

Document A

Who is the author of this document? Who is the author writing for?

This is an address from Richard Butler, the Superintendent of Indian affairs in the Northern District of the U.S. to the members of the Delaware nation in 1787.

Summarize the document in a few sentences. What is the author describing or requesting?

Butler writes to invite the Delaware leaders that the chiefs of the Five Nations to make a treaty with the U.S. government in the hopes of settling lingering disputes and establishing a peace between white Americans and the indigenous nations.

What adjective described the author's *tone*? Is this document conciliatory, hostile, friendly...?

“Hopeful”; “optimistic”; “friendly”; “earnest”

Select one line or phrase from the document that stands out as memorable or representative.

“to establish a Peace which shall be lasting”

“I hope I will induce you to come with hearts disposed to perpetual Peace & Friendships with the United States.”

Document B

Who is the author of this document? Who is the author writing for?

Anthony Wayne, a hero of the War of Independence, is writing to Secretary of War Henry Knox

Summarize the document in a few sentences. What is the author describing or requesting?

Anthony and Knox appear to have been exchanging a series of letters. In this one, Wayne describes violent actions by native peoples on the frontier. Wayne believes that the new outbreak of violence was triggered by the possibility of a new treaty between native peoples and Spain (a rival of the new United States), which promises indigenous peoples land on the east side of the Mississippi river. The possibility of a treaty seems to have emboldened the indigenous nations in the upper Midwest.

Wayne seems to have concluded that there can never be genuine peace with indigenous peoples and that the only way to negotiate with them is to provide a demonstration of violent force. Wayne requests a very sizable military force from Knox to achieve that effect and proposes to lead the expedition himself.

Wayne acknowledges that the various native nations may be assisting each other but proposes to use a large American force to exploit confusion and tensions among the indigenous populations.

What adjective described the author's *tone*? Is this document conciliatory, hostile, friendly...?

“Hostile”; “threatening”; “belligerent”; “certain”

Select one line or phrase from the document that stands out as memorable or representative.

“we never should have a permanent peace with the Creek Nation; who are numerous & insolent, until they were made to experience our superiority in the Fields & an Army stationed for the protection of the Southern States”

Document C

Who is the author of this document? Who is the author writing for?

Anthony Wayne, a hero of the War of Independence, is writing to Secretary of War Henry Knox

Summarize the document in a few sentences. What is the author describing or requesting?

Anthony and Knox appear to have been exchanging a series of letters. In this one, Wayne describes an attack (more or less unprovoked, according to Wayne's account) by indigenous warriors on white American troops. Wayne terms the attack a "massacre" and uses it as evidence that the indigenous peoples have no desire to coexist peacefully with white settlers.

Wayne also argues that the American government cannot allow the attack to go unanswered. Failure to respond in kind, Wayne argues, would harm America's reputation not just in the eyes of the native nations but in the eyes of the wider world. Wayne appears to have concluded well in advance that the whites and indigenous people can never coexist peacefully, and that white Americans have little choice but to attack or be victims of an attack themselves. To refuse to respond to the violent attack, Wayne suggests, would humiliate the American government.

In the closing paragraphs, Wayne lists some other events that have occupied his attention—the failure of promised supplies to arrive on schedule, and an outbreak of smallpox among the men—which provide some interesting details about life on the frontier for the peacetime army.

What adjective described the author's *tone*? Is this document conciliatory, hostile, friendly...?

"Hostile"; "threatening"; "belligerent"; "warlike"; "cautionary"

Select one line or phrase from the document that stands out as memorable or representative.

"it indicates a very vindictive spirit in the savages"

"little ground for an honorable or lasting peace"

"should the event be war, by heavens! the Savages shall experience its keenest effects"

Document D

Who is the author of this document? Who is the author writing for?

Timothy Barnard, who acts as an “Indian Agent” on behalf of the federal government, writes to Major Henry Gaither, an Army officer

Summarize the document in a few sentences. What is the author describing or requesting?

Barnard writes to inform of a situation on the Georgia frontier that threatens to boil over to disaster. Some of the white inhabitants of the area have begun driving their cattle into an area the indigenous people regard as theirs. The indigenous peoples have promised to return to the area, drive off the cattle, and kill any whites who oppose them, and Barnard warns that the natives have amassed enough warriors that they will be able to do just that. Barnard has successfully negotiated for a stay of 20 days before the indigenous force takes action.

Barnard is firmly on the side of the indigenous tribe here, since the whites have no right to graze their cattle in the region. Barnard is “amazed” at white leaders’ refusal to rein in white settlers. He closes the letter by begging Gaither to get the whites to withdraw their livestock and suggests that if they do not retreat the whites will deserve the unpleasant consequences that are coming.

What adjective described the author’s *tone*? Is this document conciliatory, hostile, friendly...?

“cautionary”; “exasperated”; “frustrated”; “pleading”

Select one line or phrase from the document that stands out as memorable or representative.

“it is for their own good, to insist for the settlers on receipt of this to drive their stock back, if they do not, I have now discharged my duty and they must abide by the ill consequences that may and will attend.”

Document E

Who is the author of this document? Who is the author writing for?

The leaders of the Cussetah indigenous peoples address Henry Gaither, an army officer in their area.

Summarize the document in a few sentences. What is the author describing or requesting?

The Cussetah leaders (who refer to themselves as “kings”; Gaither and other white Americans would likely have referred to them as “chiefs”) have learned that another leader has left and plans to attack white settlers. The Cussetah write in part to warn Gaither to make sure his men keep up their guard, and in part to assure him that they are not behind the coming attacks and have no part in the violence.

The Cussetah leaders go to great lengths to attempt to reassure Gaither that their intentions toward their white neighbors are peaceful and that the “Half-way king” is acting on his own. In the closing lines they suggest that both the whites and their own peoples are being dragged into conflict, to everyone’s misfortune.

What adjective described the author’s *tone*? Is this document conciliatory, hostile, friendly...?

“conciliatory”; “cautionary”; “urgent”

Select one line or phrase from the document that stands out as memorable or representative.

“You may think it was the wish of the nation to be at war, but there is no such thing”

“I am your friend, and always have been”

“FRIEND, BROTHER, and FATHER: The Cussetah people are your friends”