would very much surprise me if You who
have always been our steady Friends & nearest
Neighbours should at any time discover an In-
clination to be deluded by the wicked Artifices
of the French so well known & so fatally ex-
perienced by you, but at this juncture when
that restless & perfidious Nation are breaking
thru their solemn Treaties & violating all the
Obligations of Honour & of Justice, is the more
astonishing. I hope my Information hath no
just Grounds, and I must desire you consist
upon

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upon it, that none of you do upon any Account what-
soever form a Correspondence with the French,
harbour any of their Emisaries or visit Canada
without my Knowledge or Approbation.

And hereupon I give you this Beut.

I propose immediately to call a Meeting of our
other Brethren of the Six Nations at this our
Fire Place & I expect that you will be ready
to come with them hither, when I shall deliver
to you all a Speech from His Excell^y Gen^l
Bredock together with a Present which the
Great King your Father hath sent you by
that Warrior.

After some time spent in Consultation
amongst themselves Abraham a Sachem of
the Upper Castle spoke for both as follows.

Brother

You called us down to tell us what News
You had brought with you & we have heard
what you have now said to us. We shall defer
entering into a particular Detail of Affairs till
the Six Nations meet you here.

(Returned a String of Wampum)

Brother We thank you for the Ceremony of wiping
away the Tears from our Eyes & clearing our
Throats as likewise for clearing the Floor. We
do the same to you with this String of Wampum.

(Gave a String)

Bro^r In compliance with your Request we have
met you here, & have attentively heard all you
have said and return you our hearty for y^r
friendly Information. We are rejoiced to see
you again & we bid you go welcome with a
String of Wampum. (Gave one) Bro^r

Brother We have often requested of our Father the great
thing that the Tree (meaning Co. Johnson) should
be raised up again; We are very much rejoiced that
our Father hath at length complied with our
Request & do most sincerely thank him for the
same. It gives us the highest satisfaction to hear
what you have ^{now} told us concerning this Tree. We
sincerely wish it may long continue such as you
have described it in your speech & we are very
thankful to you for all you have said to us on
that Article.

Bro? You tell us that as the Tree of Shelter is now
replanted here, ^{have removed the Embers from Albany and} ~~you have taken the same from the~~ ^{rekindled}
~~the Fire of Council & Friendship here & that it~~
shall be made of good & lasting Wood, such as will
give burn clear, give a comfortable & useful heat
to those who come to it as Friends and scorch &
burn to those who are Enemies. Our Forefathers
kindled the first Fire at Onondaga from whence
they carried Fuel & made another at the Habitation
of Quider. (meaning Albany) This Fire never
burnt clear & it was just expiring, we are therefore
much rejoiced to hear you have rekindled the
Fire here.

Brother you have invited us & all our Brethren
of the Six united Nations & their Allies to come &
sit under this aforesaid Tree, to light their Pipes
at the Council Fire here, that here & they can
should contribute to maintain & preserve it; We
make no doubt but they will all be very glad
to hear it as it has been long their unanimous
Desire to have it here, but we must refer ^{an} particular
Answer to this part of your speech till all the
Nations meet you here in a Body.

Bro?

8

Bro^r. We thank you for making this Council Room clean & removing every thing Offensive from it, You maybe assured that we will on our part contribute to keep it so & drive every thing away w^{ch} may tend to obstruct our mutual Harmony.

Bro^r. You have told us of your Information about some of our People's designing to go ~~to~~ over to the French & put us in mind of their Behaviour to our forefathers, w^{ch} we will remember, for their Bones are to be still seen. We know the French to be false & treacherous, they have spoke us fair outwardly, but while their Lips were smooth, their Hearts were full of Poison against us. You Bro^r. are acquainted with our Circumstances like one of our selves, and you know that the rest of the Nations are jealous of us because we made use of the Hatchet last War against the French, and shall we now prove false & deceitful, No, you may assure your self we shall not offer to go to Canada upon any French Island for we are not such good Friends with them, and therefore Brother dont credit any such Reports concerning us.

Bro^r. We once more return you our hearty thanks for every thing you have now said to us & as we have already told you must defer a more particular Answer till the Meeting of the Six Nations with you. We thank you for your Invitation to meet you here along with the rest of our Brethren & we shall not fail to attend you with them.

Mount Johnson 16 May 1755. - 9

The Sachems of the Upper Mohock Laste having
desired a conference with Co.^d Johnson. The Secy.^{ry}
for Indian Affairs & the two Interpreters being
present, Abraham spoke for them & said.

Bro.^r when you were at New York you sent
us word that both our Sachems & Warriors should
stay at home & wait your return hither. We have
done so, and why should we not, when at all times
we have shown our readiness to oblige you, more
especially are we disposed so to do, now you tell us
you are again raised up to be our Tree of Shelter
and we doubt not our Brethren of the other Five
Nations will be equally disposed to obey you.

Bro.^r It is a Truth that we have been always
Obedient & Obliging to you, and when the News
came that you desired us to stay at home, our
Young Men were going out a hunting & by being
stoped are now left destitute of every thing for
their Subsistence, and Bro.^r they have desired of
us Sachems to plead with you on their behalf
that as they have been kept from hunting in
order to subsist themselves, to beg you will
give them a little Powder & Shot that they
may kill some Game for their Support, And
that it will be some time before the 5 Nations can
attend you & receive the Present w^{ch} the King
our Father hath sent for them & as we hope
you will supply our present necessities.

Bro.^r As we apprehend troublesome times are
approaching, we must renew our Request so
often made to this Gov.^t that we may have some
Place of Security built for our Wives & Children
& we hope you will now comply with it. L. J.

Colonel Johnson Answered

Brotheren

I am fully convinced of your kind Dispositions towards me & your readiness at all times to hearken to & observe what I say to or request of you: I was therefore the more ready to take upon me the sole Management of your Affairs and wth I hope from this fresh Testimony of your Love & regard for me I shall be enabled to carry on with Credit & pleasure to myself & more especially to you & yours.

I am sensible the detaining your young Men at home at this Season must put you & them to some Inconvenience & therefore I shall comply with your Desire & give you some Pardon & that.

Before I left New York I urged to your Brother the Gov^r the necessity of building a secure Retreat for your Families & I do with pleasure acquaint you that he has empowered me to do it & I shall set about it with all possible Dispatch.

M^r Laurent Stevens

Mount Johnson 17 May 1755.

By His Majesty's Instructions to His Excellency General Braddock he hath appointed & commissioned me to the sole Superintendency & Management of all Affairs relating to the Six Nations & their Allies. You will therefore take Notice hereafter to follow & obey only such Orders as you shall receive from me relating thereto.

I send you this Letter by Jacobus

Stewart

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Glennant & by him Two Belts of Wampum, both for the 11
5 upper Nations. One you are to give them in my name &
to acquaint them, that the Troops we are on their March
& may believe after visit to Oswego, are to reinforce that
Garrison & secure it against all Hostile attempt of the
French, who have said that it belongs neither to us
nor to the Six Nations, & that they would kick it down
with their foot; I did send a String of Wampum with
this Message on my coming home, but left that
should not be sufficient know send this Belt.

You will If you find that either from their Jeal-
ousy or from the lying Impinations of the French
Embassy, that the 5 Nations are uneasy or alarmed
at seeing these Troops march thro their Country,
(You are to assure them in my name, that they
are intended for the Security & benefit of our Bre-
thren of the Six Nations & their Allies & exhort
them not to give ear to any story the French
may tell them our this Nation, whose Desire &
Design it is to kill us & them asleep & then cut us
both off from the Face of the Earth, and they will
know the most easy way to do this is to disturb
& destroy that Brotherly Love & Confidence which hath
so long so happily subsisted between us, there with such
other Arguments as Circumstances may require you
will make use of to them.

