



## *Account of Indian Affairs in Oneida*

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LOCATION:	Swarthmore College
AUTHOR:	Jonathan Thomas (1768-1842)
SUMMARY:	Quaker schoolteacher to the Oneida in 1798.

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23  
you from the miseries of war; We have always had your  
welfare at heart, ever since our Grandfather, Onas\* came  
into this country; and the present time appears to us to be a  
favourable one, again, to manifest our unalterable friendship  
for you. We cannot forget the harmony that subsisted be-  
tween our forefathers & the Indians during the first set-  
tlement of this country, ~

Brothers; We have heard some of your chief men say that  
they believed the Good spirit design that you should not  
live much longer by hunting alone. the game is grown  
scarce yet although your lands are much less than they  
once were, they are with a small degree of Industry

\* Onas implies William Penn



## Transcription

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welfare at heart, ever since our Grandfather, ytf Onas \* cam[e]  
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-tween our forefathers and they ytf Indians during the first se-  
-ttlement of this country ytf Brothers; we have heard some of your chief men say that  
they ytf believed the Good spirit designs that you should not  
live much ytf longer by hunting alone. The game is grown  
scarce yet although your ytf lands are much less than they  
once were, they are with a small ytf degree of Industry  
ytf \*Onas implies William Penn  
ytf



23  
abundantly sufficient to supply all your wants,  
Brother, Our hearts are open to you. we are desirous  
to help you to make the best use of your lands. We are  
united in this matter and as we now enjoy peace and  
tranquility, we are now ready to part with some of our  
substance to make you more happy. Now we desire to  
ask you a few questions we hope you will answer us candidly

Brother, Are you willing to be instructed in cultivating  
your land and in the method which the white people take  
to live plentifully

Brother, Do you desire to learn some of our useful  
trades



## Transcription

abundantly sufficient to supplytf all your wants,ytf Brothers; Our hearts are open to you. we are desirous to help you toytf make the best use of your lands. We are united in this matter andytf as we now enjoy peace and tranquility, we are now ready to partytf with some of our substance to make you more happy. Now we desireytf to ask you a few questions we hope you will answer us candidlyytf Brothers, Are you willing to be instructed in cu your landytf and in the method which the white people take to liveytf plentifullyytf Brothers, do you desire to learn some of our useful trades



trades, such as, blacksmiths, Millwrights Wheelwrights & Carpenters  
that you may build houses and Mills and do other necessary  
things to make your lives more comfortable, —

Brothers, Would it be agreeable to you that your children  
should be taught to read & write and such other things as we  
teach our children which is intended to render peaceful & happy

Brothers, We cannot doubt from the speeches of your wise  
men at different times that these considerations are become  
very necessary for you to attend to & we wish you would open  
your hearts, do not hide your thoughts from us, we  
desire none of your land nor any thing that you have  
but only to do you & your children good think well



## Transcription

trades, such as, blacksmith,ytf Millwrights Wheelwrights and Carpenter  
that you may build housesytf and Mills and do other necessary  
things to make your lives moreytf comfortable,ytf Brothers, Would it be agreeable to you that your children  
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your heart, do notytf hide your thoughts from us, we  
desire none of your lands nor anyytf thing that you have  
but only to do you and your children good think well  
ytf



(25)

of what we now propose to you, and send us an answer  
as soon as you can

Brothers, We desire you would seriously reflect upon the  
many difficulties you are under the hunger, fatigue &  
cold you are subjected to in your present mode of living  
& compare it with the comfortable manner in which you  
may live under the blessing of the good spirit; by rais-  
ing grain cattle and other necessaries on your land, &  
~~if~~ <sup>we hope that</sup> your good understanding will incline you to think  
as we do that your pursuing this mode of life in  
which we are ready to assist you will be of lasting  
advantage



## Transcription

of what we now propose to you, and y<sup>t</sup> send us an answer  
as soon as you can y<sup>t</sup> Brothers, We desire you would seriously reflect upon the  
many y<sup>t</sup> difficulties you are under the hunger, fatigue and  
cold you are y<sup>t</sup> subjected to in your present mode of living  
and compare it with the y<sup>t</sup> comfortable manner in which you  
may live under the blessing of the y<sup>t</sup> Good spirit: by rais  
-ing grain cattle and other necessities on your y<sup>t</sup> land, and  
then we hope that your good understanding will incline y<sup>t</sup> you to think  
as we do that your pursuing this mode of life in  
y<sup>t</sup> which we are ready to assist you will be of lasting  
advantage y<sup>t</sup>




