

Original
Journal.By the House of Delegates May 7th 1700

Read a Bill for the present Security of the Frontier Plantations of this Province ag^t the Incursions and Violence of Indians

Upon reading the same Objection was made ag^t the whole Bill; And it was proposed by a Member of the house; That consid'ing that his Ex^{ncy} had lately made a peace with the Indians, Whether it were not more reasonable at this very Juncture upon this present renewing the Peace, instantly to withdraw the Rangers, intirely to lett the Indians have all assurance that may be that Wee designe firmly to observe our promises & Expect the Same Observation from them. And to give them no Occasion of Diffidence, to leave the Fort to the Indians owne disposing, to do them all the Right they can require by letting them quietly enjoy their Lands, to Secure the Friendshipp of the Susquehañah and Eastern Shoar Indians and to renew Effectively an Order for laying out the Choptanck & Piscattaway Indian Lands, or to go on with the Bill, Upon debate It was put to the Vote whether the house should go on with the Bill, or should adhere to the proposals. And carryed by Majority of Voices ag^t the Bills—And that this Vote may be made knowne to his Ex^{ncy} in Answer to the Message from his Ex^{ncy} and Councill, by the Hon^{ble} James Frisby & Colonel Hamond of the 30th of Aprill last.

Signed p Ord^r W Taylard Cl Del

The Board adjourned till 8 of the Clock to morrow Morning

Wednesday May the 8th 1700

The Councill Sate present as yesterday

And the Message last night from the house by M^r Philemon Lloyd and other Members being taken into Consideracon the following Answer was sent thereto

By the Councill in Assembly
May the 8th 1700

In Answer to the houses Message Yesterday by M^r Philemon Lloyd & M^r Walter Cambell, as to the disbanding and calling in the Rangers, It is the Opinion of the Majority of this Board that it is advisable that the Rangers be kept out and not taken off least the Inhabitants on the Frontiers upon any suddaine or Violent Accident should withdraw & desert their Plantations; yet if the House of Delegates are