THE

LETTERS
Status of Items in Kirkland Collection

a  original
b  rough draft (K's Handwriting)
c  photostat copy of original in Hamilton College Collection
d  photostat copy of original not in Ham. Coll.
e  typewritten copy of original in Ham. Coll.
f  typewritten copy of original not in Ham. Coll.
g  handwritten copy (circa-1900's) of document in Ham. Coll.
h  handwritten copy (circa-1900's) of document not in Ham. Coll.
i  "true copy": handwritten copy contemporary to K. (usually of a document or other important articles.)
k  other
1a. Joseph Wooley to SK  
Onoboquarage  
Desirous of more supplies. Mentions Peter's trip to New England.

Feb. 11, 1765  
(a)

1b. SK to "Commanding Officier"  
Kaunandawageah  
Gives advice to officier as the intermediary in Seneca prisoner negotiations.

Feb., 1765  
(d)

2a. Jelles Fonda to SK  
Cashnewago  
Asks that K send the Indians to him for trading purposes.

Jan. 18, 1766  
(a,e)

2b. SK to Sir William Johnson  
Kaunandawageah  
Has received permission from the Senecas to dwell among them.  
Mentions a few of the problems that he faces as a missionary.

Feb. 21, 1766  
(d,d)

2c. David Avery to SK  
Lebanon  
Exults K's mission. Mentions his own poor health and depression and the trials of Miss Bette. Tells of smallpox infection in Norwich.

Aug. 23, 1766  
(a,e)

2d. John Kirkland to SK  
Norwich  
Hopes to visit soon. Mr. Kinne to become preacher at Norwich.

Sept. 3, 1766  
(a,e)

2e. Henry Van Schaak to SK  
Detroit  
Discusses financial matters.

Dec. 1, 1767  
(a,e)
3a. Eleazer Wheelock to SK  
Lebanon  
Nov. 21, 1768  
(a, e)  
Relates news of More's Charity School. Communicates a note  
from Mr. Rodgers. SK to be paid by agency in Edinburgh.

4a. Account of Expenses  
Nov. 6, 1769  
(a, e)  
SK's expenses for 1769.

4b. Joseph Kirkland to SK  
Norwich  
Feb. 1, 1769  
(a, e)  
Family and business news.

4c. SK to Eleazer Wheelock  
German Flats  
Dec. 20, 1769  
(d, f3)  
Returning to Oneida with recent bride. Discusses W/K conflict.  
News of the Oneida Nation.

5a. Rev. C.J. Smith to SK  
Virginia  
Jan. 17, 1770  
(a, e, e)  
Invites SK to Virginia. Mentions S's illness and SK's conflict  
with Wheelock.

6a. SK to Eleazer Wheelock  
Pt. Stanwix  
Feb. 2, 1770  
(a)  
Give account of Oneida; Jerusha's acceptance and the Indian's  
enthusiasm. Discusses particulars of W/K conflict. Mentions issue  
of his salary.
7a. Phineas Dodge to SK  
Windham  
March 7, 1770  
(a,e)

Domestic news. Reports news of unrest in colonies, including occurrence of the "Boston Massacre".

8a. SK to David McClure  
Kanawarahe  
April 24, 1770  
(b)

Sends greetings, discusses Devil's power. K/W/4 mentioned.  
Hopes to visit in the summer. Is suffering from a back problem and stiff fingers.

8b. SK to Eleazer Wheelock  
Kanawarahe  
April 25, 1770  
(a)

Hopes to administer the sacrament to the Indians in May.  
Reports of dissatisfaction to be overlooked: "My enemies increase with my friends." The gentleman who might be circulating these reports was very poorly behaved upon his trip to Oneida. Returning some bills of exchange.

9a. John Thornton to SK  
London  
April 27, 1770  
(a,e)

Offers advice on Wheelock/K conflict. Offers to loan SK money.

9b. William Shippen to Edward Shippen  
Philadelphia  
Aug. 9, 1770  
(a4)

Mentions SK's travelling to Albany with GW (presumably George Whitefield).
9c. Phineas Dodge to SK  
Windham  
(c)  
Discusses circumstances of the death of C. Jeffer. Smith  
Reports further unrest in the colonies.

