

Read the following Letter from John Beale Bordley Esq<sup>r</sup> Lib. J. R.  
and the Petition of John Wilson, and also took into Consideration his Conviction, Postponed at the last Meeting. & U. S.

Sir

After the Conviction of the Criminal Wilson, at the Ann Arundel Assizes, M<sup>r</sup> Justice Ghiselin who took his Examination and Confession, informed me the Prisoner had his Promise that if he would make a free Confession and discover the Principal Offender he would use his Interest on his behalf and that he would be favoured or spared, or Words to that effect and that he believed the Prisoner would not have made any Confession but for the Promise. I intended to have mentioned this to your Excellency at M<sup>r</sup> Ghiselin's instance, but it Slipt my Memory M<sup>r</sup> Hepburn and I thought this Circumstance could not be Certified to your Excellency in Our Letter, it appearing not till after the Conviction and we were to Speak of the Evidence delivered in Court on which the Verdict was founded. M<sup>r</sup> Ghiselin in his Evidence only declared that the Confession was taken by him and that the Prisoner made it freely. I am Sir p. 459

To Your Excellency's most Obedient  
His Excellency the Governor humble Servant  
29<sup>th</sup> April 1767. Beale Bordley.

Most Honoured Sir

As it is my hard Misfortune now to lay under Sentence of Death and under hard Irons and Chaines Confined down and knowing there is no One in this World can Release me but your Honour most humbly beg and pray for Compassion at your Hands and not let me Die as I was brought to it by a most Cruel and Vile Man; I am now in Prime of Youth and heartily Repent for all my Crimes past and if you will please to Spare my Life I will forever hereafter Lead a Godly Honest Life and always have a Due Regard of running into any kind of Sin I should willingly be Banished of this Province and never more be seen in it, pray Good Sir have Compassion on your Poor afflicted Servant, and am with the greatest Submission.  
John Wilson.

30<sup>th</sup> April 1767.

Ordered by his Excellency the Governor with the Advice of this Board that a Pardon issue for the above John Wilson on Condition of his leaving the City of Annapolis in 6 Hours and the Province in four Days; which issued accordingly.