The other Belt I send you is to acquaint
the Five Nations with my Appointment by The King
their Father, & at their repeated desire to the sole
Management of their Affairs & that I do by this Belt
according to General Braddocks Direction invite & call
upon the Six united Nations & their Allies to meet me
with all possible speed at my House here, where I have
rekindled the sacred Fire of Friendship & replanted
a Tree of Shelter for them & all those who will come
& sit under it. That I have a Present for them from
the Great King their Father, a great Deal of good News to
impart to them & to take Council with them upon
many

12.
many affairs of the highest consequence to their Welfare
& Happiness. If you find any Nation adverse of by the
French to prevent their meeting me, you must make
use of the best & properest Arguments to remove those
Impressions, & insist upon their Obedience & Compliance.

If they say they are planting their Corn & if they
should come now they will lose their Crop, & be
in want of Food, you must tell them I will take care
& make up to them what Losses they may suffer here-
by, but on this Article you must act with Prudence
& promise with Caution.

I have had a meeting with the Two Mohock
Castles upon the Subjects of both these Belts, they
are satisfied & have promised to join with us & meet
me when the other Nation, come down w^{ch} you
must hasten all in your Power.

With M^r Clement send you some
Goods to make use of as occasion may require &
when you have bro^{ught} the Indians to the German
Flatts you are to find them Provision for my
House keeping an Act of your Agency.

Mount Johnson 20 May 1755.

This Day Col^l Johnson dispatched M^r Hannas John
Butter & M^r John Wemp with 4 Indians of the Lower
Mohock Castle with His Packet to
General Braddock.

Mount Johnson 20 May 1755.

Instructions to William Printop Interpreter
whom Col^l Johnson dispatched with the Speech
here following to the Indians living at Onquago
& on the Squakanna.

You are to sit off tomorrow
morning

13
Morrow Morning with the Party whom I am
sending to General Braddock and on your ar-
-rival at Ochquago, you are to call a Meeting
of the Indians living in those parts & deliver to
them in my name the Speech on the other side,
at the same time showing the Belt & desiring
them to be ready to accompany you either on
your return. You are then to go down the
River as far as Tyago where you are to
assemble those Indians together, make the
same Speech to them & go with them to Och-
-quago & then proceed with both Parties, either

Brethren of the Five Nations and others living
at Ochquago and all along the River
Susquahanna

You must remember that I was the first who
opened the Road between you & us and at a difficult
time, we then promised each other to take care of it
& keep it clear, so that if at any time anything
should happen to either of us the News might soon reach
the other & by this means come to each others assistance. I
have been for some time weak & not able to do much more
at the Road than to keep it open, but now I can with
pleasure tell you that I have recovered my strength
& am busy to make all the Road between us &
our Brethren wider & Pleasanter than ever, but it
will not be quite perfect unless you lend a helping hand
which I desire you will now do & come & smoke a Pipe
with me when I shall tell you some News that will
not only be agreeable but advantageous to you. I
expect you will not delay but make see the
Haste you can as I shall be looking out for you
every day. a Belt

14 The 15th of May 1754. Col^l Johnson sent Two Onondaga Indians
as Spies to Carasagui to bring all the Intelligence concern-
ing the motion of the French wth they could obtain.
The 22nd he sent a white Man with Three Mohock Indians
to Crown Point to make what Discoveries & gain all
the Intelligence they could.

The 20th of May. Col^l Johnson sent for Peter a Mohock Indian
who has staid at the Mohock Castle since last fall ^(with some Regt)
but for 16 years past has resided in Canada & was last
War one of the most active Indians in the French
Interest. The Col^l used many Arguments ~~with him~~
to prevail with him to remain here, to send for his
Wife & Family from Canada & quit all his Attachments
to the French. He took the 3rd String of Wampum wth
the Col gave him to enforce what he had said & having
wandered for two days, returned & assured the Col^l
he would comply with his Exhortations, send for his
Wife & Family & remain true to the English, upon wth
the Col^l assured him he would take Care of him & his
Family & ~~make~~ ^{make} ~~him~~ ^{him} made a Sachem -

Albany 28 May 1755 -

Colonel Johnson being in this City Five Lagnawaga
Indians came to his House & said.

Hearing you were in Town we proposed
waiting on you yesterday but as our chief Man was in
Liquor we deferred it till this Morning.

We are now come altogether to wait on you
& are very glad to see you well.

The Col^l replied. I thank you for this mark of your
respect & am glad to see you well.

They staid & talked some time & the Col gave them 3 or 4
Drams of Rum apiece & some Money to a Squaw & Childen
they brought with them. at

15

at this time while Col. Johnson was at Albany the
Commissioners gave up to him four Bells of Wampum
which they received last year from the French Indians &
said they had no others in their possession, but that
Ancient Stevens the Interpreter had carried up some
with him to conclude with the Five Nations upon
some Death amongst them.

Copy of Col. Johnson's Letter to the Hon. ^{of} James
DeLancy Esq. & Lieut Gov. of New York.

Sir
Both the head Sachem of the Indians living near
Shohone & the leading Sachems of the Upper & Lower
Mohock families, have made heavy complaints to me
of the white People in those parts selling Rum to the
Indians, represented the ill consequences thereof & prayed
that it may be prevented.

Your Honour I persuade myself is sensible
this selling of Rum to the Indians has been ever attended
with fatal consequences to the public Interest with
them & at this juncture must be more than commonly
detrimental. If an Act of the Legislature cannot be
obtained to prohibit the sale of Rum to the Indians
without any limitation of time, I do in the most earnest
manner request your Honour that you will apply
to the Assembly to form an Act without such Pains & Expence
against this Sale of Rum to the Indians during the
present Situation of public Affairs as may be (so far
as possible) effectual to prevent it. Unless such a
Law is made & the Obstacle of it secured in the
strongest manner, the general Interest in my humble
Opinion will infallibly suffer, and those Measures now
in Legitation for the Honour of His Majesty's Crown
& the Security & Welfare of his Subjects in this Party
be greatly embarrassed

I am most respectfully Sir &c
 Mount Johnson 2^d June 1755.

P.S. There should be a Clause in the act to prevent
 any Persons buying their Arms, Ammunition, Cloathing
 or exchanging.

The 6th June. The White Man & 3 Mohock Indians whom
 Col^l Johnson sent 22^d ult^o to Crown Point as
 Spies returned. They say they went & posted them-
 selves on a Hill from whence with the help of
 a spying Glass they could see into the Fort, they
 remained here all day, they saw only a few People
 stirring in & about the Fort & could make no
 further Discoveries.

The 1st & 5th June Col^l Johnson went to the Mohock
 & Onnogoherie Castles to fix on proper places
 to the Fort on for said Indians. When he directed
 the Onnogoherie, to send down some young Men
 to go as Spies to Crown Point.

The 7th June. Three Onnogoherie Indians came to Col^l Johnson
 to go as Spies to Crown Point to whom he joined
 Two white Men of Mohock & dispatched them
 thither with proper Instructions.