10a. Ebenezer Mosely to SK  
Onohkwage  
(a,e)  
Congratulates K on successful mission; his "own situation is very lonesome and desolute". Discusses the plans for building a new church.

11a. SK to Andrew Oliver  
Boston  
(b,b,e,h)  
Application to the LBCB for financial support.

11b. Proceedings of the LBCB  
Boston  
(i)  
Salary to be paid to SK. Deacon Thomas also to be supported by LBCB.

11c. Andrew Oliver to Andrew Elliot  
(?)  
(h)  
Church news. Discusses Wheelock's Narrative. Thinks that it is unfair to SK.

11d. SK to Eleazer Wheelock  
Windham  
(b)  
W's removal (to Hanover) and Whitefield's death "disconcerting". Discusses the expenses incurred in the Oneida mission. Going under
the jurisdiction of the LBCB.

11e. Rev. Jacob Johnson to SK Oct. 26, 1770
Groton (a)

Mentions Whitefield's death. Greetings to the Oneidas from
the Mohigans. Also mentions K/Wheelock disagreement.

11f. SK to John Thornton Oct. 31, 1770
Kanawarohare (i)

Account of SK's expenses for 2 years. House, Household furniture,
farming implements, Doctor's bills and other miscellaneous. Also
mentions donations. Justifies expenses of furniture as the minimum
"necessary for keeping house at such a distance from the White inhab-
itants" and those of the farming implements because they were "used
by the whole town".

12a. Account of Expenses Nov. 6, 1770 (i)

Date on document probably wrong. Expenses for inoculations,
farming utensils and SK's salary.

12b. SK to Andrew Oliver Nov. 12, 1770
Oneida (b)

Returned to Oneida on Oct. 29th. Preached on November 4th
and stayed up until midnight telling the headmen about his recent
journey. Talks of erecting a sawmill and a meeting house at Oneida.
Rebels a speech from the Indians to the Board. The Indians were
pleased that they are to get a new meeting house. Do not think that
K wastes "Jesus Christ's money". Thank Rev. Pemberton for his
advice. The school is well.

12c. Proceedings of the Harvard College Corporation  Nov. 13, 1770
       (f, h)

Decision of LBCB to support SK related. (See 11b) Decided to
pay SK and Deacon Thomas out of the Williams Fund.

12d. David Avery to SK  Nov. 26, 1770
       Beaver Dam  (a)

On the way from western to eastern Long Island. Preached at
Beaver Dam and many other places, has visited several sickbeds. Having
considerable success: "several of both colors have appeared to be affected".
A. does not believe that his health is strong enough for a trip to
Oneida in the coming winter.

13a. Dr. Joseph Huntington Jr. to SK  Dec. 28, 1770
       Windham  (a)

Travelling to Worthington, near North Hampton...has lately
received a letter from Dr. Wheelock: "perhaps you and he don't think
alike".

13b. A speech of the Oneida Indians to John, the Earl of Dunmore  Dec. 31, 1770
       (i)

Translated by SK. Welcomes J to New York. Requests a blacksmith
to make guns, axes and farm implements. This had been denied by
Sir William Johnson.

14a. SK to Levi Hart  Jan. 17, 1771
       Oneida  (a, e)
News of the mission. "Oneida Indians from seven different villages attend now upon my ministry", on "Communion day between three and four hundred". Hopes to take a preaching tour in the South; to administer to "heathen" whites. Also quote 3 successful Indian converts. (with supplement)

15a. SK to John Thornton
Oneida
Feb. 6, 1771
(b,c)
Working very hard, but in good health. Relates details of Wheelock/K conflict.

16a. SK to Ebenezer Pemberton
Kanawahake
March 25, 1771
(b,d8)
Received news of Andrew Oliver's resignation as secretary of LBCB. The Indians have met and agreed to begin cutting lumber for sawmill and meeting house. Relays speech of the Indians desiring that the Board support these Projects.

17a. Jasper Wadguit to Samuel Locke
Hickney
April 29, 1771
(f,h9)
SK's resolution from Harvard Corporation presented to the New England Company and approved. The income of the Williams Fund has increased; SK's salary will be borne by the increased income.

