

oners that he would procure it for them and not let them want for any thing during his Absence. Before the Squire came home Madam Lee told the said Branson she was almost out of Provisions for the Prisoners and he went immediately and brought a large Fatted Beef for them which Cost the Squire 22/6 p hund^d W^t And further saith not.

Lib. C. B.
No. 20

his
Benjamin B Branson
Mark

Charles County ss^t 25th day of April 1770. The above Deposition was taken before me one of his Lordship's Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid

Jn^o Winter.

Charles County April 25th 1770.

The Deposition of Joseph Waters Aged thirty one or Thereabouts being Sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God Deposeth and saith that on the fourteenth day of March One Thousand seven hundred and Sixty Nine he was Committed to Goal to Richard Lee Jun^r Sheriff on several Suits and continued there till the twelfth day of November following. When this Deponent first came to Goal John Duncastle told him he should be starved alive and that this Deponent had better break the Goal and go out. Duncastle William Wright and Ignatius Green said they had been fed on Great Hommony and Fish for several days This Deponent was very much surprised at it and after some Consideration asked M^r Joseph Harrison if that was the Truth he said there had been some Alteration made a few days this Deponent asked him the Reason and he said the Prisoners had used the Sheriff extremely Ill in striving to break out of the Goal wherein there was one Criminal and several Runaways and Debtors. Harrison and all the Debtors told this Deponent they had been used extremely well from their first coming to the Goal until they attempted to break out, and Harrison said he and Doncastle told the Sheriff they knew nothing of their breaking out and there had been no alteration with them. Harrison and all the Prisoners told this Deponent that they never dined with less than three or four Dishes of good roast and boiled Meat besides Pudding and other rarities from their first coming to the Goal till they strove to break out. This Deponent for five or six days when he first came to Goal was fed on good Scotch Herrings and Great Hommony and heard Esq^r Lee's Housekeeper say that M^r Lee was very sorry that he could not use the Prisoners better that came in last as well as he could wish for they were not in fault. From that till I was discharged from Goal the Prisoners was