

Lib. R. the loss of the thirteene Indians stollen away by the Sinniquos and daily in feare of being all destroyed. Yesterday they say they discovered a Sinniquo hard by the ffort; I have ordered them to give notice if ever they appeare again that our endeavours may not be wanting to treat with them; the Sinniquos laid their Corne ffield ffence downe and they are in such feare dare not make it up. I have promised them thursday next to range about the ffort untill such time they have secured it. I have given them to understand your L^{spps} Commands that they doe not stirr abroad for some tyme which they have promised shall be complied with, and the other towne shall have notice to morrow, they doe say that the prisoners taken at Mattawoman ffort new yeares day last being with the Senniquo Indians (which I saw and well know) to the number of three told them they had two ffrenchmen with them which lay some small distance from the body. I am now to give your L^{dspp} acco^t of the present condition of my troope, many of them house-keepers poore and in greate hopes of a good Cropp, but if forced to range will not be in a condition to make Corne nor Tobacco, and the time of the yeare being farr spent doe think by rangeing not to be a Saver as the act of Assembly doth allow which may proove much to their prejudice unless your L^{spp} and Councill would be pleased to consider them therein, they are very willing to comply with your L^{dspps} Commands, I conceive the one half of the troope to range weekely and the other halfe to relieve may be security sufficient unless the Sinniquo appeare and then all to be ready for the security of those persons concerned in the treaty; by which meanes they may be able to make Corne, but then they hope they may not be deprived of their whole pay being alwaies ready at an houres warning; I humbly beg your L^{dspps} pleasure herein which will give greate encouragem^t and that it may be signified to them by the returne of this post which will give greate content, a small hint of their arreares due to them will give greate content w^{ch} p. 198 hath been due this three yeares. The Indians at Zachaiah doth beleive they will come with a greater party ere long. I am apt to beleive those Indians I treated with are not reall Sinniquos neither hath any relation to those Coll Coursey made peace with, my reason is. In their Matchacomoco they seperated themselves in severall partyes, and the Susquehannohs not soe friendly as the rest to us; our Indians are in a deplorable Condition but more especially them which belong to Zachaiah being destitute of all manner of ffoode; the Inhabitants in generall of the upper parts of our County much pleased with the Troopes rangeing, and the Indians not coming into our Plantations. I have nothing more worth your L^{spps} notice at present, as occasion offers shall advise with