

L. H. J. The governor communicated to M.^r speaker the following
 Liber No. 52 message.
 June 7

Gentlemen of the lower house of assembly,

M.^r Ogden, the person empowered by Sir William Johnson, and by the Nanticoke indians to act on behalf of the latter, with respect to their disposal of their right to any lands within this province, having presented to me the inclosed petition which states a fact that I was not before apprised of; and which probably might, if it had been before communicated to you have induced you to come to a different resolution, on the petition of those indians; I take the liberty to recommend the same to your consideration, and M.^r Ogden will attend in order to give you all the information in his power

June 7.th 1768.

Hor.^o Sharpe

To his excellency Horatio Sharpe esquire; governor and commander in chief in and over the province of Maryland.

The petition of Amos Ogden, humbly sheweth, That a petition from the tribe of Nanticoke indians having been recommended by your excellency, to the consideration of the lower house of assembly of this province, representing that they being desirous of leaving
 p. 508 this province, and of incorporating themselves with the six nations, provided they might be permitted to dispose of certain lands which they hold in this province, by virtue of certain acts of assembly heretofore made in their favor. This petition in consequence of your excellencys recommendation aforesaid was taken into the consideration of the house, and an address thereupon given in to your excellency.

Now, your petitioner humbly apprehends, that the intention and desire of the said petition has not been fully understood by the house; owing, as your petitioner humbly conceives, to the want of such information, and explanation, as your petitioner could have given if he had been present when the said petition was taken into the consideration of the house.

Your petitioner humbly begs leave to inform your excellency that the above mentioned tribe of Nanticoke indians, have actually incorporated themselves with the six nations aforesaid. That there is now remaining on the said lands, an old woman, and two children only: That the said tribe of Nanticoke indians, being desirous of entirely withdrawing themselves from this province, are willing to accept of a very small compensation (in proportion to the actual value of the lands) in lieu of any claim, they or their heirs have in the said lands by virtue of the aforesaid acts of assembly; and would willingly, upon the payment of such small compensation, unto the petitioner, their attorney, give full possession of the lands which they hold, to such person or persons, as the lands would fall to of course, provided the said tribe of Nanticoke indians had entirely deserted them.