18a. SK to Ebenezer Pemberton
Kanawahake
June 1, 1771
(b,d,d10)
The Oneida and Kanadesko schools are flourishing. Would like to hear from the Board concerning a meeting house.
19a. SK to John Thornton

Kanonwarefare

Thanks T. for advice. Discusses Wheelock/K conflict. Relates circumstances of patronage of LBCB.

June 4, 1771

19b. SK to John Rodgers

Oneida

Thanks R for letters and gift of linen. Relates the story of the meeting house request. Tells details of Wheelock/K conflict and SK's subsequent attachment to the Boston Board.

June 4, 1771

19c. SK to Ebenezer Backus

Mohawk River

Dodge's health is bad, although position in a neighboring village has recently opened up.

June 12, 1771

19d. Phineas Dodge to SK

Schenectady

Arrived safely at Wallrod's. Illness as bad as ever.

June 14, 1771

20a. Levi Frisbie to SK

Dartmouth College

Speaks of SK's mission in glowing terms: "I always like something sentimental". Speaks of Dartmouth, includes gossip.

August 8, 1771

20b. David Avery to SK

New Hampshire

En route from Long Island to Hanover, will see Wheelock. Would like to visit Virginia, health permitting. Talk in Boston of
21a. Eleazer Wheelock to SK  
Hanover  
Sept. 2, 1771  
(a)  

Sending Avery to Oneida with the highest recommendations.  
Dartmouth news.

21b. Joseph Brant to SK  
Canajoharie  
Sept. 2, 1771  
(a)  

Written in Iroquois.

21c. James Shuter to SK  
Schenectady  
Sept. 9, 1771  
(a)  

Received SK letter. Church is now complete.

21d. Phineas Dodge to SK  
Windham  
Sept. 10, 1771  
(a,e)  

Rumours again circulating in Boston concerning the Oneida  
mission. A visit would be in order. Glad to hear of Avery's  
going to Oneida. Sorry about mission troubles and Thomas's  
loss of faith.

21e. Ebenezer Backus to SK  
Windham  
Sept. 12, 1771  
(a)  

Requests advice on the sale of a K horse that is poorly  
behaved in a "garage".

21f. Joshua Willes to SK  
Norwich  
Sept. 12, 1771  
(a)  

News and greetings.
Wheelock/K conflict.

20c. Phineas Dodge to SK
Windham
Aug. 19, 1771
(a,e)

Family and church news. Bad reports circulating about
Oneida mission.

20d. Samuel Johnson to SK
Stockbridge
Aug. 19, 1771
(a)

Made it home from Oneida although J "just escaped being killed
by the kick of (his) horse". Family news. Woodard and Hopkins
circulating reports about SK finances. "The Doctor's hearty consort"
is currently the object of Woodard's attentions.

20e. Sir John Johnson to SK
Johnson Hall
Aug. 22, 1771
(k11)

Demands explanation of reference in Kirkland Journals.

20f. SK to John Rodgers
Kanonwareh
Aug. 22, 1771
(b)

Copy of petition to LBCB enclosed. Indians anxious for news
concerning the meeting house. Quotes from a Jesuit priest's
Message to the Oneidas. Sir William has been asked to remove SK.

20g. David Avery to SK
Dartmouth College
Aug. 30, 1771
(a)

Commencement at Dartmouth was on the previous day. Degrees
were not conferred, as a quorum of trustees was not present. A. will
spend the winter at Oneida although in poor health.
21g. Account of Expenses  
Kanonwarohare  
Extraordinary expenses of SK, October 1770-October 1771. For  
Provisions, clothing, farming utensils, medicines, and school support.  
Justifies these expenses as minimal and necessary.

21h. Dr. J. Huntington Jr. to SK  
Worthington  
Currently moving to Worthington.

21i. Jonathon Huntington to SK  
Windham  
Domestic news and greetings.

21j. David Avery to SK  
Canajoharie  
Sorry to have missed SK on his trip to New England. Mr. Dean, accompanying A., plans to collect Indians for Dartmouth and return to there.

21k. Nathaniel Whittaker to Eleazer Wheelock  
Salem  
SK to be in area soon. Discusses SK’s finances: Wants to "give the world a narrative of that affair...his conduct is very unpleasing".

