

November 3. 1788.

The State of Maryland, To the Sheriff of  
Frederick County Greeting  
Smallwood

Whereas Negro Paris the  
Slave of Col: James Johnson Company  
of the County aforesaid at a Family Court begun and held at  
Frederick Town in and for said County on the third Tuesday  
and twenty first Day of March in the year Seventeen hundred  
and eighty six, was sentenced and adjudged to be crost, for  
opposing William Thomas of William in the execution of his  
Office as Constable, against the peace &c. and contrary  
to the Act of Assembly in that case made and provided,  
which Execution of the Judgment aforesaid on Motion hath  
been suspended and a recognizance entered into by the  
aforesaid Col: James Johnson for the appearance of the  
said Negro Paris which hath been respited from Court  
to Court until November Court 1788 And Whereas the  
Justices of the said Court have represented that they are of  
Opinion that under the Circumstances of the Case, altho' the  
Negro was not blameless, the punishment would be excessive  
-ly severe and the Court would make a discretionary power  
have awarded a much lighter punishment - I have  
thought it proper, and do hereby pardon the said Negro  
Paris and do order and direct that he shall not suffer any  
Corporeal or other punishment therefor but that he shall stand  
and be in the same plight and condition to all Intents and  
purposes as if the Crime whereof he the said Negro Paris hath been  
convict had never been done or committed Given under the Seal  
of the State of Maryland this third Day of November in the year of our Lord