

Bill th^t was found against him by the Grand Jury and demand of him whether he will Traverse or committ himselfe to the discretion of the Bench. Robert in pursuance (as may reasonably be presumed) of those measures resolved upon at his house leaves himself to the Bench & then presently withdrew out of Court soe th^t the Bench Considering th^t Robert was a Friend one of the Lords People & in the truth & alsoe remembering th^t he was a minister of their Gospell & his faithfull service and labours performed therein for the benefit of Friends & waving that formerly by the Pregnancy of the Proof & the Conviction of his Conscience hee had Confessed th^t hee had been Guilty of folly with Mary Webb but not of wickedness upon these and such like considerations suggested not by the reasonings of carnall wisdom but by the powerful moovings & breathings of the Spirritt and Life in the Inward parts, they gave it for godly & Righteous Judgm^t th^t further penalty or blemish should not be put upon this good man than a small fine of fourty shillings.

B. M.
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But tho' this Rehearsall of the Inducements w^{ch} prevailed with those Quaker Justices to give their Friend such a fair Quarter may seem to be fictitious and put in that canting dress with designe to render those men ridiculous to yo^r Lordships yet tis certainly a faithful instance & description of th^t frenzy w^{ch} actuates this sort of Men and hath given Life to a long series of such despoticall & unaccountable Actions in these parts of the world as would surpass the Creditt of any Relation and is the only defence they could honestly make, were it required of them, for their Barbarous Partiality in the Two above recited Cases & infinite others but it is now time th^t wee proceed to the third Instance w^{ch} in short was thus :

One John Moon a preacher alsoe of Eminent Rank amongst the Quakers got his Serv^t maid with child Moon own'd both the fact & the Bastard & put soe good a Countenance upon th^t action th^t he would often Jeast & be very pleasant upon th^t subject. Near that time a young man not married his name was _____ committed a like Crime upon the body of a young woman who was likewise Single but tho' their Crimes were the Same, abstracting from Moon's circumstances w^{ch} did greatly aggravate & make the Offence more heinous in him he being an Antie[nt] man & a Preacher yet their Punishm^{ts} were not soe for Moon was Complemen[ted] rather than Punished with the Imposition of a smal fine for form sake only w^{ch} 'tis said was never exacted But the poor young man being one of the world could find noe such treatment nor escape their hands without a Bloody back whose Condemnation was to be tyed to a Carst-tayle & whipt upon his naked Flesh as he was dragged in that Posture through severall