In 1648, the body of Thomas Allen washed up on “the sands by Poynt Looke out” (Arch. Md. IV: 403). Allen had been shot three times, but the body was too badly decomposed to determine if it was by gun or arrow. Allen had been previously threatened by two Irishmen (he wrote on the back of his will that if he died suddenly they should be questioned), but at the same time two of his sons had to be ransomed from Indians, so there were a number of suspects (Beitzell 1954a: 37). It appears that no one was ever arrested for the murder.

In June of 1681, several colonists (between five and seven) were murdered by Indians at Point Lookout. Initially, suspicions were focused on local Choptocks and Patuxents, several of whom had been found in the vicinity of the killings (Semmes 1979: 630). This group of three men, three women, and two children was apprehended and tried before the Governor’s Council on the 22nd of June (ibid.). The examination of these Indians, however, did not demonstrate their involvement in the attack. They were all acquitted and discharged. After this, suspicion fell, in turn, upon members of the Nanjatico tribe from Virginia, the Nanjemoys, Choptanks, and finally upon northern Indians, the Seneca and the Susquehannocks.

The most damning evidence indicated that members of the Nanjatico tribe were to blame; a group from this tribe was said to have been in St. Mary’s County at the time of the murders (Semmes 1979: 633). The wife of Chotike, a Maryland Indian, testified that Nehheeman, the son of the deceased king of the Nanjaticos, had tried to persuade her to leave her husband. He bragged of his scorn for the English, and of how “not long since at Point Looke out, he himself had killed two men and a woman, and a One Eyed Indian had killed two men more…” (Arch. Md. XVII: 11). Richard Manwaring provided circumstantial evidence that seemed to support the testimony of Chotike’s wife. He testified that he had met two Nanjaticos in Virginia, who told him that seven people had been killed at Point Lookout; Manwaring calculated that this meeting took place the very day after the murders (Arch. Md. XVII: 22). The Governor’s Council sent a letter to the governor of Virginia, asking that Nehheeman be apprehended and turned over to the Maryland authorities (ibid.). It is not known what result this appeal, carried by William Calvert, may have had; no further mention of Nehheeman or this mission appears in the Maryland records.

Members of the other tribes were questioned but no substantial information was uncovered. Representatives of the northern tribes denied any knowledge of the incident when questioned in 1681 at “Zachaja house” in Charles County (Arch. Md. XVII: 14). In 1682, however, after the authorities apparently exhausted the list of local suspects, Maryland ambassadors to the government of New York and the northern tribes were instructed to remind those tribes of this incident and a similar one in Anne Arundel County. The northern tribes were thought to be strongly implicated in the later incident, and circumstantially, by “severall pregnant Circumstances” in the former one (Arch. Md. XVII: 101).

The incident at Point Lookout was used by Josias Fendall, John Coode, and others as a pretext for rebellion against the Calvert government. The rebels spread a rumor that the Maryland Catholics and the Indians were banding together against the Protestants. Of course, at this time most of the Native American groups of the Chesapeake region were either greatly weakened militarily or at peace with the English, and it was at least implied during Fendall’s trial that the attack at Point Lookout had not been made by Indians at all (Arch. Md. V: 313, 322; Beitzell 1954a: 37). A letter from a Virginian to the King’s Council supported this, stating that Native Americans did not frequent the Point Lookout area, and that the victims had been stabbed and their throats slashed, “a way of killing unknown to our Indians” (Fortescue 1964: 93).

There are several gaps in the historical record pertaining to the ownership of the properties at Point Lookout. The following tract history is based on what little evidence remains. The three Point Lookout manors were passed down to Leonard Calvert’s son, William Calvert. The first reference to William’s possession of these lands was on August 10, 1661, when “William Calvert leases lands on St. Michael’s Manor” (Arch. Md. XLIX: 301-2). William Calvert apparently leased some land to Phillip Lynes, while the remainder descended to his grandson Charles Calvert (SMCHS PLO file). The next recorded transaction of the property occurred on May 27, 1697. Phillip Lynes sold to Gabriell Paroti “Three manors except leases
Raphael Semmes
Captains and Mariners of
Early Maryland
Arno Press
New York
1979
And it being customary in treateing with the said Indians Liber R. upon every Article to make presents, ordered that Mr. John Stone of Charles County Supply the said Commissioners according to the folll precepts. viz.