20  
advantage to you & your wives & children for generations  
to come

Signed on behalf of your old friends the people  
called Quakers in Pennsylvania New Jersey & parts adjacent  
Philadelphia the fifth of the first M<sup>o</sup> 1796 By

Henry Drinker  
William Savery  
Benjamin Swett  
John Hunt  
Thomas Harrison  
John Elliott

Joseph Sansom  
James Cooper  
Joseph Hoan  
John Biddle  
John Stapler





## Transcription

advantage to you and your ytf      wives and children for generations  
to come ytf      Signed on behalf of your Old friends the people  
called ytf      Quakers in Pennsylvania New Jersey and parts adjacent  
ytf Philadelphia the fifth of the first Mo 1796 ytf      By ytf      Henry Drinkerytf Joseph Sansomytf Will



The foregoing Articles opened business for the young men to attend too which will be treated of & some observations made as they came in course; after some notice is taken about the house they rented — — — — —

It was agreed that the young men should live in the house they rented as long as was thought needful for them or others to continue here. for the consideration of twenty Dollars per Annum & some repairs to be done to the house, all which they fulfilled, & cleared \* several acres of land adjoining thereto and had several good crops of wheat, grass, turnips, & garden truck <sup>before</sup> after they

\* see the lower part of the next page



## Transcription

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doneytf to the house, all which they fulfilled, and cleared \*  
several acres of landytf adjoining there to and had several  
good crops of wheat, grass, turnips andytf garden, track before after  
they  
ytf

1871 <sup>give</sup> they had enjoyed it two years our landlord became un-  
easy & wished to enjoy it himself in consequence of this ~~and~~  
& several other matters we thought it best to build on the  
land set apart by the Nation for our use to instruct the young  
Men, &c.

## Transcription

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-easy and wished to enjoy it himself in consequence of ytf this we  
and several other matters we thought it best to build on the  
ytf land set apart by the Nation for our use to ytf instruct they young  
Men, &c. ytf ytf ytf







## Transcription

ytf                    ytf On this page is a sectioned sketch that appears to be an outline of aytf    building. In various rec



6 | to an article, which you say is contained in a late treaty,  
then, in that case, you are to refund to our Committee all  
and every part of the advance made by us towards said mill,  
And we propose our Friends Jacob Taylor, and Enock Walker  
to take the special care and superintendence, of building said  
mill without making any charge on you for their trouble, &  
we further propose that when said mill is erected, that  
you call a general Council, and choose a suitable man a-  
mongst yourselves to take the care of this mill, and to grind  
all of your grain and to keep the mill in order and that  
you agree upon some certain & fixed portion for this man to  
have out of every grist that shall be ground, sufficient  
to



## Transcription

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then, in that case you ytf are to refund to our committee all  
and every part of the advance ytf made by us towards said mill. ytf And we propose our Friends, Jacob ytf  
to take the special care and superintendence, of ytf building said  
mill without making any charge on you for their ytf trouble and  
we further propose that when said mill is erected, ytf that  
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ytf -mongst yourselves to take the care of this mill, and to grind  
allytf of your grain and to keep the mill in order and that  
you agree upon ytf some certain and fixed portions for this man to  
have out of every ytf grist that shall be ground, sufficient to

Jonathan Thomas

His Book 1798



Transcription

ytf ytf ytf ytf



In the following sheets I propose to give a short account of  
Indian affairs in this settlement (Oneida) for my own amusement  
and the satisfaction of having our proceedings in black and  
white to view at any time. How far I shall be able to set it  
in its true light I cannot tell.

## Transcription

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in its trueytf light I cannot tell ytf ytf



In the fall of the year 1795 at the yearly meeting held  
in Philadelphia for Pennsylvania & New Jersey, The situation of  
the Original Inhabitant of North America was laid before the  
meeting, friends thinking it best to make a move in the con-  
cern for the Civilization of some of this People, A committee  
was appointed to take the matter particularly under their care  
Shortly after their appointment the minutes of the yearly  
meeting (on this concern) with ~~several~~ letters from the sachems  
& chiefs of several Nations, were sent to the Quarterly and  
monthly meetings throughout the yearly meeting with advice  
to raise a fund for the use of this concern, from the several  
Quarterly & monthly meetings about six thousand pounds  
was raised, In the spring of the year 1796 several young  
men



