

This is a very honest well meaning Woman and this Deponent further saith that she told him her son was a very profligate Idle Body and this Deponent further saith that Doncastle came to his House after he was released from Jail and abused the Squires Family in a very gross manner at the same time he agreed with one of the Deponents sons to carry him to Bryan Town the next day after he was at his House notwithstanding his Abuse of Squire Lees Family M^r Robert Young a Merchant at Benedict told the Deponent that he saw Doncastle a few days after he was at my House and that he extolled Squire Lee very much at which he was very much surprized for he M^r Young was very well acquainted with Doncastle and that he had before always heard him exclaim against all Mankind but he did not think it worth any Gentlemans while to mind his Abuse. This Deponent further saith that Doncastle complained very much that the Pork stunk and was not fit to eat and the Deponent says he was at Squire Lees twice and M^r Lee desired him to inspect the Pork that was for the Prisoners Dinners and he says he cut very Deep into the Pork and it was as Sweet as ever he tasted in his Life and the Deponent says that when Squire Lee went to attend the Council he went with him as far as Allens Irish and Squire told him he would take it as a favour if M^r Lee should want fresh Provisions for the Prisoners that he would procure it for them and not let them want for anything during his Absence. Before the Squire came home Madam Lee told the said Branson she was almost out of Provisions for the Prisoners and he went immediately and brought a large Palled Beef for them which cost the Squire 22/6 of Hund M^r Lee. And further saith not.

Benjamin B Branson
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Charles County Jth 25th day of April 1770 The above Deposition was taken before me one of his Lordships Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid -

Jth Winter.

Charles County April 25th 1770. The Deposition of Joseph Waters Aged thirty one or thereabouts being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God Deposeth and Saith that on the fourteenth day of March One Thousand seven hundred and sixty Nine he was committed to Hoop to Richard Lee Jun^r Sheriff on several Ticks and continued there till the twelfth day of November following, when this Deponent just came to Hoop John Doncastle told him he should be starved alive and that this Deponent had better break the Hoop and go out Doncastle William Wright and Ignatius Green said they had been fed one great Hammony and Fish for several days This Deponent was very much surprized at it and after some Consideration asked M^r Joseph Harrison if that was the Truth he said there had been some Alteration made a few days this Deponent asked him the Reason and he said the Prisoners had used the Sheriff extremely Ill in striving to break out of the Hoop wherein there was one Liminal and several Runaways and Debtors, Harrison and all the Debtors told this Deponent they had been used extremely well from their first coming to the Hoop untill they attempted to break out, and Harrison said he and Doncastle told the Sheriff they knew nothing of their breaking out and there had been no alteration with them Harrison and all the Prisoners told this Deponent that they never dined with less than three or four Dishes of good roast and boiled Meat besides Pudding and other rarities from their first coming to the Hoop till they strove to break out this Deponent for five or six days when he first came to Hoop was fed on good Scotch Hering and great Hammony and heard by Lees House keeper say that M^r Lee was very sorry that he could not use the Prisoners better that came in less as well as he could wish for they were not in fault, from that till I was discharged from Hoop the Prisoners was fed on good Bacon and Pork and good Beef and Greens or good Peas Soup, good fresh Rock Fish Boiled and Butter or Fryed and often fresh Lamb, the Prisoners had frequently Lyder twice a Week a large Bucketh full at a time till late in the Summer.

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