

versie", gave it to his "well beloved Wenlock Christison", later, in drawing up his will, in March 1672, the Doctor left personality, said to have been forty shillings sterling to Wenlock and his wife. This was in 1672: on [April] 14, 1676, Christison was in trouble with the Friends meeting, in trouble even though they had enough confidence in him to hold the meeting at his house. The charges we do not know, but he made what seems like an indifferent answer. He declared in meeting that if the world should reproach any Friends about his "proceedings in takeing his wife that then he will give further satisfaction and cleere the truth and ffrriends by giveing forth a paper to condemn his hasty and forward proceedings in that matter And said that were the thing to do Againe he would not proceed so hasty nor without the Consent of ffrriends (Third Haven Records, vol. I, p. 1). The meeting of [September] 8, 1676 let the matter lie over until the semi-annual meeting. After renewing his promise, Christison did at last enter his defense (which is no longer in existence), and he said that the meeting could publish it, if they believed he had cleared the matter. There is nothing more about it in the records of the meeting. It is probable that the marriage he was defending was a second one, and that he had entered into it either without previous word to the meeting, or possibly even that he had married someone not a member of the meeting. It is doubtful that the meeting would be reproaching him in 1676 for a union already in existence in 1672. It was in that year that the will of Dr. Peter Sharpe speaks of Wenlock Christison and his wife. (Will Book I, p. 494).

Christison in Maryland had lands and servants and friends and a family. More than that he had the respect of his friends and neighbors. In the records now available there is no mention of his election to the Lower House of the Assembly, but those records are so worm-eaten that the absence of his name is not conclusive. The first mention of him in the Journal is dated May 23, 1674, and it is concerned with a petition from the Quakers about the oath. They wished to be relieved from the necessity of taking an oath, and they proposed that if this was done, they would be willing to suffer the same penalties for breaking their word, as were inflicted on those who broke an oath or were forsworn (*Archives* II, 355). Of this petition Christison was the first signer. The petition was sent back to the Upper House, and that house, being uncertain whether the Provincial legislature had the power to alter the form of oath provided by the laws of England, ordered the matter suspended until the Proprietary could be heard from. His Lordship had said he intended to gratify the Quakers, but that he wanted proceedings suspended until he could hear from (*Ibid.*, p. 492), from "his learned Councill in England".

During his stay in the Barbadoes, that is, sometime between 1665 and 1669, Christison met Edward Oystin or Ostin, and the two had some business dealing. Late in 1669, Christison, preparing to continue on into Maryland, planned a transaction with Oistin. November 12 of that year Oistin shipped aboard a ketch then in the Barbadoes roadstead, three negro men, Ned, Toby and Jack to the order of Christison at the port of Patuxent in Maryland. The charge for the freight of the three was 400 pounds of Muscavadoe sugar per head. Christison agreed to receive the men and to dispose of them for the account of