

In a Court of Sessions holden by His Ma<sup>ty</sup> Justices of the Peace for the County of Somerset in the County of Maryland Anno Domini 1696

Commissions. Granted in Court. were - }  
Do. David Brown. III. Francis. Joubert. III. James. Cashwell. III. Sam. Hopkin  
III. James. Bond. M. Thomas. Jones. Cap. John. King. and

Do the wor<sup>th</sup> His Ma<sup>ty</sup> Justices of the Peace for the County of Somerset in Court sitting. The humble petition of Sarah. Brewster humbly sheweth.

That your Petitioner's husband, late Sheriff of this County, dying left behind him all papers and accounts of values Comers, pertaining to the publick, but more especially to this Countie's affairs, she being altogether incapable of such weighty matters, humbly begs your wor<sup>th</sup> kind consideration, and to call in the foresaid papers & accounts, which are ready to be delivered, and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray. &c.

Upon which petition being read, the Court demanded of M<sup>r</sup> Stephen Luffe Sheriff to shew whether he would accept of the foresaid papers and accounts, and also to shew the lobaw<sup>er</sup> due from this County, which had been collected by M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Luffe, which the said Luffe did accept in consideration of the psalary due in six traps. out of which psalary the said Luffe did promise to allow the said M<sup>r</sup> Brewster 1200<sup>l</sup>. pounds of lobaw<sup>er</sup>. The said Luffe did wife in open Court assumed to give security for due performance of the same. And whereupon the said Luffe wife and Thomas Jones and Cap. John. King in open Court became security by assumption. The Court ordered to draw the bond when opportunity first admitted.  
Remains & fugitive persons not to be harassed in Luffe.

Do the wor<sup>th</sup> Court of Somerset County. y<sup>e</sup> Petitioner aged about fifty three years being summoned for a grand Jury man humbly sheweth that he did endeavour to attend y<sup>e</sup> Court, but as he was on my way to the Court lost my horse and not able to go a foot was the cause I did not appear, but since being summoned to appear to shew the reason why I did not appear I did again proceed on my journey to the Court but the Court not sitting at January Court, could not then satisfy the Court finding my self weary and well stricken in years, and that since your wor<sup>th</sup> doings might impair his health. now humbly prays that your wor<sup>th</sup> would be pleased to excuse y<sup>e</sup> petitioner and be as bound shall pray &c. George. Hamlin

George Hamlin's Petition Read and granted

Do the wor<sup>th</sup> Justices of Somerset County now in Court sitting. The humble petition of Richard Jefferson humbly sheweth that your Petitioner was summoned by the Sheriff for to attend the Court as a Jury man in November, but your Petitioner's wife being very sick, and y<sup>e</sup> Petitioner's horse was run away that your Petitioner was not in capacity to come according to the summons, hoping that y<sup>e</sup> wor<sup>th</sup> will be pleased for to take it into consideration by reason that y<sup>e</sup> Petitioner gave the like occasion before and remit him from his fine, and y<sup>e</sup> Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray. The said petition was sworn to and granted

M<sup>r</sup> Harris Constable of Ditton. looks out of Allegiance and abhorrent.

Somerset County. Whereas Sarah Byfield a poor impotent and deafish woman, and in all likelihood to rest upon the parish if a Christian care be not taken to prevent it, not withstanding she hath served the Hobbs or his deputy these years done half this fly to restore her hearing and reading news of writing having obtained her wife some small matter of wages and not yet paid her.  
Therefore in His Ma<sup>ty</sup>'s name we will and require y<sup>e</sup> Justices the Constables of every hundred to attend the said Thomas Hobbs, so y<sup>e</sup> he have him before us or some other of His Ma<sup>ty</sup>'s Justices of the Peace for the County to give security for his appearance the second Tuesday in February next then and there to shew