

clear of any breach of the peace either of the said King or the Right Honorable the Lord Proprietary of this province Nevertheless
 the said Peter and Shadrach not ignorant of the premises but plotting and maliciously intending the said Ruth of her good
 name to deprive and to cause here to undergoe and suffer imprisonment of her body and make fine to the said Lord Proprietary
 on the Eighteenth day of November Anno Domini MDCCLXII at the County of . . . before the worshipfull Robert King and his
 Associates the Right Honourable the Lord Proprietary of this provinces Justices the peace for the said County to keep assigned
 without any probable cause did falsely and maliciously cause a certain bill of Indictment to be written against the said Ruth
 containing this false and scandalous matter following viz: Somerset County: The Jurors for the Right Honorable the
 Lord Proprietary that now is for the body of Somerset County of . . . upon their Oath doe present that Ruth Willet wife of
 Ambrose Willet late of Allhallowes parish in the said County of Somerset planter on the fifteenth day of November in the year
 of our Lord God Seventeen hundred and forty with force and arms &c at the parish of . . . in the County of . . . within the Jurisdic-
 tion of this Court in and upon a certain Peter Claywell Junr. then Constable of Mattapani hundred being in the peace of
 God and the said Lord Proprietary that now is then and there being in the Execution of his said office an assault did make
 and him the said Peter Claywell Junr. then and there did beat wound and Evilly treat so that of his life it was greatly
 dispaired and other harms to the said Peter then and there did to the grievous damage of him the said Peter and contrary
 to the peace of the Right honorable the Lord Proprietary that now is his good rule and Government Robert Jenckins
 Henry and the said Bill of Indictment in form as written afterwards to wit the day and year as at the County of . . . to
 the said Justices did cause to be delivered which bill of Indictment the said Justices of the said Peter and Shadrach
 receive and the same thereupon to the Jurors of the Grand Inquest for the said County of Somerset on the holy Evange-
 list of Almighty God then and there charged and sworn then and there did deliver to enquire and the truth concerning
 the matter in the said bill contained to present whereupon the said Peter and Shadrach afterwards to wit on the day and year
 as at the County of . . . at the Court and before the Justices of . . . then and there to the Jurors of the said Grand Inquest on
 their Oath severally in Evidence did give that the said false and scandalous matter in the said bill contained was true whereas
 in that truth the matter in the said bill contained was false feigned and scandalous as to the Jurors of . . . then fully appeared
 and for that reason the Jurors of . . . after the Evidence as to them given then and there did give their answer of and concerning
 the bill as that the same Jurors of the matter as in the said bill of Indictment specified and contained were ignorant
 of which premises the said Ruth is not only hurt in her good name but also the said Ambrose and Ruth sundry sums of money and
 tobacco for their Justification of the said Ruth by means of the premises were forced to Expaird whereupon the said Ambrose and
 Ruth say they are dammified ten pounds Currant money of Maryland and thereof they bring Suit &c. Pledg: &c. J. Doe vs. R. Roe
 And the said Peter and Shadrach Claywell by William Arbuckle their Attorney come and defend the force and Injury
 when &c and pray leave thereof to Impairle here untill next Court to be held at dividing Creek in and for the County of . . . the third
 Tuesday