

Bangor Novr 30th 1810

Revd & Dear Sir, I received with peculiar pleasure, yours of Sept 20th. I have delayed to answer, that I might have opportunity of farther information relative to the Indians accordingly I was greatly favored last week. The Indians convened in this town, to receive their corn from the State - Genl Blake, the agent for the state, being present, in whom the Indians appear to place much confidence. I informed him of my desire to converse with some of the principal men of the Tribe, to see if something could be effected towards fixing them in agricultural habits, & the idea was pleasing to him - a number of the Indians convened & I read to the Genl & them, a part of your letter, such as I thought suitable to communicate to them - they made enquiry to know particularly what was designed - they appeared pleased with the proposals beyond what I expected.

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 Creation Date: Nov. 30, 1810
 Description: John Sawyer letter to Rev. Jenks about talks he's had with the Penobscot Indians about agricultural training and settling in one place.

and I stated that I would obtain what information I could between this, & their return in the Spring. (They were going to the salt-water to spend the winter) & I supposed they were gone but they were so interested in the business, that 8 or 9 of them, 2 of their Captains, met at Dear-Boyd, who informed me, that Gen^l Blake desired me to call - I met them with the Gen^l & Dear-Boyd they desired to be informed what was proposed - We stated to them particularly the desire that they should settle, and cultivate their land - have a school for their children, & live like white people - and that we wanted to know of them if they were willing to settle on their lands & receive farming utensils & if assistance could be obtained. They would know if they must buy what ever they received, & expressed a jealousy that it was a design to deprive them of their lands but being assured to the contrary, & that we would apply to the Gen^l Government in their behalf - the 2 Captains, Nichola & Soosop, after consulting together some time - Capt Nichola spoke to the others, &

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The appearance was very favorable
to the object proposed - They expressed
a desire that Genl Blake should be
appointed to superintend, & instruct
them in their settlement, should
any thing be done -
Sir what you proposed, I think,
in general is very judicious - I believe
something of importance
may be effected for this wretched
people - but no doubt great patience
& perseverance will be needful - & considerable
expense - The 3 Captains
were all in favor - & said the Governor
who was not present, would be forward
in the object proposed - There are
about 250 of the Pnobscoot Indians,
exclusive of the St John, &
I hope Dear Sir, to see you between
this & Spring, on my way to Boston
& converse further upon the subject
There have been two hopeful converts,
since I saw you, in the wilderness
where I have labored &
My most cordial love to your, 2
dear benavalent friends, & thanks to
them for their precious gift, 7 Bibles
to the new settlements, I have & shall
distribute them most cheerfully -
I am Dear Sir, yours in the Gospel
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