By the Lord Prop'ry & Council

Maryland Ss

Whereas the R' honble the Lord Prop'ry of this Province hath by his Commission beareing Date with this Authorised and Empowered Coll Henry Coursey and Coll William Stevens of his Council to be Commission'r to speake and treate with the Northern Indians now at or neere the Zachaiah fort in order to make and confirm a peace with them

Ordered that Mr. John Stone of Charles County Supply the said Commissioners or either of them or whom they or either of them shall appoint to Receive the same with what Dufelds or Trading Cloth they shall think fit for the occasion. To be made good again to the said Stone by the R' honble the Lord Prop'ry in kind. Dated the four and twentieth Day of August in the Sixth yeare of the Dominion of the R' honble Charles &e Annoq Dmi 1681:

Signed p ord'

p John Llewelin Cl Consil

The Examination of Chotikes wife taken before his Lupp and Councill in the upper house of Assembly the 24th Day of August 1681: and ordered to be Entred in the Councill booke viz.

She saith that a Nanjatico Indian named Nenheeman the last Kings Sonn One who was guilty of the murder committed at Point Looke out came to Captain Bridges's in Virginia about six weeks since, where she and her husband Chotike then was, and told her what should she stay with this fellow for (meaneing her husband) lett his goe along with him, the English were naught and Chotike was naught too all one as p 244 the English, and she would be killed if she stayed there, for that they would kill the English and them too, soe she had better goe along with him and be his wife, and he gave her a belt of Peake and she went with him to the Towne, where she asked him why the English were naught? and wherefore they would kill them? oh said he they are all naught & I have killed some already a great while agoe and some not long since at Point Looke out, he himself had killed two men and a woman, and a One Eyed Indian had killed two men more, he further told her that the English had made him loose his father, and he would alwyases kill them as long as he lived, that the English were all as Weomen and he could kill them as easily as weomen, that after he had told her this he threatened to kill
her for feare she should divulge it but she made her Escape from him.

at the Request of Shothe (haveing informed his Lpp that Mr Henry Hawkins of Charles County had in his possession a Canoe, some Matchcoate, a jugg and a shirt belonging to one Jack an Indian decd: whose widow he had since married) issued this following ord' viz

Mr Hawkins

His Lpp and Councill being informed by Shothe who married the widow of Jack the Indian that lived at your house and was killed by the horse, that Jack when he dyed had at your house a Canoe and some Matchcoate with a jugg & a shirt which of right belongs now to Shothe. You are ordered hereby to make Satisfaction to the s' Shothe for the same. Dated the 24th Day of August in the Sixth yeare of the Dominon of the R' honble Charles &c Annoq Domini 1681

Signed p ord'

p John Llewelin Cl Consil

Memdn the 30th Day of August Coll Henry Coursey & Coll William Stevens being returned from their Negotiation with the Northern Indians at Zachaiah fort produce the Journall of their proceedings w'h is ordered to be Entred in Councill Booke as foll viz

August the 23th 1681:

Maryland Ss:

A Journall of what passages happened in our journey as we went about the Negotiation of the Sinnique Indians Business wherein Coll Henry Coursey and Coll William Stevens were appointed Commission'r from the R' honble the Lord Prop' of this Province

