

B. M. phia. This unhappy woman was Indicted in the last Court of  
 Vol. 25. Quarter Sessions held at Philadelphia for the County thereof  
 the of March 1696/7 of Carnall Actions with a young  
 Man a Batchelor th<sup>t</sup> sojourned in the Neighbourhood. Then  
 appeared but one Evidence against her, a woman of an in-  
 famous life th<sup>t</sup> had Run from her husband at Boston and was  
 known to bear ill-will to the person shee thus Impeached.  
 And though there was but one single Evidence, & th<sup>t</sup> one not  
 qualified according to Law (w<sup>ch</sup> in all cases requires credible  
 witnesses) nor anything deposed by that Evidence upon Oath  
 or viva voce as the Law has provided, but out of a paper ex-  
 tracted from an obscure illegall examination taken in private  
 by a Quaker Justice, where the person accused was not suf-  
 fered to be present or indeed to have any knowledge of it,  
 w<sup>ch</sup> when read in Court could neither be Repealed nor yet  
 heartily owned the deponent then & there present & tho' like-  
 wise th<sup>t</sup> paper deposition did not amount to the Prooving of  
 the Charge but only sett fourth some indecent familiarities. Yet  
 notwithstanding all these Circumstances & the manifest in-  
 sufficiency & defect of the proof they found this poor woman  
 guilty and sentenced her to be whipt with one & twenty  
 Lashes on her naked flesh tho' her husband declared shee had  
 alwaies been to him an Industrious & Faithfull wife & of so  
 spotless a conversation th<sup>t</sup> her vertue was never suspected or  
 called in question since they were married before th<sup>t</sup> time &  
 offered to pay Twenty pounds to Redeem her from the Exe-  
 cution of th<sup>t</sup> sharp Punishm<sup>t</sup> & disgracefull Sentence, w<sup>ch</sup> is  
 double the fine their own Law has appointed to be inflicted  
 even in such cases were the crime of Adultery is clearly pro-  
 ved. And thus their Zeal prompts them to handle one of the  
 world.

But they could not find a freedom in their spirrits to treat  
 Robert an Ancient Friend & preacher among them  
 after th<sup>t</sup> Rate tho' Convicted at the same Sessions by manifest  
 proof & undeniable Evidence of Carnall dealings & Veneriall  
 Commerce with the wife of one Rob<sup>t</sup> Webb so his matter was  
 managed thus: The Bill being found by the Grand Jury, a  
 Constable was ordered to bring him into Court, upon th<sup>t</sup>  
 two of the most eminent Quaker Justices left the Bench &  
 hastened to the house of their friend Rob<sup>t</sup> where having first  
 discharged the Constable they enter upon a serious Consulta-  
 tion concerning the managem<sup>t</sup> of their friends case by such  
 proper Methods as might least sully his Hono<sup>r</sup> or fix any stain  
 upon him, w<sup>ch</sup> being concerted they return into Court after a  
 smal time their friend Rob<sup>t</sup> follows without the attendance  
 of any officer w<sup>ch</sup> was contrived in tenderness to his reputa-  
 tion having made his appearance they acquaint him with the