## Transcription

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in Philadelphia for Pennsylvania and New Jersey,ytf                    The situations of  
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& chiefsytf of several Nations, were sent to the quarterly and  
monthly meetingsytf throughout the yearly meeting with advices  
to raise a fund for the use ofytf this concern. From the several  
quarterly and monthly meetings about sixtytf thousand pounds  
was raised. In the spring of the year 1796 severalytf young  
men  
ytf



men expressed a willingness to reside some time amongst  
the natives (to wit) Jacob Taylor, Enock Walker, & Henry Timmon  
with three of the Committee namely John Pierce, Joseph <sup>son</sup> ~~son~~

and James Cooper to accompany them & open a settlement  
in some part of the Oneida reservation, (on which live  
the Oneidas, Muhconick & a few Tuscororas) Also to visit several  
other Nations and inform them ~~what~~ the design of ~~firm~~  
was in coming forward in this way, the above named friends  
came on horse back except Jacob Taylor who came by wa-  
ter to convey some articles for the use of the settlement  
& a few presents for the Indians, they arrived about the  
<sup>middle</sup> ~~beginning~~ of the 6<sup>th</sup> of this year amongst them, after  
\* see page 21 this book



## Transcription

men expressed a willingness to reside someyt f time amongst the natives (to wit) Jacobyt f Taylor, ytf Enoch Walter, and Henryyt f Simmon with three of the committee namely John Pierce, Josephyt f Sansom and James Cooper toyt f accompany them and open a settlement in some part of the Oneida reservation, (one which lived a theyt f Oneidas , Muheconick and a few Tuscororas ) Also to visit several other Nations and informyt f them\* what the design of Friends was in coming forward in this way, theyt f above named friends came on horseback except Jacobyt f Taylor who came by water to convey some articles for theyt f use of the settlement and a few presents for the Indians, they arrivedyt f about the ytf beginning middle of the 6th Mo. of this year amongst them, afteryt f see page 21 this book ytf



viewing the situation of the Oneidas Muhheconick, and  
Tuscaroras the concluded to settle the young men amongst the  
former, & agreed to assist the muheconick & tuscaroras as  
far as the following Article specifies

Brothers of the stockbridge Nation  
we are very glad to find that through the blessing  
of the great spirit, and your honest Industry and frugal  
sobriety you may soon be in a way to live comfortably with-  
out being beholding to any body for help

Brothers As you cannot but thankfully acknowledge  
this to be the care with your Nation in general & as you  
know we want to help many of your Indian Brothers



## Transcription

viewing the situations of the Oneidas , Muheecosick or Stockbridge and  
ytf Tuscaroras the concluded to settle the youngytf men amongst the  
former, and agreed to assist the Muheconick and Tuscaroras ytf as  
far as the following article specifies:ytf ytf Brothers of the Stockbridgeytf Nation ytf W  
of the greatytf spirit, and your honest industry and frugal  
sobriety you may soonytf be in a way to live comfortably with  
-out being beholdng to anyytf body for help ytf Brothers As you cannot but thankfully acknowledge  
this to be theytf care with your Nation in general and as you  
know we want to helpytf many of your Indian Brothers a



little who stand in much more need than you do; we trust  
you will not think hard of us if we do not do a great deal for  
you at this time; But, Brothers in order to encourage you to be  
still more industrious and saving, and to set a good example to your  
Indian brother & Neighbours; who are far behind you in point  
of civilization we have agreed to help you a little as follows—

1<sup>st</sup> Brothers, We agree to give you our smith Tools, all complete  
and one of our friends Friends can instruct you a little in using  
them; and also a share of our implements of husbandry which  
we expect up by our friend Jacob Taylor whom we left behind  
in order to bring them up by water

2<sup>nd</sup> Brothers We also are willing to encourage you in  
building



## Transcription

little who stand in much more need than you do; we trust  
you will not think hard of us if we do not do a great deal for  
you at this time; But, Brothers in order to encourage you to be  
still more industrious and saving, and to set a good example to your  
Indian brothers and Neighbors; who are far behind you in point  
of civilization we have agreed to help you a little as follows, -- 1st Brothers, We agree to give you one  
and one of our Friends can instruct you a little in using  
them; and also a share of our implements of husbandry which  
we expect up by our friend Jacob Taylor whom we left behind  
in order to bring them up by water. 2nd Brothers We also are willing to encourage you in  
building