21l. Ebenzer Moseley to SK  
Onohaghkwage  
Recently visited New England, saw Wheelock at Dartmouth. To leave his mission in the spring.

22a. Eleazer Wheelock to Jerusha Kirkland  
Hanover  

Sept. 16, 1771  
Sept. 16, 1771  
Sept. 16, 1771  
Sept. 25, 1771  
Sept. 28, 1771  
Sept. 29, 1771  
Oct. 28, 1771
SK's visit to Dartmouth was very satisfying. Sends greetings.

22b. Articles of Agreement between Mr. Kirkland and myself  
Oct. 30, 1771  
(b,d,f.14)

Attributes the late misunderstanding to the work of Satan. Recognizes that SK's commitment to the LBCB now more important than his other (earthly) commitments. SK did suffer for supplies under W's patronage, although this was not because of willful neglect on W's part. SK has not personally benefitted from any patronage, but has put it all into his mission work and the support of his family. SK has also been supportive of Dartmouth. W "never himself accused K with extravagance". W + SK agree not to believe reports injurious of the other until the injured party can be questioned on the issue.

22c. Account of Expenses  
Oct. 31, 1771  
(a)

Expenses for currency exchange losses, inoculations and farming utensils. Receipts: donations from John Thornton.

23a. SK to Eleazer Wheelock  
Nov. 18, 1771  
(b,b)

Oneida

Arrived home safely. Informed Closs and Butler of his plans to educate the "Youth of any denomination" on his return trip. Avery"appears to be engaged at heart for the Cause of God".

23b. SK to Jonathon Mason  
Nov. 18, 1771  
(b)

Oneida

Returned home safely. Wheelock/K conflict resolved; articles of agreement enclosed.
23c. SK to John Thornton  
Oneida  
Nov. 18, 1771  
(b)  
Returned home safely after journey of 1200 miles. Wheelock/SK conflict resolved, Whittaker and Woodard "correct their mistakes". Avery's "health and constitution are not equal to an Indian Mission", although his intentions are pure.

23d. SK to John Thornton  
Oneida  
Nov. 18, 1771  
(b)  

23e. SK to James Dole  
Oneida  
Nov. 19, 1771  
(b)  
Financial transactions.

23f. SK to Andrew Elliot  
Oneida  
Nov. 19, 1771  
(b)  
Returned from New England. Wheelock/SK conflict resolved. Stopped at Johnson Hall on return, left answer to questions of Sir John Johnson (see #20e). Thinks that Johnson's questions are unjustified. Apprehensive of Crosby as a missionary, as he does not speak the Indian language.

24a. SK to Ebenezer Moseley  
Kanonwarohare  
Dec. 16, 1771  
(b)  
Regrets to hear that W is leaving his mission. Discusses Crosby's language problems. LBCB disapproves of Sir John Johnson's hand in ordinations. Hopes to go to Albany in January.
25a. SK to Eleazer Wheelock  
Stockbridge  
Jan. 20, 1772  
(d,d,d,f15)  
On the way to New England with family. Commotion among tribes 
forbids productive religious work at present. Avery, interpreter, 
and Tuscarora boy to be at Dartmouth soon.

26a. Speeches of SK and the Oneida Indians  
Kanonwaroher  
Feb./March, 1772  
(i)  
Feb. 24: SK's speech to the Indians. Discusses Avery, 
Wheelock's request for students. 
March 3: Tagawaron answers in the name of the Chiefs. Students 
removed from Dartmouth because it was thought to be too far away, 
and the children derive enough benefit from the Oneida School. 
Do not plan to send any more students in the future.

26b. SK to Jerusha Kirkland  
Windham  
Feb. 11, 1772  
(a,p)  
Had a "comfortable journey except a bad cold." Sending furs 
for JK to sell.

26c. John Thornton to SK  
Clapham  
Feb. 19, 1772  
(a)  
Received SK's letters and the Articles of Agreement. Pleased 
that the Wheelock/SK conflict is resolved. Believes that SK should 
strive to regulate his work load. Offers SK financial assistance. 
Thinks that Wheelock lost face in the conflict.

26d. Levi Frisbie to SK  
Dartmouth College  
Feb. 26, 1772  
(a)  
Admiring of SK, wishes that he could dedicate his life to
missionary work like SK.

