

APPENDIX III

(7)

DEPOSITION OF JAMES GADDES, MAY 10, 1773

The Deposition of James Gaddes Aged 31 Years or thereabouts being sworn deposeseth and saith, That upon a Supposition of his being the informer, in Consequence of which a Seizure was made on the Sloop Speedwell, Charles Allen Commander—a certain George M.^cCall & many others broke open this deponants House and Daniel Shanibrooke, and M.^r Middleton (a Store keeper under M.^r Thompson) Seized him and tore from off his Back this Deponant's Cloaths, Tar'd and feather'd him, and a certain James Smith (son of W.^m) threatened to Murder him, if this Deponant should attempt to mention any of their names, tho' at the same time they were all disguised, That Mordecai Gist, Capt. Button[?], Samuel Owens, Nathaniel Smith, Dominick Ireland, Capt. John Jones, Isaac Grist, M.^r Hollingsworth and many others, then drove this Deponant before them thro' Baltimore Town, in a Cruel and Barbarous Manner, and Compelled him this Deponant to Swear "*Damnation to all Informers or Informers Mates*" and threatened to Hang him if he Attempted to make any Resistance—That they the afsd Persons obliged this Deponant to knele known [*sic*] under the Gallows and beg his Life, and then beat and Abused him a Cruel and most Inhuman Manner—That they then carried this Deponant to Thomas Jones Esq.^r Pump, and pumpt water on him still continuing to Beat and Abuse him put a Bible into his Hand and wanted him to Swear that he should leave his Wife and Family in three Days from that Time—and upon this Deponants refusing to do so, they then asked if he had given the information to the Custom House Officer relative to a Brig that was Supposed to have some Contraband goods, that this Deponant declared he had not, they then made him swear to that effect on the Holy Evangel, and bid him run Home—That the Day following the afsd Persons came to his House while he lay Sick in his Bed (occasioned from the Beating and Bruises as afsd) and ord.^d him to go to Capt. Elliotts Coffee-House in Fells Point, where he this Deponant went, and was told by Jan[?] Venbeber a Justice of the Peace for Balt City, Nath.^l Smith & many others (whose names he cannot recollect) that if he this Deponant did not leave Baltimore Town by the Saturday week following, they would either hang or burn him & further saith not—

James Gaddes

The foregoing Deposition sworn to this tenth Day of May 1773 before Us the Subscribers two of the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary of the Province of Maryland his Justices of the Peace for Ann Arundel County.

R Ghiselin
W^m StuartMS Vertical
File, Md.
Hist. Soc.