

County to converse and also divers felonys trespasses and other Malefactions in the same County committed to hear and determine assigned by the oath of W^m Holland and twelve others being presented that Richard Nichols late of Steyne parish in the County aforesaid the second day of March Anno Domini Seventeen hundred thirty and six at the parish aforesaid in the County aforesaid within the Jurisdiction of this Court did commit fornication with a certain Eliz^a Ellingworth and of her body then and there had carnal knowledge and abated a Child on the body of her the same Eliz^a then and there did beget to the High displeasure of almighty ^{god} to the evil Example of all others in such case offending contrary to the peace of the said Lord Proprietary that now is his good rule and Government and against the sense of the act of assembly in such case lately made and provided &c. Thereupon Command was given to the Sheriff of Somerset County that he should take the said Richard Nichols if he should be found in his bailiwick and him should safe keep so that he might have his body before the Justices of His Lordships County Court of Somerset to be held at dividing Creek in the same County the third Tuesday of Aug^r Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and thirty seven to answer unto his said Lordships of the fornication aforesaid whereof she was indicted &c.

And afterwards to witt the third Tuesday of August Anno Domini One thousand seven hundred and thirty seven that same term before his Lordships Justices at dividing Creek aforesaid the said Richard Nichols in his proper person and had a hearing of the Indictment aforesaid and saith that he cannot deny but that he is guilty of the premises aforesaid in the Indictment specified in manner and form as by the Indictment aforesaid above against him supposed, and the premises aforesaid in the Indictment aforesaid Expressly acknowledged and is willing to pay his fine for the fault aforesaid whosoever all and singular the premises by the Court here being seen and fully understood It is considered that the aforesaid Richard Nichols pay unto his Lordship the Lord Proprietary for his fine by the Court hereupon him imposed for and by reason of the premises aforesaid whosoever in full aforesaid is counted thirty Shillings Curr^t money of Maryland to the use of the County aforesaid and that the said Richard Nichols be taken to satisfy his Lordship of the fine aforesaid also it is ordered by the Court here that the said Richard Nichols give security to save and keep indemnified the Justices of Somerset County and their Assessors from all Costs Charges and Burthens that might arise by means of the birth of the Child aforesaid