

Mr. John Newton and Council, at York Fort,

London, 5th May 1748.

GENTLEMEN,

—4th. War still continuing with *France* and *Spain*, we again hereby strictly order you to be always on your Guard, and to keep a good Watch, and your Men near Home; but not to hinder a proper Number to be employed in providing a sufficient Quantity of the Country Provisions, particularly Geese, which we find you constantly employ the Indians only to kill for you, which we are dissatisfied with; that being such a material Article, you ought always to blend some of your People with the Natives in the Goose Seasons, that they may understand how to kill them, and thereby lessen your Dependence on the Native Hunters; and we recommend Sobriety, that you may be capable of making a vigorous Defence, if attacked.

5th. We still direct, that you do at all proper Times and Seasons continue to keep the Land, within the Distance of Cannon-shot each Way round the Factory, clear from Trees, Brushes, high Grass, or any thing else that can possibly conceal or shelter an Enemy, that you may thereby prevent being surpris'd.

6th. We also direct, that you fix your Cannon in the most proper Places to defend yourselves, and annoy an Enemy; after which you are to fire each Cannon once with Powder, to see how they prove; and instruct your Men in the Use of them, keeping them constantly loaded with Powder and Ball, ready for Service, during the time the Rivers are open: You are also to keep your Small Arms loaded, and in good Order, and at Hand, to be easily come at; which loaded Cannon and Small Arms are to be drawn once a Month, and well cleaned; and to exercise your Men once a Month: And you are also to keep a sufficient

Number of your Trading Guns loaded, and at Hand, in Case of an Attack, which also are to be drawn and cleaned once in a 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.

7th. 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.

9th. We again direct, that a continual Correspondence be kept, not only between you and *Prince of Wales's* Fort, but also with *Albany* and *Moose* Forts, as often as you can: We still recommend your utmost Diligence in getting Intelligence and Information of the Designs of the *French*; and if under any Apprehensions of an Attack, send immediate Notice thereof to *Churchill*.

14th. We do hereby nominate and appoint Capt. *John Newton* Chief, Mr. *Samuel Skrimsher* Second, Mr. *William Reynolds* Surgeon, Mr. *Richard Ford*, and *Augustine Frost*, to be the Council; and when our Ship is at the Factory, the Captain thereof is to be one of the Council.

25th. We expect by this time you have provided a plentiful Quantity of Timber, that there may be no further Hindrance in proceeding on the Fortification, which we hereby leave to the Opinion of the Chief Capt. *Spurrell* and Mr. *Ford*, and expect it to be placed where most commodious for annoying an Enemy, and defending the Fort.

Capt. John Newton,

London, 5th May 1748.

SIR,

—Lastly, having reposed such a Confidence as to place you at the Head of our best Factory, we expect that all our Servants under your Command will, by your Example, be encouraged to a religious Observance of the Lord's Day, to Virtue and Sobriety; and

that by your Moderation they may meet with such Treatment as may make them love as well as fear you, which will conduce much to your Ease, and our Interest: In full Hopes of which we commit you to the Divine Protection.

Mr. Joseph Isbister and Council at *Prince of Wales's* Fort,

London, 5th May 1748.

GENTLEMEN,

—4th. War still continuing with *France* and *Spain*, we again hereby strictly order you to be always on your Guard, and to keep a good Watch, and your Men near Home, except those that are guarding the Battery at *Cape Merry*; but not to hinder a proper Number being employed in providing Necessaries for the Factory-use, particularly a sufficient Quantity of the Country Provisions, especially Geese, which we find you constantly employ only Indians to kill for you, which we are dissatisfied with; that being such a material Article, you ought always blend some of your People with the Natives, that they may understand how to kill them, and thereby lessen your Dependence on the Native Hunters; and we again recommend Sobriety, that you may be capable of making a vigorous Defence, if attacked.

5th. We again direct, that you do at all proper Times and Seasons continue your Endeavours to clear

the Land within the Distance of Cannon-shot each Way round the Factory, and the Battery at *Cape Merry*, of every thing that can possibly conceal or shelter an Enemy, that you may thereby prevent being surpris'd.

7th. We do also direct, that you constantly keep your great Guns loaded with Powder and Ball, ready for Service, during the time the Rivers are open: You are also to keep your small Arms loaded, and in good Order, and at Hand, to be easily come at; which loaded Arms and Cannon are to be drawn once a Month, and well cleaned; and to exercise your Men as often as requisite, whom we expect by this time are Artists, not only in the exact Use of Small Arms, but also of Cannon, that the great Expence we have been at in this Particular, may answer the End propos'd thereby; in case of an Attack you are also to keep a sufficient Number of your Trading Guns loaded, and at Hand, which Charges are also to be drawn every

Month;