5

building a Grist mill by agreeing to advance three dollars  
to you one of all the money actually to be paid for Materials,  
Mechanical, labour and victualing the workmen you finding  
the timber and debvering it on the spot, and doing such other  
parts of the buiness as you may be capable of without bring-  
ing it into the general charge, of which we have agreed to pay  
three fourths, we also agree that the 100 dollars lent to Captain  
Hendrick by our committee together with 40 Dollars lent to  
John Sergeant by us for the use of the nation, shall be consider-  
ed as a part of this advance and left in your hands for  
the afforesaid purpose providing always that if the government  
shall at any time pay the expence of said Mill agreeable  
to



## Transcription

building a Grist mill by ytf agreeing to advance three dollars  
to your one of all the money ytf actually to be paid for Materials,  
Mechanical, labour and vitualing ytf the workmen, you finding  
the timber and delivering it on the spot, ytf and doing such other  
parts of the business as you may be capable of ytf without bring  
-ing it into the general charge, of which we have ytf agreed to pay  
three fourths, we also agree that the 100 dollars ytf lent to Captain  
Hendrick by our ytf committee together with 40 Dollars lent to  
ytf John Sergeant by us for the use of theytf nation, shall be consider  
-ed as a part of this advance, and left ytf in your hands for  
the aforesaid purpose providing always that if ytf the government  
shall at any time pay the expense of said millytf agreeable to



to pay him well for his time and trouble, and to enable  
him to keep the mill in <sup>good</sup> ~~order~~ repair which he ought to do at  
his own expence out of his profits which you allow him, &  
further we propose that you admit your Brethren the Tuscaroras  
to enjoy part of the advantages of this mill

3<sup>rd</sup> Brethren We also propose to encourage you in keeping  
up a school for the education of your children by agreeing to  
pay part of the salary to your former Master John Quinney  
if he will agree again to teach, we are willing to pay 25 dollars  
a Quarter for one year at least, if you will agree to make up as  
much more as ~~will~~ <sup>to</sup> encourage him to keep steadily, Our Friends  
who stay amongst you will pay the money punctually when



## Transcription

to pay him well for his time and trouble, ytf and to enable  
him to keep the mill in good order repair ytf which he ought to do at  
his own expense out of his profits, which ytf you allow him, and  
further we propose that you admit your brothers ytf the Tuscaroras  
to enjoy part of ytf the advantages of this mill. ytf 3rd Brothers We also propose to encourage you in keep  
up aytf school for the education of your children by agreeing to  
pay partytf of the salary to your former master John ytf Quinney  
if he will agree again to teach; we are ytf willing to pay 25 dollars  
a Quarter for one year at least, if you ytf will agree to make up as  
much more as will to encourage ytf him to keep steadily. Our Friends  
who stay amongst you will pay theytf money punctually when a



8 | a certificate is produced to them signed by two of your Chiefs certifying that the school has been kept steadily for the length of time above mentioned for payment, the Tuscaroras being admitted to partake equally of the Advantages of this school. —

Brothers We further propose for your encouragement in Agriculture, Industry &c. that for the term of two years from the third month next, we will give the following premiums to any Individual Indian of the Stockbridge, or Tuscaroras Nation living on this reservation upon the conditions hereinafter mentioned 1<sup>st</sup> For every 50 bushels of wheat raised in one year within said term by any one farmer of either of these two nations, on his own land not worked by any white people the sum



## Transcription

aytf certificate is produced to them signed by two of your Chiefs  
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ofytf time above mentioned for payment, the Tuscaroras being  
admitted to partake equally of theytf Advantages of this school.— ytf Brothers We further propose for y  
Agriculture,ytf Industry etc. that for the term of two years from the  
third monthytf next, we will give the following premiums to  
any individual Indianytf of the Stockbridge or Tuscarora Nation  
living on thisytf reservation upon the conditions hereinafter  
mentioned: 1st Forytf every 50 bushels of wheat raised in one  
year within said term byytf any one farmer of either of these  
two nations, on his own land norytf worked by any white people the sum



sum of two Dollars, 2<sup>nd</sup> For every 100 bushels of Indian 9  
corn raised in like manner, Afforesaid the sum of two dollars  
3<sup>rd</sup> For every 100 bushels of potatoes raised as Afforesaid  
the sum of one dollar & an half; 4<sup>th</sup> For every three Tons  
of hay raised as afforesaid and put into a stack or barn  
the sum of two dollars; 5<sup>th</sup> For every 12 yards of linen  
Cloth made by any Indian woman out of flax raised on  
her or her husbands farm and spun in her own house  
the sum of one dollar to be paid to the woman  
6<sup>th</sup> For every 12 yards of woollen Cloth made as afore-  
said out of the wool of her own or her husbands sheep  
spun in like manner as afforesaid the sum of one dollar  
to



