



MMN Item Number: 5765

Creator: Samuel Shute

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Description: Letter from Governor samuel Shute to Samuel Thaxter concerning treatment of the Penobscot Indians in Maine.

Province of the  
Massachusetts Bay

By his Excellency the Governor

Instructions to Samuel Thaxter Esq.  
Commander in Chief of the Forces in the County of York to the  
Commander in Chief for the Time being.

When you arrive at Falmouth or Arrowsick you are to take under  
your Command the whole Body of Men that are in the Service of the  
two Provinces within the County of York.

You are to take all possible Precautions your Self, & to give the  
strictest Orders to the Officers and Soldiers under your Command to  
avoid the Shedding of Blood, But if you are attack'd You are to  
Defend your Self with Courage and Conduct, And if any Place be  
assaulted you are to do your utmost to defend it, & to give your  
Command to all the Inhabitants to take Arms and join you.

You are to take advice of the Commissioners whilst with you about  
your Proceeding, And if they think it necessary, you are to make  
your Disposition & attack the Indians.

In Case of a Rupture you are to send expression(?) immediately to  
all places exposed  
to Danger, & in case any Thing extraordinary should happen, you  
are immediately to dispatch Advice thereof to me at Boston.

When you have Occasion to transport your Men by Water from one  
Place to an other, You are impowred & directed to impress Boat or  
Vessel for their Carriage & any Appliance that may be necessary.

You are to take Especial(?) Care that your soldiers be under good  
Government. That they behave civilly toward the Inhabitants & do  
not Straggle from their Post.

You

You are to acquaint the Indians that they must not expect that this Government will be at the Trouble & Charge of sending Commissioners to meet them, But if they have any Thing of Importance to communicate they must apply to the Commander in Chief for Liberty to come to the Governour at Boston; And you are to inform the Commissary of this Order

You are to take Care upon the Dismission of any Soldiers from the Service that are furnished with the Province Army, that the said Army be safely return'd to the Commissary

Given under my Hand at Boston the ninth Day of August 1721, & in the eighth Year of his Majesty's Reign.

Samuel Shute

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Orders, Rules & Instructions  
Shute

You are to acquaint the Indians that they must not expect that this Government will be at the Trouble & Charge at sending Commissioners to meet them, But if they have any Thing of Importance to communicate they must apply to the Commander in Chief for Liberty to come to the Governor at Boston; and you are to inform the Commissioner of the Order.

You are to take Care upon the Dismission(?) of any Soldiers from the Service that are Furnished with the Province Army, that the said Arms be swiftly return'd to the Commissary.

Given under my hand at Boston the ninth Day of August 1721, & in the eighth year of the Majesty's Reign.

Samuel Shute