

11th 7/16/60

A
T R E A T Y

1756.

Between the Government of *New-Jersey,*

AND THE

I N D I A N S,

Inhabiting the several Parts of said Province,

Held at

C R O S W I C K S,

In the County of

B U R L I N G T O N

On *Thursday* and *Friday* the *eighth* and *ninth* Day of *January*, 1756.



P H I L A D E L P H I A,
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A

T R E A T Y

between the Government of *New-Jersey*,

A N D T H E

I N D I A N S.

Thursday the *eighth* Day of *January*, 1756.

THE Commiffioners and the following *Indians* being met.

The Names of the *Indians*.

Cranberry Indians, who pafs
by the *Engliſh* Names.

Thomas Store,
Stephen Calvin,
John Pumskire,
Jo. Mikty,
Thomas Kecahela,
Isaac Still,
William Totaney,
Oliver,
Totamy,

Sam. Gofling, &c. In all 27 Men,
fundry Women and Children.

Crofwick Indians,

Quiſh,
Loulax,
Andrew,
Tafhee,
Teach,
Pomholus,
Shockhicman,
Cufbee, &c.

In all 16 Men, fundry Women and
Children.

Pompton Indians.

John Cooper,
Pamaatock,
Cachcow,
Young Cawhow,
John Fanaway,
Cobus Jeroliman,
Abram Shattaw,
Weſelſbelahow, &c.
In all 12 Men.

Southern Jerſey Indians,

John Palmer,
Peter Tooley,
Gabriel Mytop,
Wollis,
Tom Gale,

In all 23 Men, beſides Wo-
men and Children.

A

A Commission from his Excellency JONATHAN BELCHER, Esq; Captain General and Governor in Chief, in and over the Province of Nova-Cæſarea or New-Jerſey, and Territories thereon depending in America, Chancellor and Vice Admiral in the ſame, &c. was published, empowering the Honourable Richard Salter, Lewis Morris Aſbfield, Charles Read, Robert Lawrence, Samuel Smith, Barzilla Newbold, and Joſeph Yard, Eſqrs; or any three or more of them, to treat with the Indians of the Colony of New-Jerſey, and to agree upon ſuch Things, as they ſhould eſteem conducive to the Peace and Welfare of the Colony.

Jacob Hewlings, Eſq; and Stephen Calvin, Interpreters attended, after which the Commiſſioners ſpoke to the Indians as follows.

Brethren,

WE are glad to ſee you here in Health, and hope thoſe you have left behind you in your Towns are in Health alſo.

The Reaſon of our meeting you at this Time, is, that we might have an opportunity of talking freely with each other as *Brethren* ought to do.

We are appointed by the Government, to give you the ſtrongeſt aſſurance of the Affection your *Brethren* of this Colony, have and will always retain for our *Brethren* the Indians.

If therefore any Thing you know of, that may on either ſide deſtroy the good Agreement that has continued for near one Hundred Years, between your Fathers and ours, you will now have an Opportunity of mentioning it. And we hope you will do it in ſuch a manner as that nothing may hereafter remain to give us or you any Occaſion of Uneaſineſs, therefore we hope you will open your Minds freely.

We grieve for the Sufferings of our *Brethren* in *Pennſylvania*, who have ſuffered much by *Indians* miſled by bad and wicked Peoples Advice, but we hope an end will be ſoon put to their Murdering your Friends and ours, and beleive the *Indians* will by the trouble they will bring themſelves into by hearkening to this wicked Advice, be made to repent of their bad Actions.

We hope none of our *Friends* and *Brethren* of this Colony are joined with the Wicked *Indians* who have been deſtroying the People of *Pennſylvania*.

And expect you will let us know all you have heard of the Intentions of the *Indians*, and if any of the Enemy *Indians*, or any ſtrange *Indians* ſhould come among you, to put evil and falſe Things into your Heads, you

you will do well not to believe them, and that you will deliver them to us, as dangerous to our Peace and yours.

