

“ Justification, will be construed or thought Severity or Tasking. You may depend that it shall be my constant Study and Endeavour to take such Measures as will afford no Room for Reflections on my Conduct. And I most earnestly hope, that you will also proceed in such a Manner as will enable us all to justify ourselves before his Sacred Majesty, our most Gracious Sovereign, whose paternal Care we have so often and so sensibly of late experienced, and who expects and desires no more of us than what common Prudence, and the least Regard for our own Safety and Welfare should lead, nay, would compel us unasked to perform.
HOR^o. SHARPE.”

There was annexed to the foregoing Message the following Deposition, viz.

“ Prince-George’s County, ff.

“ **T**HE Deposition of Henry Darnall, Esq; taken this 29th Day of March, 1756, before me the Subscriber, one of his Lordship’s Justices of the Peace for Prince-George’s County aforesaid.
“ This Deponent, being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of ALMIGHTY GOD, declares, That some short Time after a Presentment had been made, by the Grand Jury of Prince-George’s County, against a certain Ruth Bevan or Ruth Blanford, the Wife of Charles Bevan Blanford, concerning some Goods, which, it was said, that she the said Ruth had taken up of Mr. Samuel Roundell, by Means of a counterfeited Letter, signed with the Name of Charles Bevan, Uncle to the aforesaid Charles Bevan Blanford, as it is said, a certain Thomas Sansbury, Father to the said Ruth, applied himself to this Deponent, then Attorney-General of the Province of Maryland, and after lamenting in very pathetic Terms the Misfortunes and Disgrace that such a Prosecution might bring upon his Family, intreated and much importuned this Deponent to put a Stop to the Proceedings against his said Daughter, saying, that he had heard it was in this Deponent’s Power so to do: That this Deponent assured the said Sansbury, that he wou’d or cou’d not stay the said Proceedings; but, that if he, said Sansbury, inclined so much to save the Credit of his said Daughter, he had best apply himself to Mr. Roundell, and in making him the said Roundell Satisfaction for the Goods his Daughter had been charged with taking, he the said Roundell might possibly consent, that no further Proceedings thereon might be had; and then, under the particular Circumstances of his and his Daughter’s Case, perhaps the Governor might be moved to extend his Mercy to her. Afterwards this Deponent, being in Company with the aforesaid Samuel Roundell, informed him the said Roundell, that the aforesaid Thomas Sansbury, the Father of the aforesaid Ruth, had applied to this Deponent, in the Manner as is herein before set forth; and this Deponent well remembers, that the said Samuel Roundell told this Deponent, That it was a Matter of great Indifference and no Consequence to him the said Samuel Roundell to make the Woman suffer, and that all that he the said Roundell desired or wanted, was, to be paid for his Goods. After this Conversation, or a Conversation to this Effect, had between the aforesaid Samuel Roundell and this Deponent, this Deponent not reflecting or even knowing what Religion the said Ruth was of, or what Religion the aforesaid Thomas Sansbury, her Father, profess’d, so little does this Deponent concern himself with the Religious Tenets of others, afterwards had the Honour to mention the Substance of the above Particulars to his Excellency the Governor, in mere Compassion for a distressed Family; and the Governor was pleased to order this Deponent to enter a Noli Prosequi in Favour of the said Ruth, but with this express Injunction, Not to enter the same till Mr. Roundell was paid for the Goods she had been charged with taking.
“ This Deponent further saith, That afterwards he informed the said Thomas Sansbury with the Orders he this Deponent had received, and told the said Sansbury, that he was not to hope or expect any Favour for his aforesaid Daughter, unless he the said Sansbury would satisfy and fully pay the aforesaid Samuel Roundell for the Goods aforesaid; and this Deponent afterwards seeing the said Mr. Roundell at the County Court, where the said Ruth was to have been Tried on the Presentment aforesaid, told him the said Samuel Roundell the Orders he this Deponent had received, as aforesaid, from his Excellency the Governor, and asked him the said Samuel Roundell if the said Thomas Sansbury had yet paid or satisfied him for the Goods aforesaid; and the said Roundell answered that He had not: Whereupon this Deponent replied, that unless the said Sansbury did satisfy him for the same, he this Deponent should proceed that Court to make an End of the Prosecution against the aforesaid Ruth, and wou’d bring her to her Trial, or Words to that Effect; but this Deponent further said, if the said Sansbury should then come and pay him the said Samuel Roundell, that he the said Roundell wou’d be pleased to inform him this Deponent thereof, that he this Deponent might, in that Case, put into Execution the Governor’s Orders of entering the Noli Prosequi aforesaid. And he this Deponent further saith, that within one or two Hours, or some short Time after, he the said Samuel Roundell came to this Deponent, and told him, That the aforesaid Thomas Sansbury had agreed to pay him for his Goods aforesaid, and, to the best of this Deponent’s Remembrance, requested this Deponent to go with them, the said Roundell
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