of the parties in this cause, take write down and transcribe the depositions of all and every the witness and witnesses produced before and examined by the commissioner named in the commission hereunto annexed, as far forth as you are directed and employed by the said commissioner to take write down and transcribe, the said depositions, or any of them. So help you God

And the said cause so standing continued until July term eighteen hundred and six when commission issued to Burton Whitcroft by consent of parties in the words following to wit

Maryland So

The State of Maryland to Burton Whitcroft of Anne Arundel County. Greeting

Know ye that we have appointed you to be our commissioner to examine witnesses in a cause depending in our high Court of Chancery. Between Ariana French Ex of George and John Weems and wife and others complainants and the State of Maryland and James Clarke defendants. We therefore require you having first taken the oath hereunto annexed, and also administered the annexed oath to the person whom you shall appoint as clerk to attend the execution of this commission, that at such time and place as to you shall seem convenient, you cause to come before you all such witnesses as shall be named and produced to you by either the plaintiff or defendant: and that you examine them on their corporal oaths, to be by you administered upon the holy Evangels of Almighty God, touching their knowledge or remembrance of any thing that may relate to the cause aforesaid and that you cause notice to be given to the parties, or their attornies of the execution of this commission before you execute the same, and having reduced the depositions of the witnesses so taken by you into writing, you send the same with this our commission, closed under your hand and seal to us, in our high Court of Chancery with all convenient speed. Witness the honorable Alexander Contee Hanson Esquire Chancellor this 2d day of July Anno Domini 1806

Sam H Howard Reg Cur Cancr

Commissioners Oath

You shall according to the best of your skill and knowledge, truly faithfully and without partiality to any or either of the parties take the examinations and depositions of all and every witness and witnesses produced and examined by virtue of the commission hereunto annexed upon the interrogatories now or which may hereafter, before the said commission is closed be produced to and left with you, by either of the said parties. So help you God.

Clerks Oath

You shall truly faithfully and without partiality to any or either of the parties in this cause, take write down and transcribe the depositions of all and every the witness and witnesses produced before and examined by the commissioner, named in the commission hereunto annexed, as far forth as you are directed and employed by the said commissioner, to take, write down and transcribe the said depositions or any of them. So help you God

And the said cause so standing continued until July term eighteen hundred and seven the said Charles W Hanson made return of his proceedings under the said commission in the words following to wit—

Sworn to by Charles W. Hanson
before Owen Dorsey
March 15 1806

Alexander Contee Hanson qualified by
C.W. Hanson Commissioner

Ariana French and others
against
The State of Maryland
and James Clarke

In Chancery

By virtue of a commission issued from the high Court of Chancery to Charles Wallace Hanson directed to take depositions in a cause wherein the above named are the parties concerned, the said Charles Wallace Hanson having been duly qualified by taking the oath prescribed in the commission on the 15th of March 1806 and appointed Alexander Contee Hanson Clerk to the commission who took the Clerks oath annexed to the commission. The plaintiffs appearing and the Attorney General for the State having dispensed with the usual notice given by commissioners as will appear by his agreement annexed to the interrogatories on the part of the State, the commission was accordingly opened at the instance of plaintiffs, and the commissioner