

State of Maryland } Be it remembered that the following Bond was  
 made from } recorded on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 1857, to wit:  
 John Reed & others } Stamp  
 15<sup>cts</sup>

John Reed, William Howeth & John L. Willis of Dorchester County, are held & firmly bound unto the State of Maryland in the full and just sum of Three hundred dollars, current money of the United States, to be paid to the said State or its certain Attorney, to the which payment well & truly to be made and done, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and Administrators in the whole and for the whole, jointly & severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals and dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April 1857.

Whereas the Commissioners for Dorchester County by virtue of a supplement to an act entitled an additional supplement to the act entitled an act to regulate Ferries, have contracted with the said John Reed to keep the Ferry over the North West fork of the Nantuxke, commonly called Crothers Ferry, and agree to allow the said John Reed the sum of one hundred & ninety dollars, current money, for the same:

Now the condition of the above obligation is such that if the above bounden John Reed shall faithfully & diligently keep the said Ferry over the North West fork of the Nantuxke River, commonly called the Crothers Ferry from day light to day light from the first of November to the first of March, and from an hour before to an hour after light for the residue of the year, commencing on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 1857 and ending twelve months thereafter, and shall keep constantly and in good order a scow that will safely carry six passengers and their horses at one trip, with an able bodied & skillful hand to attend the Ferry aforesaid, and shall not charge or receive any greater price for Ferriage than what is allowed by law, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise of full force & virtue in law.

Signed sealed & delivered in the presence of Mr. Must }  
 James Higgins }

John L. Reed (Seal)  
 William Howeth (Seal)  
 John L. Willis (Seal)

Approved by the Commissioners for Dorchester County,  
 April 21. 1857. J. R. P. Secy. C. D. C.