

Month; and if there be any Indians you can confide in, and will be of Service to you in your Defence, we recommend it to you to employ them, in such manner as you think proper.

8th. We again strictly order, that you fire point-blank upon any Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, that shall come so near the Factory as to be within Reach of any of your Guns; unless they make the true Signal, and answer yours.

12th. We do again strictly direct, that there be great Quantities of all Sorts of Country Provisions procured at all Opportunities, that the Servants may be well fed.

13th. We expect your next will inform us, that the Battery at *Cape Merry* is in great Forwardness, if not finished, agreeable to our Instructions sent you on that Head last Year.

16th. We do hereby nominate and appoint Mr. *Joseph Ibister* Chief, Capt. *Robert Evison*, Mr. *Ferdinand Jacobs*, and Mr. *John Moreton* Surgeon, to be the Council. And when our Ship is at the Factory, the Captain thereof is to be one of the Council.

23d. As we have nothing more at Heart than the Preservation of our Factories, the Security of our People, and the Increase of our Trade, therefore we direct, that nothing be omitted that may strengthen the former, and extend the latter; to which End we strictly order, that all possible Encouragement be given to the Natives; by treating them civilly, and dealing justly with them on all Occasions; and we recommend it to you to use our Servants under your Command in such manner, that they may esteem as well as fear you.

N U M B E R XXVI.

REPRESENTATIONS made to the *Hudson's Bay* Company, by Mr. *Richard Norton*, their Chief Factor at *Prince of Wales's* Fort, relative to the Improvement of the Trade; with the Company's Orders thereupon, and Answers thereto.

From *Richard Norton*,

*Prince of Wales's* Fort,  
August 1, 1724.

THE Northern Indians coming down, I traded with them with much more Satisfaction than formerly, they all promising to increase their Number, and bring more Furs next Year: So, with the Encouragement I gave them, I doubt not of a better Trade from those Natives than ever was at *Churchill* yet.

Here came down, last Fall, a leading *Upland Indian*, who brought down a strange Native last Year, that had never seen any *Europeans* before, he saying, he had fitted out the Stranger with *Brazil* Tobacco; and, with what Goods he had, to return into his own Coun-

try, and acquaint his Countrymen of here being a Settlement; and to endeavour to bring some of those Strangers down to trade. I supplied the Leading Indian with other Goods, to go up in the Country again, and he returned. Now, this Spring the aforesaid Leading Indian came down to trade. I asked him concerning the strange Native. He told me, he had seen nothing of him since he had been here; and was afraid, in returning into his own Country, he was fallen into the Hands of his Enemies, who had destroyed him.

To *Richard Norton* and Council, at *Prince of Wales's* Fort.

London, May 19, 1725.

HOPE, by your Care and Diligence in the Management of our Affairs, the Trade in Furs will increase, as you give us Reason to hope.

We approve of your having supplied the Leading *Upland Indian* with what Goods you thought necessary

for his Support in returning to his own Country; and hope you will again hear of the strange Native you mention, and that he is not destroyed by his Enemies, as the *Upland Indian* fears he is.

From *Richard Norton*,

*Prince of Wales's* Fort, August 16, 1733.

THAT having served your Honours many Years, and gone through many Difficulties and Hardships, in taking long Journeys with the Natives; to promote your Trade with them, even many times to the Hazard of my Life, which I am at all times ready to adventure with the greatest Vigour and Resolution against any Enemy, to your Interest, and undoubted Rights in this Country.

And, since my last Arrival to this Place, I have used

my best Endeavours for an Increase of Trade, from all the Natives that resort to this Factory, particularly the Northern Indians, from whom I humbly assure you I have traded more than twice the Quantity of Furs this Year than ever was traded in one Year, from them, since this Factory has been settled; and the regular Methods I have taken with the Natives, I am confident, will create an Increase of Trade, more and more at this Place.