

12-15-84
P.M.

April, 14, 1941.

Mrs. L. H. Stillman
6 Rear Ave.
Troy, New York.

Dear Mrs. Stillman:

Received your letter and am now going to answer.

First I am going to tell you how I know Mrs. Little Root had the treaty to the Lucy Tatter claim, either in 1827 or 1832, because my grandmother made two trips to Green Bay, Wis. The first trip being in 1827. She then returned to New York and made her second trip to Green Bay in 1832. It was on one of these trips that she met Mrs. Little Root on the same boat. This Mrs. Little Root had this Lucy Tatter treaty with her. She said she was coming to Green Bay to look for the heirs of the Lucy Tatter claim. That is what she told my grandmother, Catherine Doxtater. My grandmother told me that she told her that that was my fore-mother.

Page 2
12-15-84
JRM

That is why I wrote to you to see if you could find it on records, you ask me if I knew in what locality or in what part of New York that was in, my father always said it was on the banks of the Hudson's River, either Red Ford or Red Front, I suppose these names have been changed.

You also asked if I knew where this battle took place and where Mrs. Tatter brought reinforcements - I do not know where the battle of raging - But I will give you the name as near as I can, it was so called, General Hegamaster's Army. But I find in United States Histories + the Revolutionary war that the name was General Heggamus, But I don't know if it is the same person - as my grandmother always pronounced it as Gen'l Heggamaster. And she was a well educated woman.

1823
1824-84
807

My grandmother told me that she told her, that that was my fore mother and I am the closest heir to that. They made that trip on the same boat. But she never told me what became of that treaty, But I have found out that the treaty was left in the hands of Mrs. Little Root's son in Green Bay, Wis.

This man told one of the Oneida Indians that the treaty was pawned to him for twenty five dollars, \$25.00. But I would not know who pawned it to him.

And he said that a man by the name of George Doxtater got it from him, also that he didn't get all of his \$25.00 for it. That there was a balance of \$10.00 or \$15.00 on it. But I presume the man died and it never got payed for. Nor do I know where the treaty went to, But it is supposed to be in the vicinity of Green Bay or Oneida. But I would not know.

Page 4
48-51-84
17-15-84
WLP

Now in regards to the first question, do you know if this has any relations to the Cornelius Docketader grant? Cornelius Docketader was the father of Henry Docketader, I am also going to tell you that the said Cornelius Docketader married my grandfather's sister Susan.

The difference between the spellings of the name Docketader - the way the Government look to separate the different families of peoples.

My grandfather's name was Jacob F. W. Docketader, as far as I know Lucy Tetter was supposed to have been married to Honuway Docketader, possibly the spelling of the first name is incorrect. But the treaty was drew up in the name of Tetter.

My sister - Mrs. Jonas Schuyler & my brother - Mr. Truman Docketader are at Onida, Wis. at the present time. They are trying to locate the

12-15-84
82777

treaty - and are to notify me - and I in turn will notify you, as soon as I can. you mentioned it as a private Federal Government claim it was from the Govt of the united States.

I want you to understand thoroughly that Mrs. Little Post was a white woman and not an Indian.

I just refer to Clinton as a city and not as a county. I am going to send you a name of a man who was doing research & work for the Mohegan and Stockbridge tribes. for claims in Washington D. C. He was looking over the "statutes at large" and he told me that he found the Lucy Tatter claim in "The Statutes at Large" in Washington D. C. His name is, Mr. John C. Hamilton. of London, Connecticut.

I am going to ask you a question to which it will be expecting an answer to.

Page
15-8
877

And that is this, I am working for just my father's family, we are not the only heirs to said property in question. Can this be done like this, if we can get this claim before the Govt of the United States. We will let the Government advertise this claim, and whom so ever can identify themselves as heirs we participate in the settlement?

Do not do anything about this until you hear from me again, it may be a few weeks

There are ten of us in my father's family, you will be working for us and our children. But the rest of the heirs will have to come to me to identify themselves as to heirship. The next time I write I will give the names of our family. This is all the information I have at the present time. You will get some news.

Sincerely Yours, Mr. A

6 Frear Avenue, Troy, N.Y.
April 6, 1941.

Mr. Hira Doxtater,
438 E. Lincoln Avenue,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Dear Mr. Doxtater:

I sent you a postal advising that as soon as possible I would answer your letter of March 5, 1941.

Let me explain that although Albany is only about 8 miles from my home, it costs \$.40 for a round trip unless I have car tokens which then takes 4 tokens or about \$.28. It takes about 3/4 hour's ride each way, so you can understand that I do not get down very often.

I am not working as a change of personnel caused me to lose employment where I had been working for seventeen years. Therefore, I would have to ask you to pay whatever expenses is involved if I can get any information regarding the claim to which you refer. I will tell you that I expect to be able to get to New York to talk with the Federal attorney who is handling the Mohawk case and will see what his attitude will be provided I can get the material together for him. Therefore I must ask you a few questions and you must use every effort and send me any information even if you may think it not important.

I took time and went to Albany, Friday, and worked in the State Land Office, the Law Library, and Manuscript Room. I could find no reference to a Lucy Tander or Lucy Totter claim.