26a. Eleazer Wheelock to SK  
Dartmouth College  
Feb. 26, 1772  
(a)  
Asks about the possibilities of Matthews and Abraham  
becoming Tuscarora schoolmasters.

27a. David Avery to Jerusha Kirkland  
Schenectady  
March 16, 1772  
(a)  
Expecting to soon return to Oneida. Relates speech of Indians  
to Wheelock.

28a. Andrew Elliot to SK  
Boston  
April 9, 1772  
(a)  
After reading the Articles of Agreement with Wheelock, the  
Board has decided "that it would have been as well if you had not  
seen him". The LBCB should be informed of future transactions with  
Wheelock. Dispute with Sir William Johnson should be straightened  
out. The Board is taking care to prevent the publishing of the  
portions of Kirkland's journals referring to Johnson. Crosby to be  
assisted.

29a. Ralph Wheelock to SK  
Norwich  
May 7, 1772  
(a)  
Family and Dartmouth news. Expects to spend the summer at  
Hartford and Hebron under the care of Dr. Huntington.

29b. Andrew Elliot to SK  
Boston  
May 25, 1772  
(a)
Quotes from a letter from Dr. Erskine to Dr. Chauncey. Is favorable to SK. E. warns SK of being "used cruelly by those who pretend to be your friends". Wheelock has procured 3 Stock-bridges for Dartmouth.

30a. John Sargeant to SK
June 9, 1772
Stockbridge
(a)

Understands that the Indian troubles are likely to subside soon.

30b. SK to Eleazer Wheelock
June 18, 1772
Kanonwarohare
(a)

(Never sent) Unhappy that conflict continues with W. Discusses new basis for dispute.

30c. SK to Samson Occum
June 18, 1772
Oneida
(d16)

Hopes to see 0 in September. Unrest is prevalent among the Indians; mission not doing well.

30d. Address to the Indians
June 20, 1772
Kanonwarohare
(a)

Delivered by David Avery upon his departure from Oneida. Tells the Indians that because of their heathen ways: "I have not the least expectation of seeing one of your faces there (in heaven) in comfort, but must stand as a swift witness against every of you that shall come to God's awful Bar in your Sins."

30e. SK to John Rodgers
June 20, 1772
Oneida
(b, a)
State of mission not good, although some Indians still
"stand up for God". Believes that the Indians can never become
unified. Mentions Avery's departure, and the fact that he may go
to Virginia to administer among the Indians there.

30f. SK to Jerusha Kirkland
Oneida

Avery leaving next day. Is very tired.

31a. SK to Jerusha Kirkland
Ft. Stanwix

Visiting Stanwix to administer to smallpox victims. Discusses
disputes concerning the nature of Baptism among the Indians.

31b. SK to John Thornton
Oneida

Disputes among the Christian Indians because of Jesuit priests
and White neighbors. Is working hard to try to resolve the problems.
Mentions latest breech with Wheelock. Hopes to purchase land near
Stockbridge for a retreat in the case of an Indian War. Jerusha
gave birth to a daughter. Hopes to visit Boston in September.

32a. SK to Andrew Elliot
Kanowarhahare

Defense of expenses. Lists expenses, receipts 1769, 1770.
(Note: researcher should check original, as the copies in the HCL
are not in good condition.)

32b. SK to Jerusha Kirkland

Aug. 5, 1772
Oneida

Congradulates JK on the birth of their daughter. Mission in poor shape, although SK's friends in England are steadfast in their support.

32c. SK to Andrew Elliot
Kanonwarohare

Aug. 11, 1772

(b)

Sorry that new Wheelock/SK conflict now existing. Defends the expenses of the Oneida Mission, denies the charges of Wheelock, Whittaker and Woodard.

32d. Account of Expenses
Kanonwarohare

Aug. 29, 1772

(b)


33a. SK to Jerusha Kirkland
Norfolk

Sept. 16, 1772

(a)

On his way to visit family. Horse went lame in Stockbridge. Will visit New Haven and be in Windham by "the latter end of next week".

33b. SK to Jerusha Kirkland
Boston

Sept. 26, 1772

(b)

Offers consolation on the death of Polly, their baby daughter. Has been advised to stay in Boston until affairs are settled, but will return as soon as possible.