

August Court. 1741. 145

Act of Assembly in such Case made and provided and that she have an Order on Capt. John Randy High Sheriff of Somerset County for
the same &c.

Somerset Co. Memorandum: That at a Session of the peace of his Lordship the Right Honourable the Lord
His Lordship Proprietary of the province of Maryland held at Dividing Creek in Somerset County the third Tuesday of June -
Sarah Mears. To wit the sixteenth day of the same month Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and forty one before his said
Lordships Justices the peace in the County aforesaid kept by the oath of twelve Jurors being presented that
Sarah Mears late of Stepney parish in the said County of Somerset spinster the twenty eighth day of August in the year of our Lord one
thousand seven hundred and forty at the parish aforesaid in the County aforesaid within the Jurisdiction of this Court did commit fornication with a certain
person unknown and did permit the said unknown person of her body then and there carnal knowledge to have and a bastard Child on the
body of her the same Sarah Mears then and there to bring to the high displeasure of Almighty God to the evil example of all others in such
case offending Contrary to the peace of the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary that now is in his good rule and Government and against
the form of the Act of Assembly in such case lately made and provided &c.

Thereupon it was commanded the Sheriff of the County aforesaid that he should take the said Sarah Mears 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 the third Tuesday of August one thousand seven hundred and forty one to answer unto his said Lordship of the
Indictment aforesaid.

And now to witt at a Court held for the County aforesaid the third Tuesday of August being the eighteenth day of the
same month Anno Domini One thousand Seven hundred and forty One before his said Lordships Justices at Dividing Creek came the aforesaid
Sarah Mears in her proper person and had a hearing of the Indictment aforesaid and saith that she cannot deny but that she is guilty
of the premises aforesaid in the Indictment aforesaid Specified in manner and form as by the Indictment aforesaid above against her supposed
and the premises aforesaid in the Indictment aforesaid Expressly acknowledgeth and maketh Oath that Absalom Hobbs is the begetter
of the Child she stands Indicted for and is willing to pay her fine for the said aforesaid.

Whereupon all and Singular the premises being seen and by the Court fully understood It is
considered by the Court here that the aforesaid Sarah Mears pay unto his said Lordship the Right Honourable Charles
absolute Lord and Proprietary of the province of Maryland for herself by the Court here upon her Imposed for and by
Occasion of the premises aforesaid whereof in sum aforesaid she is bound Thirty shillings Current money of Maryland and that the said Sarah
Mears be taken to Satisfie his said Lordship of the fine aforesaid.

Whereupon the said Sarah Mears is Ordered to give good security for the payment of all fee or fees due
on the Indictment aforesaid to any person or persons what soever - Thereupon a certain Joseph Standford of Somerset County planter
present here in Court undertook for the said Sarah Mears to pay all fee or fees due to any person or persons whatsoever on the Indictment
aforesaid in case the said Sarah Mears doth not pay the same &c.

Thereupon the said Sarah Mears is Ordered to give security for her appearance at the next Court to be held
at Dividing Creek in and for the County aforesaid the third Tuesday of November then next following to give evidence on behalfe of his
said Lordship against the said Absalom Hobbs to the grand Jury &c.

Whereupon came herein to Court the aforesaid Joseph Standford in his proper person and undertook for the
said