Jonas Schuyler (your brother-in-law) wrote me regarding a Lucy Totter claim in 1938 and mentioned that his wife is an heir. I presume that you are the brother of Mrs. Schuyler and therefore also are an heir. Before I begin to do any more about this claim, I want to know that there is no trouble between you people. In other words, I will not try to work unless the Indians are united and will try to do everything to help me get information.

I want it understood that I have not changed my mind about the status of the Six Nations as set-forth by the Hon. Edward A. Evatt and altho Mr. Everett has passed on, I have constantly offered my services (as far as I could without pay, except to have my expenses paid) to try to settle the aged dispute between the Indians, New York and Washington. I have considered that any private claim was and is contrary to what Mr. Everett planned. However, I am willing to get the material together for you because I know what lawyers would charge you to do it. You can pay me a small fee for my services and perhaps someday, if you even should pass on before anything is accomplished, your heirs will have the data with which to work. Until I know more about this claim, I cannot tell you if it should be prosecuted now or later on.

I have found reference to Cornelius Dockstaded and other Oneida grants but have not had time to check them to learn what became of the claims,

I shall ask you questions and you try to answer as soon as possible:

FIRST: Do you know if this has any relation to the Cornelis Dockstader grant?

Are you an heir of Cornelius Dockstader? I find that Dockstater is spelled differently many times.

SECOND:

Please check the spelling of Lucy Tander or Lucy Totter to learn if that was ever spelled differently? Was she Mrs. Lucy Tander or was she a Miss Lucy Tander? I wondered if she were a Docketader, or Little Kettle.

THIRD:

You mention it as a private Federal Government claim. Are you sure it was not a grant or deed from New York State or from New York Colony?

FOURTH: You say her heroic deed was performed for General Washington. I must therefore think it occurred around 1776. Have you any tradition relating to the name of the battle or the location where she went (40 miles) for help and if the help she brought was Oneida Indians?

FIFTH:

A- From your letter, it reads that in or about 1832 an Indian lady named Little Root stole the book which had been filed at Clinton, New York, and took it to Green Bay, Wisconsin. You make inquiries and try to tell me what reason Little Root had for stealing that record?

B- Also how you know it was taken to Green Bay, Wisconsin.

In Albany, I looked through the records of deeds or grants in Clinton County, but found nothing by the name of Tanter or Totter.

I imagine, you refer to Clinton, New York (Clinton as a city, not the county of Clinton, New York) which was in Herkimer County until 1788 when it became a part of Oneida County.

Do you understand why it is important to try to get me more definite information? If I cannot find a record in Albany, it may be necessary to search the records at Herkimer and Oneida Counties. While I was employed at Rens. Poly. Institute, I could not have done this but if you are able to pay my expenses and it seems as if we might be able to get the information there, I could take that trip. In other words, I do not want you to spend any money unless it appears that it is possible to locate this claim.

SIXTH:

Have you any idea if the land involved was located in or near Oneida land in New York State or in upper part of New York State or in some other section of what is now called the United States?

You understand I would have to look in a different place if the grant or deed was given by the Federal Government rather than by New York State

Now if you will take the Six questions above and answer them as closely as possible and make every possible inquiry and let me hear from you, I will do what I can to locate the claim.

You may tell my Oneida brothers and sisters that I regret very much that Mr. Everett failed to carry out the plan which he began and I regret very much the actions of Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg.

Many times, I've been offered money for my records, but have refused to sell as I have felt the time would come when they would be used to the benefit of the Six Nations.

As years pass, I admit that I feel discouraged as no white man wants to carry the burden of facing the financial and political interest in New York State.

I can say that in 1932, I went to Washington with a delegation of Mohawks and at present we have before Federal Court a test case which comes closer to what Mr. Everett planned than any other of which I am familiar. This case began in November 1939 and is still pending. I have had the Federal Special Assistant to the United States Attorney General at my home and he sent his nephew here for a week to copy my records. Therefore, the money your people contributed to Mr. Everett is not entirely wasted or lost. I might add that the couple hundred dollars which Mrs. Kellogg borrowed was never returned to me by either Mr. Everett or the Kelloggs as Mr. Everett said it was a debt which the Kelloggs incurred and that is what Mrs. Kellogg told me that she would have her people pay me. I tell you this so you will understand why I have no use for Mrs. Kellogg. I have a letter from the New York Attorney Mr. Carl Whitney wherein he claims she did not pay to him the money which the Kelloggs reported at Washington as having been paid out by them. Well, that is all gone over the dam and I hear that Mrs. Kellogg is very poor and lives in poverty on the Onondaga Reservation.

I want to say that if your case has any validity in law, if we can get the data together, I shall probably ask to have a Federal lawyer handle the matter with me. I am no lawyer and am glad I was not trained as a New York lawyer or I would be of no use to the Six Nations. A New York Lawyer would not dare to do for your people what I have been able to do.

Kindest regards to all.

Sincerely



Mrs. L.C. Stillman
Yon-dio-che-yoo (Seneca for true friend)

P.S.

I suggest you make an effort to get information to me as quickly as possible