

6-7 EDWARD VII, A. 1907

Favor to the Canadians; many Advantages might have resulted therefrom at this Juncture, which must now be deferred to a more distant occasion—

Since it could not be done before, this would prove a fair opportunity for raising a Battalion or two of Canadians; such a measure might be of singular Use, in finding Employment for, and consequently firmly attaching, the Gentry, to our Interests, in restoring them to a significance, they have nearly lost, and through their Means obtaining a further Influence upon the Lower Class of People, a material Service to the State, besides that of effectually securing many Nations of Savages—

As to the Indians, Government having thought it expedient to let Matters go in that channel, I have ever considered the late Sir W<sup>m</sup> Johnson,<sup>1</sup> to whom, I suppose, Colonel Guy Johnson succeeds, as having their Political Concerns under his immediate Direction, with which I never interfered further, than their Commercial Interests, or the private Property, they possess in the Country, required, and upon this Principle Major Campbell's Commission was granted ; however, if I am not greatly deceived in my Intelligence, not only the Domiciliés of the Province, but all the neighbouring Indians are very much at your Disposal, whenever you are pleased to call upon them, and what you recommend shall be complied with—

Left to my own Speculations in this retired Corner, without Intelligence of what passes in Europe till very long after the Event, and from a knowledge of the present Continental Transactions only, I entertain no Doubt, our Army is by this Time augmenting, and that as soon as the Navigation opens, some Troops from Britain will be sent up this River, and in my Opinion, it should not be an inconsiderable Force ; if we are to have a French War, this Corps will become indispensably necessary here, if not, it might effectually second your Intentions, prevent much Effusion of Blood and Treasure, and procure the speedy Decision of a Contest, rendered more dangerous by every Moment's Delay ; the Strong easily find Friends, and no Doubt they might readily procure a Multitude of excellent Guides, who would lead the Way on any Service you should think right to direct——&ca

(Signed)

GUY CARLETON

(a true Copy)

H. T. CRAMAHÉ

His Excy General Gage

Endorsed :—Copy of a Letter from Genl. Carleton to Genl. Gage, dated Quebec 4<sup>th</sup> Feby 1775.

In Lieut. Governor Cramahé's Letter of the 9<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Sir Wm. Johnson, having early settled on the Mohawk river above Albany, and having acquired, through trade and the French wars, an unusual influence over the Iroquois Indians, had been appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Northern Division. He died on July 11th, 1774. Col. Guy Johnson, his nephew and son-in-law, who had also served in the war for the conquest of Canada, had been appointed Sir Wm. Johnson's deputy in 1762 and named as his successor. On Sir William's death he continued for a time as Indian Agent; but his conduct of the office was not very satisfactory and later he was superseded by his cousin Sir John Johnson, son of Sir William. In 1775 the position of Superintendent of Indian Affairs was conferred upon Major John Campbell.