

went off. That he this deponent went to the house of M^r Holbrook [1781] and gave the said Brereton a dram of Brandy, and after they had travelled about three quarters of a mile the said Brereton confessed that it was his inclination to go off on board of the Barges; and this deponent told the said Brereton that if he confessed the truth perhaps it would be better for him; and then he confessed that he went voluntarily with Bloodsworth, and that they intended on the next night with the Barges up to Lowes's Point and attack the Guard & further saith not. May 29

[Aaron Sterling, Somerset, To the Honourable the Council for the July 13 Eastern shore of the State of Maryland.]

Your Petitioner is an Inhabitant of Annimessex in Somerset County and is now of Sixty six years of Age that from the beginning of the present contest with Great Britain to the present day he has been a firm friend to the Liberties and Independance of America that he was plundered last fall by the British barges and four times this spring and that he has been plundered of all his meat and provisions of every kind the whole of his Houses have been burnt with his furniture and Indian Corn that he was also wounded beat and bruised exceedingly at the time his houses were burnt that he has been obliged to remove near seventeen miles from his plantation with his wife and Children that he's been reduced to great difficulties being obliged to depend much on the bounty and Charity of others. Your Petitioner further shews that his Son Josias Sterling hath lately been drafted that in his present distressed situation his said Son is of the greatest Service to him in providing things for the subsistence of his family and that he is of opinion that he shall not be able to support his family without the assistance of his said son. he therefore prays that your Honours would be pleased to take the premises into consideration and discharge the said Josiah Sterling

We hereby certify that from credible Information we are assured that the facts set forth in the above petition are true.

George Dashiell	Hamilton Bell	Gilliss Polk
Sam ^l Wilson	Henry Jackson	James Polk
John Done	John Denwood	James Bennett
Jacob Ker	Isaac Henry	George Day Scott

Christian Kreemer of Somerset County Dealer & Printer informs, August 8 That about the 17th of October he sent two Chests containing Money & Goods as by the Inventory herewith lodged to the House of William Smith in Anemisex. that on the Road he was met by 3 Men. that he believes were George Mason & John Mason of the same County the other unknown that they stopped him & demanded his Name & terrified him greatly. they said they had heard of the damned Rebel. where was he going? above King's town they enquired for Powder