

EXHIBIT L

Sub 1794

I have the honor
 to acknowledge the
 receipt of your
 letter of the 10th inst.
 and in reply to inform
 you that the same
 has been forwarded
 to the Governor
 for his consideration.
 I am, Sir, very
 respectfully,
 Yours,
 J. M. Smith

The first of these was desired to
 be a young man, who could reflect him
 self in the eyes of the community.

...that day
...which was
...I shall now proceed
...referring the matter.
...to the Commissioners which
...and informed them, that you
...delayed while spring, but
...they proceeded to purchase the land
...belonging to the Onondaga Nation.
"Brethren,

I was very sorry to hear that this was done. When I
was going to Philadelphia, I went to see the Govern-
or of the State of New York, and informed him what
had taken place; he engaged to take the matter into
consideration. He has now sent on a letter desiring
that a number of your Chiefs (not exceeding Ten)
would go down to Albany to converse with respecting
your Lands.

The Governor's Letter was then read and Inter-
preted to the Indians, By Mr Parish.

...and that they have been
...in great set
...it ma
...shall begin
...not immediately, but
...which we want to
...your personal men

We shall not be able to go ourselves in one at a time
and our business is of importance to the country
as the business of the United States is in our hands
us here. But we shall send eight or ten personal
men to do the business for us.

"Brother,

We desire you, as you are one of the Commissioners
and our Superintendent, that you would rise from
your seat and go down to Albany with us.

Gen^l Chapin again addressed them.

"Brother,

I am glad to hear that your minds are again compo-
sed, and that you are so well satisfied with the mis-

...and I will send you my wife
and children as soon as I can.

Brother,

I desire you to get away as soon as possible, with
Hannah and child, and I will send you my wife
and children as soon as I can, and furnish you with
every thing necessary by the way.

The Fish Carrier again replied

"Brother,

We have heard the message, and what you have said
with attention. We now return you our ^{thanks} for having
explained the matter so well to us, and removed the bur-
den from our minds.

Exhibit L

Proceedings of a council at Buffalo Creek, 10 Feb. 1794

O'Reilly Papers, vol. 10, New-York Historical Society, O'Reilly Papers, vol. 10; also in *Iroquois Indians: A Documentary History*, reel #42

Buffaloe Creek, 10th Feb.y 1794

The following are the proceedings of a council holden at this place, by some of the principal Sachems and Chiefs of the Cayuga and Onondaga Nations of Indians, in consequence of their receiving a Message from the Governor of the State of New York.

Genl. Chapin happened to be here, and was desired to attend. The Fish Carrier a Cayuga Chief addressed him as follows with four strings of wampum.

“Brothers—When you came here to the council last fall, you told us that the Governor of the State of New York wanted to purchase our Lands, and that he had appointed Commissioners, to treat with us for them. After considering on the matter we told you, that as it was late in the season, and many of our men had gone out a-hunting, we wished to have the matter put off while Spring [sic], and we sent a message by you to the other Commissioners, to inform them of the same. As you was one of the Commissioners and our Superintendant, we made our minds easy, but we were greatly disappointed when we heard that some of our lands had been purchased without our consent, and our minds have been much distressed in consequence thereof.”

The four strings of wampum were given to Genl. Chapin.

Genl. Chapin's answer

“Brothers—You have mentioned to me the uneasiness that lay on your minds with respect to your lands which were purchased by the Commissioners. I shall now proceed to give you some information respecting the matter. I delivered the message to the Commissioners which you gave me last fall, and informed them, that you wished to have business delayed while spring [sic], but notwithstanding they proceeded to purchase the land belonging to the Onondaga Nation.

“Brothers—I was very sorry to hear that this was done. When I was a-going to Philadelphia, I went to see the Governor of the State of New York, and informed him what had taken place; he engaged to take the matter into consideration. He has now sent on a letter desiring that a number of your Chiefs (not exceeding Ten) would go down to converse with respecting your Lands.”

The Governor's Letter was then read and Interpreted to the Indians, By Mr. Parish.

The Fish Carrier's reply

“Brothers—The message which the Governor sent has been taken into consideration, and has given us great satisfaction—it was what we wanted to hear—it makes our minds easy and I now hope we shall be again united. He desires us to set out immediately but he must wait with patience while we send to Grand River for two of our principal men.

Brothers—We desire you, as you are one of the Commissioners and our Superintendant, that you would rise from your seat and go down to Albany with us.”

Genl. Chapin again addressed them.