As we have heard some of the Enemy *Indians* have been in the upper Parts of this Province, and Murdered one Man, and wounded another, this and the Murders on the other side of the River, has made our People who live in the upper Parts of this Colony so Angry, that it is become dangerous to any *Indians* to go there, as they will not in the hurry know Friends from Enemies. Therefore we would have you seriously consider with yourselves, that it will be necessary for you to contrive some Bounds for your own Security, where you may be safe, and our People easy with it. And as you are our *Brethren*, we would have your Advice in this Matter, and if you have any request to make for your own ease and both our Security's, you will do well to let us know it, and we shall give it due Consideration.

Then the *Indians* withdrew.

Friday Morning, January the 9th 1756.

The Commissioners met.

The *Indians* came into Council, and having appointed *Obiockechogue*, to speak for them; he delivered in their Names the following Answer.

Dear *Brethren*,

SOME of our old Men can remember when the *English* were weak and few, and the *Indians* strong and many. We then nursed them up in our Bosoms and treated them as Friends.

We are glad our Friendship hath continued so long, and hope it will always endure.

Since our Fathers have sold so large a Part of their Lands to the *English*, we find it much more difficult to maintain ourselves and Families by Hunting, which is at least one half our Support.

But a worse evil than that has come to us, which is the Use of strong Liquor, to which the *Indians* are too much addicted, and by which they are made Weak, Idle, and Quarrelsome, and for strong Drink often sell those Skins, and other Things, which would provide themselves and Families with Cloaths and Bread, and for this some of the *English* are too much to blame.

We beg you will take care to put a Stop to this wicked practice,

tife, which tho' it may offend some of our foolish People at first, yet it will at last be best liked, and be more for the Health of Soul and Body.

The bringing in the blessed Gospel, we esteem the greatest advantage we have received by the *English* coming among us, and we trust it hath been a means in the Hand of God to reform the Minds and Manners of a Number of us, and we prefer the Enjoyment of it and living with our *Brethren* the *English* even to Life itself. It gives us a real concern, that any of our Acquaintance are joined with the *French* and their *Indians*. The Reason of their going to them, we believe was, that they were seduced by Lies and Falshy's, because the same Methods were used with us, but without effect. As Times of great Distress are come on us, as well as you, we are willing to agree as *Brethren*, upon any Methods for our mutual Peace and Security.

We propose the following, which we hope may be effectual.

We who live on this side *Rariton* River, will not on any occasion, go to the Northward of *Rariton* River at *Brunswick*, and of the great Post Road that leads from *Trenton* to *Brunswick*, except in those Town spots, but confine ourselves between the said Post Road and *Delaware* River, to the Sea Shores of this Province, while the War continues, in which Bounds we hope we shall always have the free Liberty of Hunting, and beg that good care may be taken, that no Traps shall be sett there, which is of late very frequent and is very dangerous both to you and us.

If any of our Young Men go to War with you, we hope you will put them upon the same footing with the *English*, and that when our Married Men go to War, you will make some Provision for their Families.

As several of us are obliged to leave our Habitations in this time of general Distress, we pray that some Relief may be provided for such. As it is the Misfortune of some of us to be in Debt, and we, for the publick Peace, are willing to deprive ourselves of several advantages we formerly enjoy'd, we pray that care may be taken that our Creditors may not be too pressing, and we promise as soon as we can, we will honestly pay our just Debts. We pray that all abusive Words and Actions, which destroy Love, may be punished in both *Indians* and *English*. We think we have still some Peices of Land, for which we have received no Consideration, if it should prove so, and we could get the Money for them, we hope we should be able, with some Assistance from our *Brethren* the *English*,

glisb, to purchase a Peice of Land sufficient for us all to settle together, and have the Gospel among us, which is our great desire.

And we *Pompton Indians*, and others, living beyond *Rariton*, will confine ourselves within a Line to be drawn from that Part of the Sound between *Staten Island* and the Main, which is nearest to *John Jolines*, to go the nearest Course to the said *John Jolines* House, and straight three Miles further into the Woods, and so by a Line to be drawn thro' the Woods, at three Miles distance, back from the great Road that leads from *John Jolines* to *Elizabeth-Town*, *Newark*, *Wezel*, and *John Jerolimans* Mill, near the Falls of *Passaic*, and from the said Falls near *Jerolimans* Mill to the Fork, and then to *Pompton*, and then on the nearest straight Line thro' *Bergen* County, to the *Jersey* Line on the Shore of the North River, or *Hudsons* River, and so by the Waters to were it began on the Sound.

