

June 10<sup>th</sup> 1691

Their Majties.  
Wm Mason.

James Mason  
The Jurors for their Majties at a Grand Jury held for  
the body of this County the second Tuesday in March last past being sworn  
upon the holy Evangelists do present and find William Mason of this County  
legally with one James English upon the fourth day of the by du. ten  
1691 did upon a point known by the name of Sampsons point in the County  
of Kent within the Jurisdiction of this Court steal, fill and feloniously carry away four hoggs belonging  
and of the proper mark of Elmer and Widow, of the value of three hundred and ninety nine pounds  
of tobacco, being not only a great damage, detriment and injury to the sd Elmer but also to the good people  
of this Province. Notwithstanding of the sacred and divine laws of God expressed in the eighth Commandment  
in these words (thou shalt not steal) and in contempt of the good laws and institutions of this their Ma<sup>ty</sup> Govern<sup>mt</sup>  
thereby dishonouring God, giving scandal and still examples to all the good people of this Province, and against  
the public peace. Therefore for their Majties Attorney Generals judgment may be entered agt the sd Wm Mason  
and that he suffer the pains and punishments by law in that behalf made and provided agt such offenders.  
James Souther. Clerk.

The Indictment being read, the sd Mason pleaded not guilty, and for tryal put him self up to the County  
whereupon Command was given to the Sheriff to summon twelve good and lawful men of his vicinage that  
the matter might be the better understood, which was immediately performed, a list or panel returned in Court which  
named are as followeth. Viz) John Emmett. John Smith. Wm Henderson. Wm Gouge. Wm Noble. Miles Gray  
Edward Cowie. Henry Hudson. Wm Bryan. Peter Thomas. Cull. James Langford. Aaron Bishop. who being  
justly summoned and sworn, having read the fored Indictment, read, and also the eight Evidence following  
examined and sworn in open Court which names are viz) Richard Davis. Thomas Royall. Jno Royall.  
James Corril. John Rozman. John Rushaw. John Johnson. Paslow. Bartlett. who having read their oaths  
are sent forth to deliberate the matter. And being now returned in Court, being unanimously agreed  
the pt of the sd Mason called, do give in this following verdict. (viz) The Jury find the sd Mason  
guilty of the Indictment. Jno Emmett: foreman: which verdict as a fored was ordered to be entered

Ordered by this Court that the sd Wm Mason pay fourteen hundred thirty five pounds of tobacco  
and it being the one half of the four fold. Order likewise that the sd Mason find good security for his good  
behaviour during Courts pleasure. Whereupon came the sd Wm Mason with his two securitys viz  
Robert and Thomas Ryoll and the sd Robert by Recognizant did become bound to their Majties in the sum of  
seven pounds sterling money of England, the sd Robert and Ryoll in the sum of five pounds like money, due  
to be kept upon their goods and Chables, Lands & Tenements for their Majties use &c.  
The Condition of this Recognizant is such, that if the above named Wm Mason be of the good behaviour &  
abstain to all their Majties Liege people of this Province during the Courts pleasure and also pay Court Charges  
that then this Recognizant be void and of none effect otherwise to be and remain in full power force & virtue

The undersigned of the Commission of the Peace for the County of Kent in Court sitting the humble Petition of James Langford  
whereas your Petitioner was fined for not appearing yesterday on the Jury being legally summoned by the Sheriff  
and promptly after the same sworn, your Petitioner humbly craves that his fine may be remitted, being here  
that he will attend your worship as in duty bound shall pray. &c.  
Petition Granted.