

I remember last by Mr. Trent in the New York Sloop attribut  
 but it to want of matter worth imparting and a convenient  
 opportunity of safe conveyance that I do not now with my  
 own. You please to impute it to my present indisposition under  
 the pardonable Circumstances of a disconsolate Widower, my  
 Wife after a sharp and tedious fit of sickness departing this  
 life on Sunday last the 5<sup>th</sup> Instant about two a Clock in the  
 morning. We have been lately alarmed from the Report of a  
 Parcel of strange Indians lately seating themselves at the  
 Head of the Bay in this Province and a greater Number expect  
 ed they pretend to come from the Southward and to desire leave  
 to dwell among us in Amity but by what Inspection has been  
 made therein some testimonies taken and several Circumstances  
 thereunto relating, we have great Reason to suspect them to be  
 Northern Indians and our Enemies designed for mischief ha-  
 ving among them and in great Respect with them a French  
 man strongly presumed to be Mons. Costene who lately acted  
 all the mischief at Pennobscott and thus from the Evidence of  
 a Person that had formerly been in the wars in New England  
 and having the sight of those Indians in their Cabins at the  
 Head of the Bay did certainly there see this Costenes Wife among  
 them and severall other Indians which he knew to be of that  
 Gang. This with the ill News lately recd from Pennsylvania of  
 the Mohoukes our Friends being lately routed & put to flight  
 by the Sannida Indians and French with their designs to attempt  
 upon Albany and make inroad upon these parts about this  
 time seems to portend ill consequence and hath put me upon a  
 necessity of consulting the Council what measures to take to prevent  
 the impending Dangers threatening us .....  
 ..... what at present they have  
 concluded on is the endeavouring by fair means to persuade & in-  
 vite this French man with some of the great men of those Indians  
 to come and disclose themselves and their designs of coming among  
 us, and if Friends they appear to enter into a League of Peace  
 and Amity with us and all their Majesty's Subjects in those  
 Parts of America but if they shall refuse to come, or being come