

N<sup>o</sup> 53. Westsmithfield London March <sup>th</sup> 5 1845--

Dear Sir, [Mr Sam<sup>l</sup> Harrison of Chittenden. Vermont]

I have sent you two Parcels of Letters in Jan<sup>y</sup> & February, via, New York to the care of Mr Albert Ryckman, and W<sup>m</sup> Birdseye Peters Esq. Morehts respecting Capt.<sup>n</sup> Carver & the Indian Deed of Lond. adjoining to the East End of St Anthony's Falls in the River Mississippi ~~River~~, 125 Miles N.W of Chipewaykin which falls into the South End of Lake Pepin through which runs the Mississippi. Carver's Grant extends E. up the Chipeway River 100 Miles—thus you see the Location of Carver's Land..

Mr Mathew Cox, informed me that the Documents respecting Carver's Grant were in Possession of Mr John Coles of New York, but has not told me, that the Original Deed given by the Sachems to Carver is with Mr Coles—W. B. Peters<sup>Esq</sup>, will be a proper Person for you to employ to enquire of Mr Cole... I fear Capt.<sup>n</sup> Carver has sold more than the 3,880,000 Acres to R. Smith Esq. New Reports reach me daily, and I suspect such Tricks have been plaid off against the Daughter here & Children there of Capt.<sup>n</sup> Carver that will render their Interest in the Lands if recovered precarious, while the Expense with Congress and the Indian Sachems will be certain & great—

If Rufus Carver & his Brother & Sisters are not rich Enos, to carry on the Search, I should advise them to make use of an Assistant to find the Money Deed. & to accept a share of the Land on its being Recovered—



I wish the Children of Capt<sup>n</sup> Carver may defeat  
the Machinations of their Enimies; I perceive that  
Mathew Cox has done all in his Power by help  
of Mr John Cates, Mr Rufus King, & Mr Pineknay  
and others to obtain the Presidents Approbation  
of the Indian Deed in favour of Mr & Mrs Pope  
only, as they took Letters of Administration  
on Capt<sup>n</sup> Carver's Estate at Doctors Commons,  
& as such empowered Cox to Act for them  
in England & America, not knowing or Suspecting  
Capt<sup>n</sup> Carver had any Children in America -  
It seems to me, that Cox & his Connections had  
a design to obtain the Land for themselves  
& not for Mr & Mrs Pope, as they hold up the Idea  
that Capt Carver had sold most of the Land in  
Sundry Parcels to R<sup>d</sup> Smith & others. whose  
Deeds are held in Pa<sup>ty</sup>, to be used against Pope  
& his wife, when the Lands are recovered under  
their Names & Power. Mr Cox is not willing  
to believe Rufus & de are Children of Capt Jonathan  
Carver, but holds them up as Children of a Brother  
of Capt<sup>n</sup> Carver - These things should not  
discourage Rufus & de from Speedy exertions  
towards securing their claim - Rest assured  
that the State of New York will oppose the Claim  
of Carver, because that State claimed all the Western  
Territory between Lat. 41 and Lat. 45, to the Western  
ocean, by Royal Instructions, excepting only what  
has been taken out by Royal Charters - on this  
Ground, the State of New York Cedes their Right and  
Claim to the Western Territory to Congress, & so  
vested Congress with their Right & Claim to the  
Land granted to Capt<sup>n</sup> Carver - This idle Claim  
of New York, will be used against Carver's Grant -



with a view to prevent those who bought Shores in  
Carver's Grant being benefitted. & to give Congress  
the sole right to purchase the fee of the Chipeway  
Tribe, for a trifle, & then to sell it for two dollars  
per Acre - If you have not Strength & Policy  
enough to bear down such national Arguments  
at Congress, Carver's Children will lose their Claim

Nevertheless I advise them to do all in their Power  
to gain their Right. and after putting before Congress  
their Claim & Petition; a Man well skilled should be  
sent with a copy of the original Deed to the Indian  
chiefs, to gain their approbation of their Ancestors  
Grant to Capt. Carver, which will be a strong  
Argument for a confirmation of  
it by the President & Congress.

The extent of Carver's Grant is said  
to amount to 2000,000 Acres by others to  
6,000,000 Acres - the least makes it to

be larger than the State of Vermont. The present  
Sachems undoubtedly know its bounds by Tradition  
tho' Mr Cox says, The Chiefs of the Chipeways and  
of the Noudowissaws never heard of Capt. J. Carver,  
Nome, or of any Deed granted to him - he would  
not tell me, that he or Mr Coles had sent a Messenger  
to make the inquiry of the Indians - but I find  
a Man Named, Clark, was sent within 2000  
to them some years ago, who was murdered &  
Robbed on the way by some white Hunters -

whatever you do, in this concern use Speed and  
caution and as much Privacy as Possible. my Son  
W.B. Peters Esqr would make you the best Messenger  
amongst the Indians, if you can prevail on him  
to undertake the Journey - adieu - J. Peters -



Mr Samuel Harrison,

Chittenden, in the State  
of Vermont...





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