

Trade, which we can never expect to be flourishing if this building can't be prevented to be made wherefore hope your Excell. will be pleas'd to use proper measures wth our S^{ts} not to Consent any fortification to be made by the french at that place, wth Submission to your Excell. we are humbly of opinion that 2000 in presents to prevent this building will go further now then 2000 after it be made, We take also leave to repeat what we said in our former of wth the Jan^{ry} last that a settlement at Ticonderogau would be of service for it seems plain to us that if no settlement be made among the 5 Nations, we will in process of time loose most of our best & trusty Ind^s and then in Course all the trade with due Respect we remain

Present
Henry Holland
Peter van Brugh
Evert Bancker
Wm Livingston
Henry v Rensselaer
David v Dyck

Esq^s Com^{rs}

At a meeting of the Com^{rs} of the Indian Affairs in Albany the 11th of Apr^{il} 1725

Five Sachems Viz^z two of Onondage one of Cayoge and two of the Tuscaroras being as they say Deputed by the Sachems of the Six Nations arriv'd here who say to have a Message which is as follows

That they are sent to Inform this board that a Lieut from Cadarachqua came this Spring at the Suncke Castle wth Letters from the gov^r of Montreal to Jean Ceur directing him to acquaint the Sachems of the Six Nations that Mons Vandreuil Gov^r of Canada was Inform'd by a England Man that our Gov^r intended to build at the mouth of the Onondage River near the Cadarachqua Lake, and that the gov^r of Canada told the England Man to tell the gov^r of York to build the fort strong ~~the Spring~~ for he design'd to build this Spring two Vepels at Cadarachqua and a fort at Sagara, and when those Vepels & fort are built he intended to Demolish and Destroy it

Whereon the five Nations answered Jean Ceur that the five Nations and the french have been in a bloody War together w^{ch} continued for eight years very hot on both sides, at last the french offer'd terms of peace & accomodation on that we 5th we could not well trust them that offer

Our manner when any such thing was offer'd prisoners were exchanged on both sides whereon he deliver'd up all our prisoners and we sent his home, and that it was stipulated that he should not make War for any frivolous thing as Beavers and furs, for if he should break down this house a bloody War may ensue upon it, and therefore we the Gov^r of Canada to prevent all Quarrel & Controversie between him and ^{their} Brother Corlaer not to build those two Vepels at Cadarachqua & fort at Sagara, but to live in peace with ^{his} neighbours & to use his Endeavours to gett what Beaver & peltry he can wthout making a War on that occasion, and that their Brethren may do the like shall Desire their Brother Corlaer to Desist from his Design in building a fort at the side of the Cadarachqua Lake, that you may live in peace & amity together, for if a War should ensue we shall Endeavour to accomodate that matter that you may not Destroy one another but live like friends together & Desire that neither of you may be the first Aggressors, that blood be not shed among us in our Country, & would beg our brother Corlaer to hearken to what we propose for we shall take particular Notice ^{whether} of our proposall be taken in any regard or not to this the Sachems have sent a large belt of Wampum, they add that they have given Jean Ceur a belt of Wampum to send the gov^r of Canada & he has taken a Copy of this proposition in writing & is gone to Montreal with it.

The 5th Sachems also say that the Sachems of the Six Nations sent by them a string of Wampum and taken that they Desire to meet his Excell^{ty} their Brother Corlaer at Albany about the first of June & treat with him about matters of great consequence & to renew the ancient Covenant but before that time they'll send an Express to fix a certain Day

The Com^{rs} Answer

We have heard your answer w^{ch} is surprizing to us, and can't but wonder that the Sachems of the Six Nations suffer themselves to be impos'd upon by the french at this