

Your known Zeal to do good & serve the Interest of Religion where you come, as it recommends you to all that are acquainted with it, so it has invited us to address our Selves to you at this time & to make a proposall, which, if accepted, we hope will put into your hands an opportunity of being instrumentall to the great good not of a particular Congregation only but the whole Land.

Therefore we would inform you, that having a considerable Interest in the ~~Eastern~~ Province of Maine, we are carrying forward Settlements there & having entered into engagements with the Province to build a Fort there, have lately finish'd it beyond all expectation, which is owing not so much to our Industrious application (tho that was not wanting) as to the remarkable Smiles of Providence on this undertaking too long here to relate, & which gives us hopes of future success: It is a fine strong stone Fort well built with lime, mounted with Ten peices of Canon & garrison'd with a Capt & fifteen men. But we desire to be fortified likewise with the Gospell, for promoting Religion not only among the Garrison & the Inhabitants which we expect will in a good number resort thither in the Spring, but also the Indians, who are almost daily there. It is necessary that the Person engaging in this work should be full of self denyall, Zeal for Religion & Compassion to ignorant & perishing Idolaters, & one who will be content to forgoe many present enjoyments & endure some hardships & hazards for the Satisfaction of doing good here & the prospect of a Future Reward.

For such a Man we have apply'd our Selves to the Commissioners of the Indian Corporation & to severall of the Ministers of this Town, whose Generall Return is that there is no fitter Person, nor more likely to answer that intention than You, if your circumstances will permit you & your Inclinations dispose you to engage in it. We have not been wanting to provide as much encouragement as could be well expected from a few Private Persons,

We

Sr. Your known Zeal to do good & serve the Interest of Religion where you come, as it recommends you to all that are acquainted with it, so it has invited us to address our Selves to you at this time & to make a proposall, which, if accepted, we hope will put into your hands an opportunity of being instrumentall to the great good not of a particular Congregation only but the whole Land.

Wherefore we would inform you, that having a considerable Interest in the eastern parts province of Maine, we are carrying forward Settlementt there & having entered into engagements with the province to build a Fort there, have lately finish't it beyond all expectation, which is owing not, no much to our Industrious application (tho that was not wanting,) as to the remarkable Smiles of Providence on the undertaking too long here to relate, & which gives us hopes of future success. It is a fine strong stone Fort well built with lime, mounted with Ten peices of Canon & garrison'd with a Capt & fifteen men. But we desire to be fortified likewise with the Gospell, for promoting Religion, not only among the Garrison & the Inhabitants which we expect will in a good number resort thither in the Spring, but also the Indians, who are almost daily there. It is necessary that the Person engaging in this work should be full of self denyall, Zeal for Religion & Compassion to ignorant & perishing Idolaters, & one who will be content to forgoe many present enjoyments & endure some hardships & hazards for the Satisfaction of doing good here & the prospect of a Future Reward.

For such a Man we have apply'd our Selves to the Comissioners of the Indian Corporation & to severall of the Ministers of this Town, whose Generall Return is that there is no fitter person, nor more likely to answer that intention than You, if your circumstances will permit you & your Inclinations dispose you to engage in it. We have not been wanting to provide as much encouragement as could be well expected from a few private persons,

We

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by the Maine Historical Society (Local Code: Coll. 365 Box 1 Fl. 9)

Creation Date: ca. 1717

Description: Letter to Reverend M. Baxter inviting him to serve as minister at Brunswick, Maine.

We have laid out for the first Minister, the Ministry & a school  
 100 Acres each lying altogether in the Centre of the Town,  
 We have projected our Town Brunswick compact, that it  
 may be defensible, We have engaged as soon as 20 Fami:  
 lies are there, which we suppose the Spring will produce,  
 they preparing a Frame for a Church & raising it, we  
 will cover & finish it at our Charge & pay the Minis:  
 ter 40 p Annum out of our pockets for the first five  
 years, the Province & the Indian Corporation sup:  
 pose will do something, & the Inhabitants in a few years  
 will be able to maintain him themselves. We dont  
 mention those things as supposing them to be the greatest  
 inducements; What we ~~we~~ judge will weigh more with  
 you is, that we are in hopes (besides what advantage may  
 accrue to the English) by proper application to make a  
 Division among the Indians & to draw off at least some  
 part of them from the French to the English Interests  
 & from a false to the true Religion, by which means  
 a War may be either wholly prevented, or timely Notice  
 given so as to prevent a Surprise: We shall attempt  
 also the Instruction of as many Indian Children as we  
 can persuade into it, which, if succeeded, will be a  
 Noble undertaking & draw after it more happy con:  
 sequences than we can at first imagine. We are  
 sensible what engagements you are under, but we hope  
 both you & the Church will submit a Private to a  
 more Publick & Extensive Benefit, & that if you de:  
 sire it they will dispense with your Obligations to  
 them for encouraging so generous a Design. We  
 hope you willing to visit those parts in Aprill & should  
 be glad if it suit you to accompany us thither, in the  
 meantime we hope to hear from you, as opportu:  
 nity offers & are  
 Sr Yr Sincere Friends  
 & humble Servts

A Copy of a letter to  
 the Board of the  
 Trustees of the  
 Parish of  
 Box 4  
 Dec 48

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