## Transcription

of two dollars, 2nd For every 100 bushelsytf of Indian  
corn raised in like manner; aforesaid the sum of twoytf dollars  
3rd For every 100 bushels of potatoes raised asytf aforesaid  
the sum of one dollar and an half; 4th For every threeytf Tons  
of hay raised as aforesaid and put into a stack or barn  
ytf the sum of two dollars; 5th For every 12 yards of linen  
Cloth madeytf by any Indian woman out of flax raised on  
her or her husband'sytf farms and spun in her own house  
the sum of one dollar to be paid toytf the woman  
6th For every 12 yards of woolen cloth made asytf afore  
-said out of the wool of her own or her husband's sheep  
ytf spun in like manner as aforesaid the sum of one dollar



10] to be paid to the woman; Now the conditions of obtaining the above premiums are that the persons applying shall produce a certificate signed, at least by two of the Chiefs of his or her particular Tribe certifying the particular Quantity of grain, Cloth, &c, for which said premium shall be demanded and that it was raised or made, in the manner above particularly specified and also that the applicant has not to the best of their knowledge been intoxicated with strong drink at least for the space of one <sup>full</sup> year before such application be made, And we further propose that any man or woman of these two Nations by producing



## Transcription

to be paid to the woman. Now theytf condition of  
obtaining the above premiums are that the personsytf applying  
shall produce a certificate signed, at least by two of theytf Chiefs  
of his or her particular Tribe Certifying the particulartytf Quan  
-tity of grain, Cloth, etc., for which said premiums shallytf be  
demanded and that it was raised or made, in the manner  
ytf above particularly specified and also that the applicant  
has not toytf the best of their knowledge been intoxicated  
with strong drink atytf least for the space of one full year  
before such application beytf made, And we further pro  
-pose that any man or woman of these twoytf nations by  
produceing



11

producing a Certificate from two of the chiefs, as aforesaid  
that he or she is highest or foremost in any one or more  
of the above particulars, or any other person in that Nation.  
He or she shall be entitled to a Double premium, for  
the particular in which he or shall be so highest or  
foremost, And our Friends Jacob Taylor, Henry Simmons  
& Enock Walker, are hereby authorized and desired to  
pay the above mentioned premiums agreeable to what  
is herein above particularly mentioned.

Sixth Month 1796

After several councils with the Oneidas the following  
agreement



## Transcription

ytff producing a Certificate from two of the chiefs, as aforesaid  
that ytf he or she is highest or foremost in any one or more  
of the above ytf particulars, or any other person in that Nation,  
He or she shall be ytf entitled to a Double premium, for  
the particular in which he or ytf shall be so highest, or  
foremost, And our Friend, Jacob Taylor, Henry ytf Simmons  
, and Enoch ytf Walker, are hereby authorized and desired to  
pay theytf above mentioned premiums agreeable to what  
is herein above ytf particularly mentioned ytf ytf ytf  
agreement

ytff ytf

Sixth Month 1790 ytf



16 Brothers; If we think there is encouragement to undertake more another year, we shall ask you for it seasonably, and agree together where it shall be.

Brothers; You know it is hardly practicable for all to learn together; we will begin with a few, who must stick to the work the rest will see how the get forward. It will be ready to take their turn, when it comes round we want to engage six or eight sober young Men as Apprentices till next spring; Brothers; we suppose you will be willing that we should feed our Horses, Cattle &c, upon the common & that you will allow us some Grap lots, to provide hay for them in the winter, to cut firewood railing & timber for



## Transcription

Brothers; if we think there is ytf        encouragement to under  
-take more another year, we shall ask you for ytf        it seasonably,  
and agree together where it shall be ytf Brothers, you know it is hardly practicable for all to learn  
ytf        together; we will begin with a few, who must stick to the  
work they ytf        rest will see how they get forward. and will be  
ready to take their ytf        turn, when it comes round we want  
to engage six or eight sober ytf        young Men as Apprentices  
till next spring; Brothers; we suppose you ytf        will be wis  
-hing that we should feed our Horses, Cattle, &c., ytf        upon the com  
-mon and that you will allow us some Grass lots, to ytf        provide  
hay for them in the winter. to cut firewood railing and ytf        timber for



