



A Court holden for the County of Somerset in the Province of Maryland by the
Majesties Justices thereunto appointed the 14th day of September
in the fourth year of their Majesties King James the second and

James Broom, M^r. Francis Jonckins, M^r. Thomas Newbold, M^r. Roger Lewis, M^r. Sam^l.
in Court were... Hopkins, M^r. George Layfield, Esq^r. J^ud. King, M^r. Stephen Horey,
Court Celler.

Their Majesties
W^m. Morris
Somerset County for the Justices for their Majesties Comy sheweth
upon y^e holy Evangelists at a grand Jury held for the County of
the County the 14th day of Sept^r. do present & find
That whereas in all Christian Societies, the prime & first

care is the honour of Almighty God, and to that end to make good & whole some Lawe
for the advantage of the same, we have been prudently & carefully done in our
Assembly in the year of our Lord 1649. Entituled an Act Concerning Religion, where
by it is Enacted, that who so ever shall blaspheme God, viz^t the Father or Son or
Saviour Jesus Christ to be the Son of God, or shall deny the Trinity or y^e Godhead of any
of the three persons thereof or y^e Unity or y^e unity of the Godhead, or shall use or utter
any reproachfull Speeches concerning the same or any y^e three persons thereof; shall
suffer death les of all. Yet notwithstanding of the good & Christian Lawe, William
Morris of Dividing Creek in Somersets hundred Labourer not having y^e fear of
God before his eyes, but like a most wicked & horrible & blasphemous & irreverent
upon y^e third day of April 1691 at the house of M^r. Edmund Howard near Rehoboth
in Somersets hundred, & also where at other times, did most presumptuously & irreverently
scandalously blaspheme, & most sacrilegiously blaspheme Jesus Christ as well as utter & use
of other numerable Curst & Curses & Comy therefore reproached several times the
said W^m. Morris of Dividing Creeks Labourer for a further aggravation of his
Crime, being asked how he could answer the same before the great Judge, at y^e last day
in a most wicked & blasphemous & presumptuous manner, advisedly, audibly & with a
voice replied, God damn the Judge, as also at the said house of M^r. Edmund Howard
about 12 or 1. a Clock in the night, after the said W^m. Morris had slept arose & continuing
his said Curst & Curses, advisedly & presumptuously, Considerably & audibly & with a loud
voice & voice & do declare, that he would feel no death, both of death & of his own Judge damn
the same, & other irreverent expressions, but his last saying that shall be