M^r Arent Stevens

Mount Johnson 7 June 1755

I send you three Bunches of Beef & Pork
 for the use of the Six Nations w^{ch} you are to distribute
 equally amongst them, get as much Peas, Corn &
 Bread from the Germans living at Onondaga, & will
 send them h^{ere} they get here, be careful to prevent
 their getting Liquor from the Inhabitants, but they
 commit any Violence by the way. As soon as you arrive
 with them at the German Flat, dispatch a trusty
 Indian with a few Lines telling me how the day I
 may

may expect them here). You are to call upon the Seneca-
-jokers & tell them they must set out the next day after
the Six Nations have passed their Castle, make the same
known to the Mohocks I am

W^t Asent Stevens Mount Johnson 10 June 1755

If the Six Nations should stop at
Lsnaagohary Castle a Day, you must provide
them with some Provision for that time &
bring me an list of the Expenses thereof as well
as all other Expence you have been at on that
Service. I am

Yours.
Will Johnson

W^t Jacobus Clement Mount Johnson 11 June 1755.

You are to proceed with all possible
Despatch to join Asent Stevens, to assist him in
bringing down the Indians, to preserve good Order
amongst them & prevent their doing any Mischief
to the Inhabitants on their way either

The Three Advertisement, I give you
herewith you are to set up in the most public
place the Indians are to pass thro & make the
same public to the Inhabitants as you
go along
Y^t W. Johnson

When Scaroojady or the half King came into these parts
last Winter to meet the great Council of the 6 Nations at
Onondaga, he made Col. Johnson many Proffessions of his
Esteem & Friendship, & that he would at all times be ready to
listen to & comply with Col. Johnsons Requests. Upon the Col.
return ^{from} Alexandria by Appointment to the Sole
Management of Indian Affairs, he sent a Belt of Wampum
to the said half King informing him of the same, desiring
him to assist the Cause of the English & to attend General
Braddock with all the Warriors under his Influence.

This Day the 13 June 1755. Col. Johnson received a letter from Mr. Froghan at Fort Cumberland enclosing him the following speech ~~from~~ to him from the half King being in answer to the one before mentioned w^{ch} Col. Johnson had sent to him.

Brother

Fort Cumberland 15 May 1755.

This day I received a speech delivered me by George Froghan in your name. I have been here these four days waiting on the General with all the Warriors I had at George Froghans House, he himself came in company with us.

Brother I am glad to hear our Father the King of England has appointed you to take care of the Indians. You are well known to us & a Man we can trust. I assure you that I & all my People here will heartily join the General & go with him to fight the French & I hope you will send what Warriors you can spare to join us & we assure you we shall always be ready and to confirm ^{and} what we now say to you we present you this Belt of Wampum gave a Belt.

The 13 June Colonel Johnson having received Intelligence from some Mohock Indians that they had that Morning discovered a party of Onagongwe Indians (who live in Canhadawara in the French Interest) within 3 Miles of the Colonel's House; he sent a Message by the said Mohock Indians to their Castle, ~~inspiring~~ that they should send some of their Young Men to join the scouting party he was going to send out, and that if on this Occasion they did not show their Zeal & readiness to join us against these our Enemies it would give us cause to be jealous that they conceived at these Hostile proceedings. soon after three or four of their Warriors came & acquainted the Colonel that they were voluntarily come & were ready to go out, accordingly they accompanied about 20 of Col. Johnsons servants who went & ranged the Woods in his Neighbourhood. The next day all the sachems & Warriors of the aforesaid Castle met in Council

to deliberate on the Message sent them by Colonel Johnson, w^{ch} held till that night. 19

Mount Johnson 16 June 1755. -

This afternoon the aforesaid Chief Sachems & Warriors came in a Body to Colonel Johnsons & the following is the Conference w^{ch} ensued.

Pres^t. The Hon^{ble} Col^l Johnson
Peter Wadswall Secretary for Indian Affairs.
Mr Daniel Gaepe & Jonathan Stevens Interpreters.
Peter a Warrior rose up & said.

Brother I accompany you in the Names &
on the behalf of all the Warrior here present & our
Society the Sachems.

We thank God who daily preserves our
Lives for the present Opportunity of meeting you
here & for the frequent Advantages we enjoy of con-
-sulting & conferring with you.

Some time after Canadagai a
Chief Sachem of the Bear Tribe rose up & spoke as
follows. Brother We the Three Tribes of the Mohock
Castle are now come to you according to our wonted
Custom, when we have consulted upon any thing
of Importance to communicate it to You whom we
look upon as one of our selves.

Brother You told some of our People the day
before Yesterday, that our Situation was at present
Dangerous & that we ought to protect our Neigh-
-bours & our own Possessions, but as we are not

perfectly clear in the Report w^{ch} was made us of your
Message, We are now come that we may be fully
satisfied in what manner you would have us behave.

We were yesterday most part of the Day in Coun-
-cil upon the Message w^{ch} was brought us from
you, but as we were under some uncertainties about
it, We are now come both Sachems & Warriors to
hear

hear from your own Mouth distinctly what you have to say on the aforesaid Subject.

Brother you are well to keep a good look out against our Enemies; You who are our near Neighbour & so well acquainted with us, know that our Warriors are easily roused & soon prepared against their Enemies, therefore lest their Warlike Dispositions should hurry them on too precipitately & they begin their War Song without due Cause, we thought it prudent to learn from you the true Ground of your aforesaid Message, & therefore our chief Warriors are now here present to receive your Instructions to them & we Sachins leave them to do as they shall judge most proper.

Colonel Johnson withdrew & having directed the following Speech to be drawn, returned to them & replied as follows.

Brothers

Two days ago I received certain Intelligence from some of our Brethren here present, that a Party of Amagonque Indians were seen & spoke with a few Miles from my House upon which I sent notice to your Castle by the Indians who gave me this Information. It appears to me that these Indians must have come upon ill Designs & with hostile Intentions, and I am the more fully assured of it as the Caynawaga Indians have lately twice told me at Albany, that notwithstanding they had sworn ~~and~~ them & forbid them to injure or make War upon any of the English, they said they were hungry after English Flesh & were determined to eat some & they have accordingly scalped & taken some Prisoners on the Borders of New England, and I suppose if I had not timely prevented them by sending out Parties, they would have done the same here, and I am still keeping Parties out to watch for them, round Albany, Schenectady & this Neighbourhood.

Brothers

Brethren

When it is considered, that these Indians came & made a solemn Treaty of Peace last Fall at Albany, that our Brethren the Sagnewagas have forbidden them to break that Peace, for them not only to murder & take Prisoners, our Brethren in New England but to come here even under your own noses to do the same - I say when these things are considered, I think your Blood ought to rise as well as ours as we are one Blood & one Heart, and that these Indians deserve to be severely punished for their Treachery, their spilling the Blood of our Brethren & their Impudence in coming into our Neighbourhood upon the same Designs.

However Brethren as I would at all times be very cautious of inflaming your young Men without very just Grounds & have so much Brotherly Love for them that I would not without apparent necessity expose them to any Danger, ~~but~~ I will only at present say, that as our mutual safety & Honour is at Stake, I expect & desire that if these Indians continue to behave as Enemies your Warriors will be ready to join mine and treat them as they deserve.

Gave a Belt.

Mount Johnson 17 June 1755 -

This afternoon Will^m Crintop Interpreter arrived from the Susquehanna with two Chiefs with him & reports that he came within about 40 Miles of this Place with a great number of the Indians living in those parts their Women & Children who he expects will be all here tomorrow.

