

converse freely together. The Micmacs are still numerous in Nova Scotia, and although they seem to often affiliate with their neighbours upon the St. John, they are of an entirely distinct race, and their language has no affinity whatever.

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*Col. Allan's Report on the Indian Tribes, in 1793.*

From a misapprehension of people in general in this country respecting Indians, before we enter upon the present state of those in the eastern country, it may be necessary in a summary manner to bring into view their situation & communication, one with another, making such other observations as may give a competent Idea of them.

On the river Penobscot which lies within our settlements, there may be at present fifty or sixty families. The river runs toward Canada, an easy carrying place from its Source to the river St Lawrence below Quebec, on which is a small Indian fort, for the Security of such supplies as may be laid in, & to keep up a correspondence between this tribe & the Indians in Canada; the person who has the care of it is in British pay. From Penobscot Easterly there is a communication by water, extending near the westerly branch of Schoodic, the carrying place, short, easy and a good path. You then run thro' a chain of Lakes untill the waters discharge into the sea at Passamaquoddy. These Lakes I conceive lie at the head of all the Rivers as far Westward as Union River. Most of them I know have carrying places from their source to the Lake. On the Lakes you will find numbers of Indians from Canada, St Johns, Penobscot, & the Mickmack Country,

pursuing their several employments agreeable to the seasons. Some constant residents, & many of them for years not seen on the sea coast, being perpetually on the move. You may pass one day and see only some scattering wigwams, and the next observe Villages. From Penobscot to Passamaquoddy I suppose it is about One hundred & Twenty miles.

The Passamaquoddy Tribe which by marriages & Other Connections have removed to different parts, does not Exceed Thirty resident families; but the great advantage in fishing, fowling, conveniences, pleasant situation & the easy access to the sea, from all parts by the Rivers which disembogue into the Bay, great numbers resort from all quarters & by the many Islands & Inlets Which are interspersed round that Extensive Bay; many families have been known to reside for months with out being seen by the white Inhabitants. On entering Schoodic twenty miles from Salt water, you come to the crotch where the Western & Eastern branch meet. Pursuing the Latter you find an Other chain of Lakes extending towards Maggaudavick [the ancient St Croix] & St Johns; from these lakes run a number of streams, within a short distance to the river St Johns, some of the carrying places not exceeding two miles; in this branch you may Find Indians situated as on the Other branch; the latterly I understand not so constant, but on the river Maggaudavic many make it their home.

The river St Johns is extensive both to its source, as the many Lakes and streams, which discharge into it. The number of Indians settled on the several parts from all quarters are Indefinite. The Chief tribe is called Marasheett who occupy an ancient Village ninety miles up the river [probably Aukpaque]. From this to above the great Falls One hundred and twenty miles farther is an Other large Village called Maddawasca. When the waters

are up Spring and Fall, a canoe can go to a carrying place, within three miles of the river St Lawrence; but the common communication by Land is about Thirty miles, where there is a good road for horses. The facility of passing to & from Canada, is such that I have in the War rec<sup>d</sup> letters at Machias the 6<sup>th</sup> day from a Priest (with whom I corresponded) only 60 miles below Quebec, & the Indians have told me, when the stream was rapid they have delivered letters to the French commanding Officer at the mouth of St John, in four days from Quebec. From Passamaquoddy to St Johns in a straight line is about Sixty miles.

There are several routes from St John thro' the Mickmack country extending near the bay Chaleurs. The principal is the great lake so call'd, a stream from which runs within three miles of the river Merrimichi about Seventy miles from the entrance. The Course of this river I think is about W. S. W., the mouth empties in the Gulph St Lawrence, fifty Leagues N. N. W. from the Isthmus of Nova Scotia laying on the bay Verte. On this river is a great and wealthy tribe, many warriors among them. Between this & the bay Verte are several rivers, on each of them are Villages of Indians, and they have easy Conveyances by land to the great Lake of St Johns. From Merrimichi northward the carrying place does not exceed fifteen miles, into the bay Chaleurs, at the head of which is the river Rastigouchi. The tribe here may be truly call'd respectable, as to numbers, wealth and Intrepidity. This concludes the boundarys of the Mickmack Country that way; only observing that there are numbers of Indians, in every river on the peninsular of Nova Scotia, between the bay Verte & the gut of Canso. Most of the Indians of Cape Sable shore have removed to these rivers and Cape Breton.

