



ARENT VAN CURLER & THE FLATTS
History, Archaeology & Art Illuminate a Life on the Hudson

DOCUMENTS

Commission of Arent van Curler and Others to Repair with a Present to the Maquas Country, September 23, 1650

The insecurity of our lives and property oppresses us continually, living as we do under the unrestrained domination of inhuman people and cruel heathen. And while, indeed, we had some intimation of this last year, it shows itself particularly at present through evident indications and plausible predictions and earnest warnings which are communicated to us, not by the aforesaid parties, but by far distant Indians. Which being the case, although some think it advisable to have recourse to arms and resistance, and to exchange our weak position for that of their superior strength, their honors, the directors, commissioners and councilors, realizing the need, have resolved and determined, for the welfare of the colony of our lord patroon, the preservation of the commonwealth and the protection of our wives and children, to commission and empower Mons^r- Arent van Curler, Gerrit Wencom, Cornelis Teunisz van Breuckelen, Thomas Chamber and Volckert Hansz, being requested thereto, to repair with a present to the Maquas country, to renew the former alliance and bond of friendship; which they hereby willingly undertake to do. Done in the colony, on the date above written.

Quod attestor,

A. DE HOOGES, Secretary

Source: Minutes of the Court of Rensselaerswyck, 1648 -1652, pp. 128-129.