

ment from Great Britain to the United States has put it out of the power of the Indians to procure any documents except from the United States themselves or from Great Britain, which has only a general interest in preventing a war, it is therefore with peculiar propriety that they can apply to Great Britain for copies of such. For an explanation of my opinions I send an extract from a letter of Sir William Johnson to the Board of Trade in 1763, from which you will see the defined claims of the Canada Indians and those of the Six Nations. The Indians seem very ignorant of the extent of their own claims. I also send a letter from Mr. Knox to Joseph Brant, which speaks of that Chief having a right of soil in the Western Territory. I have desired Colonel Butler to endeavour to impress on the Indians of Buffalo Creek, who leave soon for the Council, with those opinions, and if I see Mr. Brant, will state them to him. I believe his conduct at Philadelphia has been in all respects upright and proper. I have directed Mr. Johnson, the Indian interpreter, to be sent by Colonel Butler, to assist you by his influence over the Buffalo Creek Indians. I am sorry they are not on good terms with those of Grand River. Washington's address to the Buffalo Indians is much the same as that to Brant. The Indians may justly name the place of treaty.* If the United States agree to the second article of Mr. Knox's letter that the United States require no Indian lands but those which have been ceded by treaties made with full understanding and free consent of the chiefs, we shall be certain of that very useful boundary to the northward which we projected. Your task is difficult, but I hope it will meet with the fullest success and that the claiming of the intervention of Great Britain will seem but a natural reply to the message sent by Congress to Brant and the Buffalo Indians. Captain Bunbury will bear this despatch."

In reply to a letter from George Hammond, dated July 11, 1792, he said that nothing could be more judicious than his delay in offering the mediation as to which he had been

*Henry Knox, Secretary of War for the United States.