Imp' We went from S' Maryes the 24th of August tenn of the Clock, two of the said Indians with Jacob Young the Interpreter and one other man with him with Capt Beale going in the morning before them with rideing hard wee overtooke about four miles beyond Richard Keenes; We went that Day a foote pace the tall Indian being very lame and about half an hour after Sunn sett wee came to Richard Gardinerswhere wee lay: The next morning we went on our journey and in the road about tenn of the Clock wee met three Pascattoway Indians, which when they knew what Indians were with us two runn away and the third went to cock his gunn but we perswaded him to lett them alone, he immediately left us and went to his flott and gave notice to the Indians there, soe we went on to Capt' Brandt to come to us with a
 Proceedings of the Council of Maryland, 1681–85/6. 101

to consult the Assembly again, and take proper measures Liber R. 
from the Information we shall receive from you at your 
returne, it being soe dangerous a thing to leave our selves 
without an Indian guard against Indians that are called the 
Children of the King of France, that live by rapine and 
Delight in blood, and cann be kept within noe bounds of 
reason or Articles of peace by the imaginary Governm' of 
their great men.

13thly forasmuch as wee certainly knowe that the Northern 
Indians never did come downe and make any attempt upon 
the Pascattoways, but that at the same tyme they attempted 
the Nanjatico fort in Virginia, and the rest of the Indians 
there, you must at last (if noe hints will serve turne) desire 
the Governm' of New York to deny the Northern Indians 
trade unless they will make peace not onely with his Maj' 
English Subjects here in these Collonys but also with his 
Maj' Indian Subjects of Virginia and our friend Indians of 
Pascattoway and all the rest on both sides the Bay of Ches- 
apeake, lest we be forced to have recourse to his Roy' High-
ness if in England, otherwise to his Maj' and Council, 
Assuring them of this truth that 'tis Impossible for these 
nations to passe by the English Plantations and not doe the 
Owners unsufferable and insupportable Damages wh' our 
Assemblies are not willing to repay the Sufferers, All whom may 
be avoided if they at New Yorke will deny them trade unless 
they will make and continue peace as aforesaid.

14thly You are (amongst other things herein before 
recommended to you) to take notice of the Murders the last 
Summer Committed in Anne Arundell County and at Point 
Looke out, the first most strongly, and the latter by several 
pregnant Circumstances Imputable to those Indians, which 
with the several Robberies then also committed you may 
press upon them or move the same to the Governm' of New 
Yorke soe farr forth as to you in discretion shall seeme meete 
for the hono' of this Province and to preserve ourselves from 
the Contempt of those Indians.

15thly In your Endeavours for our neighbour Indians to be 
included in the peace you are to mention all our friend Indians 
in generall on both sides the Bay without particularizing their 
Nations, and to make One present Accordingly, but if in case 
they make any Exceptions and will not incline to admitt of the 
Pascattoways therein, urgeing the blood of their greate men 
formerly spilt which they have not forgott but are resolved to 
Ravenous; You are then for and in the name of the Pascatto-
ways to endeavour an accommodation at the price of the blood 
spilt reasonably valued which is left to your judgment & discre-
tion and which you may acquaint we are willing to lay downe
3) Choake's wife - 5 victims.

6) Most other men had 6 victims.

1 acc. = Manvara? = 7 victims.

- Consider these items in their possession had belonged to victims.

Testimony from Mr. English.

633 - a time of murders - known that some Nanjaticos were in St. M's Co.

Testimony from Mr. English: "I had seen a blind Indian resembling one of the Nanjaticos... being eleven in all.

Members of Gov. Council acquitted - discharged these 5 Indians.

Suspicions of Nanjaticos - Choake's wife, Manvarin..."

Then suspicions of Nanjemoy's - 2 that supposedly been seen w/ Nanjaticos at "Piney Neck" UV PBO.

Ordered to seize 2 - but found? or tried? Seems he doesn't say.

Also suspected a group of Eastern Slave Endings - Chapters suggested seven or seven hundred..."
Semmes massacre of 8 colonists at Plo

22 June 1861

8 Chopticoos apprehended

put on trial at St M's

- couldn't show that these men were at
  Pt. Comfort at time of murder

- couldn't show items in their possession had
  belonged to victims

Testimony from Mr. English

633 - a time of murders - known that some Nanjaticos
  were in St. M's Co.

