

23 of July 1770.

Ordered by his Excellency the Governor that a pardon issue for Negro James (the Slave of a certain Benjamin Tidwicks of Calvert County) which issued accordingly.

At a Council held at the Governors on Saturday the Eighteenth day of August in the Twentieth Year of his Lordships Dominion. Anno Domini 1770. -

Here Present

His Excellency Robert Eden Esq. Governor

The Honble } John Ridout Esq.
 } Walter Dulany Esq.

George Stewart Esq.

Read the Transcripts of the Convictions of Negroes David, Jacob and Nacey Condemned at the last County Court held in and for Ann Arundel County. -

Whereupon it was Ordered by his Excellency the Governor with the Advice of this Board that Pardons issue for the abovementioned Negroes Jacob and Nacey, and also that a Pardon issue for Negro David on Condition of his leaving the Province within Ten Days from the Date thereof and never to return again, which said Pardons were issued accordingly. -

Read the Transcript of the Conviction of Negro Dick, the Slave of a certain Knighton Simmons Condemned at the last Ann Arundel County Court for feloniously Breaking and Entering the Meat House of Marmaduke Mywill and Stealing from thence One hundred Pounds Weight of Bacon. - On Consideration whereof it was Ordered that a Pardon issue in behalf of the aforesaid Negro Dick, which issued accordingly. -

His Excellency was pleased to lay before this Board the following Letter which he had received from Thomas Jennings Esq. his Lordships Attorney General. -

Annapolis Aug. 2. 1770.

Sir
In Pursuance of the Commission and Instructions which I had the Honor to receive from your Excellency, I embarked for the City of Williamsburgh where I arrived the 26th of last Month and immediately waited on Lord Botetourt to whom I delivered your Excellency's Letter and acquainted him with the Nature of the Commission with which I was intrusted. His Lordship received me with great Politeness, and expressed his unwillingness to embroil the two Provinces in a Contest concerning their respective Jurisdictions and was pleased to assure me that your Excellency's Opinion of his Sentiments in this particular communicated in your Letter to him was entirely conformable to the Principles he entertained, and added that he looked on it to be an indispensable Duty of the Supreme Magistrate in every Government to preserve inviolate the Rights of the Rights of the different Colonies. His Lordship further observed that the Business with which I was commissioned did not properly fall within his Department but from the Information he had received on this Subject he apprehended the Vessels were illegally Seized and that no Suit would be instituted for their Condemnation. -

In order to obtain a further Knowledge whether any Libel was filed or Process issued in consequence of the Seizures I applied to the Judge of the Court of Admiralty who informed me it was the Opinion of his Majesty's Advocate that the Proceedings in this Instance were unjustifiable and therefore he imagined nothing further would be done in prosecution of the Affair. -

As I had not an Opportunity of receiving any certain Information at Williamsburgh relative to the Date of these Vessels the commanding Officer of the Boston Frigate not being there, I thought it expedient to visit him on Board that I might be acquainted with the Measures he intended to pursue in Justification of his Conduct; Sir Thomas Adams was then upon