

The State of Maryland to all our Bailiffs and good people to whom these presents shall come greeting whereas Joseph James Harris Gaule was arraigned indicted and found guilty of murder and by the Judge of Talbot County Court on the fourth Monday of May eighteen Hundred and nine was sentenced to be hanged - and whereas the said sentence was commuted by his Excellency Edward Lloyd on the ninth day of July eighteen Hundred and nine to fifteen years labour on the Public Roads of Baltimore County &c. and whereas seven of the Judges of the Levy Court of the said County & the supervisor, overseer and guards of the said roads have stated to me that the behaviour and conduct of said Gaule has been penitent submissive and exemplary so much so much so as to merit and receive the approbation of all who visited him - and have together with a number of respectable persons recommended him to the clemency of Government - I have therefore thought proper to pardon the said Joseph James Harris Gaule for the offence aforesaid and do hereby order and direct that he be released from the punishment to which he hath been adjudged given under my hand and the seal of the State of Maryland this eighteenth day June eighteen Hundred and twelve

By the Governor  
Minian Pinkney  
Clerk of the Council

Robert Bowie

The State of Maryland to wit whereas Joseph Christ of Frederick County about eleven or twelve years of age has been charged with killing a negro boy named Dennis and whereas it has been represented to me by the Coroner, fourteen of the Jury of Inquest and a number of respectable persons inhabitants of Frederick County that on Sunday the Twenty first day of June Instant the said Negro Boy eleven or twelve years of age went to the farm of a Mr Valentine Christ a respectable and worthy Farmer of the said County for the purpose of getting cherries and for no other purpose unless also to play and amuse himself with the children that after being there some short time he offered to walk with the said Joseph Christ (son of the said Valentine) also about eleven or twelve years of age - that the said Joseph refused under a belief proceeding from the simplicity of his tender years, that he would be thrown, because a Negro Boy standing by said he had something in his Pocket, which he would rub on the said Joseph and thereby so