

men more armed &c^a as afores^d from the head of Pottuxen to the head of Pottapsico and one more with the like Number of men from thence to the head of Susquahanno River to be nominated and appointed, as also their pay agreed for and ascertained by his Excellency the Governor Liber K.

To his Excellency Lionel Copley Esq^r Governor and to the honourable their Majestys Council of Maryland

The petition of James Foster of Ann Arundell County most humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner by his own hard Labour Pains and Industry (the only means he hath wherewith to support himself his Wife and Family) having acquired a small quantity of Tobacco sufficient to purchase a small piece of Land, whereon to seat himself and make future Provision for their sustenance, did accordingly some time since procure and purchase therewith of one Nathaniel Stinchcomb of the aforesaid County a small tract of Land, which your Petitioner seated built on and improved with no small charge to a convenient Plantation and habitation for the support and maintainance of himself and his Family since which one M^r William Hopkins of the aforesaid County, having a covetous desire for the said Land as Lying commodious for him, and taking advantage of the nonage of the said Nathaniel Stinchcomb when he made sale thereof to your Petitioner did afterwards within the time and (as your Petitioner is also advised) before he came to full age privately and underhand practise and deal with the said Nathaniel to recant and fall of from his first Bargain and sale to your Petitioner and to sell the same again to him the said Hopkins wickedly Maliciously and fraudently insinuating to him, the advantage he would gain thereby of having double pay for the same, for what he had before done would signify nothing neither could he be compelled by your Petitioner to make restitution of what really and Bona fide he had rec^d: he being then in his minority and therefore incapable of disposing of his Land, neither could your Petitioner recover any thing back from him by Law, by which Suggestion and Perswasions of the said Hopkins, the said Nathaniel Stinchcomb as himself hath since confessed, and is ready to confirm, being most importunately solicited and continually plyed by the said Hopkins, was at last seduced to a second Bargain and sale of the said land to the said Hopkins wherein the said Hopkins was so diligent and earnest that he procured a conveyance thereof to be drawn executed and recorded in the County Court before such time as your Petitioner was aware or indeed could imagine him to have Effectuated till he were at full Age: the fraudulent unjust Proceedings of the said Hopkins your Petitioner complained of p. 56