

June Court 1731

Messrs George Wilson Charles Hyman & Nath Rogers Sworn for his Lordship as the afo W^m Pearce and the grand Jurymen a presentment against William Pearce of the County of Kent for an assault & Battery on the body of James Stout and the same was framed into a bill as followeth

of this Ship. West Country &c. The Jurors for the Right Hon. the Lord Proprietor that now is for the County of Kent County of Kent W^m Pearce afo upon their Oath do present that William Pearce

of S. Pauls parish in the County afo Kent, the tenth day of May Anno Domini Seventeen hundred and thirty one at the parish afo in the County afo within the Jurisdiction of this Court in and upon a certain James Stout in the presence of God and of the said Lord Proprietor then and there being with force & arms an assault did make and give the said James then and there did beat wound and evilly treat so that of his life it was much endangered and other harms to him then and there did to the great Damage of the said James and contrary to the peace of the said Lord Proprietor that now is his good Rule and Government &c.

Francis Godpat

Geo Wilson Nath Rogers

And the afo William Pearce in his proper person cometh and saith that he is in no sort guilty of the premises above upon him imposed as by the afo Indictment it is alledged and thereof he putteth himself upon the Country

W^m Pearce in ff.

And he who followeth for the Lord Proprietor in like manner saith he is guilty

Francis Godpat

But now afterwards came the afo W^m Pearce and Relinquished the Abjurement afo and withdraws his Plea as above pleadd And now saith that he cannot gainway the Indictment afo so as afo against him brought nor but that he is guilty of the premises above upon him imposed as by the afo Indictment it is alledged and thereupon submits to the Court.

Therefore it is considered by the Justices here to wit at the Court House in the Town of Chester in said County on the third day of June being the fiftenth day of said Month Anno Domini one thousand Seven hundred and thirty one That the afo William Pearce pay the Sum of two hundred pounds of Gold the use of the Lord Proprietor his heirs and Assigns as a fine for