He gave Col. Johnson two Belts, one from the Indians living on the Susquehanna River who are a mixture of the 5 Nations, wth they send in return to one sent them by Col. Johnson to invite them to the Meeting here with a Message of thanks what they would attend.

The other Belt from the King of the Schanhadigroenes with the following speech from him.

Brother

Brother
 I am very much rejoiced to hear that the
 King our Father hath granted the Request of the
 several Nations of Indians our Brethren, by appointing
 you to the Management of our Affairs. It gives me
 a real concern that my present ill state of Health
 would not allow me to come myself but I have
 sent my own Son in my room, and with this Belt I
 all I fear from your Eyes & release your Throat
 so that you may see clear & speak with all our
 Brethren who are to meet you to your mutual
 Satisfaction. (a Belt)

In the evening Capt. Hoddert arrived with several
 Sachems & Warriors of the following Nations, viz.
 Senecas, Onondagas, Cayugas & Tiedagrigroenes.
 Whom Col. Johnson sent for up, to whom he paid
 the usual Compliments of Welcome (giving them ^{each} all
 a Draw of Beer, a Pipe & some Tobacco) - they said the re-
 mainder of their People would be down tomorrow.

Mount Johnson 19 June 1755.

Arrived this Afternoon a large Party of Onondagas,
 Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Schanahadagrigroenes & the Indians
 from the Seneca hauna. Nothing passed but Camp & of
 welcome.

The 20 - This evening the Sachems of Cayuga came & presented
 a young Sachem to Col. Johnson for his Approbation.
 He approved of him & gave him an Exhortation on the
 Occasion. The next day he gave the S. Sachem a Medal
 & clothed him with a Laid Wat said that &c.

The 21. This Morning another Party of Onondagas, Oneidas
 & Tuscaroras arrived to the am^t of 105. and says some
 more are yet behind.

At dinner time the Sachems & Warriors of the latter
 Mohawk Sachem for the march to Col. Johnson's with the
 Rev^d Mr Ogilvie their Missionary & their Chief Sachem at
 their Head & made a fine appearance.

Mount Johnson Saturday the
25 June 1755. p. m. -

Pres.

The Honble William Johnson

The Rev. Mr Ogilvie Indian Missionary

Colo. Woacall Secretary for Indian Affairs.

Mr Daniel Claape, Asent Stevens, William Printop
& Jacobus Clement Interpreters.

Mr. Farrell, Capt Stoddert, Capt Butler & several other
Persons attending.

The Honble William Johnsons First
Public Speech to the Indians.

(N. B.) This speech was translated & wrote in
the Indian Language by Mr Daniel Claape
a German Gentleman of Education who hath
lived for some time amongst the Indians of the
upper Mohock Castle in order to make himself
Master of their Language, herein he was assisted
by the other Interpreters under the Inspection of
Col Johnson. Before it was delivered in public
it was read in Indian to two chief Sachems &
Eminent Speakers of the Onondaga & Onida
~~Sachems~~ Nations, and was afterwards spoke to
the whole Body of Indians with their Consent &
Approbation by the Onondaga Sachem called Red
Head who was prompted by the Onida Sachem
to whom Mr Claape read the Speech with a low
Voice, Paragraph by Paragraph, Colonel Johnson
having first read it aloud to all present in
English.

Brothers of the Nine Confederate Nations
were present. †

With

† Six. Mohocks. Onidas. Tuscaroes. Onondagas.
Cayouges. Senecas. Schaghticoen. Tiedering.
roen. and Delawares & ~~and~~ Cayugues.
living upon the Susquehanna River.

With this String of Wampum, I wipe away
all Tears from your Eyes, & clear your Throats
that we may cheerfully look one another in
the Face and that you may at this Meeting attend
& speak without Constraint.

Brethren.

(a String of Wampum)

I have been lately at Virginia where
I went in Company with the Governor of Boston,
of New York, of Pennsylvania & Maryland, to wait
on His Excellency General Braddock (a great
Warrior) whom ^{our Father} the King of England hath sent over
to this Continent with a large number of armed
Men, Great Guns & other Implements of War, to
protect you & all His other Subjects within these
His Dominions from the Insults & Encroachments
of the French. With this Great Man we met the Gov^r
of Virginia & another Great Warrior who com-
manded all the Kings Ships in these parts of the
World. At this Meeting a Great Council was held,
many important Affairs were considered & agreed
upon, amongst which the Welfare & Interest
of you our Brethren, bore no small part and
I assure you were seriously considered.

By this String of Wampum, I confirm the
Truth of this Account. (I have a large String of Wampum)

Brethren

The Tree which in your public Speeches
and in your private Applications to me, you have
so often & so earnestly desired might be again set up,
is now raised, and fixed in the Earth by so powerful
a hand, that its Roots will take a firm & deep
footing

Footings, and its Branches, be a ^{comfortable} ~~firm~~ extensive shade
for you & all your Allies to take shelter under it.
— For I do now acquaint you that the Great King
Your Father, hath granted your Request, and that
conformable to His Instructions to General
Braddock, I am appointed to the sole Management
& Superintendency of all Affairs relating to you
& your Allies, which may be transacted in these
parts — And by this Belt I do now invite you to
all your Allies to come & sit under this Tree
where you may freely open your Hearts & get
all your Wounds healed.

(gave a Belt of Wampum)

I do Brethren at the same time remove the
Pens which remained at Albany and rekindle the
Fire of Council & Friendship at this Place, and this Fire
I shall make of such Wood as will give the clearest Light
& greatest Warmth, and I hope it will prove comfort-
able & useful to all such as will come & light their
Pipes at it, and dare & scotch all those who are or
may be Enemies to it. I expect Brethren that you
will on your part, increase the Lustre & Benefits
of this Fire, by keeping it dry & up & attending it
with that diligent Care, as may render it not only
a Blessing to your selves but to your Posterity.
To obtain & secure these salutary Ends, it will be abso-
lutely necessary for you, totally to extinguish all
other deceitful & unnatural Fires, which are made
up to mislead & in the end destroy both you & yours.
to confirm & enforce your Compliance with what
I have ^{now} said on this Subject, I give you this Belt
(gave a Belt of Wampum)

Brethren

With this String of Wampum, I make
this Council Room clean & free from every thing
offensive, and I hope that you will take care
that

that no Snake may creep amongst us or any thing which may obstruct our Harmony.

Brotheren (gave a string of Wampum)

I must admonish & exhort you, that you will at all times, but more especially at this important Conjunction, pluck from your Hearts & cast away, all Discord, Jealousy, & Mistrust: Standings which may subsist amongst you, or which any evil Spirit may endeavour to raise in your Breasts — Consult together with that Love & Confidence which becomes Brotheren, — Let your general Interest be the Desire & above all things engage the Attention of every particular Man amongst you. Unity amongst Brotheren is the best & surest Defence against every Enemy.

Brotheren joined together with Love & Confidence are like a great Bundle of Sticks which cannot be broke whilst they are bound together, but when separated from each other a Child may break them. So will it be with you — if you keep in union & Love with one another, you will be strong & your Enemy cannot hurt you — but if you are inflamed & divided by Jealousy & Mistrust, you may be easily destroyed. So fix in your Hearts & remember this Advice which I have given you effectual, I strengthen it with this Belt of Wampum.

Brotheren (gave a Belt of Wampum)

Hyball? I have a present to give you from General Braddock & some Presents which He

gave a Bundle of Sticks bound together were delivered by Col. Johnson to the Speaker, who with a very lively Action in an animated manner exemplified the Metaphor & gave the Bundle of Sticks to a Sachem on the front Bench. Upon this a Universal shout of Applause was given.