A correspondence & intercourse have been open'd a

long time, thro' the several tribes, Viz, from Penobscot St Francis in Canada & the whole of the Mickmac Country as far as Chaleurs. During the last French war the Indians being called in from different parts for the defence of Louisbourg, Canada &c., an acquaintance became more General, & I can assert from authority, that an Indian can hardly be found past 80 years of age but is acquaint'd and known within this circle. The very easy conveyance by the Lakes, rivers and Streams so Interspersed in this Country, they can easy take their women children & baggage, where ever their Interest, Curiosity, or caprice may lead them, & their natural propensity for roving is such that you will see families in the course of a year go thro' the greatest part of this extent. This of course brings on a nearer Connection by Inter marriages which is now become universal, particular as far as Merrimichi & St Francis, so much that I well know that numbers which I had in the War are now residents in Canada & other distant parts, and many from thence are now Living at St Johns, Penobscot & Passamaquoddy.

Thus connected there appears no distinction in the right of the several hunting grounds, for all by some tie or other have an equal claim, are fully domesticated as if natives of the district. The Same priviledges are observed in council, in peace or war, whether in a local or general assembly, the result you will hear of at a most distant part in a short time. This I have often known myself from an assembly's even above Montreal, during the late war.

From this cursory View, it may be seen how easily the Conveyance between them is, particularly from Canada, to our eastern settlements & the affinity & connection among the Indians thro' this Extensive tract. I assert this from my own knowledge by a long acquaintance & frequent interviews before the revolution, having been in

every Indian Settlement (Canada excepted), which are here mentioned. [This shows that Col Allan must have been an Indian trader and in part accounts for his great influence over them.]

It may be assured there will be no permanent settlement made with any one tribe, without the sentiments & dispositions of the other are known; & tho' it happens some time when there is an object of consequence in view, some Villages from local circumstances, situation & policy may not consent as a tribe, individuals will Join the acting power. Thus it has happened when tribes have been challenged for committing hostilities, they will protest against it & disavow any such Intentions, when probable the evil arose from the assistance given by a few Individuals of their own tribe.

It may be noticed by the foregoing, how uninformed most people even in the Eastern country are in regard to the number & situation of the Indians. Seeing a few, poor, Indolent & drunken fellows attending about stores and places where they can procure liquor, a contemptible opinion is formed of the whole. It has been also observed that unlike the Western Indians these will never pursue those Savage customs & from a long attachment will not injure us. This is a dangerous and presumptuous assertion. I know them too well to risk life or property on such a desperate and precarious foundation. The greatest task I had during the late war was to restrain them from acts of cruelty, & only by close attention, persuasion & Example brought them in a degree to a habit of humanity. For they are always anxious to follow some Violent or desperate course agreeable to their ancient Custom. I believe take them in a body or by particular tribes (as before observed) they would not consent Officially, but I am convinced a number of Individuals are always ready, when the least encouragement is given to form in small parties &

scatter about the Country. Should they not kill or destroy, they will take such methods as greatly to intimidate & distress the Inhabitants. But what must be the danger when it is considered that the whole country Eastward of Penobscot are withdrawn & supported within the British lines exasperated by the neglect & Inattention of the United States, Subjected to the Influence and perpetual Insinuations of those under the Influence of Lord Dorchester. I have the least to dread myself of danger from them, but when such combinations of Inducements, sanctioned & encouraged by Ecclesiastical authority, & Indulgence, the most Esteemed Friend cannot be safe, which by Fatal experience has taken place in Nova Scotia.