Thomas Hector test. "had seen a blind Indian
  very like Enquisruh (one of the) among the
  Nanjaticos... being Eleven in all

members of Gov. Council acquitted & discharged these

& Indians

suspects of Nanjaticos — Chokta's wife, Manwaring...

8) then suspicions of Nanjemays - 2 had supposedly been
  seen w/ Nanjaticos at "Piney Neck" at Plo
  ordered to seize 2 - but found? or tried? Seemmes
doesn't say

- also suspected a group of Eastern Slave Enslavers — Chapters
  chapters suggested several as Suspects...
1 JUNE
supposedly ten Susquehannocks & ten other Northern Indians in Canoes in Potomack w/ Piss. Indian guards (as prisoners)

15 JUNE
"five men & one Woman killed at Point Locke out"
(Mem instructions to Convey & Stevens to treat w/ Northern Indians w Zachariah Forty) date 24 Aug 1681)

24 Aug
Exam. of Choikie's wife in upper house of Assembly
- she gives no date, but implicates
Nenheeman, son of the last king of the Nanjatock Indians (in VA)

28 Aug
He killed 2 men & a woman

esp. about earlier trial
have's more in vol. XV of Arch. MS
(Proc. Council 1671-81)

- we don't have red voc.
1 JUNE

suddenly ten Susquehannocks & ten other Northern Indians in canoes in Potomack w/ Pisg. Indian guide
(some: see below)

15 JUNE

"five men ad one woman killed at Point Lookout"

(from instructions to Counsell Stevens to treat w/ Northern Indians w/ Zachariah Forby, date 24 Aug 1681)

24 Aug

exam. of Cherokee’s wife in upper house of Assembly

– she gives no dates, but implicates

Nenheeman, son of the last king of the Nanjatico Indians (in VA)

total = 8

he killed 2 men & a woman

28 Aug

...killed two men more

1. never give any name of the people massacred at PLO - why?

2. why was anyone actually ever killed?

was Nenheeman surrendered by VA - check Council Proc. 1681-82

...they knew nothing of the murder
1 JUNE

Supposedly ten Susquehannocks + ten other Northern Indians in canoes in Potomac w/ Piss. Zealand guide (as prisoners)

15 JUNE

"five men + one woman killed at Point Lookout"

(four instructions to Coursey & Stevens to treat w/ Northern Indians w/ Zachajah Fort, date 24 Aug 1681)

24 Aug

Exam. of Chohike's wife in upper house of Assembly

- she gives no dates, but implicates

Nenheeman, son of the last king of the Nanjatico Indians (in VA)

Total = 5

He killed 2 men + a woman

and a one-eyed Indian killed two men more

28 Aug

Stevens + Coursey met w/ Northern Indians at Zachajah house

- Northern Indians sd they knew nothing of the murders
Richard Manning examined
while in VA - encountered 2 Nanjakicos
who told him Seven people were killed at PLO
- he calculates that this was the next day
after the murder (June 16th)

Letter sent to gov. of VA
presenting evidence +
asking him to turn over the
late King & Nanjakico's son
- was alleged to be beaver of letter to Gov. of VA

Instruction for Causey + Lloyd
as agents from MD to Govt. of NY
and Northern Nations of Indians

the 14th: take notice of the murder, the last
summer in Armed Co and at Point Lookout
the first most strongly, and the latter by
several pregnant circumstances improbable
to those Indians (Nortumiers)
Liber R. Wee Immediately sett forward with the two Sinniquos for Zachajah house, and came there about Sunn Sett, where wee mett several of the Northern Indians, wee delivered them their two Indians, and appointed them to come Early in the morning to treate.

