

“Proceedings of a Council held with Six Nation Indians this day. Present—His Excellency, Sir John Colborne, K. C. B., Lieut. Governor of Upper Canada, Major General Commanding His Majesty’s Forces therein, etc., etc.; Captain Bloes, A. D. C.; Z. Mudge, Esq., Private Secretary; Captain John Brant, Superintendent Indian Department; James Racey, Esq., J. P.; William Holmes, Esq., J. P.; Rev. Robert Lugger, Rev. Abraham Miller, Missionaries.

His Excellency in his speech said—“That the King had given them one of the finest tracts of land, foreseeing that at some period they would be surrounded by a large population of Colonists, and their hunting and fishing would be interrupted. That the time had arrived, and that for their future subsistence and comfort they must become agriculturalists; in recommending that each family should take a certain number of acres to cultivate, and their lots should descend to their children; and they should not have the power of disposing of them, or selling them; and the remainder of their lands should be leased out for the benefit of their children.

He recommended them to pay attention to the instruction of their Minister and to send their children to the schools conducted by them, etc.

In reply—Joseph, Principal Chief of the Oneidas, “assured his Excellency, on behalf of the tribes now present, that, as to the Schools that we have established among us for the benefit of our young people, we are thankful to say that we have had a Church for forty years and a resident minister. We feel much indebted to our Superintendent for his exertions in establishing schools for the instruction of our children and also for the minister that we have now residing with us; and we feel grateful to the King for appointing our own Chief to take charge of our affairs.”

Chief Vanevry, a Cayuga, then spoke: “Our Chiefs, who are dead and gone had the firmest confidence in the King, for he had always assured them that their lands should be secured to them and their children, without encroachment, for which we are thankful. With respect to religion, we thank the Governor for what he has said, and we know that there is but One God for all mankind.”