

August Court --- 1727 --- 27

Qd. John Barker } Somersett Isaac Raggoon Late of Somerset County planter was
by Isaac Raggoon } attached to answer unto John Barker of a plea of trespass upon the

And whereupon the same sd. Geo. Clarke his attorney complains that whereas
as the same John is a good true and honest free Subject of our Lord the King that now is and
as a pious and honest Person of this Government from the time of his Nativity hath both
Behaved himself and of a good Name fame Gesture Condition and honest Conversation amongst
good honest and prudent men and women as well his Neighbours as other faithful Subjects of
of our said Lord the King now and his predecessors late King and Queens of the Realm of
great Britain was held called and known and without any Blot of blood or any the like
Fault or hurtful Crime or any suggestion there of unjustly and Unlawfully by the whole time of
hath Behaved and Covered himself by Protest whereas the said sd. Not Only the Love and
favour of all his Neighbours and other faithful Subjects of our Lord the King deservedly had
and obtained but also his person from punishment and all and singular his goods and Chattels free
and clear from all persecutions and forfeitures as the Law in such Cases Directly hath kept and
Preserved Nevertheless the sd. Isaac Raggoon being not ignorant of the promises of his own
Mere and wicked Malice fore thought Blatting and maliciously Intending the said John not only
in his good Name fame Credit Esteem and Reputation to hurt Detract Scandalize make
worse and altogether to blacken and ruin the said John into Evill opinion and Esteem as well
of all his Neighbours as other faithful Subjects of our Lord the King to Endure Credit
but also cause him the said John innocently to be brought in Danger of suffering by such
punishment by whipping and Lashing and paying four shillings as the Law in such Cases Directly
at all hours Barrish in Somersett County and within the Jurisdiction of this Court on the
tenth Day of May Anno Domini one thousand Seven hundred and twenty Six these
false Scurrilous Scandalous and malicious words and Lies in the presence and hearing of
Several the good People of the County and with an Audible Voice did utter pronounce
and utter John Barker (speaking of and meaning the sd. John) is a rogue and a thief
for he (the said sd. meaning) stole his Mares (the said Isaac Raggoon mens meaning)
and he the said Isaac meaning would Prove it by Protest of speaking such false
and Scandalous words and Lies the said John is not Only in his good Name fame Credit
and Reputation which before was Innocent is grievously hurt by but also the same
John Divers Sums of Money and tolls in and about the promises of hath expended
and laid out to clear his Innocency whereupon the same John says he is
worse