

Instructions for Major Abraham Schuyler

Whereas his Excellency William Burnet Esq.  
Cap. Generall and Governour in Chief of the  
Provinces of New York, New Jersey &c. has been pleas'd  
to approve that some person of Experience be sent  
among the five Nations to Quiet the minds of the  
Indians, and has appointed you to undertake that  
affair, we Do therefore hereby Require you forth-  
with to go to Onondage, on your arrivall there,  
Desire the Sachims of the five Nations to meet, &  
when they shall be conven'd, you are to Desire  
them in the name of his Excellency our Governour  
that he Expects to meet them here this Summer,  
and that they do not Suffer any of their people  
to molest our Traders, That several of them had  
Carried up Rum Last winter, who could not be  
prevail'd on to turn back again, That the Traders  
shall be Directed not to Deliver any of their  
Rum to the far Indians but at their Departure  
that no mischief may arise from it

You are to stay among the five Nations  
Till you shall Receive Orders from his Excellency  
to Return home, and while you stay there you are  
to observe the motions of the French who are Inform'd  
are going from Montreal with a force of men to  
build a fort at Sagara, and it may be at some other  
places on this side of Cadaracqui Lake, off which  
if you have certain Intelligence, you are forthwith  
by Express to Inform us of it, that his Excellency  
may be acquainted with the Proceedings of the  
French in the Indian Country, and that you may  
be the better Inform'd of the French Design,  
we think it Necessary that you go to the French  
Country

Country or such other Place as you shall Judge  
Proper, That you may have a true account of all  
their Transactions and Proceedings, for which  
purpose you are to Employ some trusty Indians  
of the five Nations to go among the French  
wherever they are, to see what they are Doing at  
Sagara, to which End and for Presents to the Indians  
we think it Necessary that you shall Receive  
the value of Twenty five Pounds in Presents as  
also a Belt of wampum and Blankets of  
Strows you are to Reside some time at the  
falls where our Traders lye to see that they do  
not abuse the far Ind. in their Trade, and you  
are to give them all the Encouragement possible  
to Trade with our People either here or at the falls  
you are to take Care that no Rum be Delivered to  
the Indians but at their departure that no mischief  
may arise from it

It will be very proper that you keep a  
Journal of all your Proceedings & Transactions  
of any moment, while you shall be among the  
Indians on this message, you are to Act in all  
things as you shall think most for his majesties  
Interest and welfare of this Province, you are  
not to Concern your self with any Trade while  
you are this Journey, Not Doubting but his  
Excellency shall Sufficiently Reward you for  
your Service. Given under our hands in Albany  
this 21. day of April in the twelfth year of  
his majesties Reign Annoq; Domini 1726

Philip Livingston  
Henry Holland  
Pieter van Brughe  
Wert Bancker  
Hend. van Rensselaer