

MSS. Archives of Md. Black Book No. 4 Letter 81 Hall of Records

Every offer that is in His Power to Performe to his Creditors to no purpose Your Petitioner Prison Fees is Mounting Very high Which with the Expences he has been Obliged to be at, as long as he has any Thing of his Own to Subsist on, he not being used to Prison fees must is a small Time now Inevitably be his Ruin And Family Which Consists of a Wife and three Children Your Petitioner has been Informed That a Debt he Owes in The Loan office stopped his last Petition That Debt [is ?] Satisfy by Executing your Petitioners Land Your Petitioner is Willing [to] surrender up all his Estate Both Real and personal for the Ben[efit] of his Creditors And Humbly Pray your Excellency and Honours [will] take his Melancholy Condition into your Serious Consideration and Grant him Relief And Your Petitioner as in Duty bound Will Ever pray

Basil Beckwith

Frederick County March 20<sup>th</sup> 1759

We the Subscriber Justices of the peace for y<sup>e</sup> county afs.<sup>d</sup> do certify that Basil Beckwith your Petitioner has been for a considerable Time a Prisoner in the County Goal for Debt, and therefore Recommend him as an Object of Charity.

Tho Beatty  
Jos. Wood  
Jos. Smith

Pet<sup>r</sup> Bainbridge  
David Lynn  
Mos: Chapline

I hereby Certifie that Th.<sup>o</sup> Beatty Jos Wood Jos Smith Pet Bainbridge David Lynn and Mos Chapline Subscribers to the within Petition were at the time of Signing and still are of his Lordships the Right Honourable Proprietarys Justices of the Peace for Frederick County In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed the Public Seal of said County this Twenty-eighth day of March Anno 1759

John Darnall Clk  
Fred Coty

JOHN METCALFE

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To His Excellancy Horatio Sharpe Esq.<sup>r</sup> Governor of Maryland And to the Honourable the upper and Lower Houses of Assembly the Humble Petition of John Metcalfe Humbly Sheweth—

That your Petitioner is and has been a long time a Languishing Prisoner In the Custody of the Sheriff of Frederick County for Divers Sums of Money and tobacco—which by Reason of Great