

*French*; they said, that they did not understand the Affairs on the other Side of the Sea, nor did they trouble their Heads about them; and as they had no Method of retaining what is spoke to them but by their Memories, they were afraid that this might perplex their Memories, and make them less attentive to what was properly their Business; and advised, that it should be left out; which accordingly was done.

Another Difficulty remained. The publick Interpreter had been taken dangerously ill in his Return to *Albany*, and was at this Time confined to his Bed. Tho' several were employed, who had Knowledge sufficient in the Language of the *Six Nations*, to make themselves be understood, and to understand what was spoke to them; yet none of them were so much Masters of the Language, as to speak with that Propriety and Distinctness that is expected, and usual on so solemn an Occasion. It was thought therefore proper, to make one of the *Sachims* understand the Speech, by the Assistance of the common Interpreter, that he might be able to deliver it Paragraph by Paragraph, as it should be spoke. At first a *Mohawk* Sachim was pitched upon; but the *Sachims* themselves told us, That for some Time past, a kind of Party-Division among the *Six Nations* had subsisted: That the *Mohawks*, *Onandagas*, and *Senecas*, form'd one Party; and the *Oneydoes*, *Tuscaroras*, and *Cayugas*, the other: That, as the *Mohawks* might be suspected to be more partial to the *English*, it would be of more Use to employ one of the other Party; and an *Oneydo* Sachim was propos'd for that Purpose. This Man was easily enough made to understand the Speech, and he repeated it several Times over in private, and was instructed where to make the proper Stops. After the Speech was delivered, some of the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs, and other Persons present