

1791
first that they do unanimously agree and are of Opinion that for Creating a right Under-
standing in the matter concerning the Piscataway Indians it will be absolutely necessary
by some means or other to send to the said Indians and acquaint them that if they will
Return into this Province and settle themselves among us as formerly this Government
upon the happy news of a Peace in England are willing to pay by and forgive all former
Injuries by past or condition they behave themselves friendly and quietly for the future

To which purpose all the House do concur
2 That the Committee conclude the most expedient way of sending the message to the
said Indians will be by an Indian considering the present circumstances of Affairs
unless it be thought advisable to communicate the said matter to his Majesty's Governor
of Virginia first... which this Committee do humbly leave to the consideration of his
Excellency and members of his Majesty's honourable Council and House of Delegates
in Assembly now sitting but that if his Excellency Sir Edmund Andros be sent to and
Consent in this Affair that then the message be sent by English

Whereupon put to the Question in the House and Resolved that the message
to be sent to the Indians be sent by an Indian

3 It being Represented by the Delegates from Baltimore County that they are in no
Dread or apprehension of fear through Indians their parts

This Committee are of Opinion that the continuing the Rangers in Baltimore
County for securing the Frontiers is needless and may be dismissed if his Excellency
Approves thereof

The House concur therewith Remains conclusive that the Rangers of Baltimore
be dismissed

4 The Committee find that the Persons appointed to treat with the Indians at the head
of the Bay have made no return in Obedience to the Order so that this Committee have no
to say further therein

5 Honourable Robertham gives the following Account of the Chopank Indians viz
that they are more descending Quiet and Peaceable than ever he knew them before His
Honour Colonel Hutchins gives the same Account of the Indians of Somerset County

6 The Committee do Unanimously conclude and Agree that it will be convenient and neces-
sary that the Gentlemen by Act of Assembly appointed for deciding differences betwixt the Eng-
lish and Indians be Ordered to acquaint the Indians in General that now there being a
General Peace throughout Christendom they may have the same happiness here if they
will be Neighbourly Friendly and Quiet

Resolved that the said Gentlemen acquaint the Indians therewith
Signed by Order W Bladen Clerk of the House

By the House of Delegates March the 26th 1698

This House are sufficiently satisfied with the Integrity of Mr. Mason Publick Treasurer
of the Western Shore and cannot consent to the displacing of him

Signed by Order W Bladen Clerk of the House

By the House of Delegates March the 26th 1698

In Answer to his Excellency's message about Quirances this House do say that they have
Nothing more of that Nature lying before them an answer to your former proposal being here
with likewise sent as to the transmitting the Journal of the Committee to your Board we
Conceive it never to have been practis'd therefore desire to be Excus'd therein

Signed by Order W Bladen Clerk of the House

As to the Susquehanna Indians it is concluded they are not within this Government
as to the method of holding Assemblies this House do not think fit to draw up any such method
but are unwilling to come as near the practice of the Parliament of England as the Constitution
of this Province will admit

Signed by Order W Bladen Clerk of the House