

Present as yesterday after the Return of the Members from the Committee

The following Vote Sent down by mt. Truman Viz: That the Mattapony & Patuxent Indians do Continue upon the Land on which they now live. It being the Quantity of seven hundred Acres more or less according to Patent And that the same be purchased by the Country of the Orphans of Major Billingsley to whom it now belongs the said Billingsley having formerly purchased it of the Indians & the Upper House do desire the Concurrence of the Lower House in this Vote

Signed by order Richard Boughton Ck.

Read in the House a Petition Exhibited by certain Quakers as follows Viz:

This We do lay before the Governour & Council & Assembly in the Wisdom of God to Consider of from us who are in scorn called Quakers.

What We can say & do instead of an Oath It is in obedience to Christs Command that We cannot Swear & take an Oath & Christ our Lord & Saviours Command is I say unto you I swear not at all Though in the old time they were not to Forswear themselves but perform their Oaths to the Lord and the Lord Jesus Christs Command is but let your Communication be yea yea and nay nay for whatsoever is more than these Cometh of Evil and S. James saith in his General Epistle to the Church of Christ above all things my Bretheren I swear not neither by Heaven nor by the Earth nor by any other Oath Mark but let your yea be yea and your Nay be Nay least you fall into Condemnation Now here ye may see that Christ and Apostle Sets up yea yea and Nay Nay over and above an Oath and Swearing and in Lieu of an Oath see in Obedience to Christ and the Apostles Command it is that We do not and dare not Swear least we should go into the Evil and so fall into Condemnation as Christ and the Apostle saith before But according to Christ Jesus and the Apostles Command doe keep to yea yea and Nay Nay wheris they doe Double their words to make them of more force Christ Jesus to the Disciples and the Apostles to the Church and Now if that we are Called to Testifie the Truth or to serve in any Office or Place or Jurie if that we do Break our yea yea or Nay Nay then let us suffer the same Penalty as they that do break an Oath or are forsworne And this not Repugnant to the Laws of England having the same Penalty on the same Transgression, For in Jamaica their Law is so that Our Bretherens Testimony upon yea yea and Nay Nay as Christ and the Apostle Commanded is taken and the same in the Acts and Province Laws at Carolina, and the same in the Patent and Acts at Broad Island and the same in