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The PENNSYLVANIA

Containing the Freshest Ad-



GAZETTE.

vices, Foreign and Domestick.

The SPEECH of his Excellency

WILLIAM SHIRELY, Esq;
To the Court and General Court or Assembly of the Province of
the Massachusetts Bay, in New-England, March 28, 1754.

Gentlemen of the Council, and House of Representatives,

HAVING received in the Hands of the Court their Dispatches, which nearly concern the Welfare of the Province; I thought it necessary to resolve a general Attendance of the Members of both Houses at this Meeting of the Assembly, that the Matters contained in them may have as full and speedy a Consideration, as the Importance of them seems to demand.

By Accounts sent from *Baldwin's Fort*, and Declarations made before me and His Majesty's Council, by two of the Indians at *Foulke's Fort*, upon the River *Kennebec*, I am inform'd, that in the Summer before last a considerable Number of French settled themselves on a noted Carrying-Place, made Use of by the several Indian Tribes inhabiting that Part of the Country, in their Passage to and from *Canada*, which separates the Head of the aforesaid River from that of the River *Chaudiere*, which last falls into the great River St. *Lawrence*, at Four Miles and a Half above the City of *Quebec*.

And I have received further Intelligence, that the French are settled very thick for 12 Miles on each Side of the said River *Chaudiere*, at about 30 Miles Distance above the Mouth of it, and in the Midway between the River St. *Lawrence* and the aforesaid Carrying-Place: And the Captain of *Baldwin's Fort* in his Letter, dated 2d of last January, informs me, That the *Norridgewock Indians* have declared to him, "That they had given the new French Settlers upon the Carrying-Place, Liberty to have any where in that Country, as a Recompence for the great Service they will be of to them, is a Time of War with the English, by supplies them with Provisions and Military Stores."

The same Officer further informs me, in another Letter, dated February the 19th, That several Indians of the *Aroostook*, and some of the *Penobscot Tribe*, amounting together with the *Norridgewock Indians*, to Sixty hundred Men, before Arms, capable of bearing Arms, were then lately arrived in the neighbourhood of the Fort under his Command: And that tho' they intended their Pretence of writing a joint Letter to me, as they have done, yet he had Reason to suspect from their Haughty Inflated Behaviour, the repeated open Threats of some of them, and the private Warnings from others, that as soon as the River should be free from Ice, they would commit Hostilities against the English, upon that and neighbouring Rivers; in which they estimate, they are to be assisted by a Number of French from *Canada*, as well like Indians: And in another Letter, dated the 10th of March, he represents me, that the French Priest, Military to the Indians of the River *Kennebec*, appeared to him to be exclusively using *Artifice* to raise the Indians to prevent our Settlements from being extended higher up; so far as them as *Vassalage* with the English; and *Oppose* them to a War with them this Spring.

Most of their Accounts are confirm'd by the Declarations of the before-mentioned Settlers at *Foulke's Fort*, with the additional Circumstances, that the French Priest had been very impudent after *Seven Nations Conference* in that Settlement; and used Endeavours to draw off some of the inhabitants into the Service of the French; particularly by building a Chapel and a Dwelling-House for himself upon that River, about three or four Miles above *Cadillac*; and at the Distance of 12 from *Foulke's Fort*; and bore very indistinct to persuade them that it was within the French Territories: And the Indians have further declared, that they have been instigated by the Governor of *Canada* to hinder the English from settling upon any Part of the River; which is strongly confirm'd by a Deposition of Capt. *Lafayette*, made in April last.

Upon this Occasion, Gentlemen, I feel as soon as might be, with the Advice of His Majesty's Council, the necessary Reinforcements of Men and Stores to all the English Posts; and Commission for raising six Independent Companies in the Townships and Districts next adjacent to them, with Officers for the Officers and Soldiers to hold themselves in constant Readiness to march upon my Alarm, to the Service of any neighbouring Post or Settlement which may be assaile'd; to extirp the Enemy in their Retreat; and in case that they should dare that the *Norridgewock Indians* have committed Hostilities, to break up their Villages and Settlements upon *Kennebec*, and to kill or capture all they can meet with of those Indians; I likewise ordered an Officer, commission'd by me for that Purpose, to prevent by the first Opportunity, the supposed Place of the new French Settlement, in order to discover the Certainty and Circumstances of it; and to repulse the French Commandant no sooner and withdraw the People under his Command from that Spot, as being under His Majesty's Dominion, and within the Limits of this Government.

