Michael Connoway/Conaway

People of London Town, Maryland

Michael Connoway first appears in the historical record as “an Irish Convict Lad” when William Brown announces in the Maryland Gazette that Michael ran away on June 9, 1767. Brown said nothing about the crime that got him transported to America, nor about his personality in this advertisement.

Maryland Gazette, June 22, 1767

The next year, Connoway ran again, and Brown recycled the past year’s advertisement, but with an additional warning.

Maryland Gazette, June 23, 1768, page 2

When “a Negro Fellow” (probably an enslaved man) attempted to retrieve Connoway, the Irish convict threatened him with “an old rusty Bayonet.” Whether he escaped to freedom or was recaptured is unknown.

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1 As the research into colonial London Town’s inhabitants is an ongoing process, the caveat is offered that additional information may be found at any time and that a correction of information might also occur at any time.

Historic London Town and Gardens – People of London Town
Michael Connoway/Conaway
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22 March 2018