

gives us the greatest satisfaction. The measures you have taken to secure the settlement from the Indians, and your caution to our own people not to be aggressors are much to be commended; but if the Indians should strike the first blow it will certainly be proper that they should severely feel your resentment. As to your opinion however of never hereafter making peace with them, and of totally extirpating them, we cannot but think that as the prosecution of such design must be attended with Acts of great severity, it may prove of dangerous consequences to the safety of His Majesty's other Colonies upon the Continent by filling the minds of the bordering Indians with ideas of our cruelty, and instigating them to a dangerous spirit of resentment.

With regard to the French Inhabitants, the answer you have given to their letters is extremely just and proper, and should they hold their resolution of deserting the province, you are certainly in the right to make them as useful as possible while they stay. In the meantime we will endeavour that you shall have His Majesty's pleasure upon that point as early as possible, and we have in a letter to the Duke of Bedford submitted to His Grace's consideration the sending two Sloops (as early as possible before the season is too far advanced) for the purposes you mention in your last letter to us.

Your method of proceeding in the trial of Peter Carteel for murder was very regular and proper, and will have a good effect, as it will convince the settlers of the intention of conforming to the Laws and Constitution of the Mother Country in every point. So we bid you heartily farewell, and are

Your very loving Friends,

DUNK HALIFAX,*
FRAN: FANE,
J. PITT.
DUPPLIN,
J. GRENVILLE.

The Honble. Colonel Cornwallis,
Governor of Nova Scotia.

* George Montague, third Earl of Halifax, was the only son of the second Earl, whom he succeeded in 1739. He married in 1741 Miss Anne Dunk, a rich heiress, and assumed the name of Dunk in addition to that of Montague. He was appointed First Lord Commissioner of Trade and Plantations in 1748, and a Major-General in the year following. He died in 1771. Leaving no issue male, his title became extinct. Lord Halifax, while head of the Plantation office, took a special interest in the establishment of the colony at Chebucto.—*Collins' Peerage.*

Gouv. Cornwallis to Lords of Trade & Plantations.

HALIFAX, 17th October, 1749.

MY LORDS,—

I acquainted you in my last I was apprehensive that the Indians called Micmacks in this Peninsula encouraged and set on by the French would give us trouble as all my accounts from Cape Breton denoted it, and more that they would attack the settlement—these Micmacks include the Cape Sable, St. John's Island, Cape Breton and all inhabiting the Peninsula. De Lutre, a Priest sent over from France as Missionary to the Micmacks is with them, a good-for-nothing scoundrel as ever lived—what they have done hitherto is as follows, first taking a Vessel with sixteen or eighteen men at Canso sent from Boston to cut Hay, with 4 men I sent in a vessel from Chebucto; the men Mr. Desherbier returned, but not the Vessel. The next was an attack upon a vessel at Chickecto, where they killed three men—eight Indians went on board to traffic in a friendly manner tried to demolish the Crew upon surprise, here luckily seven out of the eight Indians were killed or desperately wounded, and we had only three. The next that happened was at Chebucto, six men were sent out by Major Gilman idly without arms to cut wood for the Mill he had erected, they lay in ambush, killed four men, carried off one, the other escaped and gave the alarm upon which I sent a detachment, they soon made off, cut off the heads of two and scalped one. I had a guard at the Mill, they did not choose to attack, these scoundrels will be troublesome. I summoned a Council next day who deliberated what was to be done, and all agreed that the most advisable method was to harass them by getting Rangers to scour the woods and distress them in our turn; the resolution of the Council I send you will show what part has been taken to bring these rascals to reason, which I hope you will approve without which there will be no living. Now my Lords I must beg you to consider the source from whence this flows—certainly from the French. When I first arrived I made known to these Micmacks His Majesty's gracious intentions of cultivating Amity and Friendship with them, exhorting them to assemble their Tribes, that I would treat with them and deliver the presents the King my Master had sent them, they seemed well inclined some keeping amongst us trafficking and well pleased; no sooner was the evacuation of Louisbourg made and De Lutre the French Missionary sent

