

Letter Bk. III they venture down to injure the Inhabitants. I have not heard that any of them have been lately discovered on this Side Fort Cumberland nor do I learn that any Mischief has been lately done by them on the Frontiers of either of the Neighbouring Colonies—

Original.

[Hardy to Sharpe.]

Fort George New York 4<sup>th</sup> June 1756

Sir./

As I hope this will find you returned from your Progress in the back Countrys, I now send you what Informations I have received from Fort Johnson since my last.

The intended meeting at Onondago, has been long doubtful, the Mohawks very much against Sir William Johnson's going there, on the 12. of last Month he held a conference with them and several other Indians, when they gave him their reasons for objecting to his going up to Onondago, founded principally upon the length of the Journey, and the Danger their Castles might be subject to during their absence, as they were determined to attend him, and concluded with desiring him to Summon them to a general meeting at his House, upon the receipt of this Conference, I found Sir William Johnson had acquiesced with their reasons for his not going, but declined calling them together at Fort Johnson as they desired, as he expected soon to meet them at Onondago. Upon considering the whole of this matter, and finding the Meeting at Onondago quit put off, and the present State of Indian Affairs, I was of opinion it was absolutely necessary, to have a general meeting of the Six Nations, and as I had leisure to attend that service to give them his Majesty's present together with the addition made to it by this Province, which I have been disappointed in, from the frequent Allarms this Spring that has obliged the Indians to remain at their Castles, or attend Johnson in his Marches, and lastly from this expected Meeting at Onondago.

Many reasons urged me to it, first to make them the present, and Ultimately to know their disposition to Act vigorously in Conjunction with us against the French, to endeavour if possible to bring them to Act sincerely with their Nephews the Delawares and Shawonese, and their other Dependants by obliging them to lay down the Hatchet against the English, or to punish them on their refusal, and as it would require at least thirty days to bring them down, Lord Loudon would probably be arrived before that time, when he might have an opportunity of meeting them at the same time and by it know