again the said Parties plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid and the said Defendant by his said Attorney prays further leave to imparle hereunto until next Court and he hath it and the same day is given to the plaintiff also. At which said next Court to wit the 3d day of May Anno Domini 1774 to which time April Term 1774 was adjourned by Act of Assembly come again the said parties plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid and the said Defendant by his said Attorney as before defends the Force and Injury when and so forth and saith that the aforesaid Carlton his Action aforesaid against him to have and maintain ought not because he saith that he did not take the Negroes aforesaid in the Writ aforesaid mentioned or any of them in manner and form as the aforesaid Carlton by his Writ and Declaration aforesaid hath above supposed and of this he said John puts himself upon the Country and so forth. And the aforesaid John with the leave of the Court and according to the form of the statute in that case made and provided further comes and defends the Force and Injury when and so forth and saith that the aforesaid Carlton his Action aforesaid against him to have or maintain ought not because he saith that at the time of the taking the several Negroes in the Writ aforesaid above mentioned above supposed the Property of the said several Negroes and each of them was in him the said John and not in him the said Carlton and this he the said John is ready to verify and so forth Wherefore he prays Judgment if the said Carlton his Action aforesaid against him the said John to have and maintain ought and so forth. And the aforesaid John with the leave aforesaid and according to the form of the Statute aforesaid further comes and defends the force and Injury when and so forth and saith that the said Carlton his Action aforesaid thereof against him to have or maintain ought not because he saith that the original Writ of him the said Carlton was issued on the Ninth day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy one and not before and that the Cause of Action on which the said Carlton hath above complained did not accrue at any time within three Years next preceding the issuing the Writ aforesaid by him the said Carlton and this he the said John is ready to verify and so forth Wherefore he prays Judgment if the aforesaid Carlton his Action aforesaid against him to have and maintain ought and so forth. And the aforesaid Carlton saith that by any thing in the first and second plea of him the said John Watson pleaded he the said Carlton from having his Action aforesaid against him the said John Watson to be precluded ought not because he saith that the said John did take the Negroes aforesaid and that the property aforesaid of the Negroes aforesaid at the time of the taking thereof was in him the said Carlton in manner and form as by his Writ and Declaration above hath alledged to wit at Frederick County aforesaid and this he prays may be enquired of by the Country and the aforesaid John Watson in like manner. Whereupon this Cause standing ready for Trial for especial reasons to the Court here shewn and by Consent of the parties it is continued until next Court. At which said next Court to wit the 13th day of September Anno Domini 1774 come again the said parties Plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid whereupon for especial Reasons to the Court here shewn and by consent of Parties the said Cause is further continued until next Court. At which said next Court to wit

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the day of April Anno Domini 1775 come again the said parties Plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid whereupon for especial reasons to the Court here shewn and by consent of parties the said Cause is further continued until next Court. At which said next Court to wit the day of September Anno Domini 1775 come again the said Parties plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid whereupon for especial reasons to the Court here shewn by consent of Parties the said Cause is further continued until next Court. At which said next Court to wit the day of April Anno Domini 1776 come again as well the said Carlton Bell by his Attorney aforesaid as the said John Watson by his Attorney aforesaid whereupon the same Cause is further continued according to Act of Assembly until next Court and the same day is given to the parties also. At which said next Court to wit the day of September Anno Domini 1776 come again the said parties plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid whereupon the same Cause is further continued according to Act of Assembly until next Court and the same day is given to the parties also. At which said next Court to wit the day of April Anno Dom. 1777 come again the said parties Plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid whereupon the same Cause is further continued according to Act of Assembly until next Court and the same day is given to the Plaintiff and Defendant also. At which said next Court to wit the day of September Anno Dom. 1777 come again the said Parties plaintiff and Defendant by their Attorneys aforesaid and thereupon the same Cause is further continued according to Act of Assembly until next Court and the same day is given to the parties also. At which said next Court to wit the 12th day of May Anno Dom. 1778 come again the said parties Plaintiff and Defendant by their Attorneys aforesaid and thereupon the same Cause is further continued according to Act of Assembly until next Court and the same day is given to the parties also. At which said next Court to wit the 13th day of October Anno Dom. 1778 come again the said parties plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid and thereupon the same Cause is further continued according to Act of Assembly until next Court and the same day is given to the parties also. At which said next Court to wit the 11th day of May Anno Dom. 1779 come again the said parties Plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid and thereupon the same Cause is further continued according to Act of Assembly until next Court and the same day is given to the parties also. At which said next Court to wit the 12th day of October Anno Dominii 1779 come again the said parties Plaintiff and Defendant by their Attornies aforesaid whereupon for trying the Issues aforesaid command is given to the Sheriff of Ann Arundel County that he immediately cause to come here twelve good and lawful Men of his Bailiwick by whom etc. who neither etc. to recognize etc. because as well etc. of which said Precept the said Sheriff to wit Thomas Harwood Gentleman makes return that he has here ready twelve etc. as by the said precept he was commanded to wit Thomas Henry Hall Clement Wheeler Henry Dent Alexander Ogle Benjamin Elt Regin Hammond John Frammell William Dawkins Simon George Smith William Saunders William Wilkinson and John Contee who being duly elected tryed and sworn to say the

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