The 28th They cominge not, we sent for them, they Desired us to come to their fort to treate, We being neither willing to gratyfe them in that point, and deemed it inconvenient to goe because of the Pascattoway Prisoners in their fort, soe sent them word wee had come a greater way upon their propositions, and required them now to come to us, which at last they did (viz')

Eight great men of four nations, two of Each viz of the Manquos the Onneids the Anondagoes & Quiongoes; we acquainted them with their propositions sent by Mr Young to his Lr. which they owned, wee made answer according to the Direction of his Lr & Councill, they seemed to approove thereof and made in their way four acclamations soe Delivered the present &c

Wee told them wee had some People murdered enquird of them if they knew of any of their People that way at that time, they said they knew nothing of it, but if they find it out they will tell us, for the matter of the Axe they positively deny it and soe says the Young men they know nothing of it.

Then wee mentioned to them their breach of the Articles made with his Lr at Albany in not givinge notice to us of the Warr with the Pascattoway which they were to doe in their Articles before they made Warr, they answered that the Pascattoway Indians had joined with the Susquehannahs to destroy the Anondago Indians. Wee asked if they would not take satisfaction for any injury done them by the Pascattoway Indians and be at peace, to which they answered that what was done by the Pascattoways could not be wiped away, and now they had aggravated the matter by killing one of the present Troope, and further said it was not altogether as their greate men pleased but as themselves in such cases; They said they had sent some which they had tooke Prison from the Pascattowayes formerly which came now with them, into the fort to fetch out their Relations.

The Sinniquos being asked who the Eastern Shore Indians had a mind to warr with and how they heard of it, they said the Delaware Indians informed them that the Nantecokes have a mind to warr with them.

Being press'd again in the behalf of the Pascattoway Indians to take up their difference they said could not give an answer untill the Manquos Troop was come up with they expected this night, and appointed us Monday about Noone to give us an answer.


They Desired a day, soe parted with us that there were no more considerations.

We sent to the Vryday to come to us a day the return'd & told us they had brot with them as Jacob Young wright they had brot notice, had carr'd gilres, and killed 30th Wee Return'd.

An Ordinance for the kingdom of Maryland and Ireland amongst one of the people to our st father his full and absolute Seating of this mindes of the future wherein

Charles Absolom.

Whereas the late Lord Propv or his Countes of the Province of Maryland and Ireland, amongst one of the people to our st father his full and absolute Seating of this mindes of the future wherein

By the advice of the Lord Propv, and the present gene

shall think fit to be Lawes or other.
Instruccons with due regard had to the honof the Governm Liber R. and the constant peace and Quiet Safety and Defence of the Inhabitants afores. An Exact Acco of your proceedings you are duly to keepe and the same from time to time and at all times hereafter (dureing this your Negotiation) when and as often as occasion shall require you are to transmitt unto us and our Councill at our City of S Maries to the End that such further care may be therein taken as may be necessary for your further Instructions in the prosecution of this your Com- mission for all which this shall be your Sufficient power. Given under our hand and Seale at Armes the four and Twentieth Day of August in the Sixth yeare of our Dominion &c Annoq Domini 1681:

Instructions for Coll Henry Coursey and Coll William Stevens Authorised and Impowered by the R honle the Lord Propy to treate with the Northern Indians now neere Zachaiah ffort.

After you have treated with them upon the propositions they sent downe by the two Messengers that came downe with Jacob Young the Interpreter You are first to Let them know that wee are certainly Informed that about the first of June last there was dispatched tenn Susquehannahs and tenn other Northern Indians in Canooes downe Pottomack River with a Pascattoway Indian prisoner for their guide, that the fifteenth of June wee had five men and one Woman killed at Point Looke out, and some few Daises after twelve Indians were scene in Potapscoe whereof two were Susquehannahs who plundered a house there and when they fled for feare of the English, left a pair of Weemens Bodice all bloody behind them, Wherefore we Desire to know who those Murderers were since wee certainly know there are noe Susquesahannahs but amongst the Northern Indians

2: When you know the Murderers you are to Demand them according to our former Articles with them.

3: You are to lett them know that wee are Informed that Diverse of our Neighbour Indians have sent them presents of Peake, and with those p'sents an Axe Desiring them to take up that Axe against the English, and that in pursuance of that they sent those Indians downe to commit that murdry at Point Looke out. Wee Desire to know what Indians our Neighbours have sent them presents and an Axe, and which of their forts have accepted the presents and Axe that wee may know our friends from our foes.

