

[III.—LETTER FROM CAPTAIN KENDRICK TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, ENCLOSED DEEDS OF LANDS PURCHASED FROM THE NATIVES.]

PORT INDEPENDENCE, ON THE ISLAND OF HONG KONG,

March 1, 1793.

Sir: I have the honor of enclosing to you the copies of several deeds, by which the tracts of land, therein described, situated on islands on the Northwest coast of America, have been conveyed to me and my heirs, forever, by the resident Chiefs of those districts, who, I presume, were the only just proprietors thereof. I know not what measures are necessary to be taken, to secure the property of these purchases to me and the Government thereof to the United States; but it cannot be amiss to transmit them to you, to remain in the offices of the Department of State. My claim to those territories has been allowed by the Spanish Crown; for the purchases I made, at Nootka, were expressly excepted in a deed of conveyance of the lands adjacent to and surrounding Nootka-sound, executed, in September last, to El Señor Don Juan Francisco de la Bodega y Quadra, in behalf of his Catholic Majesty, by Maquinmah and the other Chiefs of his tribe, to whom those lands belonged.

When I made these purchases, I did it under an impression that it would receive the sanction of the United States, and that, should an Act of the Legislature be necessary to secure them to me, I should find no difficulty in obtaining it. The future commercial advantages which may arise from the fur-trade, besides many other branches which are daily opening to the view of those who visit the Northwest American coast, may, perhaps, render a settlement, there, worthy the attention of some associated company, under the protection of Government. Should this be the case, the possession of lands, previously and so fairly acquired, would much assist in carrying the plan into effect. Many good purposes may be effected by the Union having possessions on that coast, which I shall not presume, Sir, to point out to you; and the benefits which have accrued to individuals, by similar purchases to those I have made, in our own States, are too well known to need a remark.

I have the honor to be, with the utmost respect and esteem, Sir, your very humble servant,

JOHN KENDRICK.

The Hon. THOMAS JEFFERSON,
Secretary for the Department of State.

[Endorsement:] KENDRICK, JOHN—Hong Kong, March 1, 1793—received October 24, covering several Indian deeds.

[INDIAN DEEDS, ENCLOSED IN THE ABOVE LETTER.]

To all persons to whom these presents shall come, I, Maquinmah, the Chief, and with my other Chiefs, do send greeting: Know ye that I, Maquinmah, of Nootka-sound, on the Northwest coast of America, for and in consideration of ten muskets, do grant and sell unto John Kendrick, of Boston, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in North America, a certain harbor, in said Nootka-sound, called Chastacktoos, in which the brigantine *Lady Washington* lay at anchor, on the twentieth day of July, 1791, with all the land, rivers, creeks, harbors, islands, etc., within nine miles North, East, West and South of said harbor, with all the produce of both sea and land appertaining thereto—only the said John Kendrick does grant and allow the said Maquinmah to live and fish on the said territory, as usual—and by these presents, does grant and sell to the said John Kendrick, his heirs, executors and administrators, all the above mentioned territory, known by the Indian name Chastacktoos, but now by the name of the Safe Retreat-harbor; and also does grant and sell to the said John Kendrick, his heirs, executors and administrators, a free passage through all the rivers and passages, with all the outlets which lead to and from the said Nootka-sound, of which, by the signing these presents, I have delivered unto the said John Kendrick. Signed with my own hand and the other Chiefs', and bearing even date, to have and to hold the said premises, etc., to him, the said John Kendrick, his heirs, executors, and administrators, from henceforth and forever, as his property, absolutely, without any other consideration whatever.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the hands of my other Chiefs, this twentieth day of July, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-one.

MACQUINNAIL, his x mark.	[L.S.]
WARCLASMAN, his x mark.	[L.S.]
HANNOPY, his x mark.	[L.S.]
CLOPHANANISH, his x mark.	[L.S.]
TARTOOCHEEATPUS, his x mark.	[L.S.]
CLACKOEENER, his x mark.	[L.S.]

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of—

JOHN STODDARD.
JOHN REDMAN.
THOMAS FOSTER.
WILLIAM BOWLES.
JOHN MAUD, JR.
FLORENCE MCCARTHY.
JOHN PORTER.
JAMES CRAWFORD.
ROBERT GREEN.
JOHN BARBER.

A true copy from the original deed.

Attest: J. HOWELL.