

Octob^r the 14th 1697

Lib. H. D.

The Council again sate and were present

His Ex^{ncy} ffran^o Nicholson Esq^r Cap^t Gen^{rl} &^{ca}
S^r Thomas Laurence Barron^{tt} Se^{cr}y

Coll: Henry Jowles } Thomas Tench Esq^r }
Coll: Geo: Robotham } Thomas Brook Esq^r }
Coll: Nich^o Greenberry } James ffrisbey Esq^r }

Severall Letters, depositions & papers concerning the Indians &^{ca} were produced to the Board & read; as also what late Orders were given from his Ex^{ncy} & some of his Maj^{tys} hono^{rble} Councill upon the late Murther committed at the Garrison. His Ex^{ncy} acquainting the Board how farr he has proceeded & what further directions he left with Co^{ll} Addison for strengthening the frontiers & Garrison. He is pleased to demand of the Board what Course is most fitt & proper to be taken therein; Whereupon the matter being maturely debated & considered; it is the opinion of this Board, that the calling of an Assembly this Winter time, upon this occasion, will be very chargeable and inconvenient; w^{ch} charge is supposed might go a great way in maintaining a Sufficient number of men for strengthening the ffrontiers and preserving them in safety this Winter, but that they hold it advisable to take the Opinion of the Iustices & Grand Iury of the Provincia^{ll} Court (now mett together) what their sense is, and to thoroughly consult the best methods of securing this his Maj^{tys} Province & Government in peace and safety from all attempts & assaults of the Indians; and especially to settle the matter about the Piscattaway Indians, who are suspected to have been guilty of all these disturbances & villanies; which his Ex^{ncy} is pleased to say cannot well be done till Co^{ll} Addison comes to Town who is hourly expected.

The Gentlemen that were sent to the said Piscattaway Indians upon the treaty Ordered last June, were comanded (according to a late summons for their appearance at this Board) to be called in; and accordingly appeared Major p. 557 Smallwood Major Barton M^r Hutchison M^r Wight & M^r Hawkins the Hono^{ble} Thom^s Tench & Thomas Brooke Esq^{rs} Two of the Gentlemen that also went upon that Treaty being present.

His Ex^{ncy} is pleased to demand of them what their sentiments were as to the said Indians, and whether they did believe they were sincere & hearty in expressing their resolutions of returning for Maryland, when they discoursed them upon the treaty. Who do severally make answer that they