

Before he was sold over the Bay I knew him & many of his Crimes, he would Lab^r for no person neither would he stay any where but where he thought fitt & has often Engaged & Endeavoured to murder white men in opposing him or Trying to Take him up; no place of Confinement would hold him in fact he Exceeded any human being I have heard of as a Villian; I have as well as many others threatened to shoot him but have not had an opportunity; in short no person or property was safe where he had a Design he has Corrupted many other Slaves & I Believe he has been Encouraged to Distress the whigs by the Torys; I therefore hope when your Excellency & Hon^{ble} Council sees & Considers the Depositions & Circumstances attending this matter that you will prevent any Cost or Damage to Col^o Selby on acc^t of his pursuing Negro Argil from Virginia into this County Taking him & Executing him here; Col^o Selby has Ever manifested his attachment to our Cause and Government & has acted with Great Zeal & Vigour & Done more Service in quelling the Torys in Somerset & Worcester Countys than any other officer which Service Doth Cause the Disaffected now to seek Revenge of him & I am convinced if any proceedings were Executed by Our State against Col^o Selby for hanging such a negro Villian that it would be productive of Confusion & Bloodshed Between this County & Accomack

September
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The Deposition of M^r William Bell of accomack County Virginia who being by me Duly Sworn Deposeth and saith that some time in August Last this Deponent met Negro Argil in the Road who has since been Hanged by Col William Selby of Virginia, & this Deponent qestion^d the said negro about Resisting M^r Daniel Robins at which Time he told this Deponent that he would not be Taken or molested by any person but if they would Let him alone he would not concern with any one & further saith not

Taken before me the Subscriber one of the Iustices of the peace for Worcester County this 4th Day of Sept^r 1780 N. Holland

The Deposition of M^r Daniel Robins of Worcester County w^{ch} being by me Duly sworn Deposeth and saith that some time in July or August Last this Deponent saw Negro Argil who has been hanged since by Col^o William Selby of Virginia which negro was near the Roadside Talking with another negro and this Deponent then question^d him if his name was not argil which name he Deny^d & said he was a free man this Deponent then order^d him to the House then nigh & made an attempt to strike him with a Cane on his Refusing to go with him & the said Negro got a fence stake & swore that if he Touched him that he would kill this Deponent & this Deponent Recollecting that he had heard that the said negro Had kill^d his overseer on the western shore he Declin^d Taking him up; Just after the above happen^d Same M^r Abraham Sturgis Riding up & this Deponent told the said Sturgis that the said Argil was