

Lib. C. B. Good Credit came this Day to Viana and gave me Notice
 p. 146 that there is not One Indian, Man, Woman or Child to be found in Either of Our Towns, and that they are well assured that there is not One Indian of Either Sex or Size in Dorchester County: I am also informed by some of the Inhabitants of Broad Creek, that the Broad Creek Indians have all left that Town, and that all the aforesaid Indians are drawn together at Pocomoke Swamp at a Place called Winnasocum under a Pretence of Hunting, which I think seems to be a slender Excuse, and ought not to be credited, for if they only intended to hunt they would not carry with them all the Old Men Women and Children that could not be of any Service to them in hunting, but would have left them at the Towns to take Care of their Cornfields &c, they have carried away all their Goods from the af^d Towns, and all their Corn destroyed, which they would have taken Care to preserve, had they designed to have lived in the same peaceable Manner as heretofore they did live; The above Facts I do certainly believe to be as true as that I am now living, and whether on the whole they look like a Design of War or Peace I refer to your better Judgment, and only beg Leave to say that I am of Opinion, that We ought immediately to use a necessary Caution to be in Readiness for Defence &c and not too great a Thought of Security is the direct Way to expose a People or Nation to the greatest Danger and make them an easy Prey to their Enemies which concludes me

Sir

Your humble Servant

J Ennals

Their being so very conformable in applying for a Protection to hunt in the Neighbourhood gives Room for some Suspicion, for it's observable in all Parts where they have had Wars, that when the Indians appear to be the most conformable to Laws and Customs, and appear more friendly than common they intend the Greatest Mischiefs, however as you are capable of making as good a Judgment of the Affair as
 p. 147 any Man can advise I shall give your Honour no further Trouble with my Sentiments and conclude Sir

Yours as before

To the hoñble Col Levin Gale

I. E.

This.

Upon reading the foregoing Letter It is the humble Advice of this Board to his Excellency that he direct the Clerk of this Board to write to the Commanding Officer of the Forces at Vienna in Dorchester County as follows