among them, they vanished and have not been with us since. I have sent you my letter to Mr. Desherbier upon that head. The St. John's Indians I made peace with, and am glad to find by your Lordships letter of the 1st of August it is agreeable to your way of thinking their making submission to the King before I would treat with them, as the articles are word for word the same as the Treaty you sent me made at Casco Bay, 1725, and confirmed at Annapolis, 1726. I intend if possible to keep up a good correspondence with the St. John's Indians a warlike people, tho' treaties with Indians are nothing, nothing but Force will prevail. The french of this Peninsula His Majesty's Subjects behave strangely, insisting upon the reserve of not carrying Arms or not taking the Oaths, and leaving the Country; leaving the Country is bad, as it strengthens the Enemy. But my Lords in my poor opinion, better it should happen than yield to them, you have a secret, I fear an inveterate enemy preying upon your Bowels masked, but rotten at bottom, whom no lenity can please, nor anything but severity or greater power awe and bring them to their duty and allegiance. Tho settlement I am sent to make is sore to France, it touches them to the quick and believe me my Lords they will leave no stone unturned to render it ineffectual, permit it not. I have got such footing that I will stand pied ferme, but my Lords this is not all proposed, you are to extend all your settlements and make Nova Scotia your own, this without greater force will be a length of time (if at all effected) with it but short,—with two Regts. more, I will venture to make Nova Scotia in four years His Majesty's to all intents and purposes great and more flourishing than any part of North America; as it stands at present naked and exposed in its very infancy I will call it more valuable than Cape Breton, ten times more; give it the Walls and Forts that a thirty years work established without them in two years I will defy the power of France as to the Town of Halifax, but more, much more, might be done to make Nova Scotia yours. I have now done my duty in laying before you my thoughts, you will follow what seems to your Lordships and the ministry most advisable. Expence will attend it, without which nothing is to be done: the only consideration is whether it will repay and answer the ends proposed. There are now three hundred Houses covered in at Halifax which I hope will be tolerably comfortable for the winter, that got over what may not be expected from another summer, when this has been effected in three months time. Let me beseech you therefore to consider the importance of the undertaking, and

not let it drop for want of a sufficient supply and force to protect it both by Sea and Land. Consider it not (as too many will do) as an airy project—You have nothing to look for, you are in possession of a valuable treasure, that nothing but superior force can take from you.

The accounts of disbursements as far as they have hitherto gone will be sent you, they will I fear appear great, greater than I could wish, but be assured my Lords nothing has been idly thrown away, nothing embezzled nor no part perverted to private use or indirect purposes, but laid out as well as my understanding would direct me for public and national service.

I am, &c.,

ED: CORNWALLIS.

The Right Honble.

The Lords Commissioners for Trade & Plantations.

(COPY.)

Governor Cornwallis to Duke of Bedford.

HALIFAX, 17th October, 1749.

MY LORD,—

The French have begun their usual game—their Missionary to the Indians De Lentre, the same that led them before Annapolis Royal, has once more persuaded them to begin hostilities. In my last I informed Your Grace that they had taken 20 Englishmen prisoners at Canso—Sept. 8 at Chirecto they attempted to seize two Sloops, having gone on board with their Furs as if to traffic as usual, and pretending peace and great friendship with the English—Sept. 30 they killed 4 men that were cutting wood near Major Gilman's Sawmill, and carried off one, I summoned the Council next day, who came unanimously to the following resolutions.

That in their opinion to declare War against them would be in a manner to own them a free and independent people, whereas they ought to be treated as so many bandit Ruffians or rebels to His Majesty's Government.

That in order to secure the Province from further attempts from the Indians some effectual method should be taken to pursue them to their Haunts and show them that after such actions they shall not be secure within the Province.

