General Butler to John Kean, June 1, 1785

Butler

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Inquiries

1. Do you suppose that a more advantageous treaty can be found of this than a future period?

2. Have the Indians in a habit of thinking that a peace must be attended with a cession of territory?

3. Do you suppose that if peace was to be granted them without a cession, that many of them would go into that country, and the long thing is to be apprehended from the treachery of Vandallia, Cape?

Answers

The adoption of Indians have repeatedly been the nervous anxiety of not being call'd to be part by the U.S. They always expect persons appointed by the executive authority to hold9 negotiation with them.

The mind's expectation of the Indians is said, in conjunction of the recent treaties concluded to much to the satisfaction of the parties and the valuable districts given for the cession of lands - under those impressions I think now is the time which promises the greatest advantage to the United States.

I think they are, if not persuaded to tender a submission, will, being under the direction of the President, in the other States, besides the executive powers, there already some difficulties and the chief, I am of opinion, many others will join them in not preventing, probably being any danger from the latter, as a peace with the Indians without a cession will naturally induce them to extend their country confirms to them of such stop until another. Whereas if a peace is made, a cession obtained the limits intended to be the said 10 type of a given jurisdiction about the line Congress may prevent bitter going on any
S. That number of fighting men
are the Shawnees—Are their towns
within the Territory already de-
scribed? Are one told their title is not extin-
guished? Are there any other tribes
within the Territory within the
Territory described to be surveyed?

6th. Are the Indians of very much taste?

8th. What sum do you suppose will
be necessary for the treaty?

9th. That is the general mode of making
peace with Indians.
New York, March 1st, 1785—

Sir,

It would give me great pleasure if the answers to the queries which your last letter contains, gave satisfaction and render the information you wish — they will be had from the best and most laudable of principles (the benefit of our common country) and at any time you wish for the explanation on any point of this subject I beg you to command it without ceremony — have the honor to remain one thousand and one hundred to Sir, most obediently,

Wm. Pattee

Honorable

John Lewis Ayvire
Information relative to Indians from Gen'l Butler