

therefore I must pray your Honour to lay this matter before your Assembly, and to use your Influence for bringing them to join with us in promoting this matter

L. H. J.
Liber No. 34

I am, with great regard, Sir, Your Honour's most obedient,
humble Servant

W. Shirley

Extract of a Letter from Col. John Stoddard, to Governor Shirley,
Dated May 13. 1747

I send you the Letter I lately Received from Albany, by which your Excellency will perceive that the Six Nations are throughly engaged, and that most of them, together with some others of their allies, are likely to join in our Service, I think with your Excellency and the Council, that the Encourageing these Indians is a thing of great Importance; the Several Governments have been endeavouring for near Three years past to persuade those Tribes into a war, wherein they had not any Concern, but to serve their friends; and they seem generally got into it, and have left their Hunting and other means of Living, and exposed themselves and families for our Sakes; and can we expect they should go fight for us, and devote themselves to that Service, and we suffer them to Starve? Can we expect that they go a Warfare for us at their own Charge, or can we expect that Col. Johnson and M^r Lidins should pay the Reckoning? They have taken a great deal of pains to get the Indians into the war, and have effected more than the Governments did in a Course of years; and can it be thought that they should spend all their Substance in rewarding the Indians for their Service? It will Cost them about 600 or 700^l to fit out 100 men for war (in York Money) as may be seen by Lidus's Letter of March 26; and how many hundred will soon be out, and how many times they will go out this summer, others can guess as well as I.

To let the Design drop, now we have a hopeful prospect of distressing our Enemy, would be fatal; for the Indians may well say, as they have often suspected beforehand, that our design was to get them into the War, and then Leave them in the Lurch; and then we should fail of their Assistance, and no wonder if they should reconcile themselves to the french, which they would be glad of, and then take part with the french against us: for the Indians are of such an Humour, that if we deal justly and kindly by them, they will put their Lives in our Hands; but if we deal deceitfully with them, that will soon raise an Abhorrence of us. Col. Johnson and M^r Lidins are now under a necessity of going forward, and fitting out the Indians so long as they have any substance remaining; and when that is gone, the affair will be at an End. Therefore I see no way but for the several Governments to send Supplies of Money or Goods, to enable those Gentlemen to carry on the war: I think it altogether just, that the several Governments do Contribute towards the Charge, and doubt not but several of them would chearfully