Agreement was come to, proposed on the 25<sup>th</sup> and agreed  
on the 30<sup>th</sup> of the 6<sup>th</sup> 1796

Brothers of the Oneida Nation

first, You now know that we are sent to you by your, ~~old~~ friends  
the people called Quakers, of Pennsylvania & parts adjacent, not  
merely to make you presents, which will soon be spent leaving  
you poor and needy, but to shew you how the white people  
manage to raise a great deal of food & cloathing off, of  
a little land, that you may become able to support your  
selves & your children comfortably, without being beholden  
to



## Transcription

Agreement ytf was come to, proposed on the 25th and agreed  
ytf on the 30th of the 6 Mo 1796 ytf ytf Brothers of the Oneidaytf  
theytf people called Quakers, of Pennsylvania and parts adjacent, not  
ytf merely to make you presents, which will soon be spent leaving  
youytf poor and needy, but to shew you how the white people  
manage toytf raise a great deal of food and clothing off, of  
a little land; thatytf you may become able to support your  
-selves and your childrenytf comfortably, without being beholdng to

Nation ytf First, You now know t



13  
to any body, and have something to spare for the old & infirm  
as well as to lay by against times of scarcity.

Brothers

Remember that we have left all that was near & dear  
to us at home, not to get your Lands from you, or any thing  
that ~~you have~~ <sup>is yours</sup> but to visit you in love and to stay with  
you, if happily we may put you in a way, to enjoy the manifold  
Blessings of all bountifull Creator, now we have seen & reflected  
upon your situation & consulted one another for ~~your~~ the future  
prosperity of your whole Nation & the three Tribes you have  
kindly



## Transcription

to any body, and have something to spare ytf for the old and infirm  
as well as to lay by against times of ytf scarcity — ytf Brothers  
Remember that we have left all that was near and dear  
ytf to us at home, not to get your Lands from you, or any thing  
that ytf you have is yours but to visit you in love and to stay ytf with  
you, if happily we may put you in a way, to enjoy theytf manifold  
blessings of all bountiful Creator; now we have seen and ytf reflected  
upon your situation and consulted one another for your ytf the future  
prosperity of your whole Nation and three Tribes you have  
kindly



kindly permitted to settle on your lands; and we have put our  
conclusions in writing, that it may be known what we are willing to  
undertake for you, & what we desire you to do towards it yourselves  
for we mean to set before you a clear Example if you will agree  
to follow it, Now Brothers We trust that we possess your  
confidence unmixed with any jealousies or fears & we request you  
to listen Patiently & attentively, to what we are going to propose to  
you for your own good and if any part of it displeases you tell  
us so & we will consider it; Brothers, Three of our friends  
intend to stay with you for these purposes, namely Jacob Taylor  
Henry Simmons and Enock Walker, but they are not bound  
to remain by any thing but good will; neither are they  
obliged



## Transcription

kindly permitted to settle on your lands and we have put our  
conclusions in writing, that it may be known what we are willing to  
undertake for you, and what we desire you to do towards it yourselves  
for we mean to set before you a clear Example if you will agree  
to follow it, Now Brothers We trust that we possess your  
confidence unmixed with any Jealousies or fears and we request you  
to listen Patiently and attentively, to what we are going to propose to  
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15  
obliged to work more than they think necessary nor to be alto-  
gether among you as they are to go sometimes to Tuscarora stock  
bridge & Brothertown, we earnestly desire that none of you may  
discourage them by swearing, idleness, drunkenness or misbehavior;  
for these things are very disagreeable to us, as you know they are  
to the good spirit; Brothers, you know we must have some  
land to work upon and we should like to ~~to~~ begin upon that part  
of the common that lies west of the path from Skanandoah  
to stockbridge, south of the road to onondaga, East of the bound-  
ary of the old fort & north of skanandoah creek excepting any  
part thereof now occupied by your families  
Brothers



## Transcription

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Brothers



17

for building in your woods use your saw mill & smith shop  
when we have occasion for them; & sometimes work your  
Horses & oxen, when you are not using them

