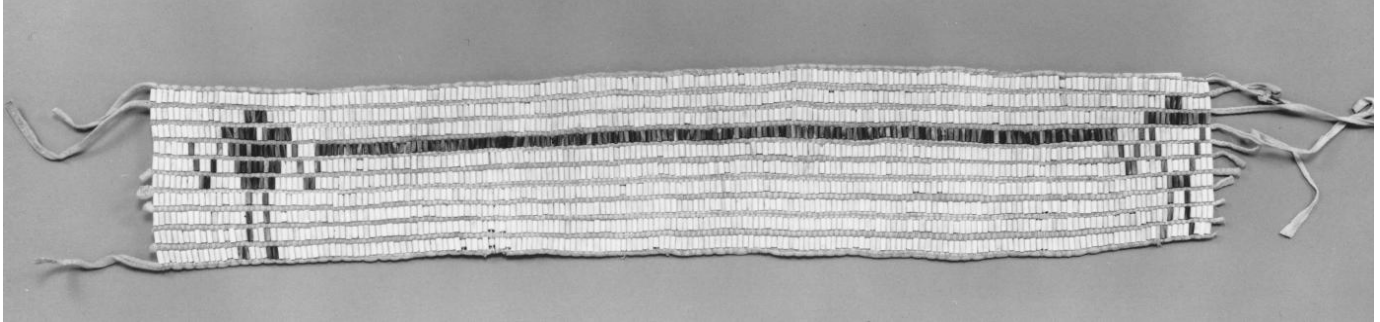


Tehontatenentsonterontahkhwa

(The thing by which they link arms)



The Friendship Belt, representing the Covenant Chain
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Council of Chiefs, Grand River Territory

The common symbol of peace and unity in wampum diplomacy is two figures holding hands, or interlocking their arms, thereby making a human chain. While the Silver Covenant Chain treaty with the King of Great Britain dates to 1667, this belt was associated with a treaty made with Lt. Governor William Denny of Pennsylvania on behalf of the Crown in 1757.

This Chain of Friendship was employed many times to obligate the Hodinohson:ni to defend the interests of the Crown. The imagery shows two figures, one of the King and the other of the Hodinohson:ni. They hold the chain which represents clear and honest communications between them, as well as the open path of peace that connects the two. To the Grand Rover Hodinohson:ni, the Covenant Chain obligated to defend the King's interest.

Sir James Craig, British governor-in-chief and commander of the forces in 1807 firmly believed that the Native Nations were headed for war, and that if the British did not employ them, the Americans surely would. However, Craig believed that the First Nations would remain loyal because of three reasons:

- The long-standing Covenant Chain ties.
- Superior British protection and supplies.
- General hatred toward the American expansionism.