

my arrival at Fort Frederick repeated it to Captain Dagworthy, being then afraid to deny what I had declared on the Road, lest by recanting and contradicting myself, I should lessen my own Credit and be at least punished as an Impostor. this was my only Reason for falsyfying to Colonel Cresap and to your Excellency as often as I have been examined, but as I find I can no longer deceive you I solemnly declare that I never was at M<sup>r</sup> Neal's, or any other Mass House in my Life, that I was never in Company with M<sup>r</sup> Neale or Wheeler, and that every Word that I have heretofore told you concerning them, M<sup>c</sup>Donald, Diggs, Crayton & Burk was absolutely false. I have now given a true Account of myself and how I have spent my Life, and if your Excellency will make Enquiry, the several persons that I have lived and worked with will confirm what I have said, I never have taken up Arms against the English, or joined the french or Indians against them, I appeal to the Captives that were recovered at Kittaning for the Truth of what I have spoken concerning Kirking Pauley's manner of treating me, and if ever any of the English prisoners that are now at Fort du Quesne shall escape, I am satisfied they will certify that I was there used as I have related, and that I made my Escape in the manner I have mentioned. I am exceedingly sorry that I have so long imposed on your Excellency, I hope you will pardon me, and that I shall not be hanged for telling such a Story as I did when I was made to believe that I had no other Way to save my Life. Upon hearing the aforegoing Depositions, and the Recantation of William Marshall, it is the Opinion and Advice of this Board to his Excellency that the before mentioned Bennett Neale, Ignatius Wheeler, Ulick Burk, John Cretin, Thomas Burgen, Darby Tool, and James M<sup>c</sup>Donald be discharged, and being called in they were discharged accordingly: Lib. J. R.  
& U. S.  
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10<sup>th</sup> January 1757.. Ordered by his Excellency the Governour that proclamations issue to the Sheriffs of the several Counties, as follows.

Maryland ss. By his Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Governor and Commander in Chief in and  
over the province of Maryland.

#### A Proclamation

Whereas the present general Assembly of this province stands prorogued to the 31<sup>st</sup> Day of March next, And whereas his Majesty's Service requires their meeting before that time, I have therefore thought fit with the Advice of his Lordships Council of State to publish and declare, and I do