

meeting or assembly of the said Indians to be held for that purpose, by the Governor or Commander-in-Chief of our Colonies respectively, within which they shall lie, and in case they shall be within the limits of any proprietary Government, they shall be purchased only for the use and in the name of such proprietaries, conformable to such directions and instructions as we or they shall think proper to give for that purpose; And we do, by the advice of our Privy Council, declare and enjoin, that the trade with the said Indians shall be free and open to all our subjects whatever; provided that every person who may incline to trade with the said Indians, do take out a licence for carrying on such trade from the Governor or Commander-in-Chief, of any of our Colonies respectively, where such person shall reside; and also give security to observe such regulations as we shall at any time think fit, by ourselves, or by our Commissaries to be appointed for this purpose, to direct and appoint for the benefit of the said trade: And we do hereby authorize, enjoin, and require the Governors, Commanders-in-Chief, of all our Colonies respectively, as well as those under our immediate Government, as those under the Government and Direction of proprietaries, to grant such licence, without fee or reward; taking especial care to insert therein a condition, that such licence shall be void and the security forfeited, in case the person to whom the same is granted, shall refuse or neglect to observe such regulations as we shall think proper to prescribe, as aforesaid. And we do further expressly enjoin and require all officers whatever, as well military as those employed in the management and direction of Indian Affairs within the territories reserved, as aforesaid, for the use of the said Indians, to seize and apprehend all persons whatever, who standing charged with treasons, misprisons of treason, murders, and other felonies or misdemeanors, shall fly from justice, and take refuge in the said territory, and to send them under proof guard, to the colony where the crime was committed, of which they stand accused, in order to take their trial for the same.

Given at our Court at St. James', the seventh day of October, one thousand seven hundred and sixty-three, in the third year of our reign.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Sir William Johnson ends by saying:—

I do, in obedience to His Majesty's Command, give this public notice to all persons residing within my jurisdiction (being that country justly claimed by the Six Nations—

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. What was that last, please?—A.—

(being that country justly claimed by the Six Nations, their allies and dependants),

those are Sir William Johnson's words.

Q. Is it reclaimed?—A. No, "claimed"; and "that I will to the utmost of my power cause the same to be observed", and so on. You see, gentlemen, that is the basis on which the Indian treaty system is laid in Canada and also in the United States.

It does recognize an Indian interest, an interest of a relatively small portion of the people over a vast area, which area was opened for colonization by large populations which, I suppose, under established international practice, would have the right to enter in and open it.