4: That for your further Instructions we cannot Direct not
Richard Manwaring upon oath Examined saith that coming from Rappahanock Towne to Nanjatico Towne in Virginia the highest way, he had an Indian for his guide, that about half way he met with two other Indians belonging to Nanjatico painted all the upper parts almost to the middle, that the said two Indians asked the Indian that was the Deponents guide whither the Deponent could speake Indian, the guide told them noe, they then told him that there were Seven people killed at Point Looke out. That this Deponent soon after came over into Maryland and heard of the murder that was done at Point Looke Out, and as neere as he cann compute it the Day that he met with the said Indians betweene Rappahanock and Nanjatico and heard them tell his guide of the people killed at Point Looke Out was the next day after the murder was committed. 

Jurat 12th Die Sep't 1681
Coram me
Richard x Manwaring his marke
Philip Calvert.

Whereupon it was resolved by the Councill then in the Upper house of Assembly that a Letter be writ to Sr Henry Chichley his Majestys Governo'r of Virginia and Inclose to him copy of the foregoing Deposition and also of the Examination & Information of Chotikes wife (q'v folio 243) The Letter was accordingly writ as folv viz.

There having been some English murdered neere a place called Point Looke Out at the mouth of Pottomock Wee have made it our endeavour to find out the murderer that wee may be able to give his Majesty some reasonable Acco' of his Subjects lives. We had the Northern Indians in Suspition, and at a late conference we had with some of their warrio'rs charged them with it but had soe little Satisfaction that we continued our quest ever so, and at length upon the 24th of August (while our Commission were treateing with the Northern Indians at Zachjah) Chotike and his wife came to Sr Maries, and she charged the late King of Nanjaticos sonn with the murder, and named him as by the Inclosed Information you will perceive. Though this information might have warranted (as we conceive) a Demand of the forenamed murderer yet we continued our search further after an English man who had reported divers things that rendred the Nanjaticos suspected, and upon the 12th instant that English man named Richd Manwaring an Inhabitant of New Kent County and living at the house of John Pigg or John Pidd, made oath that the Day after the murder was committed in
Maryland neere Point Looke out, he heard of it in Virginia from two Nanjatico Indians as by the Deposition taken in the Upper house of Assembly the 12th instant will appeare. The Deposition we likewise send here inclosed After wch we hope you and the Governm't of Virginia will reflect that as wee have delivered the King of Potomocks two Sonns up to your Governm't and others at other times you will oblige us as well as doe his Majesties Subjects here right in the Delivery of the said King of Nanjaticos Sonn in the Information named in the first place to be proceeded with according to our justice here, and his Complices when they shall be discovered. This we promise ourselves from your justice as well as from the Lawes of good Correspondence and therefore wee once again request it from you in the name of the Governm't now gathered together in a general Assembly and Rest

Sept. 13th 1681:

Your humble Servants
Philip Calvert
William Calvert
Vincent Lowe
Thomas Tailler

Ordered that The honble William Calvert Esq' Principall Sec'y of this Province be the person Especially appointed by his L: to goe with the above Lr to the Governo'r of Virginia

At a Councill held at the City of S' Maries the 14th Day of p. 255 September Anno Dmi. 1681:
The R't honble the Lord Prop't:

The honble

The present

Communicated to the Councill by his L: a Letter lately rece'd from Majo' Samuel Lane of Anne Arrundell County with another also Inclosed from Lt' Thomas Francis and Cap' Nicholas Gassaway of the same County relateing to a murder there lately committed by the Indians wch Letters are as foll: viz

from the head of South River Sep'r 13th 1681

R't honble

The 12th instant at a Plantation of Majo' Welch's the Indians have killed a negro and wounded with Tomohawkes two English men, one mortally to all probability at the same
cutt off Wee want Ammunition exceedingly and have not Liber R. wherewithall to furnish half our men. I hope your Lpp will dispatch away Coll Burges with what Ammunition may be thought Convenient I shall take all the care that lyeth in me, but there comes daily and hourly Complaints to me that I am wholly Impoyed in the Countreys Service not else in haste with my humble service
to Your Lpp
Samuel Lane
Sep 13th 1681:

