

L. H. J.
Liber No. 47
May 22

and wanted more Victuals: I then gave them two Fitches of Bacon, and four Bushels of Meal; they complaining they wanted on the Road, and in Hopes of being rid of them; but stayed, and eat up the Victuals given them. They then called a third Council, and wanted me to give them a Cow, which I told them I could not do; at which they began to be mad, and told me I was not good: On which I told them, if they wanted to fight to let me know, for if they killed my Cow I would kill them; and so quitted their Council, and loaded my Guns, expecting to have had a Fight: They went to their Cabin, loaded their Guns, and fired off several, and ran about shouting and whooping all Night. Next Morning I found several of my Hogs shot with Arrows; they stole sundry Things, and went off. When they came to my House, they brought two fine large pacing Mares, which were worth at least 20 l. each, which they had stole as they came along: I told them, that there were several white Men coming armed to fetch the aforesaid Mares, and therefore I thought it their best Way to let the Creatures go; but they would not hearken to me: For instead of letting them loose, they hobbled them, and kept them close by their Cabbins 'till they went off, and then took them away with them.

The Burden is so great on me in supporting these Indians, that my Patience is quite tired out; so that if the Government will not allow me something towards the Expence, I must, tho' contrary to my Inclination, of Necessity enter into a Quarrel with them, at the Risque of my own Life, and Family's also; which may cost the Government more than allowing them 30 or 40 l. per Year, or perhaps less, for three or four Years to come; and it may in that Time be over. I shall Tomorrow Morning set out to finish the Meridian Line; but hope to see your Excellency the Beginning of next Month. I am, in all Respects,

Your Excellency's most humble Servant,
Thomas Cresap.

March 17, 1749||50.

The House adjourns 'til Tomorrow Morning at 9 o'Clock.

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Wednesday Morning, May 23, 1750.

The House met according to Adjournment; the Members were called, and all appeared as Yesterday, except Mr. Baker.

Mr. Crabb appeared in the House.

The Petition of the Rector and Vestrymen of Great Choptank Parish, in Dorchester County, praying Leave to bring in a Bill, to enable the Vestrymen, or the major Part of them, and their Successors, to lease that Part of the Church Land which is not impaled; Leave is given.