Maryland and James Clarke defendants, and wherein the said Court of Chancery passed a decree in favour of the said State of Maryland and James Clarke against the said Ariana French, Thomas French, George French, Catharine French, Charles French, Robert French, John Weems and Elizabeth his wife and from which said decree the said Ariana French Thomas French, George French, Catharine French, Charles French, Robert French, John Weems and Elizabeth his wife appealed unto the Court of Appeals here, the tenor of which said Record of proceedings is in form following to wit

Maryland Set

At a Chancery Court for the State of Maryland begun and held at the City of Annapolis on the fourth tuesday of February Eighteen hundred and Eight

Present

The Honorable William Kilty Chancellor.
Nich. Brewer Register

Among others were the following proceedings to wit

Ariana French, Thomas George Catharine Charles and Robert French and John Weems and Elizabeth his wife
against
The State of Maryland and James Clarke

Be it remembered that heretofore to wit on the twenty third day of July in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and five came Ariana French, Thomas French and George French and Catharine Charles and Robert French Infants by Ariana French their next friend and John Weems and Elizabeth his wife by John Johnson Esquire their solicitor and exhibited their Bill of complaint against the State of Maryland and James Clarke in the words following to wit

To the Honorable Alexander Contee Hanson Esquire Chancellor of Maryland.

The Bill of complaint of Ariana French, Thomas George Catharine Charles and Robert French the three last minors by said Ariana French their mother and next friend and John Weems and Elizabeth his wife of Montgomery County represents that Thomas French being seised in fee of the following tracts of Land to wit. Beauty containing One hundred and ten acres, Chance containing One hundred and forty acres. Choice containing Seventy six

acres property containing One hundred and forty eight acres. Fit for Fat containing seventy three acres situate in Charles County. Blooming plains containing nine hundred and seventy seven acres situate in Anne Arundel County. Durham containing Three hundred and eighty four acres. Rising Sun containing Two hundred and seventy five acres. Vale containing nine hundred and thirteen acres. Vale containing seven hundred and fourteen acres. Toms Venture containing ninety two acres and Hommony Isle containing One hundred and one acres, situate at the time of the contract hereafter mentioned in Frederick County on the twenty sixth day of February Seventeen hundred and seventy seven in consideration of the sum of nineteen hundred pounds current money sold the same to a certain James Clarke of Baltimore Town and on that day executed a bond for the conveyance, as will appear by said bond with the indorsements thereon marked exhibit No. 1 herewith filed, and which with the other exhibits your complainants pray may be deemed and taken as part of this bill of complaint.

Your complainants state that the whole of the purchase money has been paid. They further represent, that said Thomas French delivered the possession of the lands to the aforesaid Clarke and some time in the month of May Seventeen hundred and eighty removed to the Island of Jamaica, under the jurisdiction of the King of England with whom the State of Maryland and the United States of America were then at War. they further state that at October Session Seventeen hundred and eighty a law passed for the confiscation of all British property, by which and the subsequent laws passed by the State of Maryland the legal title in said land became vested in the State as by a reference to the said laws will appear.

Your complainants further represent that the said James Clarke being so entitled to the lands, on the third day of April Seventeen hundred and ninety for a valuable consideration assigned over to George French all his right of in and to the tracts in said bond mentioned called Durham and "George Adventure" and on the sixth day of June eighteen hundred and three assigned over the residue of his interest of in and to said bond to Ariana French as by reference to the said assignments on the said bond herewith produced will appear. Your complainants state that the said George French made his last will and testament bearing date the