

Friday September the 21 1810

The Council met. Present The Honourable Reverdy G. Swelvin Thomas W. Hall and Lewis Duvall

By the Petition of John Welch. John Welch of John and Nicholas Welch of Anne Arundel County accompanied by a Transcript from the Proceedings of the Court of the said County it appears that in September eighteen hundred and eight the said John Welch, John Welch of John and Nicholas Welch entered into Recognizances to appear at Anne Arundel County Court at April Term eighteen hundred and nine to answer for an Assault and Battery alleged to have been committed by them the said John Welch of John and Nicholas Welch on the bodies of a certain Dennis Dorsey and Lyde Guffith. The Petitioners state that they did attend the said Court agreeable to their Recognizances but the Cases not being ready for trial the Recognizances were respited and the Petitioners discharged by their Counsel and they understood from them until April Term eighteen hundred and ten - that they being utterly unacquainted with Courts of Justice it being the first time that they or either of them were ever in a Court of Justice on any account whatever they more readily made this mistake, and it was with astonishment they learnt by a letter received from their Counsel at Annapolis in the second Week of the Court at September Term eighteen hundred and nine that their Recognizances had been called and forfeited - that they instantly set out for Court but on their way to Annapolis were informed by persons returning that the Court had that day worn. They then applied to their Counsel who directed them to come down to an adjourned Court to be held in December eighteen hundred and nine and that they would obtain from the Court a Remission of their forfeited Recognizances. That in pursuance of such advice they reached Annapolis at ten o'clock of the day of the meeting of the adjourned Court and hastened immediately to the Ball Room the place where they understood the Court always met where they wasted a full hour and a half when seeing neither Judges nor other persons collecting they were led to make some enquiry on the subject and were informed that the Court was held at the Clerk's office where they instantly repaired but on their arrival found that the Court had worn a few Minutes before. The Petitioners state that at April Court eighteen hundred and ten they attended Court eight days to stand their trial but in consequence of the absence of material testimony the Cases were postponed to September Term eighteen hundred and ten at which said Term they likewise attended. The Petitioners in consideration of which circumstances and from the recommendation of the Court of the said County do recommend the said forfeitures.

Reverdy G. Swelvin
Thomas W. Hall
Lewis Duvall

Monday September the 24 1810

The Council met. Present His Excellency the Governor and The Honourable Reverdy G. Swelvin James Butcher and Lewis Duvall.