

At a Council held in the Council Chamber at Annapolis Lib. X.
July the 18th 1723

Present

His Excellency the Governor

the honble {
 Col^o Samuel Young
 Col^o Richard Tilghman
 Col^o M T Ward
 James Lloyd Esq^r
 Benj^a Tasker Esq^r
} Councillors

The Petition of John Rider of Dorchester County Gent p. 98
setting forth that upon an accusation of the Nanticoke Indians
that he the said John Rider had Contrary to the Faith of
Treaties with the Indians the Honour of this Government and
in Contempt of the Laws in that Case made and provided
had taken Possession of some of their Lands an Order of
Council had been directed to him forbidding him under pain
of prosecution to molest them and praying that as soon as
may be he may of an opportunity of Clearing his Innocence
before this Board for that he the said Rider had entred upon
the said Lands as he judged he had right to do, they having
deserted them for twelve months before, and likewise praying
that the Indians may have timely Notice to appear and make
good their Allegations if they think proper

Upon Reading the aforesaid Petition and hearing M^r Rider
by Daniel Dulany Esq^r to the said petition the Board came
to following Resolution that the matter of the petition does
not properly lye before them to determine any thing therein
but that the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly who
made the Act by which the Nanticoke Indians hold their Land
are the best Judges of the Sense and Meaning of the Act
and Consequently of the Allegations on both Side to whom
M^r Rider is at Liberty to make his Application or to make use
of such other methods as Legally he may but that in the
mean time he take special Care not to disturb the Indians

His Excellency laid Several Depositions before this Board p. 99
by which it appears that there is good reason for Suspicion
that William Maria Farthing mentioned therein had erased
an Indorsement upon the back of a patent for a Tract of Land
Called Rocky Point and had also destroyed the said Patent
with Intent to defraud his Lordship of the escheat this Board
is therefore of Opinion that there is sufficient Grounds in the
said Depositions for prosecuting the said William Maria
Farthing and M^r Attorney General is hereby Ordered next
Provincial Court to prosecute him accordingly