

Thomas Touch and William Holland Esquires from the Council enter the House and deliver Mr. Speaker the following Message

By his Excellency the Governor and Council in Assembly April 3^d 1707.

The House of Delegates is desired to direct the Committee lately appointed to inspect and peruse the Depositions herewith sent and to examine Major Wilson what he had heard William Stinson say and declare Signed by Order W. Bladen C. Secy. which being read the House concurs therewith and ordered the Committee go out as desired.

The Petition of some Gentlemen of Talbot County relating to their Court House and a Petition of Mr. George Harris referred to further Consideration John William Holland and James Sanders Esq; enter the House and deliver Mr. Speaker Henry Roberts's Petition which with the Indorsement thereon is ordered to be read and ordered.

To his Excellency the Governor and her Majesty's Honble Council and the House of Delegates of the Province of Maryland

The Petition of Henry Roberts Son of Andrew Roberts and Brother of John Roberts late of Ann Arundel County most humbly sheweth, That your Petitioner's said Father in his lifetime stood seized of a certain Tract of Land in this Province lying at the Head of Rhode River in Ann Arundel County containing 100 Acres which by his last Will and Testament he devised to the said John Roberts your Petitioner's Brother who intermarried with Eleanor one of the Daughters of Maroon Duvall but so it happened about a half Year after her Marriage she eloped from her said Husband and cohabited with one John Campbell of Baltimore County by whom after six Years Absence from her Husband she had a Son which she always declared John Campbell to be the Father of, as your Petitioner by very positive Proof can make appear and never returned to John Roberts her Husband.

That the said John Roberts afterwards purchased of the Lord Baltimore another Tract of Land called Roberts's House containing 1010 Acres lying on Back River in Baltimore County and soon after dyed mutual Reconciliation being had between him and his said Wife.

Now so it is, may it please your Honours since the Death of the said John Roberts the said Bastard Son of the said Campbell so begotten as aforesaid hath taken upon himself the Name of John Roberts tho' always before went by the Name of John Campbell and pretends to be the lawful Son and Heir of your Petitioner's said Brother intending thereby to defraud your Petitioner of the aforesaid two Tracts of Land who in Right and Conscience is and ought to be the Heir at Law of his said Brother. Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays your Honours that upon sufficient Proof made to such Committee or Persons as you shall think fit to appoint to take the same you will be favourably pleased to give Leave to bring in a Bill to declare the said Issue of the said Eleanor to be illegitimate.