Brothers; You will understand that our friends are to live plen-  
tifully, as their own people do at home, & their live stock is to  
be kept upon the produce of their labour, in the first place  
one eighth part of the remainder is to be reserved for the relief  
of your old & infirm People, the rest to be divided among the  
young Indian Apprentices, that they may enjoy the fruit of  
their labour, & have something to begin with for themselves when  
other apprentices are taken in their stead provided they  
behave well: but in case of continued Idleness & drunkenness



## Transcription

for building in y<sup>t</sup> your woods use your sawmill and smith shop  
when we have occasion y<sup>t</sup> for them and sometimes work your  
Horses and oxen, when you are not y<sup>t</sup> using them y<sup>t</sup> Brothers; you will understand that our friends are to  
-tifully, as their own people do at home, and their live stock y<sup>t</sup> is to  
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one eighth part of the remainder is to be reserved for the y<sup>t</sup> relief  
of your old and infirm People, the rest to be divided among y<sup>t</sup> the  
young Indian Apprentices, that they may enjoy the fruit of  
y<sup>t</sup> their labour and have something to begin with for themselves when  
y<sup>t</sup> other apprentices are taken in their stead provided they  
behave y<sup>t</sup> well: but in the case of continued idleness drunkenness



drunkenness, swearing or misbehavior in any of them, our  
friends must not keep bad company, & we request you to appoint  
three of your Chiefs to unite with our three friends as Judges  
that, if four of them agree the person offending may be just-  
ly discharged. Your Brothers, Our stay amongst you  
will depend upon several circumstances, and particularly  
the encouragement we may have to hope that your Nation  
will in time become sober industrious & frugal, laying up  
something for yourselves against sickness & Old age. When-  
ever we leave you the improvements we make on your  
lands will belong to you: but the cattle & other things  
we bring with us we shall consider as our own.



## Transcription

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we bring with us we shall consider as our ytf own ytf ytf ytf ytf



The Indians replied on the 30<sup>th</sup> of the 6<sup>th</sup> in substance  
as follows, Brothers, we find no difficulty in accepting  
your proposals as to any thing but the place you chose  
(see the fifth paragraph) many of our people are against  
parting with any of the commons, because we have hardly  
pasture enough for our cattle now. & if we lesen it they will  
be famished & break down the fences & get at the corn, besides  
which we are afraid our young men will disturb you sometimes  
there when they get in liquor, Brothers we think it  
right to propose another place to you which we think  
may suit you better. we will go & shew it to you  
Upon this the spot was viewed, & mutually agreed on



## Transcription

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as follows, ytf ytf Brothers,ytf we find no difficulty in accepting  
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may suit you better, we will go ytf shew it to you ytf Upon this the spot was viewed, and mutually agreed c  
ytf



to as follows, beginning at the gut south. South east of  
Anthony Mononleyo house, & running nearly south by a tree  
marked to a tree marked as far as Shanandoak creek extend  
ing eastward into the woods without limitation. And Antho  
Mononleyo being willing to lease his house it was engaged  
for the use of the settlement. It was also agreed that they sh  
should have liberty to enclose what they might want  
of the flats for hay or pasture, (agreeable to the 8<sup>th</sup> para  
but the Indians did not choose to engage their oxen, except  
their young ones to be broke; or their horses, because  
they were not good for any thing to work, & John Skana  
:doak, Anthony Mononleyo, & Nicholas Shagnakorongo, were



## Transcription

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their youngytf ones to be broke; or their horses, because  
they were not good forytf anything to work, and Johnytf Skanan  
-doah, Anthonyytf Shononleyo, and Nicholasytf Shagnokorongo, were



were appointed as Judges under the 9<sup>th</sup> paragraph 21

In confirmation of all which preceding agreements we  
have hereunto interchangeably set our hands the 6<sup>th</sup>  
day of the 4<sup>th</sup> Mo 1796

through inattention the following letter was omitted in  
its proper place, which I think justly claims room in this  
account it was sent previous to friends settling amongst them  
A circulatory letter from the committee of the Indian  
institution to the six Nations of Indians

To our Indian Brethren of the six Nations  
Brothers; We rejoice that you are now at peace and  
we pray to the good spirit that he may continue to preserve  
you.



## Transcription

were appointed as Judges under the 9th ytf paragraph ytf In confirmation of all which preceding agreeme  
have ytf Hereunto interchangeably set our hands the 6th  
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To our Indians ytf Brethren of the six Nations  
Brothers; ytf We rejoice that you are now at peace  
and we pray to the good spirit ytf that he may continue to preserve