

Original Journal. The hon^{ble} Coll John Courts is asked to give an Account of what he knowes of the Indians in potomack who says that on

p. 17 wednesday last the Choptico Indians came to his house & made complaint against M^r Joshua Doyne of S^t Maries County for demanding rent of them for the land they now live on which they have enjoyed peaceably these many yeares by grant from the Lord Baltemore, and has taken from them by Violence two double matts, Bowles and basketts desireing some redress therein. They also Complaine that Mad^m Blakiston threatens them for want of Satisfaccōn made her vpon a certaine Judgement obtained against them in the Coll^o life time notwithstanding they had sold skinnes towards payment thereof (for tobacco) vnto the Clerke of the Councill which tobacco the said Mad^m Blakiston sayes is not yet paid her Therefore some order therein. They likewise complaine that one Barber has Encroacht vpon their land which they have long time enjoyed.

M^r James Stoddert at the Easterne branch of Potomack in prince Georges County gives the following accompt relating to the Indians vnder his hand.

That in february last there came to my house about sixteen Indians which live (as I understood them) near the mountaines they had with them Skins & ffurrs which they offered to sell (the which I bought) when they went away they signified by signes that they would come againe at the Spring of the yeare & bring some more Skinns At this time there were some families of the Piscattoway Indians had their Cabins at my house but in a few dayes after they went away I ask't their reason of their goeing so soone from their hunting Quarters they told me that th^r Emperor had sent for them; about the 20th of March last haveing occasion of a silke grasse net in order to buy one I went to the ffort, I never haveing seene the Emperor I went to see him The Emp^r told me he was very glad to see me I told him my buisines vpon which he sent to Enquire if there were any netts in the ffort The answer was return'd there was none afterwards they shewed me an old one the which I bought ffurther in discourse The Emp^r asked if there was any body came with me & if I came from home that morning I answered him I came that morning from M^r Hutchinsons & that he directed me to the fort, ffurther he told me that he heard that there had bin some Senecor Indians dealing with

p. 18 me, I told him it was so, he further told me that notices came to him two dayes agoe that a man in Virg^a was shot by Indians & he sent to see & found it false, he seem'd to blame the English for raising such false Reports.

On the 3^d day of Aprill last I haveing been abroad & coming home late the night before in the morning went out