

papers that there be not so many persons sufficient to treat with them  
His Excellency is pleased to ask the House if it will not be convenient to have the Indians that live  
the head of the Bay to come to the next session allowed  
To which they say it will be convenient that they come down as that time  
Major William Barton gives the following account in a military order his father had sent  
That pursuant to an Order of his Excellency and Council he went into Virginia where the  
Inhabitants where they have made a Fort and put out a fort which that he acquainted them  
of his Mountains above the head of the Bay and being near six or seven miles long  
he was come by Order of the Governor and Council of Maryland to know the Reason why  
they deserted their Fort in that manner and left the Province and what they would return  
again and to know if the Improvement of his Greatness will be made to the Country  
now sitting at the foot of Annapolis to discourse the same to the Country satisfaction about  
these things and discover if they could the persons that committed the late murder of <sup>the</sup> late  
To which the Improvement his great men made answer that one Reason of their going away was  
to secure themselves their wives and children who daily threatened them they were informed  
Especially Col Addison who taxed them severely with the murder of the Negro Fry and told them  
that there could be no murder committed but that they either did not know of it or that they  
had no body else to tax but themselves and that they were but a handful of men and were bound  
against doing of mischief in the woods like wolves and no body could prove anything against  
them and that the Colonel should say he would engage to take the fort with thirty men and  
that they were informed Captain Holliday should say he would with forty men engage  
to take the Fort himself and that they further said that Mr. Stoddert and another man  
should offer to swear that two or three of them were concerned in that murder which they know  
to be an untruth for that none of them were concerned with him but suppose it to be done by  
Foreign Indians

Another Reason they alledged for their going was that several people bought their Lands  
over their heads so that they had no choice they there of without their leave and that there would  
be no Hogs or Shoats killed but they were still blamed for it and called Rogues and Dogs  
and that the English yearly time after time pulled down their Fences and destroyed their Corn  
fields with their Horses before they could them

As to their coming back they utterly refuse and also excuse themselves from coming to the  
Assembly being very near and not able to travel so far but wish that do say that they desire  
to live peacefully there and to pass too and fro without Troubles formerly and that the English  
should be welcome to come to their Forts often as they please

And further says that he finds the Greatest part of the Indians are inclinable to return back  
to Maryland Especially the common sort of men and Women and that several of them are already  
come back and more Resolved to come suddenly provided they may live peacefully and quietly  
and that they see the English are not Angry with them and that they knew him to be in no  
fault and that he was always kind to them and that it was the men under him that continually  
abused them

W<sup>m</sup> Barton

Then read the Depositions of George Athey William Clarkson Thomas Gatter Terence Devere  
Margaret Lewis Robert Robinson William Hinson and Francis Mason relating to the  
callow and mountain Indians yet not particularly affecting them with the murder of the  
Negro

His Honour Col Charles Hutchins being desired to declare what he knew of the Massacres  
Indians on the Eastern Shore whereupon he relates that they have made a new Empire and that  
they entertain and receive strange Indians three Canoes of Indians from the Western Shore being  
met some where about the Straights going over to them

The honorable Col John Lewis is asked to give an account of what he knows of the Indians  
in Potomack who says that on Wednesday last the Chopico Indians come to his house and  
made Complaint against Mr Joshua Doyme of Saint Marys County for a or two Parts of  
them for the land they now live on which they have enjoyed peacefully the ordinary years and  
have taken from them by Violence two double Matts Bowles and Baskets during some