

them and expect them by the beginning of next month, they are pressing for my being there by that time in a manner almost peremptory. "they say there are many reports to the prejudice of the English coming daily to them from all Quarters, which produce a great deal of uneasiness, and that nothing but my coming up will put things on a footing of Tranquility that they look upon a General Meeting of the Six Nations and their Allies to be absolutely necessary at this critical Juncture, I am therefore preparing for the Journey so as to be there in time, All the Mohawks of both Castles say they will go with me, and have desired their Forts may be reinforced during their absence, and say that this part of the Country will lye very much exposed to the Enemy, and are afraid some Attack will be made upon it, I have communicated this request and opinion to General Shirley. By the aforesaid Messengers the Onondagas have sent me the following Message, Tell our Brother Warraghigagay that since we took the Hatchet from the Shawones and Delaware Indians they have told us that there is an Army of the English coming against them, and that they think it unreasonable and unnatural for us to hold them in our Arms, and prevent their defending themselves when People were just at their backs to destroy them. We are informed the English are Building a Fort at Shamokin, we can't comprehend the method of making War, which is made use of by our Brethren the English, when we go to War our manner is to destroy a Nation & there is an end of it

The English chiefly regard Building Forts, which looks as if their only scheme was to take Possession of the Lands.

Thus Sir I have given you all the Indian Intelligence I am Master of. From the sudden Change and Resolution of Johnsons going to Onondago, my meeting the Indians is like to be suspended, unless my Express gets time enough to alter their Measures, if it should I shall acquaint you, and you will Judge it right to have Deputies there.

The Army referred to in the Message from the Onondagas must mean Coll<sup>o</sup> Clapham with your Forces, which when explaind to them by Johnson, will clar up that matter, and remove any suspicions they may have taken of being hurt by them; I have frequently wrote to Johnson to get the Delawares to Explain what they meant by insisting on your delivering up of all Prisoners as a Preliminary to Peace, and find they had taken up a notion that all the River Indians settled in this Colony and New Jersey were held as Prisoners, but when they are undeceivd, and find those Indians are all or most of them, gone to settle with the Mohawks, I hope it will give a good turn in their disposition to us.