

Ebenezer Meriam correspondence, 1850-1855
1850-1855
Mss.970.3.On1

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Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Creator	Meriam, Ebenezer, 1794-1864.
Title	Ebenezer Meriam correspondence, 1850-1855
Date [inclusive]	1850-1855
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Location	LH-MV-B-11
Language	English
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Abstract	Letters from two young Christian Onondaga Indians, Thomas La Fort and Jameson L. Thomas, about their efforts to get an education so they might help their tribe; from Chief David Hill, leader of the Christian Onondagas, asking for financial and political aid when the New York state legislature refused money for a school on the Onondaga reservation, and when the Christian and pagan Indians sought to divide the reservation between them.

Background note

Ebenezer Meriam was a New York Indian agent.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

American Philosophical Society

Indexing Terms

Family Name(s)

- Hill, David, -- Chief.

Genre(s)

- Native American Materials

Geographic Name(s)

- New York (State) -- Politics and government -- 1775-1865.

Personal Name(s)

- La Fort, Thomas
- Thomas, Jameson L.

Subject(s)

- Education
- Government Affairs
- Indian reservations
- Indians of North America--Education
- Native America

- Onondaga Indians

Other Descriptive Information

This collection consists primarily of correspondence from Onondaga Indians in the 1850. Much of the correspondence discusses education and religion. Some of the letters relate to affairs between New York state and Indian groups seeking aid. Much of this correspondence is beyond the chronological scope of this guide.

Papers

Collection Inventory

Papers

Edwards, J. L.

Nov. 21, 1850

Broadside Circular

T.D. 3p. with Manuscript notes in margin. From Pension Office, explaining that not every letter can be answered quickly and the circular explains what can be expected. Marginal note states "There is nothing due to the heirs of David Hill, who was a chief of the Onondaga Tribe."

Hill, David

Nov. 14, 1851

12-1/4x7-1/2

Letter to Eben Meriam;

Onondaga Castle, L.S. for David Hill by Lyman Beach. 1p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.)
Business. Education for Indians.

La Fort, Thomas

Jan. 21, 1852

10x8

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York;

Cazenovia, N.Y., A.L.S. 2p. and add. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Is studying. Asks for money.

Thomas, Jameson L

Feb. 9, 1852

10-1/2x8

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;

Cazenovia, N.Y., A.L.S. 1p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Tells of his course of studies.

Thomas, Jameson L

April 2, 1852

10x8

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;

Albany, A.L.S. 2p. (see Letters from Onondaga Indians.) Concerning his studies in school. Need for money for schooling for Indians.

La Fort, Thomas

June 5, 1852

8-1/2x7

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;

Papers

Albany, A.L.S. 2p. (see letters from Onondaga Indians.) Asks for money so that he might stay in school, although he doesn't like the school in Albany.

Thomas, Jameson L July 2, 1852 10x8
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;

Albany, A.L.S. 1p. (see Letters from Onondaga Indians.) Is going on vacation for ten weeks. Asks that newspapers be sent to the reservation.

Hill, David Dec. 28, 1852 8-3/4x7-1/4
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;

Onondaga Castle, New York, A.L.S.: [written by Thomas La Fort. 3P. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Business. Needs money for clothing for children.

Thomas, Jameson L Jan. 27, 1853 9-3/4x7-3/4
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York;

Rushford Academy, A.L.S. 2p.and add. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Difficulties in studying in the school.

La Fort, Thomas Jan. 31, 1853 10x8
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York;

Albany, A.L.S. 1p.and add. (see letters of Onondaga Indians.) Hopes to hear from him after Feb. 10, when school recommences.

Hill, David Feb. 16, 1853 10x7-3/4
Letter to [Ebenezer] Meriam;

Albany, A.L.S. 2p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Needs help in getting the legislature to divide the lands of the Onondaga Indians.

La Fort, Thomas May 24, 1853 9-3/4x7-3/4
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York
City;

Albany, A.L.S. 1p.and add. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Wishes to hear from him and needs support. Wishes there was support for schools for Indians.

Papers

Onondaga Reservation, L.S.: Thomas La Fort, Jameson L. Thomas and [for] David Hill. 1p.and add.,end. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Concerning funds for clothing.

Hill, L A Sept. 19, 1853 10x7-1/2

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York City;

Onondaga Castle, A.L.S. 1p.and add. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Writes for David Hill who wishes to know date of his arrival. L.A.Hill commences school for the Indians.

La Fort, Thomas Oct. 19, 1853 12-1/4x8

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York;

Jonesville, New York, A.L.S. 2p.and add. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) J.L.Thomas to go to school and then can help the Indians. Needs money to visit New York.

Thomas, Jameson L Oct. 25, 1853 9x7

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;

Rushford, N.Y., A.L.S. 1p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Is in school. Enjoyed his visit to New York City.

La Fort, Thomas Nov. 10, 1853 10x7-3/4

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York City;

Jonesville, N.Y., A.L.S. 2p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Studies hard to get a good education to help the Indians. Needs help.

Hill, David Feb. 27, 1854 10x8

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;

Onondaga Castle, L. 2p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Education among the Onondaga.

Thomas, Jameson L March 21, 1854 9-3/4x7-3/4

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;

Onondaga Castle, A.L.S. 1p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Wishes to visit him in New York City.

Papers

La Fort, Thomas	March 27, 1854	9x7
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;		
New York, Onondaga Res[ervation], A.L.S. 2p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Needs to visit him about Indian affairs		
Thomas, Jameson L	April 3, 1854	9x7
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;		
Onondaga Reservation, A.L.S. 2p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Wishes to see him.		
Thomas, Jameson L	May 22, 1854	10x8
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;		
Onondaga Reservation, A.L.S. 1p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Wishes to see him. Concerning Indian affairs on the reservation.		
La Fort, Thomas Thomas, Jameson L.	June 27, 1854	
Letter to E. Meriam		
A.L.S. 1p.		
Hill, David	Nov. 11, 1854	10x8
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;		
Onondaga Reservation, A.L.S.: "writing Thomas La Fort". 3p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Difficulties in the Indian reservation between Christian and pagan Indians.		
Hill, David	Nov. 17, 1854	9-3/4x7-3/4
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York;		
Onondaga Reservation, L.S.: David Hill by Thomas La Fort.(see Letters of Onondaga Indians.)Christian Indians wish to divide reservation between themselves and pagans.		
Hill, David	Jan. 4, 1855	9-3/4x8
Letter to E[benezer] Meriam;		
Onondaga Reservation, L. 2p. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Indian reservation difficulties.		
Hill, David	Feb. 14, 1855	9-3/4x8

Papers

Letter to E[benezer] Meriam, New York;

Onondaga Reservation, L. 1p.and add.,end. (see Letters of Onondaga Indians.) Indian reservation difficulties.