I shall not attempt briefly to notice the different transactions and operations with the Indians, from the commencement of the revolution which have come within my knowledge. Before my leaving Nova Scotia in 1776, it was suggested by some persons in Government, to Encourage the Indians to take an active part against the United States, as a check upon the Inhabitants of the Province) a great proportion of whom were attached to the Interest of America), & to aid & Influence the Indians more Westward to harass & disturb the Eastern settlements of Massachusetts so as to annex these parts to that Colony. In consequence of this I dispatched couriers to the different Villages thro' the Mickmack Country, and previous to my departure, met a large body, among them were deputies from St Johns & other parts adjacent. A long & tedious conference took place & a satisfactory explanation given of the dispute between America & Britain. It was then concluded by a lengthy speech from them & a solemn declaration made that if from situation and distance they could not assist, they would not injure or molest the Americans. A chief from Merrimichi spoke for the whole, they were all as one, no distinction made between

the different tribes. Being compelled to leave that country suddenly, the business was soon communicated to the Council at Boston. Mr Bowdoin, then president of the council, entered very minutely into the particulars, and pressed my departure to the Southward. General Washington approved of the proceedings & desired me to lay it immediately before Congress that Steps might be taken to retain their friendship. As the nature & Extent of the business was fully understood by the Several official departments to whom it was communicated, the agency appointed for this purpose comprehended the whole Eastward & Northward of Connecticut River, making no exceptions in what Nation or Country the Indians resorted.

Previous to my being appointed, there were several negotiations by order of the Massachusetts & General Washington, Letters & Speeches are now to be seen among the Indians, & Great encouragements & promises made them. In May, 1777, I arrived on the river St Johns, where a number were collected. The business was communicated and myself accepted as an agent. We soon had a general meeting composed of deputies from different parts, including the whole tribes of St Johns and Passamaquoddy. It was agreed and concluded that Peace & Friendship be now Established permanent & lasting between the United States & the Several Tribes that such of them as were in the vicinity of the States should immediately withdraw and assist in the defence of the country, which lay within the Jurisdiction of the United States. That any Individual belonging to those tribes whose Situation would not permit them publicly to take an active part were admitted to join with those who did. That those employed should be supported during their service & the widows & children of such as died in the time, to be taken care of till otherwise provided for. That they should be for ever viewed as brothers & children,

under the Protection & Fatherly care of the United States & enjoy every right & privilege, according to the difference of situation in proportion with others. They should enjoy the free exercise of religion agreeable to their profession, a clergyman of that denomination be furnished and a suitable residence be provided for him, on which a place of worship was to be erected. They were to have an exclusive right to the beaver hunt,<sup>1</sup> or if not consistent with the rights of others, necessary Steps were to be taken, as to prevent a destruction of the game & other enormities committed by the white hunters, by which conduct a great diminution of that ancient & profitable support has been the Consequences. That in times of difficulty & distress, or by any unforeseen calamity those who live within the Territory of the United States, should be furnished with ammunition for fowling &c in proportion as their necessitys required. That trade was to be so regulated as to prevent imposition, that an agent should constantly reside as near them as possible, to whom they might apply for redress, & to assist in the transacting of business among the Inhabitants & such other necessary matter as their situation required. These were the principal objects at this time, but in the course of the war, the Indians of St Johns & Passamaquoddy, resigned to the United States their particular claim to lands known to be within their haunts, on Condition that the United States would confirm to them the ancient spots of ground, which they have hitherto occupied, & a Suitable tract for the use of all Indians, which might have occasion to resort there.

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<sup>1</sup> It would be interesting to know at what period the beaver became extinct in the eastern part of Maine. It is within the memory of the writer and certainly as late as 1833, that beaver skins in considerable quantities were received in Boston, which were purchased of the Passamaquoddies at Machias. The Indians say that they were careful to kill only the old ones, but the whites killed old and young, and then they soon became extinct.