The Great King your Father hath sent you by
that Warrior - I shall deliver you His Speech with
another of my own the day after to morrow. And
as what I & all then say to you will be of the greatest
Importance to you all, I desire that none will ab-
sent themselves either Men Women or Children.

The Colonel then told us he had done for
this time.

A few Minutes afterwards, Herodiah the
Great Sachem of the Mohock Nation, rose up
& said. Brothers

We return you our most grateful
Acknowledgements for the Speech you have made
to us, and also for the Promise of the further Speech
you mention, And for the present we take our
leave of you.

The 22. June 1755.

Colonel Johnson having given Orders
to the Interpreter to take an Oath & give us a
return of the Number of Indians of each Nation
Men Women & Children come down to this Meeting
this day gave the following List.

Senecas	67.	} of which there are more Men than were ever before known to come to any Meeting
Cayouges	103.	
Onidas	200.	
Sugarons	64.	
Onondagas	100.	
Tierogroenes	9.	
Schanadarigroenes	19.	
DeLaawares	101.	
Upper & Lower Mohocks	408.	
Total. 1071		

Mount Johnson 23 June 1755-

The Sachems having this morning sent notice to Colonel Johnson that the proposed making their Reply to his Speech to the A. Inst. he consented to put off ~~Delivering~~ ^{Delivering} them Gen^l Braddocks Speech & his own till tomorrow.

P. M.

P. M.

Shelton. Will^m Johnson

Shelton. W^m Ogilvie Missionary

Peter Warrell Sec^y & the Interpreters as before.

Lieut. Butler there formerly mentioned many other Persons of the Neighbourhood attending.

Hendrick the Mohock Sachem first rose up & said.

Brother Wariaghbejaghe (Col. Johnsons Indian Name)

The Confederate Nations are now ready to make their reply to your Speech to them on last Saturday are you prepared & disposed to hear what we have to say? Colonel Johnson told them he was.

Hendrick then rose up again & ~~said~~ ^{addressing} himself to the Indians said.

Brother Sachems & you Warriors

My Children

We are now assembled to reply to our Brother Wariaghbejaghe. I will therefore acquaint you with the Method which has always been observed by our Forefathers on these Occasions.

The Mohocks, the Onondagas & the Senecas being the Elder Brothers of the Confederacy, the Speaker at all public Times was chosen out of One or other of those Nations, nor was any preference given to either of the Three, from whichever of them a Speaker was chosen there was no fear but every thing would be regularly conducted, and now I give you Notice that ^{our} Brother (alias Red Head) an Onondaga Sachem is chosen for our Speaker

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Speaker at this Meeting &

You Warriors & young Men take notice & remember
this Custom.

Caswantune then rose up & addressed himself
to Colonel Johnson & said as follows.

Brother Wariaghhejaghe Sole Superintendent
of our Affairs. And all you who are here present
attend to what I am going to say.

We the Confederate Nations now assembled
do by this String of Wampum return You our Brotherly
Thanks for the Ceremony of wiping away our Tears &c.

We do the same to you for every cause of grief
you may have had & we also Clear your Throat & Heart
that you may speak to us with an unobstrained Freedom.

We likewise Condole with our Brethren the English
for all the Blood & bath been spilt by the French
& all other Enemies. (gave a String of Wampum)

Brother

If we are deficient in any matter of Answer
or should forget to answer in a particular manner
any part of your Speech, We hope you will excuse
us. We only depend upon our Memories & cannot have
recourse as you may to any written Records.

Brother We take very kindly & thank you for the
Citation you have given us of your Journey to Vir-
ginia & what passed at the Great Council there, And
we are thankful to the Great King our Father for
sending over General Braddock with so many of
his

A great Council of the Sachems & Chief Warriors of all the
Nations had been held upon this Day the whole Morning
& Hendrik was nominated for their Speaker, but he declined
it & proposed Caswantune, who was at last agreed to. This
Caswantune for some years past had been very much in the
French Interest, but by Col Johnson's Influence had been shaken in
his former attachment to them, and the Col had now bro't him quite over to our

His Warrior, Great Gun, to rescue our Lands from
the Encroachment of the French.

Brother (Gave a String of Wampum)

We were grieved & distressed whilst the Tree
lay down. We are with the utmost Gratitude sensible
of the King our Father's Goodness & Kindness towards us
in granting our Request which was made from the
Bottom of our Hearts to have it raised up again! We
are universally rejoiced to see this Tree re-planted
& that in so strong a Manner; We hope it will be
nourished by refreshing Streams, that it may
grow up as high as the Heavens & be proof against
every envious Wind; that its Branches may be
large & numerous enough to afford sufficient
Shelter for us & all our Brethren to come &
convent under it; And that our Children's Children
may Bless the Hand that planted it.

Brother (Gave a Belt)

We have been long in Darkness, and were
truly obliged to the King our Father for now
restoring us to that clear & comfortable Light
which in old times cheered our Forefathers, by
appointing You to the sole Management of our
Affairs, who have always treated us kindly
& honestly, whom we look upon as our own
Flesh & Blood. You last Year to our great Satis-
faction made up the Fire at Onondaga of such
Wood as will never burn out. As to the Fire at
Albany it was so low & so bad, that we could not
find even a spark to light a Pipe at it, and we
cannot express our Joy that here we shall now
have a Fire that will answer every purpose
we wish for & that will never be extinguished.
We now look on You Brother as the King our
Father's

31

Father's Representative and that we are under
Your Direction & Disposal, And the Fire you have
~~now~~ kindled ^{here} as well as that at Onondaga, we
will cherish, and all other Fires we thus kick
away (here the Speaker kicked with his foot) as
unnatural & hateful to us.

The Speaker then presented a Belt of
Wampum to Col. Johnson & made
Three Low Bows & all the Indians
gave a shout.

Brother
We are much obliged to you for renewing
our ancient Ties, you have the words of these
Things & we thank you for putting us in mind
of them by cleaning this Council place, And we
assure you we will on our part endeavour to
keep it clean & free of every thing that may be
hurtful or unfriendly.
(gave a string of Wampum)

Brother
We are extremely thankful to you for
unifying your good Advice to us to be sincerely
& affectionately united together, in so expressive
a manner as you did by this Bundle of Sticks.
It hath warmed our Hearts, and we are sensible
that divided we shall be like this single Stick
easily broken & destroyed, we are determined to
support that strict Union which rendered our
Forefathers formidable & happy.

(Gave a Belt of Wampum)
Here the Speaker made a Bow & sat down.

The Chief Sachem of Onida then rose up & addressed
himself to the Mohocks, Onondagas & Senecas, and said
Fathers & Elder Brothers

We acquaint you that as one of our
Sachems

32. Sachems called *Sennochquanie* is dead, we raise up this Boy (presenting one) in his Room & give him the same name.

Then he addressed himself to Colonel Johnson said the same to him & gave him a string of Wampum. Colonel Johnson took the Lad by the hand, said he was pleased with the Appointment, and desired the Sachems of that Nation to introduce him to morrow morning & he would clothe him as usual.

Colonel Johnson then returned the Assembly his Thanks for their respectful & affectionate answer to his speech. And having given them notice by one of the Sachems to attend to morrow great & small to hear what he had further to say to them, and that two Cannons would be fired as a signal. The Colonel then withdrew & the Assembly broke up.

Mount Johnson 25 June 1755.

