

To the Brethren of the Oneydes, with Seven hands of Lib. H. D.
Wampum by the Same Messinger.
Brethren Oneydes.

I was very much Surprized (upon my Arrivall at Albany) to hear, that you Suffered two Indians sent from Onondio, the Govern^r of Canada, to Return from that place, before they were brought to me, which is not according to yo^r Promise made, When I last saw you.

You then told me, you would send those Indians to me, that I might examine them, and know what Message or Business they had.

But I hear they have carryed away some of yo^r ffamilies into the ffrench Governm^t.

And Since you have (contrary to yo^r promise) Suffered those ffrench Indians to goe back, I Require you to let me know their Errand, what proposalls they make to you, and what answer you return'd to them.

And for the ffuture, I do expect that you hold no Correspondence with the Govern^r of Canada, or receive any Message from him or his Indians.

And in Case any of yo^r Brethren should be drawn off by those Indians, or other the ffrench, or desert yo^r Castles, that you should pursue them without loss of time, and treat them as Enemies; Given at Albany November 25th 1696.

Signed

Ben: ffletcher.

Sagaedaieendon, Oneyde Cap^t returned ffrom the ffive Nations, to his Ex^{ncy} Coll: Benjamin ffletcher, his Ma^{ty} Cap^t Gen^l and Govern^r in Cheif of the Province of New York at Albany, with his following Answer December 22th 1696.
Cajenquirago.

I Delivered the Belt of Wampum I received from you for the ffive Nations, with the Message to the Mohaques, Oneydes, and Onondages, the Cajouges, & Sennekes (the ffarthest Nations) not being p^rsent but the Brethren have sent it forward to them, by a sure hand.

You are to Expet an Answer upon it from the whole Canasoeni (i: e. the whole ffive Nations) in the mean time the afores^d Three Nations return you their hearty Thanks for yo^r good Advice, to send out scouts, and to keep their young men near Home, which they will observe; and if attacked by the Enemy, will stand their ground; and if you are, shall be ready to Come to your Assistance, if Required.

Cajenquirago—I delivered the Seven hands of Wampum with the message you sent by me particularly to the Oneydes.