

U H. J. the Legislature to annul and make void his Deed and totally to restrain any kind of Alienation for the Nanticoke or Choptank Indian lands for the future whether by Lease or purchase for the frequent Complaints of the Indians to the Governour and Council as well as to the two houses of Assembly have arisen either from Purchases Leases or other Encroachments made upon the Indians Limits the Source of all our Late Differences with the Indians. For prevention whereof and to put an End to all those disputes which have been a great Interruption to Business and A vast Charge to the Publick of this province the Legislature Impowered the Governour for the time being to appoint Commissioners to ascertain the bounds of the Indian lands and for Determining all differences between the English and them in pursuance whereof Philemon Lloyd Esq<sup>r</sup> Coll<sup>o</sup> Richard Tilghman and Coll<sup>o</sup> Matthew Tilghman Ward in November 1721 did lay out and Ascertain the Exterieur boundaries of the Choptank Indian lands reserved to them by the Act of Assembly Anno 1669 marked A. A. and Considering how small a part of that Large Tract of Land either by Sales Leases or other Encroachments made by the English was then left to those Indians to make Corn upon The Commission<sup>rs</sup> aforesaid thought it a part of their Duty and for the publick Service of the Country to give such publick notice to the Inhabitants Contiguous to the Indian tract aforesaid (of which Isaac Nicholls was one) as might prevent the purchasing Leasing or any other means of dispossessing the Indians of that little remainder of plantable Land which is now left them

p. 107

It appears to this Committee that Isaac Nichols little regarding the friendly Caution given by those Commissioners nor that the Tract of Land of which he hath purchased a part was Claimed by Major Nicholas Sewell and a Negotiation then on foot in both houses of Assembly for the purchase of the Same at the Publick Charge made the purchase mentioned in his Case and partly by Intoxicating Liquors and partly by a Sum of ready Cash deluded the Chiefs of those Indians into a Sale of their Lands which said Sum of Money with a Complaint of his manner of bringing about the bargain was Immediately brought by those Indian Chiefs unto Philemon Lloyd Esq<sup>r</sup> and by him directed to Apply to the next General Assembly for their relief.

It appears further to this Committee that those Indian Chiefs did apply themselves to the Legislature in Octo<sup>r</sup> 1722 and laid their Complaints together with the purchase money they had received from Isaac Nichols before the Governor and Upper house of Assembly whereupon A Message was sent to