

The Authority of the Commissioners for holding Treaties with the Indians within this State expired thirty Days after the present Meeting of the Legislature, and both Houses had formed a Quorum, to wit, on the 11th Day of December last.

On the 23d Day of January the Governor received a Letter by James Manning Reed from Peter Ryckman and Seth Reed, in the Words following, to wit:

Canadasega, January 13th, 1789.

Sir:

We rec'd your Letter of the 16 last by the Bearer of this, who arrived at this Place 31st December, and agreeably to your Excellency's Request your Message was laid before the Indians, and after their mature Deliberation thereon they desired us to inform you in writing that they accept of your Invitation and will move on for Albany as fast as possible; but as you requested the earliest Information of their Intentions we have sent my Son James Manning Reed with two Indians to forward this with all possible Speed, which we hope will go safe to your Hand. The Indians will not be at Albany as soon as you proposed, but will be there by the 25th Instant, if not prevented by some designing Men who we are told propose taking and confining any Person who is aiding the Indians to Albany. The Head of the Party is one Smith of the German Flatts on the Mohawks River; but by whose Instigation they do this we can only imagine. The Indian Interpreters Wemp, Smith and Jones,<sup>1</sup> together with what Leesess there are on the Ground, have been exceeding busy to keep the Indians from going to the Treaty, and have kept them so intoxicated with Liquor that it was almost

<sup>1</sup> HORATIO JONES was born December, 1763, enlisted with the Bedford Rangers in 1781, and was soon after captured by the Indians; was adopted by them, with the Name of *Taesdaqua*, and served as Interpreter nearly forty Years. In 1788 he was living in a bark covered

Log Hut, on the Banks of Seneca Lake, at Geneva, and had a small Stock of Goods for the Indian Trade.

He died at his Residence on the Genesee River in 1836, aged 75 Years, much respected by the Community in which he lived.—*Turner's Holland Purchase*, 286,