

proper to pardon the said Negro Phill for the offence
aforesaid and do hereby order and Direct that he be
forthwith discharged from the service to which he hath been
adjudged, given under my hand and the seal of the
State of Maryland at the city of Annapolis this
Twenty eighth day of July Nineteen hundred and Ninety
Seven
Attest
Ninian Pinkney Clk.

Annapolis August 17th 1897

Whereas it is represented to me by a number of respectable
citizens of Harford County that on the Twenty ninth of
July an attempt was made by a certain William Townsley upon
the life of a certain John Libb his father in Law, that the said
Libb in defence of his life, so endangered was reluctantly obliged
to have recourse to his Musquet, and aiming the ^{same} at the said
Townsley who was in the act of rushing upon him with a
large Club and swearing he would take his life, that the said
Townsley in the groin, of which wound the said Townsley
expired, - It is also represented that the said John Libb
has always heretofore supported the Character of a peaceable
honest harmless and well disposed Citizen, that he is now
arrived at the advanced age of seventy seven years and
upwards and for the space of the last thirty years past
(during which he has been in the County) has been univers-
ally respected in the neighbourhood wherein he has resided
that the said William Townsley on the contrary has been
man of an exceptionable Character and very troublesome
to the neighbourhood, but more particularly so to his father
in Law and family, that ^{by} the Judgement of the Court of Bal-
timore County he was heretofore sentenced to work upon the
Public Roads (as appears by the record thereof produced)
and was there at hard labour until he escaped therefrom
within Eighteen months past, that he has been so evilly
disposed that he has frequently threatened the life of the