Which Lres being read and their contents duly considered The Result issued in these following Commissions viz

Maryland Ss:
Whereas wee are certainly advised and informed of several Insolencies and attempts daily Offered to and made upon the Inhabitants of this Province by the Northern Indians now plundering and Murdering the said Inhabitants and especially of a murder committed in your County of Anne Arrundell upon One negro, and two English men grievously wounded, one (in all probability) even to death, soe that (as the case now stands) your presence is there required and absolutely necessary for the Defence and Safeguard of your said County. Wee Doe therefore hereby strictly charge and command you Coll Thomas Tailler and Coll William Burges forthwith upon sight hereof to repaire unto your severall and respective charges in the 6th County of horse and foote takeing such due care therein that the Inhabitants may be all upon their guard and posture of Defence as to you shall seeme meete for their preservation, and in case you shall discover or meete with the Enemy, you are to use your best care skill and endeavours according to the utmost of your strength and power to fight kill take vanquish overcome follow pursue and Destroy them, and in all respects to deale and treate with them as the common Enemy And for soe doing this shall be your Sufficient power. Given under our hand and the lesser Scale of this Province the fifteenth day of September in the Sixth yeare of our Dominion &c. Annoq. Domini 1681:

Maryland ss:
Whereas Wee are credibly and certainly informed and advised of several Insolencies outrages and attempts daily offered unto and made upon the Inhabitants of this Province by the Northern Indians plundering robbing and murdering the said Inhabitants as by their frequent Cryes and Complaints in our Eares is sett forth; Wee doe therefore hereby strictly charge and command you Coll George Wells of Balte-
goe to the Lower house and to press them to proceed to some thing that might be for the Defence of the Province, After which by members of their owne they lett us and the upper house know that if writts issue for new Elections then they will proceed to such matters as shall be recommended to them, by which it is evident that noe consideration of the Safety of their persons or property of their Estates and protection from plunder was noe Deare to them as an imaginary priviledge. Things stood thus till the 25th August when some information given of the murderers that soe barbarously killed the people neere point looke Out made them willing to joine in a Committee to Examine that business but little came of it till at last 30th August wee pressing the Defence of the Province The Lower house condescend to appoint a Committee for that affaire but name not the Committees till 31st. After which the Lower house fall to other business and the 3rd September in plaine teames certifye the Upper house by four members of their owne that they have soe thinned their house by setting out other Committees that they cannot spare members to joine in the Committee for Defence of the Province which in conscience reason, and our especiall recommendation ought to have been their principall care. The 4th and 5th September passed without further consideration of the Province the 6th wee read: advice of robberys committed by the Northern Indians and Communicated them to our two houses of Assembly. Whereupon our Upper house voted horse and Dragoone to be raised and kept on floote for 6 weeke for security of the Province, and desire the concurrence of the Lower house, but instead of a sufficient force to curb the Enemy they vote frequent Musters to be made (as if the Enemy were to be frighted with Drumms & colours) and some scouts or Rangers to be sent out (without pay) to prevent publick charge, but if murder were hereafter committed they submitted all to our greater prudence, and this they seconded by a second Message the 7th of Septemb. see p. 270. that we found noe sense of present danger entred the hearts of the Lower house, nor any care of their neighbours lives: they were resolved to stay till his Majesties Subjects were murdered before they would consent to raise pay for Soldiers. The Eighth Septemb: Our Upper house presse the Defence of the Province again to the Lower house but gett noe answer, and againe the ninth descend to particulars, and amongst the rest desire to know whither they would now advise the protection of the Pascattoway Indians who had formerly the publick faith of both houses of Assembly for their protection To which the same Day they Catégorically answer that the assisting those Indians will certainly draw a warr