

Charles County were on the night of the first Instant
consumed by fire, and some Malicious persons are
supposed to have wilfully set fire to the same, and
Whereas it is of the greatest importance to society that
the perpetrator or perpetrators of such a Crime should
be discovered and brought to Justice, I have therefore
thought proper by and in pursuance of the powers vested
in me, to promise full and free pardon to any person,
being an accomplice in the Commission of the said Crime,
who shall discover the perpetrator or perpetrators thereof,
so that he she or they or any of them, be convicted thereof,
Given under my hand and the seal of the state of Mary-
land at the City of Annapolis this thirtieth day of
December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven
hundred and ninety seven

By the Governor J^{no} Henry
Marian Pinkney Secretary

City of Annapolis March 10th 1798

The State of Maryland to the Sheriff of Washington
County Greeting Whereas Benjamin
Gibbs State of Washington County hath
been indicted arraigned and found guilty
of horse stealing and by the Justices of Washington County
Court judicially sitting at Elizabeth Town in the County
aforesaid, the first Monday in January seventeen hundred
and ninety eight, was sentenced to be hanged by the neck
untill he be dead, Now know ye that I have thought
proper by and in pursuance of the powers vested in me
by Law to commute and change the said Sentence of
Death against the said Benjamin Gibbs, into labour
on the Public Roads of Baltimore County, or in making
repairing and cleaning the Streets or Basin of Baltimore
Town, and do hereby order and direct that instead of
the said Benjamin Gibbs suffering death as aforesaid
that he shall labour on the Public Roads of Baltimore
County or in making repairing and cleaning the