

At a Council held at the Governours on Monday
the 22. day of April in the third year of his Britannique
Dominion Annoque Domini 1754.

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Governour
The Honourable Benjamin Tasher Esq. } Col. Benjamin Tasher
} Col Charles Hammond } Benedict Calvert Esq.

Ordered that the present General Assembly of this Province which
stands prorogued to the first day of May next be further prorogued to the
Eighth day of May next and Proclamations issued accordingly.

His Excellency is pleased to lay before this Board the following Petition
To His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Governour & Commander in Chief
in and Over the Province of Maryland

The humble Petition of the Choptank or Locust Neck Indians
Most humbly sheweth

That whereas we the said Indians being Intitled to & Possessors of
a Parcel of Land lying on Choptank River in Dorchester County by Virtue
of a Treaty Subsisting &c. and afterwards confirmed by Act of Assembly of
this Province to us and our Indians so long as we or any of our Indians
shall Peaceably and Quietly occupy Possess and dwell on the same without
being lett hindered disturbed or Ineracht upon by any Person or Person
whatsoever

Your Humble Petitioners most humbly sheweth that continual fraud
Trespases and inerachments have been and are yet committed on our
Land by cutting carrying off and selling large Quantities of Timber of our Land
Others who have got in possession of our Lands refuse to give up the same
or pay the yearly Rents thereof continually disturbing these Peaceable People
who Live on our Lands and of whom we Receive the yearly Rents thereof

We therefore humbly beg that your Excellency would by some proper
means redress our Injuries, And your humble Petitioners as in Duty bound
shall ever Pray

April 9. 1754.

James Ligon
William Ligon
William Abqwash
Hopping ^{his} Son
mark
Abrom ^{his} Bishop
mark
Thomas ^{his} Bishop
mark

Ordered that Col Henry Hooper Major John Eccleston & Doct. William
Murray of Dorchester County and William Thomas of Talbot County
Gentlemen or any three or two of them enquire into the said complaints
and also that they enquire into the grounds of any other complaints
made by the said Indians and that they send for such Persons as shall
be Named to them on behalf of the said Indians and also on behalf of the
Persons accused & that they Examine them on Oath & having Reduced into
Writing the said Examination so taken by them they make Report thereof
to this Board with all convenient Speeds.