

New York Dec 20th 1795

D^r Sir

There is a Bill before the Senate by which
will pass our House - relative to the Onida Indians
a Clause in the Bill - gives you a right to
purchase of the State the Lands you have
leased of the Onidees - at the mean rate -
that the Surveyor General shall sell other
Lands for - but only the Land you have
not Leased - those persons you have
Leased to - are to have the pre-emption of
the Lands Leased to them. I write to you
to apprise you of the circumstance that
you may not lease any more of the
Socet until you know whether the Law
passes or not. Perhaps some person may
lease all the Land of you before you
know the state of the business, perhaps
you had best re-purchase all the Leases
you can - I congratulate you on
your appointment as Sheriff - we have
taken up Judge Yates as Governor in
opposition to Judge Fay - pray let us -
have your influence for Judge Yates -
believe me your friend.

Dr Livingston

Peter Smith Esq^r

[Wm. Livingston]