

The State of Maryland to all our Bailiffs and good People to whom these Presents shall come greeting. Whereas Negro Bob Slave of Stephen Collins hath been arraigned and found guilty of Murder and by the justices of Somerset County Court judicially sitting at Princeps Anna in and for the said County, on the second Monday in April last being the Eleventh day of the same Month in the year of our Lord one Thousand eight Hundred and Eight was sentenced to be hanged by the Neck until he be dead. And when the said Negro Bob was to be executed on the thirteenth Instant by virtue of my warrant dated the Twenty seventh Ultimo - and whereas it has been ~~very~~ ^{reputably} represented to me that the said negro Bob is little better than an Idiot - and whereas a great number of the citizens of Somerset County have petitioned for a commutation of the said sentence to labour on the Public Roads of Baltimore County and so forth. Now know ye that I have thought proper by and in pursuance of the power invested in me by law to commute and change the said sentence of death against the said Negro Bob into labour on the public Roads of Baltimore County or in making repairing and cleaning the Streets or Basin of Baltimore Town, and do hereby order and direct that instead of the said Negro Bob suffering death as aforesaid, that he shall labour on the Public Roads of Baltimore County or in cleaning making and repairing the streets or Basin of Baltimore Town for and during the term of fourteen Years to be computed from the date hereof: and I do hereby by these Presents revoke and annul my said warrant of execution of the Twenty seventh day of April last. Given under my hand and the Seal of the State of Maryland this twelfth day of May in the year of our Lord one Thousand eight Hundred and Eight.

By the Governor
Ninian Pinkney
Clerk of the Council

Robert Wright.