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ing a Man and two Women near the Creek's Side, I advanced towards them, and one of them saying you may come through here I immediately waded through, and the sentry conducted me to Colonel Stevens the Commandant, I was glad to have thus escaped from the French and Indians by whom I had and should have been treated as a Slave, but I was at the same time very anxious, and much afraid, I should be now discovered and punished as a Deserter; I therefore pretended that I had been taken Prisoner by a party of Indians some time before and carried off by them from the Frontiers as other poor Wretches had been, I communicated to Colonel Stevens all that I knew of the late Transactions of the French and their Indian Allies, the Strength of their Forts, and Garrisons and what I had heard of their future Designs, and concealed nothing from him but my Desertion from Fort Cumberland, the discovery of which I apprehended might endanger my Life. The Colonel seemed satisfied with the Account I gave, ordered me some Cloaths and Victuals, and I was treated kindly while I remained there, which was part of three Days, one Plummer who lives near Fort Frederick, happened to be then at Fort Cumberland, and a Party was ordered to escort him thence to Cresap's Fort, they took me with them and as they had given me some spirituous Liquor before we set off and made me drink more on the Road as well as after we reached Cresap's, I became very drunk and was intirely deprived of my Senses whether I did say any thing about my having heretofore lived in Baltimore County with Darby Tool, or any other Roman Catholics I know not, but next day Plummer and some others of the party told me that I had confessed in my Liquor that I had lied to Colonel Steven, that I was not taken prisoner but went off voluntarily to the French being incited thereto by several Roman Catholics who corresponded with the Enemy, on my insisting that I had uttered no such Words, or that if I had there was not the least Truth in them, some of the Company beat me unmercifully, and one of them heated a Gun Barrel, and swore he would instantly put me to Death with it, if I dared to deny a Syllable of what they said I had spoke over night, and in short they threatned me so terribly that I was persuaded there was no other Way for me to save my Life than by acknowledging what they told me I had declared while I was drunk, and by assenting to all the Questions that they thought proper to ask me. I found that they would be pleased with my making some Information against the Catholicks, and as I knew some of that profession, and had heard the Names of others, while I lived in Baltimore, I framed such a Story as I thought would be believed, and on