This Morning Colonel Johnson examined the two Onondaga Indians whom he dispatched the 15th ult. (see page 13) to Cadaragui for Intelligence. They arrived here some days ago, but there was no time to examine them till this Morning.

By ¹ Peter Whipple Sur.
Went Stevens Interpreter.

The Chief Man of the said two Indians says.

That at the Falls of Oswego River he met an Indian who had lived at the new French Settlement of Swegashie & had left it 8 or 10 days before
at 10 below Cadaragui on the River St. Lawrence. That he sat down & entered into conversation with him & thereby learnt the following particulars—

That he & the other Indians of the 6 Nations whom the French had drawn away to settle at Swegashie were

were obliged to break up their settlement there for want of Provisions, for that all was given away to & consumed by the Troop, we marched that way to the Ohio & that the Priest who was settled at Sweet-goshie had left that place.

That he told him 1200 Troop had gone by this Spring bound for the Ohio — that there were very few Troop kept in Garrison at Cadaragui Fort. And that all the Troop go from Niagara to the Ohio.

He told him there was another Indian whom he expected to come along if he would wait he might learn more News from him. He did & the second Indian came up to them, This Indian confirmed what the other had said, & added that 800 more Troop had passed by Sweetgoshie since the above mentioned 1200 — bound also for Ohio.

That at Cadaragui Fort there used commonly to be but 4 Cannon but that there were now 15 ^{that the walls were about 2 foot & a half thick. he showed it with a stick.} That the Gov^r of Canada had insisted upon each of the Castles of Indian, settled round about Canada to give him 10 Warrior apiece to go to Ohio & 10 also from Sweetgoshie. but that the Indians were displeased at this demand & ~~at this time~~ with the Warlike Proceedings at Ohio, that it was with great Difficulty the Gov^r of Canada could prevail on the Indians to grant him any Warriors, but at length he obtained 5 from each Castle & had the same Number from Sweetgoshie.

That the French Officer at Cadaragui had asked him of the Port at Oswego was a strong one he told him it was, the Officer said no it is not, I can push it down with a stick.

He likewise told him all the Indians were leaving the Settlement of Sweetgoshie for want of Provisions. Our Indians having gained this Intelligence

Intelligence, thought it unnecessary to go to Cadaraqui themselves or to return.

Last night the scouting party sent the 7th Inst (vide pag 26) to spy at French Point returned & say they could make no discovery, that all seem very still there & that they did not see even a Sentry at the Gate. —

Mount Johnson 24 June 1755.

The Honorable William Johnsons Second Speech to the Sachems & Warriors of the Confederate Nations.

P. M.

Mr. William Johnson.

Philippe de la Riviere, Missionary

John Warrall Secy. for Indian Affairs

The Interpreter as before.

Most of the Persons who attended yesterday &c.

The same Method, was taken with this Speech as was notified (pag 23) at the 1st first Speech, only that Hendrick the Mohock Sachem was joined with the Onondaga & Onida Sachems & all three divided the Delivery of it between them.

The Secretary for Indian Affairs read it first aloud in English by Col Johnsons Orders. —

(N. B.)

Colonel Johnson had designed to have delivered General Braddocks Speech before he did this, but he afterwards judged this would be a proper Introduction to that, and the Sachems he consulted & who assisted in speaking this Speech, told him it would be more acceptable to prepare the Indians for General Braddocks Speech by giving them this first.

Brotherhood

35

Brethren Sachems & Warriors of the Confederate Nations here present.

With this String of Wampum I pick your ears and desire you will give the most serious Attention to all I shall now say to you.

(gave a String of Wampum)

Behold Brethren These Great Books

4 folio Volumes of the
Records of Indian
affairs, will lay upon
the Table before the
Colonel.

They are Records of the many solemn
Treaties and the various Transactions
which have passed between your
Forefathers & your Brethren the
English; also between many of you
here present & your Brethren now living.

You well know & these Books testify that it
is now almost 100 years since your Forefathers
& ours became known to each other - that upon
our first acquaintance we shook hands & finding
we should be useful to one another, entered into
a Covenant of Brotherly Love & mutual Friend-
ship - And tho we were at first only tied together
by a Rope, yet lest this Rope should grow rotten
& break, we tied ourselves together by an Iron
Chain - lest Time or Accidents might rust &
destroy this Chain of Iron, we afterwards made
one of Silver, the Strength & Brightness of
which would subject it to no decay - The Ends of this
Silver Chain we fast to the immovable Moun-
tains, and this in so firm a manner that the hand
of no Mortal Enemy might be able to remove it.
All this my Brethren you know to be Truth - You
know also that this Covenant Chain of Love &
Friendship, was the Dread & Envy of all your ^{Enemies} ~~Enemies~~
~~Forefathers~~ & ours - that by keeping it bright and
unbroken

unbroken, we have never spilt in Anger one Drop of each others Blood to this Day - You will know also, that from the beginning to this time we have almost every year, strengthened & brightened this Covenant Chain in the most public & solemn Manner.

You know that we became as one Body, One Blood & one People - the same King our common Father - that your Enemies were ours - that whom you took into your Alliance & allowed to put their hands into this Covenant Chain as Brethren, we have always considered & treated as such.

Brethren you know also, that from the beginning, the French were your declared & most cruel Enemies - Did they not stir up & join the surrounding Nations of Indians to oppress & cut you off from the face of the Earth? Did they not cruelly & treacherously drive your Forefathers from their Ancient Habitations, and obliged them to remove to where you are now settled? Did they not still continue their Devilish & blood thirsty Enmity against you, and endeavour many many times to burn these your Settlements & destroy you Men, Women & Children? Did not your Brethren the English in these times of your Distress, support & assist you with Arms & Ammunition? And when by your Union we were become strong, did we not go out to War with you against the French & their Indians, bring off a great number of Prisoners & Scalps & make all the French in Canada tremble? Did not the French find that by your entering into a Covenant Chain with us, you were become so strong & powerful, that they

could

could not destroy you by open Force? Did they not
then make Peace with you & pretend a Friendship
for you? But were they faithful or sincere to these
Professions? No - Did they not talk of Peace with
their Lips when War was in their Hearts? Did
they not smile on you when they had the Hatchet
in their Bosoms? Did they not under the Pro=
fessions of Friendship, betray, Deceive & murder
you at Cadaragui? Did they not make War
on & kill you at the Senecas, the Onondagas, the
Oneidas & the Mohocks? Do not the Bones of
your Ancestors remain a Testimony of it to
this Day, and call on you their Children, ever to
mistrust the fair Speeches of the French & to
revenge their foul Deeds? Did they not impose
on your good nature & Confidence, when they
begged your leave to build small Houses at
Cadaragui, Niagara & Brown Point upon your
Lands, and instead thereof built Forts, & put Soldiers
therein, contrary to your Inclinations & their
Agreement with you? And in order to secure
your selves from their treacherous Inroach=
ments, did you not put all your Lands under
the Protection & Dominion of the Great King
of England your Father, by a solemn Deed in
writing signed by your Great Men of each
Nation & w^{ch} the Books now before me testify?
Did not the French afterwards delude some of
you, & partly by Art & partly by Force, build a
strong House even at your Castle at Onondaga?
And did not the great Quicker come up, pull it
down & burn it to the ground and to your great
Joy drive the French Men away?

