

Inclosure 56563.

United States Department of the Interior
Office of Indian Affairs
Washington

Mr. Jonas Schuyler,
322 Grove St.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Jan. 24 1926

My Dear Mr. Schuyler

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 7, 1927 in regard to certain alleged claims of the New York Indians.

There is inclosed herewith a copy of a memorandum for the press dated November 21, 1924. This item was given wide publicity in the newspapers of the United States and probably in Canada.

The status of this matter appears to be where it was on November 21, 1924, when this memorandum was given to the newspapers.

The Stockbridge tribe was not a unit of the Six Nations Confederacy but appears to have been a subject tribe. It is believed that this tribe has no interest in any lands, tribal funds or alleged claims of the Six Nations Confederacy. Should they be given a share in any Six Nations funds it would reduce the amount paid to members of the Confederacy. This tribe has never yet received any part of any moneys belonging to the Confederacy Indians, although it is probable that some of the individuals of the Stockbridge tribe have been adopted and have received benefits as adopted members of the New York Indians.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 21, 1924

Threats against the Six Nations of New York and their descendants that their names will be stricken from the tribal rolls unless they give money to private persons to press an alleged claim against the State of New York led the Bureau of Indian Affairs to issue a warning today.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs announces that it is not necessary for Indians of the Six Nations to contribute money in order to participate in any distribution of money that a court might award their tribe on these alleged claims. Neither is necessary in order to keep them on the tribal rolls as their names remain permanently on the rolls in the files of the Government and can not be removed without proper legal authority.

The Indian Office also pointed out that through the Attorney General of New York official information has been secured that the State has not recognized any claims of these Indians as valid and has offered no sum of money in settlement.

In some instances representations have been made to these Indians that if they did not pay certain charges running as high as \$25 per individual they would lose

In other cases the Indians have been led to believe that the State of New York had already recognized the claim of the Six Nations and has offered approximately \$12,000,000 in settlement without going to court.

On December 4, 1848 the general council of the Seneca Nation in New York abolished the office of chief and adopted a constitution. The constitution was recognized by Chapter 378 of the Acts of the New York State Legislature passed April 11, 1849. The United States Congress never recognized the constitution by legislative sanction but it has been recognized by this Department. Since 1849 this office has not recognized the office of chief of any of the Six Nations.

The inclosure herewith answers the other questions in your letter.

Very truly yours,

Assistant Commissioner

No. _____

October 26 1929

Received from Mrs. Beana McLoxen

Two — Dollars

Enrollment Fee in Owen, Claine,

Brotherston, Fibers

\$ 2.00

Rachel Welch.

Receipt ↑
copy
copy everything