

Their Maties

Somerset County (22)

June 10<sup>th</sup> 1691

Walter Taylor

The Jurors for their Maties being sworn upon the holy Evangelists at a Grand Jury hold for the body of this County the scone tuesday in March last past do present and find by

that Walter Taylor of this County sawyer upon a bargain and sale of twelve Culls of Cyprus Timber to Mr Samuel Hopkins of this County Gent. for and in consideration of 22 yards of timber and in compliance with the said agreement the said Mr Samuel Hopkins did send one Adam Spout and Samuel Hopkins Junior to receive the said timber the said Walter Taylor not regarding the agreement nor fearing the punishment by law inflicted upon fraudulent traders, did send 76 pikes of Cyprus timber, about being and above, above being them to be used for, whereas upon view, and upon Oath, there is not of the aforesaid timber passing there 16 quarters or pikes clear into 32 pikes, and the rest into more, and delivered for timber 12 only 76 pikes instead of 8 quarters to the full to the said Mr Samuel Hopkins. Now their Maties Attorney reads one saye, that the sd Walter Taylor hath not only cheated and wronged the said Mr Samuel Hopkins of six tuns of the timber by him above, but in like manner to that and rozen of the remainder, that is one of the twelve in doabours, and that the said Walter hath made his practice to rozen and cheat others in the same manner and kind. Do the great damage & loss of their Maties good peop, and agt the Law and institutions of this Court, and there fore trabs judgment may be subro agt the sd Walter for this his great and abominable fact according to law in that Cps made and provided.

So write Inditment the sd Walter Taylor pleaded not guilty and for trall put him self upon Tryal

And there fore Command was given to the scribe of this County to summon twelve good and lawfull men of his birthage that the matter might be the better understood, a list or panel where of was returned as follows. viz. Wm. Benson. Miles. Gray. Edward. Coles. Henry. Hudson. John Thomas. Cull. Thomas. Langwell. Steven. Bishop. Samuel. Howall. Robert. Cook. John. Corber. Thomas. Hobbs. who being called over by their names, were duly sworn upon the holy Evangelists, who attend at the Bar to hear the aforesaid Inditment, the Evidence and Expositions hereafter following.

The Exposition of Adam Spout aged about 29 years. this Exponent saith that the 74 pikes improperly tallied quarters of Cyprus Timber now in the Plantation of Samuel Hopkins Junior, and was biswed by Mr Curtil. John. Smart. John. Kellam. Thomas. Morris. & John. Carr is the very self same timber that was delivered, by Samuel. Martment. to my self and Samuel. Hopkins Junior was sent by Sam. Hopkins Junior to the 12 Culls of Cyprus timber from Walter Taylor. And the sd Exponent further saith that the sd 74 pikes of Cyprus and two pikes more was delivered for 9 Culls & 1/2 as the sd Martment declared. And if there was 2 Culls & 1/2 remaining remain, and that the Exponent. Challenged the sd Martment for dilatoring of heart or heart pikes who replied that they were the best quarters, which he heart is now visible to be seen amongst the rest of the said Timber, this the Exponent saith to the best of his knowledge and further saith not.

The Exposition of Samuel Hopkins Junior aged 25 years, on their Maties behalf saith that to his certain knowledge, the 74 pikes improperly tallied quarters of Cyprus timber now in the plantation of Samuel Hopkins Juniors, and that hath been biswed by Mr Hammond and his son John. William Richardson. Wm Curtil. John. Smart. Thomas. Morris. John. Kellam. John. Carr. is one and the self same Timber which was delivered to the Exponent and Adam Spout, with two pikes more which is 76 pikes for nine Culls and one half of timber by Samuel. Martment, and the Exponent further saith that there is several small pikes amongst them the said