such monitions in matter. This defendant for that purpose dug up the bundle so as aforesaid found, and on opening it found the patent although somewhat much injured and the papers perfectly decayed and illegible, and in response to an order of a court of equity, the purport of which bond is illustrated by exhibit A. herein before referred to. This defendant hopes he has given a full and perfect answer to all things contained in the said Complainants bill of Complaint so far as he is enabled to do, from his knowledge of the several matters & things therein charged and is ready to aver, maintain and prove the same as far as he is able, and this honorable Court shall award, and submits to such order and decree as your Honors may make in the premises.

Wm. W. Allen

Be it remembered on this twenty third day of May Anno Domini Eighteen hundred & twenty two personally appeared William W. Allen before mentioned before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for Somerset County & made Oath that the foregoing answer is correct and true to the best of his knowledge — Certified & sworn before me the day & year first herein before written — John S. Marshall

Exhibit A. referred to in the above answer to wit. Know all men by these presents that I John Williams of Worcester County and State of Maryland am held & firmly bound unto William Allen his Administrators executors administrators or assigns in the full and just sum of two thousand pounds current money to be paid to the said William Allen his Executors administrators or assigns — to which payment well and truly to be made and done I bind myself my heirs executors and administrators firmly by these presents. Sealed with my seal & dated this fifteenth day of April Anno Domini 1796. The Condition of the above Obligation is such, that if the above bounden John Williams his heirs executors or administrators at the reasonable request of the said William Allen, his heirs executors administrators or assigns after sale and just sum of forty shillings current money for every acre of land he shall make a good right and title of any part or parts of lands now in dispute in the estate of Sand Strawbridge which might hereafter been ascertained to belong to him the said John Williams his heirs executors or administrators, warranting & defending the same from all persons claiming from by or under him, the above obligation is void else to remain in full force power & virtue in Law.

John Williams

Signed, sealed & delivered in presence of Levin Woolford — John Stewart — At May Term 1822.

Whereupon it was ordered by the Court here that the following Commission issue forwith —

Somerset County to wit. The State of Maryland to George Brown, Isaiah Pearce & John Hearn Esquires of Somerset County greeting. Be it known to you that the Judges of Somerset County Court in Chancery sitting at Princess Anne Town on the fourth Monday of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty two reposing confidence in your integrity and judgement have commissioned and authorized you in a certain suit in Chancery now depending before the said Court wherein a certain Peter Guillet is complainant and a certain John Williams, William W. Allen and William Whittington are respondents, to examine all such Witnesses as shall be brought before you on the behalf of either of the said parties complainant or respondents on their corporal oaths to be administered according to law on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, touching their knowledge of the matter in controversy between the said parties, and every matter and thing relating thereto by virtue of the part of the said Complainant & of the said respondents, and that you reduce to writing the depositions of all such Witnesses as shall be produced to you as aforesaid to be examined by you, and your the same close up and certified by you under your hands & seals to the Judges of Somerset County Court in Chancery sitting at Princess Anne with all convenient speed. Witness the Honorable William B. Martenet Chief Judge of the said Court the twenty ninth day of May Anno Dom 1822. Issued the 1st day of July 1822. By order John Done Clk

H. Barrett for Complainant — Wm Bayly Rob. Martenet & E. Wilson Attys for respondents

Commissioners Oath. You shall according to the best of your skill & knowledge, truly faithfully and without partiality to any or either of the parties take the examinations & 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 & subscribe you so — The above Oath administered to the Commissioners named in the annexed Commission on this fifth day of July Anno Dom 1822. by

Wm. Crockett — Clerks Oath.

You shall truly faithfully and without partiality to any or either of the parties in this cause take unto down and transcribe the depositions of all and every the Witness & Witnesses produced before and examined by the Commissioners named in the Commission hereunto annexed, as far as the said depositions, or any of them so help you God — The above Oath administered to Benjamin J. Handy the Clerk appointed under the annexed Commission on the fifth day of July 1822. by Wm Crockett.

