

1682: It a Council held at Mattapony the 25th Day of June

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Prop.

Philip Calvert Esq. (Ranc. Co.)
 William Calvert Esq. (Terry)
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Ch. Wm. his L^{ty} was pleased to communicate to this board the two following Letters from Capt. Brand and Col. Chandler viz

May it please your L^{ty}:

I have received your L^{ty} Commands and the ord. of Council of the 19th instant, and shall to the utmost of my power comply with the same in every respect. I thought it necessary to give your L^{ty} acct. of my being at Zachariah Fort this Day, where I found the Indians much troubled for the loss of the Huron Indians stolen away by a Simiquo and daily in fear of being all destroyed. Yesterday they say they discovered a Simiquo near by the Fort; I have ordered them to give notice if ever they appear again that our endeavours may not be wanting to treat with them; the Simiquo said their four fields were down and they are in such fear dare not make it up. I have promised them Thursday next to range about the Fort untill such time they have secured it. I have given them to understand your L^{ty} Commands that they do not stir abroad for some time which they have promised shall be complied with, and the other towns shall have notice to morrow. They do say that the prisoners taken at Mattawoman Fort new years day last being with the Simiquo Indians (which I fear and well know) to the number of three told them they had two Frenchmen with them which lay some small distance from the body. I am now to give your L^{ty} acct. of the present condition of my troops, many of them house-keepers poor and in great hopes of a good crop, but if forced to range will not be in a condition to make corn nor Tobacco, and the time of the year being far spent do think by ranging not to be a saver as the act of Assembly doth allow which may prove much to their prejudice unless your L^{ty} and Council would be pleased to consider them therein, they are very willing to comply with your L^{ty} Commands, I conceive the one half of the troops to range with the other half to retire may be security sufficient unless the Simiquo appears and then all to be ready for the security of those persons concerned in the treaty; by which means they may be able to make corn, but then they hope they may not be deprived of their whole pay being always ready at all kinds of warning; I humbly beg your L^{ty} pleasure therein which will give great encouragement and that it may be signified to them by the return of this post which will give great content, a small hint of their arrears due to them will give great content.