I should never make an End, if I were to
relate

relate to you, how often & how much of your Blood the French have spilt - how frequently they have deceived & misadvised by their wicked & abominable Art, to make you suspicious of us your Brethren, and to prevail on you to break the Covenant Chain of your Forefathers. When these base Methods would not fully succeed, have they not often & what lately, like Devils in the shape of Men, poisoned some of your wisest Sachems against the English? Did they not six years ago, send a Body of Armed Men under the Command of Mons^r. Fullerton, to surprise & cut off your Brethren at the Ohio, which they would in all probability have succeeded in, had I not prevented it by giving them timely Notice of their Danger? have they not absolutely taken possession of your best Hunting Grounds at Ohio & built Forts thereon contrary to your Inclination, as you have often declared to me?

I thus have in the shortest manner I was able, rehearsed to you some of the chief matters w^{ch} have passed in old times & in these our days, between you & your Brethren the English; Also the Behaviour of your ancient & most bloody Enemies the French, who are in their Heart, still the same whatever they may profess with their Lips. I know that most of these things have been handed down to you by your Forefathers, and that many of your Sachems here present, can in a great measure witnes the Truth of them. However I thought it necessary at this important time, to give
you

You this general Relation, that your young People may put
it into their Hearts, and I give you this Belt of Wampum as
a Testimony that what I have told you is Truth & Fact.

(Gave a Belt of Wampum)

And now my Brethren I ask you, & desire
every Man present to put his hand on his Heart &
ask himself seriously this Question who have been,
who are the Friends & Brethren of the Five Confederate
Nations & their Allies, the English or the French?

Does it require any time to consider, does it require any
argument, to determine? If you can be one Moment
in doubt, I must tell you, you will not act like the
Children of those Brave & honest Men whom you
call your Forefathers, but like French Men in
the shape of the Five Nations. Are you indeed our
Brethren? Are you the Children of our ancient
Friends & Brethren? Are you those Sachems & Warriors
of the Five Confederate Nations whom the Great
King of England, the best & most upright Prince in
the World, loves & honours, as his Wise, his Warlike
& dutiful Children? Are you the Brethren of the
English? Are you my Brethren also? — I hope
you are, and if so, I am sure you cannot in your
Hearts deny, but that the English have ever been,
still are, & will be you remain true to your solemn
Engagement, & keep the Covenant Chain unbroken.
I assure you will ever be, your affectionate Bre-
thren & steady Friends — And that on the other
hand ~~that~~ the French have been & still are in
their Hearts, Enemies whom you are at all times
bound to suspect & detest.

Thus I am sure you ought to think, & I
am persuaded do think. Be Men therefore, &
be neither afraid nor ashamed, with one uni-
fied Voice to make an honest open Profession
thereof. I call on you by this large Belt of
Wampum to do so. (Gave a large Belt of Wampum)

Brethren

Brethren

The French

Whatever report, may artfully spread amongst
 You, to alarm & excite jealousy in you against the
 English your Antient Brethren, your sincere Friends
 & faithful Allies, Believe nothing are false, raised
 only to ruin you, save you, to establish their own
 Power & then execute upon you & yours, that Malice
 & Hatred w^{ch} they now keep concealed. Be wise then
 my Brethren, & in order for ever to remove from you
 any jealousy w^{ch}
 those vile Lies & abominable Tales of our Enemies
 the French may make you harbour against your
 Brethren the English. I call that Almighty Super
 aloft to Witness, who made us all & knows our
 Hearts. who created the Sun which shines upon us
 as in whose hands are the Thunder & Lightning
 that we your Brethren have no ill Designs whatever
 against you. & If you will stand by & uphold the Cove
 nant Chain of your forefathers — if you will continue
 to be dutiful & faithful Children to the Great King of
 England your Father — if you will be true Brothers
 to the English, and neither enter into any underhand En
 gagement, with the French, or into any Treaties with
 them against your Brethren the English, if you
 will do this with Sincerity & keep it truly & honestly
 — I am now ready with this Belt in the Great King
 Your Father's name, to renew to make more strong
 and bright than ever, the Covenant Chain of
 Love

& The French have lately propagated amongst our Indians
 that the English intend to enslave & cut them off, and as
 the present Government without any formal Declaration
 of War, have raised the attention & caused some serious
 surprise in the Indians, they who are naturally suspicious
 have been much affected by these Reports. Col. Johnson
 therefore thought it necessary to make the above Declara
 tion in such solemn terms, thinking it would be the
 most effectual Method to prevent hereafter the Influence

Love & Friendship between all the English upon
this Continent & you the Confederate Nations
here present your Allies & Dependents. And that
it be now agreed between us, that those who are
Friends or Enemies to the English shall be considered
as such by the said Confederate Nations their Allies
& Dependents, and that your Friends & Enemies shall
be ours.

proposed the Union Belt was
given —

Brotheren

It is not that the English are afraid
of the French, or any of their Enemies, that I make
you this offer. It is because your Father the
Great King of England loves & honours the Memory
of your Forefathers, and is inclined to treat you
like his Children, as his Children, provided you will
be as Dutiful & Faithful as they were. He is willing
that he will protect you, your Wives & Children
from the Power & Enmity of the French. And He is
determined to drive all the Frenchmen into their Country
of Canada, for which purpose His Warriors are
now gathered together with their Swords in their hands,
His great Guns are loaded & all his Warlike Instru-
ments are sharpened & ready. If you therefore will
be so wanting to your own Interest, as to join with
His Enemies, or will refuse to go to War with your
Father & Brotheren, you will draw upon your
own heads the fatal consequence of your Wickedness
& your Folly. If you have any regard for — if you
have that confidence I have reason to expect in
me your Brother & Friend, for whom you have
always

of these base & pernicious Reports of the French from having the
Effects they propose to establish the Confidence of the Indians
in our Integrity —

always expressed an affection & who you know has never deceived you - hearken to my advice - I love you & speak for your good - Stand by your Brethren the English - Don't break your Covenant Chain with them - Let not the French Boastings or Lies deceive you. The English have indeed been long asleep, but now they are thoroughly awake; They are slow to spill Blood, but when they begin they are like an Angry Wolf & the French will fly before them like Deer. Now is your time Brethren, to choose which side you will be off; If you are Wise, you want but little time to determine, but upon this Determination depends the future Happiness of your selves, your Wives & Children after you.

Brethren here is a speech I received a few days ago from our Brother Schagoyady in answer to one I some time ago sent him & which I shall now read to you.

The speech as entered pag 18 was then read.

Now Brethren after all I have said and when you see by this speech that our Brethren to the Southward have joined Gen^l Braddock & determined to go with him & fight the French, and when I tell you also that by the Letter which I received at the same time from Mr. Frogan who is likewise with General Braddock, that great Numbers of other Indians are daily expected at the camp with the same Intention. I say after all these things, if you our Brethren whose Courage & Bravery are known far & near, & from whom we have a right to expect the warmest Deal towards us, should on this Great Occasion show your selves look inactive - Shall not we have reason to

to think, will not the surrounding Nations believe,
either that you have lost your antient Beavery,
Or that the Covenant Chain of Friendship &
Alliance, no longer exists between the English
Nation & you.