And I doubt not, Gentlemen, from your distinguishing Zeal for the Defence of His Majesty's Territories, and the Protection of his Subjects within this Government upon all Occasions, but that upon a Refusal of the French to comply with that Requirement, you will make sufficient Provision for enabling me to engage them with the arm'd Force of the Province, to free us from their Intrusions.

The Committee, Gentlemen, which you express'd in your Message to me at our Meeting in *Durham* last, upon your Apprehensions of the imminent Danger, which the French was in, from the French having fortify'd themselves upon the River of St. *Jean*, vizto our Borders, leaves me no Room to doubt of your being sensible of the fatal Consequences in the general that must attend Intrusions, which it seems plain they are now pushing into the Heart of the Province (at the General Court in a Vote pass'd the 15th of January, 1754, judg'dly calls the River *Kennebec*) unless they are timely removed.

But it may not be improper for me to observe to you in particular, that it appears from an Extract which I have lately caus'd to be made of some original Letters taken among Father *Reneau's* Papers at breaking up the Indian Settlement at *Norridgewock* in 1724, and which pass'd between him, Father *Laval*, Priest of the *Penobscot Tribe*, and Father *La Chaffie*, Superior of the Indians at *Quebec*, during the Indian War in the Years 1722 and 1724; that the Head of *Kennebec River*, near which the Indians have declared the French have made a New Settlement, was the Centre of most of the Tribes then at War with us, and the general rendezvous of all that came to the English Party: The *Hurons*, the *Saguenay* of the Falls of St.

Lewis, the Tribe of St. *French* (or *Aroostook*), and the *Indians* of the *Seigneurs* (as the French call them) of *Bacchus* on the one Hand, used to assemble with the *Norridgewock Indians*, from their several Settlements, and the *Indians* from their River, on the other: How they held their Consultations, and from time immemorial in Parties united or separate, as best suited them, against the English, either they raised after Action, and brought their wounded for Relief; and here, if they met with Provocation, they far'd well; if not, they suffer'd greatly for Want of them.

It appears further from these Letters, that the several French Missions chiefly conducted and managed this War; that they had the Care of supplying the Indians with the necessary Provisions and Stores for carrying it on; were employed to make them present in it, and to push them on to their bold and Enterprize; that they transmitted Accounts of their Proceedings to the Government of *Canada* thro' the Heads of the Jesuits at *Quebec*, that's whence likewise they received their Directions from thence; as the Governor of *Canada* seems to have done his, upon this Occasion, from the Court of France.

And I would further observe, that this Route affords the French a shorter Passage for making Defeats from *Quebec* upon this Province, and defacing the whole Province of *Acadia*, with the King's Woods there, and in the Government of *New-Brunswick*, than any other whatever from *Canada*.

Their Advantage, which the Possession of this River would give the French over this Province, make it easy to account for their constant Endeavours ever since the Treaty of *Ryswick*, at which it was determined in the most solemn Manner, between the two Crowns, that the River *Potowat* or *Foulke's Fort*, was the Boundary between *New-England* and *Acadia* or *New-Spanish*, to extend the Limits by *Claim* upon all Occasions (as in Fact they have done) to the Eastern Side of the River *Kennebec*; that they never attempted, until within these few Years, to pass over the River St. *Lawrence*, within the Extent of this Province.

I am satisfied it will suffice for me, Gentlemen, to urge any Thing more to shew how necessary for the Safety of this Government it is, that we should secure to ourselves the Possession of this important River against the Intrusions of the French without Delay: And I think, the present Situation of Affairs in that Country must convince you, how vain a Scheme it would now be to have your sole Dependence for gazing this Point upon calling annual Petitions to Indians, who appear to have enter'd into an offensive Alliance with the French against you; and have shew'd evident Marks of a Disposition to put the River into their Power.

