

Ordered by his Excellency the Governor that the present General Assembly of this Province which stands Prorogued to Tuesday the 24. day of this Instant March, be further Prorogued until Tuesday the 17. day of May next and Proclamations issued accordingly -

At a Council held in the Council Chamber on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April in the eighteenth year of his Lordships Dominion Anno Domini 1769 -  
Present.

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Governor.

The Honble { Daniel Dulany Esq.  
John Ridout Esq.

Walter Dulany Esq.  
George Stuart Esq.

Read the Transcript of the Conviction of Negro Ben, late of Talbot County, the Slave of a certain Rachel Harrison of said County, condemned, at the last March Court held in and for the said County, and also Read the following Representation of the Justices and Jurors in favour of the said Negro Ben. -

To His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Governor of Maryland. -

We the Justices of Talbot County beg leave to acquaint Your Excellency that Sentence of Death hath this March Court been passed upon Negro Ben, a Slave belonging to Rachel Harrison for assaulting with Intent to Ravish Eve Shanahan. - As the Evidence upon which his Conviction was founded had such uncertainty in it, that it was neither clear the said Ben was the Felon, (the attempt having been made in the Night, and in an House without Light, where Objects could not well be discovered, nor if he was the Person <sup>that</sup> his Intention was to Ravish - We take the Liberty to recommend him as a proper Object of Your Excellency's Pardon. -

J. Goldsborough Jon<sup>r</sup>. Nicols  
R. Goldsborough W<sup>m</sup>. Martin  
Ja<sup>s</sup>. Dickinson

To His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq. Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the Province of Maryland -  
We the Subscribers, being the Jurors that passed upon the Trial of Negro Ben, Slave of Rachel Harrison of Talbot County, for committing an Assault on the Body of Eve Shanahan, with design to Commit a Rape upon the Body of the said Eve, and we being very desirous that your Excellency would extend Your Mercy to the said Ben, do beg leave to recommend him to Your Excellency as apprehending that the Law in that Case is extremely severe, and being satisfied that the attempt made upon the Woman brings him within the Description of that Act, yet notwithstanding, as the Fellow before bore a good Character, the Attempt but small, and the Evidence not so clear as we could wish, we hope your Excellency will grant Pardon to the said Ben - And Your Petitioners will pray -  
March 13. 1769.

Daniel Shunwoods<sup>r</sup>. John Stevens Henry Banning  
Sam<sup>l</sup>. Dickinson N. Goldsborough G. Bannson  
John Thomas Thomas Harrison Isaac Palmer  
Edw. Kiddle Joseph Bowley Joseph Harrison

Ordered by his Excellency the Governor, with the Advice of this Board, that a Pardon issue for the above mentioned Negro Ben, which issued accordingly -

Read the Transcripts of the Conviction of Negro George, the Slave of Thomas Singam of Baltimore County and Negro Sam, the Slave of the Rev. Hugh Dean of said County, condemned, at the last March Court held in Baltimore County for breaking open and Robbing the Meat House of a certain, Jacob Davis of Baltimore County aforesaid. -

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor, with the Advice of this Board, that Pardons Issue for the aforementioned Negroes George and Sam, which were Issued accordingly -