“Brothers—I am glad to hear that your minds are again composed, and that you are so well satisfied with the message which the Governor has sent you. You are sensible no doubt that there has been a great deal of difficulty and dispute relative to your lands, I now hope that those difficulties will all be removed.

“Brothers—You desired me to go down with you to Albany. But you must consider that the greater part of my time is taken in public business, and makes it difficult for me to attend; but if I cannot go myself, I will send my son.

“Brothers—I advise you to get away as soon as possible. Mr. Wimp [Wemp?] will wait while you are ready to go, he will accompany you to Albany and furnish you with every thing necessary by the way.”

The Fish Carrier again replied.

“Brother—We have heard the message and what you have said with attention. We now return you our thanks for having explained the matter so well to us and removed the burden from our minds.

EXHIBIT M

Canandagua March 4th 1794

The Indians who were proceeding to Albany agreeable to the
Governors Request, call on me, and the following speech I received
from them - Chief Sag speaks as follows -

Brother. You recollect at Buffalo Creek we mentioned to you
respecting our meetings again at Canandagua, we now have arrived.
but Fish Carrier who was the first and agreed to burn, was detained
on account of sickness.

Bro. The Governor has sent us a message of Consensus
and we have agreed to meet at Albany. The Council
a message to the Governor to be present in
Albany. The Governor has sent us a message which made
it necessary for us to be present. We have been from
that place and we have been to that place so that a people
is understanding of the Governor's message. The present have
come forward together with us to do what will be done
I what Contract will take place.

We read the Governor's message, and was glad to hear it, as we wish
to see the Governor and reveal our mind to him. As he has not
before paid that attention to the principal Chiefs which he ought,
as he has been trading with but few of the Indians living
at Cayuga and Onadaga, which we consider as it were but
children, with whom he has traded, which was not properly
instilled to dispose of the Land without our consent.

But has generally Comformed his bargains with those few and
Neglected the principal Chiefs who are the proper owners of the
Land. B^c You recollect last fall we understood the Governor would
to purchase our Land, but we declined meeting on account of the
Winter season being so near approaching, and would not so well
accomodate the business. By Dec^r it might be postponed untill Apr.
may - and we were in the mean time obliged to trade with a few who
reside on the frontiers of our Country without consulting the prin-
cipal Chiefs. We are now informed that there is one who wishes to
defraud us of our Land.

We therefore intend to go and express
our minds to the Governor, to those who we consider
Chiefs, and to the Nation.

Brothers, we have said what we have said.

We must therefore finally terminate this business, must
be taken up, and the place determined to decide all such bus-
iness, so that all the Chiefs and Warriors may have a proper un-
derstanding of all that takes place, and as the appointed place is the place
of our doing business, shall take the Governor by the hand and invite
him there. It is our Determination to persuade the Governor to
rise from his seat, and come into our Country at Buffalo, to the
place of our doing business, and there to determine the Terms of
our bargain. As we mean this meeting to be the last respecting the
Land - former purchases made by the Governor has much disturbed
our minds, as he has traded with Boys &c in future we mean to
have the Governor come forward into our Country, and make his

Bargains

Bargains at Buffalo Creek. The reason why we go to Albany is not
because we expect to obtain presents &c. For our bargains have made
much difficulty, and has broke the Nations apart, we wish therefore
that the Governor will run forward and make such bargains as will
give content to the whole as we never have been to the Governor and
offerd our land to him, and hope he will not endeavor to persuade us to
sell our land at Albany.

B^{ro} Your meeting at Buffalo Creek to go with
us to Albany. In all our Indian Affairs we
look to you for assistance. We are very willing to Albany with us &
also your assistance in our business with us and is
well appreciated. We are very much obliged to the business men
& Indian men for their assistance in our business. We have done to us. We
hope you will give us the same assistance in our business to
settle the business.

The reason why we wish the Governor to run into our Country is
that we may make a final settlement with regard to our land.

Exhibit M

Proceedings of a council between Indian Superintendent General Israel Chapin and Onondagas and Cayugas from Buffalo Creek and Grand River, held at Canandaigua, March 4, 1794

New York State Archives, (A-1823), Legislative Assembly Papers, vol. 40, pp. 83-87; also in *Iroquois Indians: A Documentary History*, reel 42

Canandaigua March 4th 1794

The Indians who were proceeding to Albany agreeable to the Governors Request, Call'd on me and the following speech I received from them. Clear Sky spoke as follows

Brother—You recollect at Buffaloe Creek we mentioned to you respecting our meeting you at Canandaigua. We have now arrived but Fish Carrier who was then present and agreed to come, was detained on account of Lameness.

