

Tobacco hanging therein belonging to the said Joseph Smith did Wilfully maliciously wickedly and feloniously then and there set fire thereto whereby the said Tobacco House and Tobacco apt. therein then hanging there and there were totally burnt and consumed, and so the Jurors upon their Oath afo. do say that the afo. Negro Beck, the Tobacco House afo. and the Tobacco apt. therein then hanging on the Day and Year afo. at the County afo. in Manner and Form afo. Wilfully, maliciously, wickedly and feloniously did burn against the Place of the said Lord Proprietary that now is his Good Rule and Government and contrary to the form of the Act of Assembly in that case made and Provided.

Witnesses Mr. Charles Graham and Joseph Smith.

James Key Clerk of Indictments

On the back of the above Bill of Indictment was Endorsed

a true Bill. Alex. Somerswell Foreman.

Whereupon the afo. said Negro Beck being a Prisoner in the custody of the Sheriff of Calvert County is by him set to the Bar of this Court and being demanded how she would acquit herself of the Premises in the afo. Bill of Indictment upon her imposed. Says she is in no wise Guilty and for Trial thereof for Good or Evil puts herself upon God and the Country and James Key Clerk of Indictments who for his Lordship in his behalf. Prosecutes in like Manner says she is Guilty. Precept therefore is given to the Sheriff of Calvert County that Instantly he cause to be here twelve or by whom to Recognize her because as well for which said Precept the said Sheriff to wit Thomas Skinner Gent. now here at this day makes return that he has here ready Twelve namely John Gray, William Dore, Samuel Gray, Benjamin Sedwick Isaac Clark, Robert Ireland Francis Ireland, Rob. Lisk, James Sewell, Young Cox, Benjamin Duke and William Johnson Sons of Jere. who being duly elected tried and sworn to speak the truth in the Premises upon their Oath afo. say that the afo. Negro Beck is Guilty in Manner and Form as in the Indictment above is set forth. Whereupon the afo. Negro being demanded if any thing she had to say in Sentence of Death should not be passed upon her, says nothing Material. Therefore it is considered by the Justices here the 10th day of March 1766. That the said Negro Beck be carried to the Goal from whence she came and from thence carried to the place of Execution of Prisoners in the County afo. and there to be hanged by the Neck until she be Dead, and thereupon the Court here pursuant to the Act of Assembly in such Case made and Provided do Value the said Negro Beck to the sum of Fifty Pound Current Money of this Province of Maryland.

Calvert County Jcs. In Testimony of the Truth of the foregoing the Seal of the County Court afo. hereunto affixed the Tenth day of March Anno Domini 1766.

J. Ireland Clerk

Calvert County Jcs. By the Justices of said County Court March Session 1766. Sidentia Curias Ordered that with the Transcript of Conviction of Negro Beck above said to be sent to his Excellency the Governour be represented to him that she is a young Woman about nineteen Years old and that no Evidence appeared of her Guilt other than her voluntary Judicial Confession before the Magistrates by whom she was committed and that of the Facts being done.

J. Ireland Clerk

Signs of Order of Court

- Proceedings of the Court in the above Conviction See Lit. J. R. and W. 1st.
- Dead Warrant issued for the Ex. of said Negro