

August Court 1724 ... 226
At S. C. D. before the King

for Alexander Hall

I have Court One thousand seven hundred & twenty four - be it Remembered that
on the third Tuesday of June in that same term came here into Court before
the King by Francis Allen his attorney and Exhibited to the Justices of the Right

Honorable the Lord Proprietary here present his certain Bill against Alexander Hall Gent. One of
the attorneys of the Court of the Right Honorable the Lord Proprietary, here present here in Court in his proper
person the tenor of which bill follows in these words to the Justices of the Right Honorable the Lord
Proprietary of the County Court here now held for the County of Somerset by the King by Francis Allen his
attorney Complain of Alexander Hall One of the attorneys of the Court of the Right Honorable the
Lord Proprietary present here in Court in his proper person of age for that whereas he the said Cope
is a good true faithful and an honest Subject of our Lord the King now and as such a Subject from
the time of his Nativity hitherto hath always behaved himself & governed himself and from a Kind
of theft felony Larceny or any such like Kind of hurtful Crime or Blot altogether free uncom-
mitted and unattempted hath maintained Nevertheless the said Alexander not being ignorant of the
premises but of his own most wicked Malice for thought plotting him the said Cope in his good
Name fame Credit and Reputation to hurt & bring to shame and ruin the said Cope into
Scandal and Infamy amongst his Neighbours & other faithful Subjects of our Lord the King
now unworthily to induce the sixteenth day of June One thousand seven hundred & twenty four
at the Court house in Somerset County within the Jurisdiction of this Court the said Court then and then
at Dividing Creek being held for the said County having Communication and Speech with him the said Cope
in the presence and hearing of sundry faithful Subjects of our Lord the King now to whom the said
Cope was well known did falsely and Maliciously spread about & utter & pronounce & with a high
voice publish these false forged scandalous Malicious & opprobrious words following to and of him
the said Cope vizt. you (speaking to and of him the said Cope) are a hog & a leech & a son of a bitch
you & your wife & your children & your servants & your dogs & your chickens) when as in truth the said Cope no such wicked or base
Crime ever committed or perpetrated by reason of the spreading publishing and uttering of
which false infamous Malicious and scandalous words the said Cope not only in his good Name fame Credit
Estimation and Reputation is very much hurt and damaged but also is by the said Cope brought
brought into danger of forfeiting four fold suffering Corporal Punishment and the Loss
as the Law in such cases directs and sundry Sums of Money and to have for the bearing his dam-
age in that part is obliged to expend Whereupon the said Cope sheweth he is worse and hath
damaged to the value of fifty pounds Curr. money of this Government & thereupon he brings Suit
for the said Cope's damages & for the said Cope's damages & for the said Cope's damages & for the said Cope's damages
And the said Alexander Hall in his own proper person comes & defends the force & injury done
and prays Leave to Judge himself in the next Court & to have it & the same day is given to
the said Alexander Hall