

The following Proclamation issued and ordered to be published six weeks in the Annapolis paper

By his Excellency John Eager Howard Esquire  
Governor of Maryland

A Proclamation

Whereas by the Deposition of Rezin Hammond Esquire of Ann Arundel County, it appears, that on the morning of the 25<sup>th</sup> April last, Elijah Gaither son of Edward, came to the Dwelling of the said Hammond and fired at him two pistols and a Gun, with intention as the said Hammond believes to kill him - And Whereas by the Deposition of John G Hamilton of Montgomery County it appears, that the said Gaither afterwards in conversation with him acknowledged the facts set forth in the Deposition abovementioned except the firing of the Gun, and declared that he did discharge the said Pistols with a design to kill the said Hammond, and did then further declare that it was still his settled determination to kill the said Hammond whenever an opportunity should offer - And Whereas it is obviously the duty of the Executive to guard as much as may be against the Commission of such enormities, and to bring such offenders against the Law and peace of Society, to Justice - I have therefore thought proper by and with the advice of the Council to issue this my Proclamation authorizing and enjoining all Sheriffs and other Officers of the Peace to apprehend and convey before some one of the Judges or Justices within this State the said Elijah Gaither in order that he may be dealt with according to Law, and I do hereby exhort and require the good People of this State to be aiding and assisting the said Officers in the execution of their Duty -

Given at Annapolis under the Seal of the State of Maryland this seventh Day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety one

By his Excellency's Command

D. Wilson Secy

J E Howard

God save the State

The Council adjourned till tomorrow morning