

New Allies, the Owendaets and the Twightwies make a Body Lib. C. B. of Fifteen hundred, if not two thousand men, and in my Opinion these different Nations are now upon the Ballance: If a prudent Management and Seasonable Liberality be exercised, they may be retained in our Interest: But if no Notice be taken of them, nor Suitable Presents be made them, the French may Justly reproach the Twightwies for their Defection, and they will cast their Reproaches on the Indians who persuaded them into our Alliance, and thereupon they may not only leave us themselves, but draw off Our Indians with them and if we fall into these unhappy Circumstances it is not Probable We shall Retain the Six Nations at Onondago long, for when these are Stripped of their Allies, and of these Western Indians they will be despised, or to avoid Contempt, go over to the p. 421 French with the other Indians

This I take to be a true Representation of the State of Indian Affairs, and it gives me much Concern that the Council at Onondago should not be able to retain their People among them, but by Suffering their Young Indians to go and Settle those distant Parts, give rise to a new Interest, that in a little time must give them Law, instead of taking it from them: But the thing is too Plain to be Concealed and makes it Necessary that some thing be done on this new turn of affairs.

This Province has chearfully been at a very Considerable Expence to preserve these Indians, and was it in Ability, might continue to do so, but they grow too Numerous for any Single Colony, on which Account it is become expedient that this Matter should be fully set forth, and as I have taken the freedom to Place it in what Appears to me, to be the true light, to the Governors of New York and Virginia, I now do the same to you, in hopes that something may be done to frustrate the Effects of the indefatigable Pains the French are taking in that Quarter I am

S^r

Your Most Obed^t Hble Servant

Philadelphia Sept^r 20th 1750

James Hamilton

The Honourable the Governor of Maryland

Which Letter and Papers being read It is the humble Advice of this Board that His Excellency be pleased to send the following Answer thereto

Annapolis 18 Octo^r 1750

S^r

Your favour of the 20th of last Month with the Papers containing Copies of Messages from the Ohio Indians and their Allies which I received a few days ago, I laid this day before