

At a Council held at the City of Annapolis on Thursday Lib. J. R.
the eighth Day of April in the fifth year of his Lordships & U. S.
Dominion Annoque Domini 1756.

Present

The honorable	{	Benjamin Tasker Esq ^r	}	Richard Lee Esquire
		Samuel Chamberlaine		Benedict Calvert Esq ^r
		Esq ^r		Colonel Goldsborough
		Colonel Benjamin Tasker		

The Record of the Conviction of Negro Simon the Slave of George Layfield for a Felony by him committed, transmitted by the Justices of Worcester County, being read, and also the following Letter:

S^r

I am informed a Death Warrant, is ordered for the Execution of a Negro Man, the Slave of one George Layfield of Worcester County in consequence of a Conviction before the Justices of that County for the Offence of store breaking.

M^r Layfield informed me that he proposed to join with some Persons in Worcester County of Repute in an Application to your Excellency for a Pardon at the same time that the Transcript should be sent up. Why that has not been done I cannot tell unless it may be thought that I would mention the Matter to your Excellency I shall therefore beg leave to lay before you Sir, all that I have been made acquainted with, in regard to the Criminal; since I came to Town M^r Joseph Ensor of Baltimore County (who lately sold the above Negro to M^r Layfield) informed me, as to the past Character of the Fellow that he had been guilty of some little pilferings, but never accused of any Offence like to that for which he is now condemned: he is very young I believe not more than twenty years of Age, and it is said much concerned for his Offence; it is also generally believed below that the present Criminal had for his Accomplice a Negro Fellow (charged by the Confession of the Criminal only who was the greatest Rogue of the two, and escaped Punishment for want of legal Testimony to convict him: I am convinced your Excellency's merciful and humane Disposition inclines you to spare Life where there may be a probability of Reformation in the Criminal, I know little of him and submit the Matter to your Excellencys Determination, whether Life or Death; I am with all due Regard.

S^r Your most obed^t Serv^t
Robert Jenckins Henry.

April 8th 1756.

It is the Advice of this Board to his Excellency that he be pleased to direct a Pardon for the aforementioned Negro, which issued accordingly.