We have to complain to our *Brethren*, that ill minded Persons are apt to take Advantage of the *Indians* when they are Drunk, and buy their Lands for a trifle, and often from the *Indians* who does not own it. And we pray our *Brethren*, that for the future no *Indian* Deed or Lease may be allowed to be good, but what is made and Signed before the Governor, or two of his Council, who are to have a Certificate from six *Indians*, that the *Indian* who sells the Land, is Owner of it, under the Hand of some Magistrate, who sees the six *Indians* Sign it, and the Deed to have it wrote on the back, and signed by the Governor, or two of his Council, that they saw the Certificate of the six *Indians*, Signed by the Justice, and that the *Indian* who sells the Land, understood the Deed, and had a reasonable Price as common for it.

As some bad People have got a long Lease from a Drunken *Indian* for the *Indian* Lands at *Wepink*, and for which they pay mostly, or all in strong Drink, we beg that they may be removed from that Land, and we hope care will be taken that no loose People settle on our Lands, without buying them.

We heartily promise our *Brethren*, that if any strange *Indians* shall come among us, we will immediately give Notice thereof to the next Justice or Captain, that they may be satisfied for what end they come: And if any *Indian* should attempt to come among us, to draw us back from our *Brethren* the *Englisb*, we will immediately secure them, and deliver them to our *Brethren*. And as this is our fixed Resolution, which we desire may be made publick, we hope our *Brethren* will not give Credit to reports of strange *Indians* being among us, when such Stories are told by ill minded People.

And

And if any of our own People should be unruly or abusive, we will deliver them up to the *Englifo* to be punished.

The Commiffioners then spoke to them as follows.

Brethren,

WE have here three Men and some Women and Children, in all Seventeen, which were taken in the upper Parts of the Province, where they have lived some Years, and sent down to *Trenton* Gaol, for both theirs and our own Security, from whence they have been escorted here, and are now in the Guard House, we shall Order them to be delivered to you, to be examined, and if after due Care and Consideration of this Matter, you think you can safely take them among you, and Answer for their Good Behaviour, we will shew the Confidence we have in you our *Brethren*, by releasing them to you; but if you suspect them, you must deliver them back to the Guard. There still remains in Gaol at *Trenton*, one *Phillip* an *Indian*, whose conduct has given us great reason to suspect him, and whose Family is at *Wiomen*, and we shall detain him there till something more appears in his favour. We shall wait your Answer till the Afternoon.

Friday Afternoon.

The Commiffioners and *Indians* being met.

The Commiffioners spoke to them as follow.

Brethren,

WE acknowledge the Kindness your Forefathers have shewn to ours, and we shall always Act kindly to you, as we hope you will always deserve it, as long as the Waters run down *Delaware*.

We are glad to find you acknowledge that your Fathers have sold the Land we now possess to our Ancestors, and we hope you have received Advantages by the rising of the Price of your Skins, and Furs, and buying what you wanted at a reasonable Rate, equal to the Loss you have suffered by the scarcity of Deer and other Game.

We are pleased to hear that you are sensible of the Evils that arise by the too great habit of drinking spirituous Liquors among the *Indians*, and we shall lay that Matter before the Legislature of this Province, and shall endeavour to get a Provision made against that Evil.

It is agreeable to us, to hear that you so much Value the Blessed Gospel, and that it has amended the Lives of so many of you, and
the

the more you practice the Precepts of it, the better it will be for you.

We are glad that the Lies and Falsties of your and our Enemies, have not been able to draw you off from us, your *Brethren*, for your true Interest is fast bound to ours.

As to the Bounds you have proposed for yourselves, we agree with you as to them, and shall take care that you shall be secure in them.

We hope none of our *Brethren* will distress you, unreasonably, on Account of any Debts you owe them. And we recommend it to you to be Frugal and Industrious till you can pay them.

We will lay it before the Legislature, to provide against your being deceived or defrauded in any Bargains, Grants or Leases of Land, that you may make hereafter.

