

L. H. J. The hon<sup>ble</sup> Colonel John Courts is asked to give an account of what he knowes of the Indians in potomacke.

Who says that on Wednesday last the Chaptico Indians came to his house and made complaint ag<sup>t</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Joshua Doyne of S<sup>t</sup> Mary's 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 two duple matts Bowls and Baskets, desiring some redresse therein.

They also complaine that Madam Blackstone threatnes for want of Satisfaction made her upon a certaine Judgm<sup>t</sup> obtained ag<sup>t</sup> them in the Colonels life tyme, notwithstanding they had sold skins towards payment unto the Clk: of the Councill, which tob<sup>o</sup> the said Madam Blackstone says is not payd her, therefore desire some order therein.

They Likewise Complaine that one Barber has encroched upon their Land which they have a long tyme enjoyed.

M<sup>r</sup> James Stoddart of the Eastern branch of potomocke in Prince Georges County giveth the following account relating to the Indians in writing under his hand thus.

That in february last there came to my house about sixteen Indians which Live (as I understode them) some where neer the mountains, they had with them Skins and ffurrs, which they offered to sale, the which I bought, when they went away signifyed that they would come again at the Spring of the yeare and bring some more skins: At this tyme there were some piscattaway Indians had theire Cabbins at my house, but in a few days after they went away. I asked the reason of theire going so soon from their hunting Quarters, they told me th<sup>r</sup> Emperor had sent for them.

About the twentieth of March last haveing occasion of a silke Grass nett, in Order to buy one I went to the Indian fforte, and never having seen the Emperor, he told me he was very glad to see me. I told him my business, upon which he sent to enquire if there were any nets in the fforte the answer was returned there was none, afterwards they shewed me an old one they had bought, further in Discourse the Emperor asked me if no body came with me, and if I came from home that morning, that I came that morning from M<sup>r</sup> Hutchysons, and that he directed me the way to the fforte, further he told me that there had been some Senequa Indians dealing with me. I told him it was so, he further told me that newes came to him two dayes ago that a man in Virginia was Shott by Indians, and be sent to see, and he found it false, he seemed to blame the English for raiseing such false reports.

On the thirde day of Aprill last I having been abroade and coming home late the night before, in the morning I went out