

August Court ... 1737 ..... 99

in the same County to prosecute and also divers felonies, treasons and other malfeasances in the same County committed to hear and determine asigned by the oath of William Holland and twelve others being present  
That Margaret Beal late of Gentry parish in the County aforesaid spinster the last day of May anno  
Domini seventeen hundred thirty and several the parish aforesaid in the County aforesaid and within the jurisdiction of this Court did commit fornication with a certain person to the knowledg aforesaid un-  
known and did permit the same unknown person then and there to have carnal knowledge  
of her body and to beget then and there a bastards child on the body of her the same Margaret  
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 form 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 Margaret Beal if she should be found in-  
his baileywick and her should safe keep so that he might have her 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 August And done thousand seven hundred and thirty seven to answr  
unto his said Lordships of the fornication aforesaid whereof she was Indicted &c —

And afterwards to wit the said Third Tuesday of August one thousand Seven hundred and Thirty  
Seven that same term before his Lordships Justices at Dividing Creek aforesaid came the said Margaret Beal  
in her proper person and had al hearing of the Indictment aforesaid and said that she cannot de-  
ny but that she is guilty of the premises and in the Indictment Specified in manner and form  
as by the Indictment aforesaid above against her supposed and the premises aforesaid in the Indictment  
affred Expressly acknowledged and makes oath that a certain John Wooford is the begeller  
of the Child she stands Indited for and is willing to pay her fine for his fault aforesaid &c —

Whereupon and singular the premises by the Court here being seen and fully under-  
stood It is considered that the said Margaret Beal pay unto his Lordship the Lord Propri-  
etary for her fine by the court laid upon her imposed for and by reason of the premises aforesaid  
whereof in sum aforesaid is convicted thirty Shillings curr. Money of Maryland (to the use of  
the Colony aforesaid) And that the said Margaret Beal be taken to satisfy his said Lordship of the  
fine aforesaid Whereupon the said Margaret Beal is ordered to give good security to save  
and keep Indemnified the Justices of Somerset County and their Successors from all Costs  
Charges and Burthens that might accrue by means of the birth of the Child aforesaid &c

Thereupon the said Margaret Beal with John Webb & John Melton for Security of the County aforesaid