

The Petition of John Rider of Dochester County Gent  
 setting forth that upon an accusation of the Marticoke  
 Indians that he the said John Rider had contrary  
 to the Faith of Treaties with the Indians the Honor  
 of that Government and indifferency of the Laws in  
 that Case murdered & provided that certain Professors  
 of some of their Sanderson Orders of Council had been  
 directed to him forbidding him under pain of prose-  
 cution to molest them and purveying that as soon as  
 may be he may of an opportunity of clearing his  
 Innocence before this Board for that he the said Rider  
 had entered upon the said Sandersons he judged he  
 had right to do, they having deserted them for twelve  
 months before, and likewise purveying that the Indians  
 may have timely Notice to appear and make good  
 their Allegations if they think proper

Upon Reading the aforesaid Petition and  
 hearing Mr Rider by Daniel Dulany Esq<sup>r</sup> to the  
 said Petition the Board came to following Resolution  
 that the matter of the petition does not properly lie  
 before them to determine any thing therein but that  
 the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly who made  
 the Act by which the Marticoke Indians hold their  
 Land are the best Judges of the Sense and meaning  
 of the Act and consequently of the Allegations on both  
 Side to whom Mr Rider is at Liberty to make his Ap-  
 plication or to make use of such other methods as Le-  
 gally he may but that in the meantime he take spe-  
 cial Care not to disturb the Indians

His Excellency's and Several Depositions