Interactions between Colonists and Native Americans: Testimony and Verdict in John Cope Case, 1722

Transcription A

The Deposition of Thomas Pollock Sen[io]r aged about [torn]
That after sun sett last Fryday night and befor sun rys [torn]
Last Saterday morning the Fourth day of this instant [torn]
one indian man who cals himselfe John Cope sometim[torn]
day on Saterday morning afor[e]s[ai]d broke in at a window [torn]
Roome where I ly and I believe haveing stunded himselfe [torn]
fall out of the window upon the Floore of the Roome. My son [torn]
came downe on the noise he made and so had him [??? torn]
secured. He made no Excuse only that he said ^he^ intended no
harme. This is the Truth to the best of my knowledge.
So help me God

bo ncip inc dod

Tho[mas] Pollock

Capt: & Jurat

8vo Die Augusti

a[nn]o Dom[ini] 1722. }

Coram me

C. Gale C[hief] J[ustice]

Transcription B

[Indictment?]

The King vs. Cope a

[Christ]tian Indian

Bella vera

Tho[ma]s Luton foreman



Reflect & Discuss

Thomas Pollock, Sr., served as acting governor of the colony of North Carolina during this trial. How might his status have influenced the trial?

This document notes that the defendant is a "Christian Indian." Why is his religion significant?

Interactions between Colonists and Native Americans: Testimony and Verdict in John Cope Case, 1722

[The following paragraph has been marked through with a large "X"]

Wee of ye Jury find John Cope

pris[one]r at the bare Gilty of--

Entering the House but not with

a felonious intent

Edward Wingate forman

Not Guilty

Edward Wingate foreman



There are many records regarding this case in the digital collections at the State Archives. How might you find out more information about John Cope, his alleged crime, and his trial?