

A Court held at Ditto place y^e 8th Day of March Anno 1678.

Pr. sent,

The Cancellor
The Secy
Ed. Brook.
Colt Parr.

Th. hon.

William Poyson und. custody of M^r. John Hawks and Thomas Smith und.
y^e Custody of y^e Sheriff of S^t. Maries made their appearance, as also
Anthony Evans according to Summons directed to John Burdett h^e being
likewis^e present.

Anthony Evans first Examined what he had to say in y^e promises upon
Oath Did Declare.

That On: Day at S^t. Johns in y^e Hall of that house Thomas Smith,
himself and some others being in Company they were talking of News -
that he heard y^e said Smith say that M^r. Rouby had grossly abused
his L^{ty}: calling him Runaway or words to that effect and that he
discovered to be sent home Fast, or in Chains, that upon those words his
L^{ty}: asked M^r. Rouby what was y^e reason he had for abusing him,
that M^r. Rouby thereupon rapt out a great Oath and Swore that what
he said was true that he had from M^r. Kings hand and said for it
and that his Ladyship ~~was~~ upon this Discourse fell a crying.

John Burdett then sworn saith that in y^e Hall of Henry Exons house at S^t.
Johns he heard Thomas Smith say, that his L^{ty}: and M^r. Rouby had
late in discourse had extraordinary high words, that M^r. Rouby called
his L^{ty}: Traytor and told him he might expect to hear more of it or
words to that effect.

William Poyson next Examined what he knew in the promises positively
Denys that he ever heard any thing of that nature, and nothing being
alleged ag^t: him he is Dismissed.

Thomas Smith then called and Examined what he had the Intelligence
upon Oath Declared as followeth

That on Friday night to y^e 6th of his Remembrance after he came with
his Sloop from y^e Govern^{rs} house he was lying in y^e Cabin of his S^t. Sloop
and another Sloop of Henry Exons was lying by w^{ch} had also been at
y^e Govern^{rs} house for wine. In w^{ch} Sloop was On: Arthur Hart who
went home in the night, and about break a Day came aboard his
y^e said Smiths Sloop bringing with him his Mate on: Thomas Price
that y^e said Arthur Hart went aboard J^r. Exons Sloop to Draw a
bottle of wine and returned again when falling into Discourse with
y^e J^r. Price he the said Smith (still lying in his Cabin) heard him say
that M^r. Rouby had called y^e J^r. Proply Runaway w^{ch} if a poor man
had done he would certainly have been laid Neck and heels, but M^r.
Rouby was not afraid to tell him so, whereupon he the said Smith hearing
those words rose out of his Cabin and told him it could not be that he
did not believe any such thing. To w^{ch} y^e said Hart replied it was
true that they heard it credibly reported at a Christening or a Funerall
(whether he y^e J^r. Smith cannot now certainly remember) And that the J^r.
Price immediately stood up and said Yes it was true enough, And that