How far these people have complied with their engagements our present possessions, Eastward of Penobscot might be a sufficient proof, as it is acknowledg'd by all acquainted with that country that their assistance was a principle support in its defence. But in Justice to them I would take the Liberty to mention a circumstance among many others, which must evince the Zeal by which they were actuated. Sometime after my arrival in St Johns in 1777, Lieut. Gov. Francklin British Superintendent arrived with a strong Land & Sea Force furnished with every requisite to allure the Indians. Our quarters were within Eight miles. Only two white persons remained with me. Conferences every day alternately on both sides, & after using every Stratagem & art to gain them & make me a prisoner, they in a body to the number of 128 canoes containing near Five hundred men, women & Children, left the river with me at the End of Ten days, only a few families remaining to keep up a claim & give Intelligence, when there was not more than a weeks provisions for the whole. They left their little plantations well improved and a good prospect, with a great part of their cloathing, & after 28 days Journey arrived at Machias, suffering many hardships & difficulties by the excessive heats, and the Lowness of the Streams, which greatly obstructed the canoes.

Their Zeal & attention during the war, from the attempt made by the British under Sir Geo. Collier, is so well known in that Country that it needs no coment. Their uniform conduct both in respect of humanity, as well as submitting with patience under every difficulty was not Inferior to the most disciplined troops, & even when Imposed on at a time of Intoxication & fleeced of the little they had, they always sat down contented and resigned without any appearance of resentment or malice.

At the close of the war, a circumstantial account of the Proceedings was laid before the Government of Massachu-

setts & Congress & approved of by them. As the constitution invested the latter with the management of Indian affairs, they of course fixed the agency on a peace establishment which comprehended as before the whole tribes Eastward of Connecticut River, the plan adopted would have prevented much trouble & expense and given security to the country, this appointment took place in June, 1788. In September it was communicated to the Indians in the several parts, who signified their Satisfaction. The treaty of 1777 was then confirm'd & an arrangement for future Conduct. The Indians at this time endeavored to prevent the English from making a Settlement at St Andrews, & did actually seize some persons, who attempted to survey the Lands there.

In January, 1784, it was Suggest'd to Congress from the Massachusetts, that such an appointment was improper, consequently, as no steps were taken to contravert it, the agency was dissolved in March following. From that time, it does not appear that any notice has been taken of them to the Eastward of Penobscot.

The Indians notwithstanding the treatment & neglect, continued sometime in the vicinity of Passamaquoddy expecting when the confusion and hurry arising from the war were subsided, notice would be taken of them; but nothing encouraging coming to view they began to withdraw in small bodies to their former Settlements, destitute of necessaries to subsist, & of friends to protect them. In this indigent state, those of St Johns suffered much & they felt the resentment of the Loyalist, for their attachment and assistance to the United States, & For near two years wandèred about from Place to place, disquieted & unsettled. They at length began again to embody & consult more generally respecting their situation still attached to this country, they repeatedly apply'd to me for a settlement & to procure a clergyman, if nothing else could be done. I

Evaded the business, they continued their Solicitations, & I finely gave them for answer, it was not in my power, & recommended to make application themselves to the head of Government; but in January, 1791, a message came from the Several Villages on St Johns & repeated their demands & deliver'd it in such a manner as alarmed me, consequently I consented to meet and consult with them, (this may be thought Timidity, but it is a maxim with me, never to live near Indians, except in a state of defence, without a certainty of their Friendship either in peace or war). At a large Council it was agreed among other things to address the Bishop of Baltimore, praying to be consider'd as brothers & Children of the United States, & to take them under his care as Spiritual Father & requesting a clergyman to reside among them. That an address be presented to the General Court of Massachusetts to lay out a suitable Settlement as a resort for themselves & a residence for the Priest. The former of these were answered to their Sanguine Expectations & the clergyman arrived among them in October, 1792, A man who appeared well qualify'd for the mission.

