

Present  
Henry Holland }  
Govt. Bancker }  
114<sup>a</sup>  
Comr.

At a meeting of the Com<sup>rs</sup> of Ind<sup>ns</sup>  
Affairs in Albany the 10<sup>th</sup> Day  
of October 1725

This Day appeared before this Board  
Six Sachims of the Six Nations & said  
by Thanehsaronwe their Speaker  
Brother Corlaer

We are come here to Complain to you of our  
Grievance & Inform you of the Inconveniency  
of that trading house at the Onondage River  
by Reason of the Strong Liquor brought thither  
by the Traders, one of our principal Sachims  
called Sojeanjawa is Stuck Dead w<sup>th</sup> a knife  
and several have their Noses and Ears cut off  
& likewise none of the farr Ind<sup>ns</sup> have killed  
one another

We come in the Name of all the Six Nations  
to forbid the carrying thither any Strong Liquor  
for it may be the Occasion of very great Divi-  
sions between the Christians & Ind<sup>ns</sup> & the ruin  
of the Six Nations

We desire that Strong Liquor may not  
be brought, not for us only, but that none may  
be carried for the farr Ind<sup>ns</sup> and if they want  
it let them fetch it from Albany, and we will  
do the Same, So shall have no reason to upbraid  
our Brethren

Brethren You may come & trade among us where  
you like best, and w<sup>th</sup> any sort of Goods you please  
but are utterly against your carrying any Strong  
Liquor among us

Brother Corlaer It is Gods pleasure we live in peace  
and quiet, yet are always uneasy lest you and  
Gov<sup>rs</sup> of Canada differ about the Trade, for  
we perceive you cannot very well bear one  
another

115  
Another, Therefore we pray you not to be  
the Occasion of Shedding blood in our Land,  
where you may trade and converse all along  
the Onondage River and Cadarachqua Lake  
to Thierondequat, and should any of your  
people chance to meet w<sup>th</sup> any french, desire  
they may kindly love & friendly greet one  
another, We our selves have said w<sup>th</sup> same  
to the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada, that he should not  
be the Occasion of any blood Shedding in our  
Land, We have given him leave to use w<sup>th</sup> Lake  
of Cadarachqua for his peoples free passage

Brother Corlaer You told us you had stopp'd the way to  
Canada, that no Strowers should be carried  
thither, yet we find that this Summer the  
Strowes have been carried to the Onondage  
River & sold there to the french, w<sup>th</sup> we shall  
further declare to our Brother next Spring  
when he shall please to call a meeting, upon  
w<sup>ch</sup> we give a Belt of Wampum

Brother Corlaer This place was of old appointed for us to  
meet & speak w<sup>th</sup> one another, We have heard w<sup>th</sup>  
your people who trade in our Country, report  
that they encourage & draw the farr Ind<sup>ns</sup> to Albany  
but we will not give them that honour, We our  
selves have done it, We have gone from  
Nation to Nation & desired them to come to Albany  
to trade, and we acquaint you that we have  
gained five Nations to come & trade at this place  
from year to year, w<sup>th</sup> they will not decline  
except the Gov<sup>r</sup> of Canada delude them, We have  
now our Ambassadors ready to send to the farr  
Nations of Ind<sup>ns</sup> to request them to come & trade  
at Albany, We are the Nations that live nearest  
the farr Ind<sup>ns</sup> and we must always bear the Charges  
of Belts of Wampum & Bells, therefore Brother we pray  
you