As to your Lands at *Wepink*, we shall make a Report about it, and you may depend upon ample Justice being done to you.

We receive kindly the hearty Declarations you make to us, that you will give immediate Notice to the Officers of Government, when any strange *Indians* come among you, and that you will secure such as are your and our Enemies. Let this lay deep in your Hearts, and your fulfilling it punctually, will give us sure Proofs that you are our hearty *Brethren*.

We will make these your Intentions publick, and make no doubt but this Declaration, which we believe comes from your Hearts, will make your *Brethren* Love and Esteem you, and make them unwilling to believe any false Reports to your disadvantage.

All manner of rude and bad behaviour of the *English* and *Indians* to each other shall meet with proper Discouragement.

As some of our *Brethren*, have sustained Losses by Attachment and Love to their *Brethren* the *English*, We are willing to assist such of them as have left their Places of abode in their present Necessity, and shall lay the Affair before the Legislature for their Consideration.

As to such of our *Brethren* the *Indians*, as will go out to War with our People, which we hope they will chearfully do, when there is occasion, they will always be put upon the same footing with their *Brethren* the *English*, as they have been heretofore.

Then the *Indians* by *Ohiackéboque* return'd the following Answer, to what the Commissioners delivered to them this Morning.

Dear Brethren,

WE have considered what you said to us respecting the *Indians* who were bro't from the back Parts of the Province. We have strictly examined them, and according to the best Judgment we are able to frame, we verily believe they had no bad designs against the *English*; but considering the deceitfulness of Man's Heart, we dare not engage for any but ourselves, we would be Willing to take them to our Town at *Cranberry*, and do our utmost to Watch over them, but the Fears and Jealousies of our *English* Neighbours, are so great, that (as we are informed) it would not be for their or our safety to have them among us, and therefore do not choose to have any Connections with them, at least for the present.

The Commissioners afterwards enquired of the *Indians*, if they had the same Objections to the taking them to any of their other Towns, and informed them, that the Commissioners would make allowance of some *Indian* Corn towards their support this Winter, as they were removed from their own Habitations. Upon which *Quish* and the Chiefs of the *Indian* Town in the Branches of *Croswicks*, agreed, as nothing appeared against these *Indians*, but that they were brought from their Habitation for their own Security, and the Peace of the upper Inhabitants, and that they could not return there again as being out of the Bounds the *Indians* had prescribed to themselves, that they would take them home, use them as *Brethren*, and have a careful Eye over them.

And the *Indian* Prisoners promised to keep with the *Croswick* *Indians*, and to be have orderly.

And they were delivered to them, whose Names were *Abraham Lewis*, *John Price*, *John Phillip*, and Twelve Women and Children.

And the Commissioners informed them, that they would Order some Corn for the relief of those who have suffered by their Love to us, and by being drove from their Habitations.

And the Treaty broke up, and the *Indians* next Day went in an orderly Manner to their Towns.

What follows is added by Order of the Commissioners.

IT appeared to the Commissioners in the Course of this Treaty, that the *Indians* of *Susquehannah*, have for three or four Years past, used many Endeavours to carry of to *Susquehannah* all the *Indians* from this

(II)

this Province, and have brought Belts of Wampom, in the Name of the *Mahocks*, to Order them to remove, tho' the *Indians* never believed them to have been sent by the *Mohawks*, and have refused to leave us.

The Commissioners are convinced of the Sincerity of the *Indians* of this Province, and recommend it to the Inhabitants to use them kindly, to be careful not to supply them with strong Drink, whereby many disorders may be prevented.

They also request the Inhabitants not to use aggravating Language to the *Indians*, whereby rude and threatening Expressions may be drawn from them in their Drink, and those improved into Tales to alarm weak, People and raise ill Blood between the Inhabitants of the Colony and the *Indians*, which ought to be suppressed by all Means.

They recommend it to the Inhabitants to consider whether any Thing but their Love and Friendship to us, could have prevented their being new among our Enemies, and for this token of their Affection for us, they are intitled to our Friendship.

As the spreading of reports, without a good Foundation, can only serve to give the Inhabitants uneasiness, they request them carefully to suppress all Idle Stories, as they will tend to destroy their own Quiet and Repose.