Whereupon afterwards to wit, on the twenty sixth day of July in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and twenty two, the above named George Brown, Isaiah Pearce and John Hearn Esquires, Commissioners as aforesaid filed with the Clerk of Somerset County Court, the following interrogatories & depositions to wit —

(1) Interrogatories exhibited by the Counsel for the defendants proponed to the Witnesses produced & sworn on the part of the defendants in numerical order from No. 1 to No. 12. inclusive with the interrogatory described — The last — commenced at page 1. and ended at page 4.

Interrogatories exhibited by the Counsel for the Complainants and proponed to the defendants Witnesses on their cross-examination in numerical order from No. 1 to No. 79. inclusive — commenced at page 4 & ended at page 20.

Interrogatories exhibited by the Counsel for the complainant and proponed to the Witnesses produced & sworn on the part of the Complainants in numerical order from No. 1. to No. 39. inclusive — commenced at page 25 and ended at page 30.

Interrogatories exhibited by the Counsel for the defendants and proponed to the Complainants Witnesses on their Cross examination in numerical order from No. 1 to No. 34. inclusive — Commenced at page 30 and ended at page 37. —

First Series — In Somerset County Court on the Chancery side of the said Court — Interrogatories to be exhibited and proponded to Witnesses to be produced sworn and examined in a certain cause depending in the County Court of Somerset County in the Chancery Side of the said Court wherein Peter Guillet is Complainant and John Williams, William W. Allen and William Whittington defendants on the part and behalf of the defendants, as follows to wit.

No. 1. Do you know the parties Complainant and defendants in the title of these Interrogatories named, or any and which of them, and how long have you known them, or any and which of them respectively. Declare the truth of the several matters by these interrogatories enquired after, according to the best of your knowledge, remembrance and belief. No. 2. Have you ever heard William W. Allen aforesaid named in the title of these interrogatories state and admit what papers or documents had been executed by the said John Williams to William Allen, the father of the said William W. Allen for the transfer to the said William Allen, by the said John Williams of the lands which the said John Williams took at the valuation of the Commissioners as the eldest heir at law of the late Sand Strawbridge of Somerset County deceased, and if so did you ever hear the said William W. Allen deny that he had ever seen any other, or that any other papers or documents had ever been given or executed for the said purpose? declare as aforesaid — (2.)

No. 3. Have you had the means of knowing the general character of the said William W. Allen, and whether from such knowledge, you would believe him on his oath — Declare as aforesaid —

No. 4. Do you know of William Porter having applied to John Williams to purchase a part of the Widows Charge, it being the lands in dispute between the parties in this case? if you know of such an application, at what time was it made and under what circumstances? Declare as aforesaid.

No. 5. You stated in your answer to the third interrogatory a particular conversation with William W. Allen, if you have never had that conversation with the said Allen, would you from his general character and from what alone believe him on his oath? Declare as aforesaid.

No. 6. What is the general character of William W. Allen in his neighbourhood is it or is it not that of a man of veracity. — No. 7. Did you ever advise William W. Allen to remove himself or upon Peter Guillet for some supposed injury as Peter Guillet was a stranger, and not so capable of protecting his property, and that by putting aside some papers then in possession of the said William W. Allen John Williams could establish an apparent claim to lands which Peter Guillet had cut timber under a contract with the said William W. Allen declare as aforesaid. No. 8. Did you ever persuade or advise William W. Allen to enter into a Contract with John Williams to defraud, cheat injure or oppress Peter Guillet, and were you ever concerned in effecting any such negotiations between the said parties — Declare as aforesaid — No. 9. Did you hear William W. Allen say at what time he had offered to John Williams the use of the patent of the Widow's Charge? — Declare as aforesaid —

No. 10. Do you or do you not know of a bond of conveyance from Isaac Hearn to William