

U. H. J. should have any ways facilitated the passing of that Act of Assembly for ascertaining the bounds of a tract of Land for the Use of the Nanticoke Indians Anno 1698 seeing that it Appears Evidently the said Act was made In consequence
 p. 99 only of the Indian habitation at that place for many Ages as far as we can tell and of a Commission heretofore (Viz) anno 1684 Directed to Col^o W^m Stevens Maj^r Thomas Taylor & others for the laying out and Ascertaining a tract or portion of Land where the Emperour of Nanticoke and the Indians under his Subjection then usually Inhabited.

We of this Committee do represent also for the Setting this Case in A Clear Light and for preventing for the future the Intollerable Charge and great Interruption given to the publick business of this province by the frequent Complaint of those Indians that we have made Diligent Search into Antient Records and proceedings of this province in relation to Indian Titles and Possessions of Lands allotted or otherwise ascertained to them and we find that upon application made to the Queen of Port Tobacco &c^a that a proclamation Issued Anno 1663 setting forth the Complaint of those Indians, that their Cornfields were Yearly destroyed by the Cattle and Hogs of the English and they thereby reduced to famine for prevention of which mischief it was by the Lieutenant Gen^l willed and required that no Inhabitants of this province should take up nor seat any Lands, tho formerly taken up within three miles at least of those Indian habitations as in Liber H. H. page 190. The Disturbance and Incroachment of the English upon the Town lands and Settlements of the Eastern Shore Indians was likewise found of mischievous Consequence and therefore restrain'd in several places in Somerset County and at Chicacoan in Dorchester County by a Proclamation of the Lord Proprietary Anno 1678 Importing that his Lordship would Advise with the two houses at the next Gen^l Sessions of Assembly and that no person or persons whatsoever should presume to seat Live or Inhabit within three miles of the Indian Lands. The like had been Ordered in Councill ten years before in relation to the Indian town Lands at Mattawoman and Piscattoway Creek where a reserve had been made for them between those two Creeks

This Committee further Observes that the Prohibition of Surveying and Seating Lands within three Miles distance of any Indian town was the Constant practice of this Government both before and after the Survey of the two Tracts of Land menconed in Captain Riders Case and altho not
 p. 100 specifically applyd to the Nanticoke Indians and the Subjects