

Brother Collier

The Contents of your belts we have repeated & answered in the best manner we are able, but Brethren if you had included y^e Eastern Ind. in those belts some of their Sachims would have been here wth us to treat of a Peace then ~~and they had some speaking & gave a Belt on this & the two foregoing articles~~ gave a Belt of Wampum

The Com^{rs} told them that they are glad to see them here and that they have given a very satisfactory answer to the Belts sent them that as we were on our Departure from Montreal we rec^d. Intelligence that some Ind. living near Quebec were preparing themselves to go out to war ag^t the English at the Eastward on w^{ch} it was concluded to send the prin^t Sachim of Shawinnadie to those Ind. who was dispatched to order them to stay at home till we should return

The Com^{rs} told them that they are glad to see them here & if they have given a very satisfactory answer to the Belts sent them and that they would give them a timely answer

At a meeting of the Com^{rs} of the
Indian affairs in Albany y^e 20th day of
June 1724

Resolved that ~~the~~ a Letter be writ to his Excellency
w^{ch} is as follows

Albany the 20 June 1724

May it please your Excellency

our Last to your Ex^{ty} was on y^e 12th Instant since w^{ch} the Sachims of four severall Nations settled at Canada arrived here who on the 10th Instant made a proposition minutes whereof are here inclosed by which appears y^t the belts we sent Last winter to those Nations had a good Effect, it seems they are inclin^d to make peace or be neuter, w^{ch} we suppose is as much as the Boston Com^{rs} appointed here can be able to bring them to, we wish that this war could be brought to a happy Conclusion of which we have some hopes. Gov^r Dummer has been pleas^d to insert in his Instructions to Col^l John Schuyler & Col^l Stoddard to cultivate a good understanding with this Board, we have given y^e last firm assurances that we shall not be wanting in any thing for effecting a good & solid peace with the eastern Indians, to w^{ch} the Govern^{rs} of Boston are now more inclin^d than ever for they begin to be sensible that they can get nothing by this Indian war, if they had been of your opinion last year, it might have been effected ere now.

We meet with some difficulty in Relation to y^e Indian Complaints made against the traders who defraud them in their trade we wish, we could be impowrd to Compell any Christians against whom any Complaint is made to purge themselves on oath whether such Complaint be true that y^e Indians may have Justice done, for they suppose we are impowrd in all Cases to see them Right^d, there is a Clause in an Act of last year, Relating to y^e far Indians, but makes no