How different are such Proceedings from those of the French? Whilst we have been busy in vain to a few Indians for their Permission to settle Lands within the aforesaid Limits of this Province, and whilst themselves can't deny to have been purchased of their Ancestors; and have in Effect prov'd them a yearly Tribute to extract them from committing Acts of Hostility against us; the French have marched Armies into distant Countries of numerous and powerful Tribes, which without any Colour of Right they have invaded: They have forbid them to make further Grants of any of their Lands to the English, and have built, and are still building strong Posts, with an ev'n intent to drive them off from the Lands already granted to them, and to extirpate them from all Commerce with their Indians, whom they have threatened with Death, if they shall presume to interfere in their Favour.

It is Time, Gentlemen, for you to desist from having your chief Dependence upon temporary Expedients, which from former to have ex'd the Government to the contempt of their Indians, than to have conciliated their Friendship to it; and to take Council in Part from the Policy of our Neighbours.

Vigorous Measures against the French, in case they shall refuse to quit His Majesty's Territories within this Government, without being compell'd to it by Force; building a strong Fort near the Head of the River *Kennebec*, above the Settlements of the *Norridgewock Indians*, and placing an our Settlements upon it, in a convenient Manner, would effectually rid the Province of the Intrusions of the Farmer, and either hold the latter in a due Dependence upon us, or oblige them to abandon the River.

And further, by making certain, through this Means, Maffre of the *Paix*, which was the general Place of Rendezvous during the Indian War in 1722 and 1724, of all the Tribes engaged in it, both in their Invasion and Return, we should have it in our Power to curb all that's Indian for the future; and in a great Measure prevent them from attempting to make Depredations in our exp'd Settlements.

I earnestly advise to you upon this Occasion, Gentlemen, how dangerous Delays are to make futile Preparations for removing the French world by.

How pernicious was it at first, to have put a Stop to their Proceedings, in building their Post at *Crown-Point*? And you can't but remember, what mischievous Effects of the Neglect of so that in the Beginning, were felt by this and the Province of *New-York*, in the Ravages which they suffer'd from them during the late War.

A short Delay to dislodge them from their Intrusions near the River *Kennebec*, might give them an Opportunity of making themselves Masters of that River *Chaudiere*, in the End; and in that Case we may exp'd soon to see another Post built by them, near the Mouth of it, and the French in Possession of all the Sea Coast, between that and the River St. *John*.

Gentlemen of the Council, and House of Representatives,

I hope you will perceive in the Consideration of these Matters with that Usuinity and Dispatch which his Majesty's Service and the Safety of the Province require; And that you, Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, will make the necessary Supplies.

Council-Chamber, March 28, 1754. W. S H I R E L Y.

The SPEECH of His Excellency JONATHAN BELCHIER Esq;
Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over His Majesty's Province of Nova-Caledonia, or New-Jersey, and Territories depending thereon in America, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c. to the Council and General Assembly of the said Province.

Gentlemen of the Council, and of the General Assembly,
ALTHOUGH I am sensible it is a body坐ion, yet His Majesty's royal Order, have made it absolutely necessary to call you together at this Time; and I have directed the Secretary,

to lay before you the following Letters: One from the Right Hon. the Earl of *Holderness*, out of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, dated *Winton*, August 25, 1753: And another from the Right Hon. the Lord Commissioner for Trade and Plantations, dated *Winton*, September 13, 1753. The first Letter you will find, relates to any hostile Attempts or Intrusions that should be made on the Limits of the King's Dominions. And the other specifies an Interview that is to be held, the Middle of June next, with the Chiefs of the Six Nations at *Albany*.

I have also ordered to be communicated to you, three Letters from the Honourable Mr. *Dinsdale*, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Territory and Dominion of *Virginia*; which give you the Particulars of the Invasion and Depredations made by a Body of French and Indians, on the King's Lands and of the cruel Tortures and Murders committed by them, on His good Subjects; and all done in Infraction of the Treaties of Peace, made between His Royal Majesty and the French King.

I also send, with the other Letters mentioned, One from His Excellency Mr. *Shirley*, Governor of His Majesty's Province of the *Massachusetts Bay*, in *New-England*: Another from the Honourable Mr. *Le Lannoy*, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Colony of *New-York*.