In March, 1793, a speech was presented to the General Court & Commissioners were appointed who met the Indians in October following, but their power was so limited, that no satisfactory agreement could be made.

The Indians at this time appeared very thoughtfull & anxious about the business, & the proceedings rather operated to our disadvantage.

In November the Indians sent for me to attend. I was with them five days, in which time we had several public and private conferences. After recapitulating their Treaties & the promises made them. Their Conduct during the War, their sufferings &c; they demanded a fulfillment of these promises; particular Lands for settlements, which if refused they should view themselves free from all engage-

ments & be at liberty to treat and accept of any Proposals made to them by any other Power, & in future to pursue in their own way what they thought consistant with their rights and Interest, but would wait to the beginning of February to know what would be done for them in Boston.

A report prevailed this Summer that the British were endeavoring to draw the Indians into New Brunswick, & in November when at the Village I received authentic advice & Information of the particulars.

The British in those parts found it necessary to bring the Indians over for the defence of the Country, as the marching Troops were ordered off to assist against the French. Also should any rupture take place with this Country, to secure their Interest betimes. For this purpose preparations have been making since August last, supplies of all kinds have been laid in, & many things distributed among them. Several letters have been sent the Priest, promising every attention, & a satisfactory Compensation. During my Visit a letter was received & a Vessell detained at St Andrews some days for him. I remonstrated against his going; he promised not as long as he could retain any Indians and procure Subsistance as he had suffer'd hitherto. But in April it appears that himself & the residue of the Indians had removed to St Johns, a few Stragglng ones Excepted. This is the true state and situation of the Indians in that country.

It has always been observed that even a few suspected Indians creates a great dread on the minds of the Inhabitants, particular in an Infant country, where the dwellings are generally scattered from each other, & this is the Case with a large portion of our new settlements. While the Indians continued among the Inhabitants there was not this to fear. For a friendly communication has always appeared & which in a Singular manner has been practis'd on the part of the Indians residing at Passamaquoddy,

they have acted in as civilized a manner as any of the Inhabitants, by such connections when any Impending danger timely notice is given, but when removed every trifling Occurrence gives a general Allarm.

It is remark'd by some that they had better begone, that it will save trouble & Expense, but let it be observed this remove is but for a small distance. The Inhabitants are continually subject to the same Evil & deprived of many benefits which arrises from a more Intimate acquaintance.

Should the Indians get once settled down & attached solely to the other Government it will operate very much against the settlement of the Eastern Country. The old Inhabitants who have been accustomed to their ways, are much concerned and dread the consequences even in peace. It is therefore essential for the advantage of the settlements in that part of the commonwealth some methods should be taken to show the minds of the Indians what is their Intentions, and Endeavor to secure their Interest and Friendship as soon as possible.

It has been observed by some, that we have no right to negotiate with Indians, that do not live within the Jurisdiction of the States. This seems to have been the sentiments of the Committee, who made the report in March, 1798, as to the lands proposed & the resolves were Confined for the use of the Passamaquoddy tribe. If the foregoing Statement be confided in & Intelligible, it may be seen that there is no distinction to be made, but if there was, the Passamaquoddy Tribe Comparitively have the Least Claim, both as to numbers & attention in time of difficulty, & in the Late Transaction there were Five others to one of them.