Bro—The Council we last held at Buffaloe Creek was of Consequence and its business we are now on is the same. At that Council a Message came from the Governor desiring us to repair to Albany to settle some business respecting our lands, which made it necessary to send to Grand River for some of our Chiefs from that place. The Governor having sent for our Chiefs so that a proper understanding might take place, we who are present have come forward together with one Mohawk to see what will be done & what Contract will take place.

We received the Governors message and was glad to hear it; as we wish to see the Governor and reveal our minds to him, as he has not before paid that attention to the principal chiefs which he ought, as he has been trading with but few of the Indians living at Cayuga and Onondago, which we consider as it were but children, with whom he has traded, which was not properly intitled to dispose of the lands, without our consent But has Generally Confirmed his bargains with these few and Neglected the principal Chiefs who are the proper owners of the Land. Brother, You recollect last fall we understood the Governor wished to purchase our Lands, but we declined meeting on account of the Winter Season being so near approaching and would not so well accommodate the business & desired it might be postponed until Spring. And we conceive the Governor has wished to trade with a few who reside on the Lands at Cayuga & Onondago, without Consulting the principal Chiefs, or proper owners, and we consider him as one who wishes to defraud us of our Land.

We who are present are glad of this opportunity to go and express our minds to the Governor, as he has always heard to those who we consider Children and disannulled every other bargain by the Nations.

Brother—I hope You have paid attention to what we have said. The council which must finally terminate this business, must be holden at Buffaloe Creek the place Determined to decide all such business, so that all the Chiefs and Six Nations may have a proper

understanding of all that takes place, and as the aforesaid place is the place of our doing business, shall take the Governor by the Hand and invite him there. It is our Determination to persuade the Governor to rise from His Seat and come into our Country at Buffalo Creek, the place of our doing business, and there to determine the Terms of our Bargain, As we mean this meeting to be the last respecting the lands. Former purchases made by the Governor has much disturbed our minds, as he has traded with Boys, &c. in future we mean to have the Governor come forward into our Country and make his Bargains at Buffaloe Creek. The Reason why we go to Albany is not because we expect to Obtain presents &c. Former bargains have made much difficulty and has broken the Nations apart, we wish therefore that the Governor will come forward and make such Bargains as will give content to the whole as we never have been to the Governor and offered our lands to him and hope he will not endeavor to persuade us to sell our Lands at Albany.

Brother—You recollect we mentioned to you at Buffaloe Creek to go with us to Albany as You being appointed to oversee Indian Affairs we look to you for advice and Desire you will go to Albany with us and is well acquainted with the manner of Treating the business respecting Indians, we hope and believe that Justice will be done to us, and hope you will prevail with the Governor to come into our Country to settle the business.

The reason why we wish the Governor to come unto our Country is that we may make a final settlement with regard to our Lands

In answer to Clear Sky—as follows

Brothers—I am sorry that Fish Carrier could not attend with you but am happy to see you that are present.

Brothers—You appear by your Speech to be a little dissatisfied at the Governors proceedings heretofore with respect to your Lands. I have not been knowing to them in general and can not answer you in that Respect but suppose he has done what was right.

Brothers—You informed me it was not agreeable to your minds for to sell your Lands last fall to the Commissioners. I communicated this information to them but notwithstanding they proceeded and purchased that of the Onondagaes.

Brothers—I saw the Governor & informed him it was not agreeable to Your minds what had taken place by the Commissioners, he then sent for you that matters might be rightly understood and nothing would be considered binding until he had heard your Terms respecting a sail [sic].

Brothers—The Governor considers You to be the proper owners of the land as well as those living on the same. The lands are your own and you have a rite to sell it to the Governor as he is the proper man to sell to, and can receive your pay in that place you may agree to with him. And you are wise men and I doubt not but you will agree on Terms that will accommodate all parties. Brothers, what I want of You is to be United

and become as one Nation, and do every thing in Your power that will most conduse to peace.

Brothers—If you can make up your minds among you that are present to sell your lands I believe it would be best, however you must do that which you suppose to be best for the Indians in general.

Brothers—You mentioned to Mr. Wemple respecting supplys on the road to Albany. What is Necessary will be furnished you and if you proceed I have not a doubt but every matter will be accommodated to your minds.

Brothers—You recollect I mentioned to you respecting going with you to Alb'y. I engaged to do with you or Send my son. I shall proceed myself and also my Interpreter with you to Albany, as I always endeavor to assist you in any matter of Consequence.