

Mr. Spence and Council at Albany 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, and 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 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 do 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; and you are to keep them constantly loaded with Powder and Ball, ready for Service: You are also to keep your Small Arms loaded, and in good Order, and at Hand, to be easily come at; and that those loaded Cannon

and Small Arms be drawn or discharged once a Month, and be 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 Charges must also be drawn once 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 strictly order, that you fire point-blank upon any Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, that shall come near the Factory, unless they make the true Signal and answer yours.

9th. We do direct, that a continual Correspondence be kept between you and *Moose* Fort, and also with the Factory at *Slude* River, *York* Fort, and *Prince of Wales's* Fort, as often as you can; and if under any Apprehensions of an Attack, send immediate Notice thereof to *Moose* Fort.

10th. We must continue to recommend using your utmost Diligence in getting Intelligence and Information of the Designs of the *French*.

18th. We do hereby nominate and appoint Mr. *George Spence* Chief, Mr. *Robert Temple* Second and Accomptant, Capt. *Thomas Mitchell* and Mr. *George Meller*, to be the Council; and when our Ship is at the Factory, the Captain is to be one of the Council.

Mr. John Potts and Council at Moose Fort,

London, 5th May 1748:

GENTLEMEN,

3d. War still continuing with *France* and *Spain*, we hereby again strictly order you to be always upon your Guard, and 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 to kill for you, and which we are much 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.

4th. We direct that you do at all proper Times and Seasons clear the Land, within Distance of Cannon-shot each Way round the Factory, 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.

5th. We do 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; and you are to keep them constantly loaded with Powder and

Ball, ready for Service: You are also to keep your Small Arms loaded, in good Order and at Hand, to be easily come at; and that those loaded Cannon and Small Arms be drawn or discharged once a Month, and be 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 Charges you are also to draw monthly; 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.

6th. We again strictly order, that you fire point-blank upon any Ship, Sloop, or Vessel, that shall come near the Factory, unless they make the true Signal, and answer yours.

7th. We do direct, that a continual Correspondence be kept between you and *Albany* Fort; and also with the Factory at *Slude* River, *York* Fort, and *Prince of Wales's* Fort, as often as you can; and if under any Apprehensions of an Attack, to give immediate Notice thereof to *Albany* Fort.

8th. We must continue to recommend using your utmost Diligence in getting Information of the Designs of the *French*.