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26. Jurors of the Jury afo. by the afo. Sheriff to this Impannelles namely Tobias Bell, Abraham Woodward, John Marlow, George Frazer, Maguider, Peter Beall, Thomas & a saway Watkins, Richard Isaac, Joseph Walker, Philip Berry, William Norton, Cleave Lantham, and Basil Beall being called who to say the truth of the Premises being elicited Tried, and Sworn, do say upon their Oath that Negro James is guilty of the Premises above in the Indictment Specified to him in form afo. imposed as by the same Indictment above against him it is Supposed. Whereupon it is demanded of the said Negro James if any thing for himself he hath or knoweth to say why the Court here of the Lord Proprietary to Judgment upon the Verdict afo. to proceed ought, who nothing further does say besides what before he had said. Whereupon all and singular the Premises by the Court here being seen and fully understood. It is considered by the same Court that the said Negro James be Carried to the Goal of the said Proprietary under the custody of the Sheriff before named, from whence he came, and from thence to be Carried to the place of Execution and there to be hanged by the neck until he be Dead, by the Court here adjudged according to the Act of Assembly in such Cases late made and Provided. And the Justices of the Court here Value the above said Negro to Fifty seven Pounds ten Shillings Current Money.

In Testimony whereof the aforesaid is a true Copy of the Proceedings, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Publick Seal of the County afo. this second day of September in the Year of Our Lord Christ One Thousand seven hundred and Sixty five

Joseph Simons Clerk of the Court

The following is the Representation of Edmund Key Esq. Atty. General relative the Convictions of the above Negroes.

At the last since, Georges County Court two Negro Men were Indicted for breaking an Out House and Stealing from thence a small Quantity of Bacon. The only Evidence to prove these two Men guilty was a Negro who as he said was an accomplice and stood by while they committed the fact and was from necessity made a Witness. On the Trial of one of the Negroes the Council (counsel) for him made an Objection to the Testimony under the Act of Assembly passed in 1751, folio 15, 16 and raised two Points upon which he prayed the Courts Opinion. First That by that Act of Assembly the Evidence of one Slave even when corroborated by pregnant Circumstances was not sufficient in a Capital Case and Argued not only from the Letter of the Law but also insisted that as the Credit of Slaves is totally taken away where Life or Member is at Stake, by an Act in the Body of Laws folio 189 that Credit could not be restored but by an express Law, and that the Act in 1751. is far from being so, and that where a Law is Doubtful the Construction ought certainly to be in favour of Life. Secondly that upon a Supposition that one Witness is sufficient when corroborated with pregnant Circumstances yet the Prisoner ought not to be convicted because there were no pregnant Circumstances independent of the Negroes Testimony except that the Masters of the House Mr. Howard testified that it was broke open in the very manner that the Negro Witness said it was broke open and a certain Quantity of Bacon stolen from thence. The Court divided upon both