

L. H. J. other Indians, and Erected New Cabbins which have been Inhabited by them untill this time Edward Wright their Tenant having as they say held possession for them all the while.

By which it appears Evidently to this Comittee that the Legislature ought not to have been Charg'd with Injustice in preventing Cap<sup>t</sup> Rider from disturbing the Indians in their Possession seeing that if the first takers up of the Land Claimed, have not already Rec<sup>d</sup> an Equivalent from his Lordship as in the Case of Edmondsons Guiny Plantation upon the Choptank Indian tract Yet his Estate in those Lands Cannot by the Rules of Law Commence untill after a Desertion or Leaving the Place by the Indians which is the Intention of the Act of 1698 which we are humbly of Opinion they have not yet done for Cap<sup>t</sup> Rider bought those Lands with no other views nor gave he any other Consideration as it is said for them than as for an Estate in Reversion after the Indians should Leave and Totally desert the Place According to the true Intent and Meaning of the Proviso in the Act above Mentioned Marked C. C. which Intention hath been frequently Explained by the Legislature and a hearing between Cap<sup>t</sup> Rider and the Indians before both Houses of Assembly at which time there happened a Remarkable Instance of the good sence of those Salvage People, for after the Matter had been Resolved in favour of the Indians Harry Coursey the Emperour was advised to Return home but Refused and said that he would Stay in town untill the Act Should be past that he might know whether Cap<sup>t</sup> Rider or he was to be Emperour of Chiccocan.

It appears also to this Comittee to be a gross Reflection upon the Justice of both Houses, that Cap<sup>t</sup> Rider should alledge in his Case that it appeared to them that the Indian Estate to the Lands in Question had determined and that the Late Law Marked E. E. was made with Design of Restoring them to the same again with a Stronger and fuller Title, but the Gent<sup>s</sup> freedom in taxing the Justice of the Legislature will turn to his own Shame upon Enquiry into the true Motives of that Act which are Expressly Declar'd in the Journall 1723 to have arisen from fresh Complaints as it is said in that Journall Ever since the Last Sessions (wherein an Ordinance of Assembly had been made in favour of the Indians upon Sundry Complaints to the Gover<sup>r</sup> and Councill) that Cap<sup>t</sup> Rider had Molested the Nanticoke Indians and would not Suffer them to Cultivate any part of their Lands, and Cap<sup>t</sup> Rider himself after the Making of the Act Petitioned the Gov<sup>r</sup> and Councill to have the Liberty of Purchasing or Leas-