"Was the Answer I had with the Clerk of our Assize as also his Saying it was what "he had not Done for any one and he thought it Strange America sho.d give Law "to her Mother Country" And that they have by other Letters upon Application recewed the like Answers from several other Persons with whom they are under Contract And the Appearants Did further Alledge Declare and Say that if it were Possible to get such Transcripts and Proceedings as before by the said Act is directed the same would be Attended not only with Great Expences as Appears by the Letter of M.r John Davill But also with such Delays as would be a Manifest Breach of the several Contracts Entered into by those Appearants and their said partner which would Subject them to very Severe Penalties in Case they sho.d Neglect to recewe and Transport such Convicts at the Time Appointed by the order of such Courts and in such Contracts respectively Declared And therefore if any Damage Loss or Injury should happen to those Appearants and their said Partner or their Agents or the Penalties Inflicted by the said Act of Assembly should be Sued for or Levied on them or on their Goods Chattles or Estates for want of producing such Transcripts of Conviction and the Proceedings thereon as by the said Act of Assembly is directed The same will be Solely owing to and occasioned by the Neglect of the said Governor of the said Province in not Transmitting in Due time the same Act to the said Frederick Baron Baltimore and for want of a Knowledge of his Pleasure thereon And also for want of the Delivering of such Transcripts by the proper Officers of the several Counties in England to those Appearants when requested so to Do and not through or by the Neglect or Inattention of those Appearants to the purport and Contents of the said Act of Assembly Against all which Acting and Doings the said Appearants on Behalf of themselves and their said Partner have requested me the said Notary to protest Wherefore I the said Notary at the request aforesaid Did and do hereby most Solemnly Protest against the said Act of the Assembly of the said Province of Maryland if any such as before Stated hath passed for want of a proper Notice and Knowledge thereof And also against the Governor of the Province and the Officers of the several Courts in Great Britain and also against all Persons with whom those Appearants and their said Partner are under Contract And also against all other Persons whom it doth or may Concern for all Penalties Losses Expences Costs Damages Troubles and Hindrances that shall or may happen or arise to those Appearants and their said Partner or their Agents or any or either of them for or by reason or means of the said Act of Assembly of the said Province of Maryland or the Conduct or Default of the said Governor therein or on Account of the non performance of the said several Contracts for the said Convicts or for or on Account of their being Transported pursuant thereto in Opposition or Contrary to the Directions prescribed by the said Act of Assembly or any other Matter or Thing relating thereto to be recovered in Time and Place Convenient In Testimony whereof I the said Notary have hereunto set my Hand and Caused my Notarial Seal of Office to be Affixed And the said Appearants have also Subscribed their Names at the foot hereof the Day and Year first before written. /s/

Wm. Stevenson

William Randolph

James Hughes

Mary Publick