

6th. We do hereby further direct, That you cut away all Trees, Hedges, Bushes, &c. or any other Cover for an Enemy; and lay all level and open round the Factory, further than Cannon-shot, which we compute to be a Mile; in order to hinder the Enemy from attacking you unawares, and from being sheltered against the Factory's Guns: But you are to keep up, and repair your Palisadoes, for your Defence.

8th. We do also direct, That you fix your Cannon in the most proper Places, to defend yourselves, and annoy an Enemy; after which you are to fire each Cannon once with Powder, to see how they prove, and instruct your Men to the Use of them without Firing: And that you keep them constantly loaded with Powder and Ball ready for Service. You are also to keep your Small Arms loaded, and in good Order, and at Hand, to be easily come at; and that these loaded Arms be drawn or discharged once a Month, and be well cleaned: and you are to exercise your Men once a Week, till they are well disciplined, and afterwards once a Month: And you are also to keep a sufficient Number of your Trading-Guns loaded, and at Hand, in case of an Attack; and if there be any Indians you can confide in, and will be of Service in your Defence, we recommend it to you to employ them, in such manner as you think proper.

9th. You are to fire point blank upon any Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, that shall come near the Factory; unless they make the true Signal, and answer yours.

10th. We being willing to encourage you to defend our Factories, in case you should be assaulted or attacked by an Enemy, we do hereby declare and assure you, That the Company will allow and pay the following Rewards; viz.

To the Widow, Children, Father, or Mother, of any Man that shall lose his Life in the Defence of the Factory, Thirty Pounds.

To every one of them that shall lose a Leg, or Arm, or both, in such Defence, Thirty Pounds.

To every one that shall receive any other Wound, or shall prevent any wilful or malicious Damage to any Part of the Company's Effects, or shall save the same from being lost, such Sum of Money as the Governor and Committee shall think fit; upon producing a Certificate from the Chief of the Factory touching their Merit and Behaviour.

That every Person; so wounded in Defence of the Factory, shall be cured at the Charge of the Company.

And the said Governor and Committee do hereby further declare, That they will gratify and reward all the Chiefs, Officers, and Common Men, belonging to each Factory, according to their Conduct, Behaviour, and Merit, in Defence of the Factory: And of this Declaration we have sent you printed Copies, to be stuck up in proper Places in the Factory.

12th. We do direct, That Mr. Longland, Master of the Moose River Sloop, after the Departure of the Ship for England, and the Buoys being taken up, is to lay up his Sloop in Safety at Moose River; which being done, he and his Sloop's Company are to go immediately by Land, to Albany Fort, and to remain there till the next Season as an additional Strength to the Defence of that Factory.

15th. We have wrote to the Factory at Moose River, That, in case they have any Intelligence of the French coming down their River to attack them, they are immediately to send you Notice thereof, that you may make the necessary Preparations for your Defence, and that there be a constant Correspondence and Intelligence between each Factory for the Safety of both.

16. As we rely on the Courage and Conduct of Mr. Isbister, our Chief, in case of an Attack from the Enemy, which, if done at all on your Factory, we apprehend it will be by Land in the Winter from Canada, in which Case, the Enemy not being able to bring down any Cannon with them, we doubt not of your frustrating their Designs, and repulsing them, as Governor Fullertine did the 29th June 1709, an Account whereof we send you here inclosed, for your Government; therefore we desire Mr. Isbister to stay Three Years longer in the Country, for our Defence: We will send you all such further Necessaries, proper thereto, as you shall inform us are wanting for your Preservation; and that we will, at the End of the said Three Years, give Mr. Isbister such Gratuity as shall be reasonable; for his staying in the Country, and such further Reward as he shall merit, for defending the Factory, in case of an Attack.

18th. In case you are attacked at Henry House, and notwithstanding a vigorous Resistance, you should have the Misfortune to be overpowered; then you are to nail up the Cannon, blow up the House, and destroy every thing that can be of Service to the Enemy, and make the best Retreat you can to the Factory.

19th. We direct you, That you get the best Information you can, from the Trading Indians, whether the French are making any Preparations to come down to the Factory, or have lodged any Provisions, Stores, or Ammunition, at certain Distances for their Supply: We also direct you, for your better Security at all times, to keep Two Indians in the Factory, with civil and kind Usage, and send them out every Morning, for Intelligence, to a proper Distance, so as that they may return in the Evening; and, provided they do not return, that it be an Alarm to you; and that you thereupon prepare yourselves for a vigorous Defence. But you must not, upon any Consideration, let those Indians have the least Knowledge of the Use you intend to make of their not returning.

Mr. Joseph Isbister and Council at Albany Fort,

London, 3d May 1745.

GENTLEMEN,

4th. As the War continues with France and Spain, we cannot be too strict in ordering and directing you to be always on your Guard, and to keep a good Watch, and all your Men as near Home as possible: And we recommend Sobriety, that you may be capable of making a vigorous Defence, in case of an Attack.

5th. We hope you have been able to make a clear Riddance of the Brushes, Trees, &c. round your Factory: If not, we do order, That it be immediately done: and also, the high Grass, to prevent the Enemy from sheltering themselves.

7th. We confirm the Orders given you in the 8th Paragraph of our last Letter of the 10th May 1744,

of exercising your Men, &c. and hope you have punctually conformed to those Orders.

8th. We confirm and renew our former Orders, That you fire point-blank upon any Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, that shall come near the Factory; unless they make the true Signal, and answer yours.

9th. We do hereby assure you of our punctual Performance of the Rewards and Encouragement to our Officers and Servants, in Defence of the Factory, as mentioned in the printed Declarations sent you last Year.

11th. We have augmented the Complement of Men (as you desired) at your Factory and Moose Fort, that,