By these two Letters, you will find the wajst Attempts the French are making upon the King's Territories in *New-England*; and that they form to be laying Schemes for a general Detruction and Raids of the English Provinces on this Continent: As also, the great Necessity of our joining with the other Colonies, in forming Commissioners to *Albany* in June next, there to confute the most perfidious Measures for holding and confirming the Six Nations in the English Interest. Yet, if, upon the Whole, these become a firm Union among all His Majesty's Colonies, we may reasonably hope (with the Help of God) the Deligns of the French will soon be rendered vain and abortive; which at present do nearly affect the Honour and Interest of the Crown of Great-Britain, as well as the future Peace and Welfare of this, and the neighbouring Provinces: I therefore earnestly recommend to your most deliberate and mature Consideration, their extraordinary Proceedings; and then I shall not doubt you doing every Thing in your Power, in Aid and Assistance with the Rest of the English Colonies: I say, I hope you will cheerfully unite with them, to ward off from yourselves and your Country, the fatal Consequences that must attend the perfidious Vassalises and Indians of the French (in Conjunction with the Indians). And on this Occasion it is with Pleasure, Gentlemen, that I mention to you, the Zeal and Activity, with which many of our Neighbours have already exerted themselves, for the King's Honour and Interest, and in Competition to their Fellow-Subjects, on this occasion Expedit. And your assisting the King's just Expeditions in their important Affairs, you may depend, will greatly recommend you to the Royal Grace and Favour.

Gentlemen, You will, according to your usual Care, make Inquiry into any temporary Laws that are exp'd, and that ought to be remov'd.

Gentlemen of the General Assembly,
As the Petition made in your last Session, for the Support of the Government, express the next Month; I shall not doubt your doing what may be necessary for maintaining the Honour and Justice of the Province.

Gentlemen of the Council, and of the General Assembly,
I desire you will consider of any Thing you may think further needful to be done at this Session, for His Majesty's Service, and for the Welfare of His good People; and on your laying it before me, you may be assured, I shall heartily concur with you therein.

Euston-Town, April 25, 1754. J. BELCHIER.

Parliament, Feb. 8. Our Parliament's Act of the 29th of January, was forced upon the Commons, and the House of Lords the 29th. The Commons abdicated, and the House refused to obey the Act, which ordered them to administer the Sacrament to a *fat Lady*. The Prince of *Wales*, who had refused to perform a Funeral Service for the late Mr. *Douglas*, has also fled from *London*. The Bishop of *Durham*, during the Consequence of this Affair, retired to *Merton*, a little Town in his Diocese. However, the Informants ordered by the Parliament having done made, they were received *Yesterdays* and this Day, all the Chambers being assembled the Solemn prefaced the Information, and also the Petition, one from the Relation of the late Mr. *Douglas*, and also the *fat Lady*, demanding an Execution of the Act already passed by the Parliament. To-morrow, an equally evil proclaine and important Resolution.

Act, Feb. 10. The first Agent Mr. *Coffield*, Master-of-Law of M. de *la Motte*, Lieutenant-Civil in the Bailywick of *Marlborough*, satisfied to M. *de Motte*, who as well as M. *de Motte* is the King's Attorney-general in this Parliament, an Act of the Council of State, ordering the Prosecution against M. de *la Motte* to be suspended, and the Masters thereon to be sent to the Council. This Act was ratified by M. *Coffield* alone, as an Officer of *Trip-Slip* could be personal enough to do it. The Attorney-general refused to receive it, and made a Report of the Matter to the Parliament; upon which, all the Chambers being assembled Yesterdays, come to the following Resolution:

"That the Declaration of the 29th of January last shall be enacted to this End, that agent shall repair immediately to the King, in order to carry him the most humble and most respectful Remonstrance agreed upon in the said Declaration; and moreover to represent to the said Lord

the King, in the strongest Manner, that his Parliament would render themselves guilty of a Violation of the Laws of which by their Resolution they are the Opponents, if they paid any Reference to an Act that would be reprehensible Marks of his Authority, and has all the Characteristics of being forged; that the said Act overturns all judicial Order, and the Rule of Subordination and Equality, that constitutes the Safety of the State, &c. &c.

"And the said Lord the King shall be most kindly invited to provide for the Maintenance of his Parliament's Authority and Dignity, so far as their own members their Function, and the Execution of their Duties against the late Mr. *Motte*."

"The first Agent has been despatched to pay Visits at the Head of the Department, and has promised to do so with the King's Licence for an