I am ordered to go myself with a considerable
number of your Brethren from the neighbouring Pro-
vinces, over whom I am appointed to the chief Command,
with great Guns & other Warlike Instruments & Imple-
ments, to drive the French from their Inroadments
on your hunting Grounds in this Province. If you
will be dutiful to the King your Father - if you
will be faithful to your Brethren the English - if
you will treat me as your Brother - go with me.
My War Vessel is on the Shore - my Lance is ready to
be put in the Water - my Gun is loaded - My sword
by my side & my Ax is sharpened. I desire & expect
you will now take up the Hatchet & join us your
Brethren against all our Enemies. Brethren
I well know the Sagawas are as your own Flesh
& Blood, we look upon them at present as our
Brethren also, and to convince you how tender I
am of every one who belongs to you, I promise
you I will take every Method in my power, to
make the Sagawas sensible of their true Interest
on the present Occasion and to prevent if possibly
can, One Drop of their Blood from being spilt by
us, and to obtain this desirable End I make no
Doubt you will lend me your Assistance. But
if neither your Endeavours nor mine will
persuade them to get out of the way of Mischief
they must take what follows.

I will treat those who go with me as
Brethren, and in their Absence take care to sup-
port the old Men, the Women & Children who
belong to them. Don't you already see the King
Your

Your Father is resolved to secure the Safety you & your Country by sending His Troops to Oswego, and many more are getting ready to go there, so that if the French should attempt your Destruction We shall be between you & them & stand their warmest Attacks. If after all these friendly Exhortations & sincere Promises made to you, you should be still obstinate & blind to your own Interest, I am determined to desert the Management of your Affairs entirely & leave this Country.

By this large Belt therefore I call on you to rise up like honest & brave Men & join your Brethren & me against our common Enemy & by it I confirm the Assurance I have given you.

Hereupon Colonel Johnson himself represented the War Belt to Abraham a Chief Sachem of the Upper Mohock Castle.

When the Speech was ended Colonel Johnson told them that as it was a very long Speech contained several Matters of great consequence at this important time. He desired they would appoint a Deputation from each Nation to go now up staying with him, where the Speech should be again read over to them that it might be fully imprinted on their Memories.

They accordingly appointed their Deputy & M^r Glapie read it over & was assisted by the Interpreters & some Sachems in the pronunciation & they said they now had it perfectly.

Colonel Johnson gave Notice that tomorrow he would deliver them General Braddocks Speech. And thus this Days Conference broke up. —

Mount Johnson 25 June 1755.

Paid us yesterday. P. M.

The same Method was made use of in Translating
Delivering the following Speech as is mentioned to
have been observed in Col. Johnsons two former Speeches.

This Speech was spoke wholly by Saswantone
the Onondaga Sachem prompted by Hendrick
the Mohock Sachem. -

All being seated already Hendrick by Col. Johnsons
Directions, said. Brethren Warriors of the

Confederate Nations

Attend to the Speech of His Excellency General
Braddock.

The Speech was first read in English by the
Secretary for Indian Affairs.

To the Sachems, Warriors, Great Men of the
Six Nations.

The Speech of His Excellency Edward
Braddock Esq. General and Commander
in Chief of all His Britannick Majestys Forces
in North America.

Brothers His Majesty the Great King of
England our Father being absolutely determi-
ned to punish with the utmost severity our
your Enemies the French, who have unjustly in-
vaded his Territory & your hunting grounds con-
trary to your consent, & have committed great Hosti-
lities against you & your Brethren the English in-
habiting these Colonies for many years, all of
it very well known to you, and also to chastise
those Indians who have dared to take up the
Hatchet to join with the King our Father
Enemies, who are too treacherous to be confided
in & too weak to support them, has therefore
sent me with a very large Force of Men &

all

all kind of Warlike Instruments from England,
to recover his own Dominion, and your Possessions,
and to drive those Invaders forever from you.

I send thy by Colonel Johnson one of my Officers
to whom I have committed the Sole Management
of all Affairs between our Father the King &
you, and what he is going to say to you I desire
you to receive as my own Words. In confirmation
thereof I give you a Belt of Wampum.

(gave a Belt)

Brothers, you are very sensible of the great Friendship
& affection which has subsisted between the English
& your Nation for many generations, and that the
French by their unjust Invasion of your Land
& cruel Behaviour to you & your Brethren the
English are endeavouring all in their Power
to make a Breach between us & you & to rust
the Chain which till now remained clear & bright.
I am determined to try to ten in hope it will
continue so while the Sun & Moon give Light.

(gave a Belt of Wampum)

Brothers, I ask you & Warriors of the Six Nations.

Remember take notice that I have
desired you will immediately take up the Hatchet
against the French & their Indians, and that with
a great Expedition to join us against our com-
-mon Enemy, agreeable to the usual Custom
of our Ancestors, which will be very agreeable
to our Father the King, and you may be assured
I shall regard your Conduct at this time
in its proper Light. (give a Belt of Wampum)

The French our common Enemy on the other
side the great Lake, much alarmed at the
Armament sent from England under my
Command

Command to your assistance, were preparing to send
a considerable Force to Canada to assist your
Enemy there, but the King our Father has pre-
vented their attempt by sending out some of
his large ships of War to block them up in
their Port. During the time I command the
King our Father's Force on this Continent, you
may assuredly depend on my assistance &
Brotherly Protection, and it is expected on your
part that you will with spirit & activity, so
well known to be your Character, not hesitate
but exert your self, & immediately declare
against the French & join your Brotherly sold
Friends the English.

Give every large Belt of Wampum.

The Unity & Friendship now proposed, I doubt
not will continue while the Mountains re-
main & the Rivers run.

In confirmation of all the above I
present you with a Belt of Wampum.

J. Braddock

N.B. The Paragraph w^{ch} begins with Remember
the Name was at the delivery of the Speech
spoke last, as the War Belt is always given
at the conclusion of a speech / when Col. Johnson
threw down the War Belt in General Braddock's
name, it was taken up by an Onondaga Sachem.
When Bent Stiven, the Interpreter began the
War Dance for General Braddock, he then danced
one for Col. Johnson, to both which the Sachem
bore the usual Chorus.

Col. Johnson then ordered a large Tub of
Punch out, for to drink the King's Health.
After w^{ch} the Assembly broke up.

Mount Johnson 26 June 1755

This Afternoon Orowana a Great Sachem & Warrior of the Cayouga Sachem arrived with 19 more of his People, with him also came Nookkie a Great Sachem of a tribe call'd the Mepasaga, who live on the North side of Lake Ontario & belong to the Shepnewye Confederacy, w^{ch} chiefly dwell about the Lake Missillewia-
-nac & are a very numerous People ally of the 6 Nations. He says the French have deterr'd all his Countrymen from coming to trade at Oswego by telling him they would be cut off, but that he was deterr'd to come & proceed to Col Johnson's Fire, that he is very glad he is now here. The Colonel told him he was welcome & desired he would acquaint his Nation with what he would see & hear here, and that he would be glad at all times to see any of his Countrymen who should be well used.

One Mr Smith acted as an Interpreter & was retained by Colonel Johnson for that purpose in order to let him know what Colonel Johnson had said to the Nations, say

Since the last of the Number of Indians taken the 22^d Inst side pag 27. amount:
-ing to - - - 1071. have come
- in at different times - - - 35.
Total amount this Day - - - 1106. Men, Womⁿ & the

A.M. Mount Johnson 28 June 1755

Orowana the Cayouga Sachem who arrived here the 26th Inst sent word that he & the Mepasaga Sachem desired a conference with Col. Johnson, they were accordingly admitted.

Orowana spoke as follow
Brother

6 June 1755.

Shun 2

ed with

James

all in the
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of Lake
Pine

Wm. H. H. H. H.

Philip D. Th...

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Wm. F. F. F.

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Womⁿ & he

1755

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Sachem
the white

...

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Brother