That a Company of Volunteers not exceeding fifty men be immediately raised in the Settlement to scour the Woods all round the Town.

That a Company of one hundred men be raised in New England to join with Gorham's during the Winter and go over the whole province.

That a further present of 1000 Bushels of Corn be sent to the St Johns Indians to confirm them in their good dispositions towards the English—That a reward of ten guineas be granted for every Indian taken or killed.

In consequence to these resolutions, instead of a Declaration of War, the enclosed Proclamation was published here, at Annapolis and Minas.

Captn. Clapham raised in three days 70 volunteers, out of whom he has chosen fifty and has begun to scour the Woods about the Town, while Gorham sends out Detachments all round the Bay.

Major Gilman is gone to Piscataqua to raise a Company of 100 men, and has engaged to return before December.

I have ordered the Corn to be bought at Minas. Mr. Howe is to carry it to St Johns, and has instructions to try to bring over some of their tribe to go against the Micmacs.

These My Lord, are the steps taken for the security of the Province for the present—I have wrote my sentiments fully to the Lords of Trade with regard to the further settlement of this Province and its future defence, which as it will maturely come before your Grace, I shall not trouble you with a repetition.

I must mention one thing to Your Grace and desire your Instructions about it—Captn. Gorham has brought two Schooners here hired by Governor Shirley during the War to be under the direction of the Man of War stationed upon the Coast, and in their absence of the Commander in Chief of the Province. They are at a most extravagant hire one being £94 the other £91 per month besides above £90 a year for Whale Boats. I am told that the bills for the payment of these Schooners have been protested. As soon as I knew upon what footing they were I told Captn. Gorham that I would not meddle with them upon any account. I beg leave to refer Your Grace to Governor Shirley for further particulars.

Enclosed is copy of my letter to M. Desherbiers with regard to the English Sloop carried into Cape Breton and De Leutres being in this Province without permission, and Copy of a letter from the Micmacs of Cape Breton probably dictated by their Missionary.

As to the Settlement every thing goes on well, about 300 Houses are covered. Two of the Forts are finished, and the

barricade carried all round the Town. The Posts of the head of the Bay and Minas are made secure. I have ordered a Detachment of General Philips to remain in the former that Gorham with his Company may scour the Country.

About thirty of the French inhabitants have been employed in the works here for some weeks—some of them have likewise cut a road from the Head of the Bay to the Town.

I am &c.

His Grace

the Duke of Bedford, &c., &c.

ED. CORNWALLIS.

Minutes of Council, Halifax.

At a Council held in the Governor's Appartment on monday Novr. 6, 1749

PRESENT--

His Excellency the Governor

Charles Lawrence,	John Salusbury,	} Esqrs.
John Gorham,	Hugh Davidson,	
Benj. Green,	William Steel.	

Captain Gorham presented to His Excellency in Council a Memorial, representing the Hardships he lay under by not being regularly paid either upon account of His Company or for his Vessels that had been hired into the Service by Govr. Shirley, & desiring that His Excellency & the Council would advise him what method he should take in order to be reimbursed for considerable sums expended in this Province in His Majesty's Service. Copys of the Vouchers annexed to the memorial were read, & it was unanimously resolved to recommend Capt. Gorham's case to His Grace The Duke of Bedford.

Orderd, That a Proclamation be issued to forbid the cutting down or barking any more Trees within the Forts, & barricades, but to preserve those that remain as an ornament & shelter to the Town.

Orderd, That a Proclamation be published, Requiring all Persons to assist the Civil Magistrates in the Execution of their Duty, or their officers, upon pain of Fine & Imprisonment.

Orderd, That a Proclamation be issued declaring that whatever Person or persons shall be convicted of stealing or destroying Oxen, Cows, Sheep, Goats, Hogs or Fowls shall be punished according to the utmost rigor of the Laws of England.

ED: CORNWALLIS.

HUGH DAVIDSON.