

As of the Designs of the Gov<sup>o</sup> of Canada to demolish the house our Gov<sup>o</sup> has leave from the Nations to build at the mouth of the Onondage River near the Cataract lake being land belonging to them, but we can't tell you when that is to be done, or when he shall be pleas'd to give Directions for building of it, You know he has liberty for so doing, and its agreed between the two Crowns of Great Britain & France in the 15<sup>th</sup> Article of the last Treaty of Peace made at Utrecht in 1713 giving full liberty to all the American Indians to go on all sort of Trade where they please, without giving any molestation to them either from the English or French Subjects, and it is also agreed that the French shall not meddle with any of the five Nations or Nations of Indians give a Belt

Brethren

It was not without sufficient Reason that Col<sup>o</sup> Peter Schuyler broke down the house Mont<sup>o</sup> Longueuil had built at Onondage since it is Land belonging to the five Nations who are Subjects to the King of Great Britain, We can't think that the Gov<sup>o</sup> of Canada will presume to offer to demolish a house our Govern<sup>o</sup> designs to build on Land belonging to the English with if he did would be in him a breach of the Peace with he will not offer to do tho' he does tell you so, We shall acquaint our Gov<sup>o</sup> of his Designs and we assure you he'll be glad for the Intelligence you brought give a Belt

Brethren

We are glad you wd your Endeavours to appease the Eastern Ind<sup>ns</sup> to forbear any further acts of Hostilities against our Brethren of England, We remember you promis'd to do so, but not that we made you any promises to write to the Gov<sup>o</sup> of England to keep his people at home, wch was absurd in you to think whilst there was no agreement of a Cession of Land and that the Eastern Ind<sup>ns</sup> did daily murder of our Brethren without Intermission, We do renew the ancient Covenant and friendship that has always been between us & your Nations, and desire I Canahoge to continue to be an Obedient Child to inform us of whatever Designs there may be in Canada against this Govern<sup>o</sup> for which he shall be well rewarded give a Belt

after

After the Com<sup>o</sup> had ended this Speech they ask'd whether they had no other news? I Canahoge said I am come hither and have undertaken this Journey on purpose to Inform you the Com<sup>o</sup> of the Designs of the French that they will break down the trading house your Gov<sup>o</sup> intends to build & we shall to tell you that the Gov<sup>o</sup> of Canada has about two months ago sent Carpenters to Cataract to build two Vessels there who are continually to be employ'd to bring Beavers & Skins from Ochjagara as far as they can be brought thro' the Lake in them and then to be laden in Canoes and convey'd to Montreal and that he designs to build a strong fort at Ochjagara and another Vessel above that shall to bring Beavers & Skins hither

May it please your Excellency

At New York 16<sup>th</sup> March 1724/5

We hope this may find your Excell<sup>y</sup> in perfect health Do embrace this opportunity to acquaint your Excell<sup>y</sup> that a few days since arriv'd here five Sachems of the French Ind<sup>ns</sup> from Canada who Inform us that the Gov<sup>o</sup> of Canada designs to break down the house your Excell<sup>y</sup> intends to build at the Mouth of the Onondage River, and w<sup>ch</sup> he has sent Carpenters to build two Vessels at Cataract to transport all the Beaver & peltry from Ochjagara thro' the Lake as far as they can go down towards Montreal and there to empty them in Canoes to bring them thither as also that he intends to build a strong fort at Ochjagara, and a Vessel above that shall as may appear by the enclosed minutes. We have answer'd them in the best manner we are able, which we hope your Excell<sup>y</sup> will be pleas'd to approve of, we can't but expect that the Gov<sup>o</sup> of Canada will use all possible Endeavours to Interrupt our Trade with the said Ind<sup>ns</sup> and will try all Experiments to frustrate your Excell<sup>y</sup> good Intentions for promoting the Interest of this Province, If the Gov<sup>o</sup> of Canada puts his Designs in Execution in building a fort at Ochjagara the French will stop all the Ind<sup>ns</sup> there and that will determine and make void all the Attempts that have hitherto been made to increase our Trade