

bring down the two Indian Prisoners which they had taken and by way of Compliment obliged them to parade before us and to sing their Death Songs. The next Day We invited the Chief and the principal Warriors to Dine with us, and after Dinner the Interpreter Capⁿ Pearis told them He understood that their Brother the Governor's present would be up the next Morning, and that he had made a Considerable addition to it as a reward for the Services they had done in destroying four and taking two of the Enemy Prisoners, but that it was expected that they should deliver up the Prisoners and Scalps before they received the additional present such being the Custom here and what was required by the Laws of the Province. To this the Chief replied with some warmth that he thought it would Suffice to shew his Brother the Governor or those that he had sent to represent him, the Prisoners and the scalps of the Enemies that they had destroyed, that it was the Indians Custom to preserve as Trophies the Hair of the Enemies that they killed in Battle and to carry them home to their own People, and in short that if they were not to have the Goods that had been talked of unless they would purchase them with their Prisoners or Scalps they would return home naked as they came thence, and that they would think no more of going to War if they were not allowed to keep what they set the highest value on as it procured them most Honour among their own People. As the Chief (for many of the others did not) appeared to be much displeas'd with the proposal that had been made or the Intimation that had been given him by Capⁿ Pearis We desired the Interpreter to drop the affair, but as We were not at liberty to give them a larger present than could be purchased with £100 unless they would deliver up the Scalps to be Destroyed agreeable to the Directions of the Act of Assembly and as we understood that so small a present as £100 would not be Acceptable, We desired Mr Pearis the Interpreter to talk to them severally and to endeavour by any arguments that he should think fit to urge to persuade them to give up some of the Scalps that we may be thereby enabled to make such an Addition to the present given by the assembly as might make it Acceptable. In the morning of the 21st Instant He assured us that he had used his utmost Endeavours to procure us either the Prisoners or some Scalps but that Wahachey the Chief continued obstinate and had declared that nothing should tempt him to part with the Prisoners, but that Yaughtanew the second in reputation and who was in fact much better affected than the other had promised him to send the Scalps as a present to your Excellency afterwards tho he could not deliver them up to be destroyed in such a manner as the Act Directs, lest he should