Executors or Administrators to the which payment well and truly to be made and done We bind ourselves our and each of our Heirs Executors and Administrators jointly and severally firmly by these presents Sealed with our Seals and dated this 17th day of May Anno Domini 1781.

Whereas the above named Negroes Nan, Jane, Caleb, Frank, Abram, Peter and Job upon a Petition for Freedom obtained a Judgment of the General Court against Elizabeth Hopewell that the said Nan Jane Caleb Frank Abram Peter and Job are intitled to their Freedom and that the said Elizabeth Hopewell discharge the said Negroes Nan Jane Caleb, Frank, Abram, Peter and Job from her Service and suffer them to go at large as freemen and pay to the said Nan Jane Caleb Frank Abram Peter and Job the Costs arising due on the petition aforesaid from which Judgment the said Elizabeth Hopewell hath Appealed to the Court of Appeals Now the Condition of the above Obligation is such that if the said Elizabeth Hopewell do and shall prosecute her said Appeal with effect and do and shall pay to the said Nan Jane Caleb Frank Abram Peter and Job all such Costs and Damages as shall be to her adjudged by the Court of Appeals and do and shall discharge the said Nan Jane Caleb Frank Abram Peter and Job from her Service and suffer them to go at large as free persons if the Court of Appeals shall so determine And do and shall suffer the said Nan Jane Caleb Frank Abram Peter and Job to attend the Court of Appeals whenever the same sits And do and shall pay to the said Nan Jane Caleb Frank Abram Peter and Job reasonable Hire or Wages which as shall be adjudged by the said Court from the time of filing their Petition aforesaid if the said Court of Appeals shall determine them to be Free and do and shall until a full determination can be had in the premises treat and use the said Negroes properly then the above Obligation to be void otherwise to be of full force and virtue in Law.

Signed Sealed and Delivered in presence of — — — } James Hopewell (seal) Uriah Forrest (seal)

T Stone

Wm H. McPherson

It is therefore Ordered that the Record and proceedings in the premises aforesaid be transmitted to the High Court of Appeals accordingly.

Test Thos Brooke Hodgkin Clk.

I.A.T. Negroes Frank George and Isaac — against — T.S. James Hopewell } The Justices of the County Court of Saint Mary's Transmit to the Judges of the General Court the following Record on Appeal made by Negroes Frank George and Isaac the Tenor whereof follows in these words viz:

Saint Mary's County to wit At a County Court held at Leonard Town for the County aforesaid on the fourth day of November in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine before the Worshipful Robert Watts Esquire, William Kilgour Esquire, Hanson Briscoe Esquire, John Ireland Esquire, Thomas Bond Esquire, Jeremiah Jordan Esquire Justices of the peace in and for the said County thereunto duly commissioned and sworn

Zachariah Forrest Gent Sheriff. Timothy Bowes Clk.

Among other were the following Proceedings, to wit

Negroes Frank, George and Isaac — against — James Hopewell } To the Worshipful the Justices of Saint Mary's County. The Petition of Negroes Frank George and Isaac

humbly sheweth.

That your petitioners are held in slavery by a certain James Hopewell of Saint Mary's County although they are entitled by the Laws of the Land to be free. They therefore pray your Worships to grant them Relief in the premises and they in duty bound will pray.

And now here to wit on the said fourth day of November Annoque Domini seventeen hundred and seventy nine come as well the said plaintiffs by John Allen Thomas their Attorney as the said Defendant by Thomas Stone his Attorney and being heard and fully understood respecting all and singular the premises mature deliberation being likewise thereupon had the Court would give no Relief. Thereupon the Plaintiffs by John Allen Thomas their Attorney pray an Appeal to the General Court of the Western Shore which is granted them. Thereupon it is ordered by the Court that a Transcript of the proceedings be made out and sent to the Honourable the Judges of the General Court of the Western Shore.

The County Seal of Saint Mary's

In Testimony that the above and aforegoing is a true Copy of the Record and proceedings between the parties aforesaid I have hereunto set my Hand and affixed the public Seal of Office for the County aforesaid this 1st day of May Anno Dom 1780.

Timothy Bowes Clk St Mary's County.

And now here at this day to wit the twenty second day of May Anno Domini 1780 being the day to which May Term 1780 was adjourned by Act of Assembly comes into the General Court as well the said Negroes Frank George and Isaac by John Allen Thomas their Attorney as the said James Hopewell by Thomas Stone his Attorney and thereupon the said Cause is continued until next Court.

At which said next Court to wit the second Tuesday of October being the 10th day of the same Month Anno Domini 1780, comes again as well the said Negroes Frank George and Isaac by their Attorney aforesaid as the said James Hopewell by his Attorney aforesaid and thereupon the said Cause is further continued until next Court.

At which said next Court to wit the second Tuesday of May being the 8th day of the same Month Anno Domini 1781 comes again as well the said Negroes Frank George and Isaac by their aforesaid as the said James Hopewell by his Attorney aforesaid whereupon all and singular the premises aforesaid and the Allegations and Evidence as well on the part and behalf of the said Negroes Frank George and Isaac as the said James Hopewell being by the Court here seen heard and fully understood and mature deliberation thereupon had It is considered by the Judges here that the said Negroes Frank, George and Isaac of and from any further Servitude to the said James Hopewell be hence discharged and freed And it is also considered that the said Negroes Frank George and Isaac recover against the said James Hopewell the Sum of two thousand one hundred and sixty pounds of Tobacco by the Court here unto them on their Agreement adjudged for their Costs and Charges by them laid out and expended by Occasion of the premises aforesaid and the said James Hopewell in Mercy &c