

Lib. J. R. that he is sincerely sorry for his Crime and will not be guilty
& U. S. of an Offence of this Nature for the future, I hope your Excellency will be pleased to extend your Mercy towards him, and Grant him a Pardon, which will greatly oblige.
S^t Marys County Your Excellency's
23^d June 1766. Obedient and humble Servant
Hugh Hopewell.

Sir

My friend M^r Hopewell, having a Negro Man Slave under Sentence of Death in S^t Marys County and intending to make Application to your Excellency for a Pardon, requested of me to Write you on the Subject. The Man was Condemned for opening his Masters Store with a false Key, which he had procured and Stealing Goods not of great Value, his Conviction was on his own Confession, and his Master assures me, that this was his first Offence, and that he is a very Valuable Slave. If under these Circumstances, it is Consistent and you will be pleased Pardon him, I shall be much Obligated to you.

I am with sincere Esteem and Respect
Your Excellency's most Obedient and humble
Ronsby Hall Servant Will^m Fitzhugh
15th June 1766.

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By this Messenger your Excellency will receive the Proceedings of Our Court relating to the Trial and Condemnation of a Slave the Property of M^r Hugh Hopewell, his Crime not being of a very heinous Nature, and his Master desirous of saving him as it was his first Offence, and he a very valuable Fellow, I am induced to Solicit your Excellency's Pardon for him, I am not fond of having Rogues escape Punishment, but on the Contrary should rather choose they should Suffer as Examples to others, particularly Negroes, among whom Villainy and Roguery is but too Common, yet on this Occasion I must hope your Excellency will grant what is desired.

I am with great Regard your Excellency's most
Obed^t and Obliged humble Servant
22^d June 1766. Geo: Plater.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor with the Advice of this Board that a Pardon issue to the aforesaid Negro Jack, which issued accordingly.

Read the Transcript of the Conviction of Negro Jonathan Slave of Basil Smith of Charles County Convicted of Robbing