

Brothers :

We have this Day met together and smoked our Pipes in Peace ; that you may know the Reason of my standing here as Speaker, I would inform you that my Brethren the Cayugas and my Children the Senecas wished me to be their Mouth, and as I have heard it is agreeable to the Chief of New York, I now stand here. You will possess your Mind in Peace ; I have no Disposition to oppose your Sentiments in any thing, but shall keep in the strait Path.

Brother Chief :

In the first place I would acquaint you that last Spring we were invited to a Treaty at Muskingum ; you also called upon us by the Agent of the Northern Department to attend the great Treaty. Some of our Tribe went there and have not yet returned. When our Uncles the Chiefs left our Council Fire, their only Business at the Muskingum was to establish a general Peace ; this was agreeable to us even the Warriors ; for though the Clouds gather in the Southward, and the Winds sometimes blow, yet as our Uncles the Sachems labor for a Peace, the Minds of our young Warriors are composed. This, Brother Governor, I observe to open the way for what shall follow. Shortly after the Cloud from the Southward began to rise, we again saw the light of the Sun ; but as soon as we saw it an evil Spirit began to work, threatening the Annihilation of our Territory.

Brother Governor :

I observed to you an Evil Spirit had disturbed our Peace. Do not think from this that we of the Five Nations were disposed to cherish this evil Spirit ; we were deceived, we believed it to be a good Spirit coming from the great Council, and thought we could not injure ourselves by opening our Ears to the Voice of the great Council.

This was new ; never before had we of the Five Nations held such a Meeting with any of our Brethren. Brethren of this Island, we had been accustomed to converse with you according to antient Usage.

Brother :

A few Words may suffice. It would be long to go into