But this sentiment I never heard advanced before, either by the French, English or any other nation. Indians are not subject to, or amenable to any power; they have been

always viewed as a distinct Body, govern'd by their own customs & manners, nor will they ever tamely submit to any authority different from their own, while they remain in the present uncivilized state. Their mode of life leads them thro' the Territory of different nations, their residence uncertain & Changeable, that it can not be known where they really belong except that they were born in such a district & may be called by the name of the tribe. I presume that at every treaty & conference with the United States a large proportion live upon lands, to which our Government have no claim, & I know this to have been the case with the French & English. It is not the right of soil or the claiming a Jurisdiction, that should be contended for, nor to prompt them to acts of Hostility against any nation or people; But to secure their amity & Interest to prevent those horrid scenes of revenge & cruelty to which they are accustomed. I am fully persuaded that every Nation who are subject to depredations from them, have a right & authority to Cultivate their Friendship, & pursue for that purpose every measure by negotiations or other methods, either in the country where they reside, or any other place agreed on (provided it does not disturb the peace & quiet of the civilized Subject), in order to guard against & ward off such evils, as much as to defend themselves against the Wolf or bear. For should the former doctrine be established, the Eastern Country must be in a ruinous Situation, as there can be no Indians to treat with in the Eastern department, but those of Penobscot, for even those of the Passamaquoddy tribe now reside mostly within the British lines.

*A Report of the Standing and Property of Col. Allan in Nova Scotia when he left there and took up Arms for the Revolutionary Cause.*

To all people to whom these presents shall come Greeting

We the Subscribers Residents in the Counties of Westmorland in the Province of New Brunswick & County of Cumberland in the province Nova Scotia; Do hereby Certify publish & Doclare from our own personal Knowledge, that John Allan Esq' formerly of said Cumberland, was possessed of a Certain Farm in the County of Cumberland, commonly known by the name of Bloody Bridge Farm; about seven Miles distent from Fort Cumberland, on the road leading to the Bay Vert, and that in the Year 1776 said Allan with his family resided thereon, that there was a number of French Acadian families settled on said farm as tenants to said Allan, as we understood & believe, and that there was a number of Houses, Barns & out Houses on said premises at that time, also a large quantity of Cattle and farming utensals; that it was at that time & still continues to be esteemed one of the best farms in the two Counties. That in November, 1776, at the time of the Invasion made against Fort Cumberland by a number of the disaffected Inhabitants of said County & a few persons from the United States, an attack was made on the invaders by the Kings troops who were successful, that in their pursuit they burnt & destroyed, among many others, all the Houses & Barns &c with all the Wheat & other Grain then being on the aforesaid farm, to a great amount as we then understood. That previous to the said attack and during the siege of Fort Cumberland, the People in Arms with a view of setting Fire to Buildings in the Fort as was said, burnt a number of Houses near the Fort, among which was a very Valuable House, Barn & out

House belonging to William Allan Esq<sup>r</sup> of Halifax the father of the said John Allan.

We further Certify that the said John Allan previous to the year 1776 & we believe from the year 1769 at different times sustained the several Officers & appointments of Justice of Peace, Clerk of the Sessions & Inferior Court, Clerk of the Supreme Court, Commissioner & Clerk of Sewers, Representative in general Assembly & other offices within the Town and County of Cumberland; and that from the great Interest he had & the high esteem he was in among the people we believe he might still have Continued to hold & enjoy all the most Lucrative Offices in said County had he remained among us, but upon the unhappy Contest between Great Britain & the American Colonies & from the begining of 1776 the said Allan was suspected of Treasonable practices against the Kings Government for which he was liable to the penalties of the Law & that during the Summer of said year he disappeared & as it was reported went into the United States.

Certified at Cumberland in the Province of Nova Scotia the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1798.

JAMES LAW J. C. Pleas Colo of  
Militia County of West-  
moreland

SAM<sup>r</sup> GAY J. P.

J. WETHERED D. Sheriff

THO<sup>s</sup> DIXSON J. P.

J BURNHAM J. P.

CHARLES BAKER J. Quor<sup>m</sup>

THOS. LUSVY J. Peace

ALPH<sup>m</sup> MORSE J. P.

RALPH SIELDALL J. Peace

W<sup>m</sup> BLACK J. Peace.

ROBERT DICKSON