he the said William Cole had the following Negroes at the time that he died viz.t Sam. Moll. Judea. Tom. Job and Sarah this Deponent further sayeth that she never heard of any other William Coles living in Saint Marys County.

Test Robert Watts.

her
Martha M Chizum
mark

The Deposition of John Beal aged sixty eight Years or thereabouts being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with a certain William Cole of Saint Marys County that he died about forty or fifty years ago that he was between forty and fifty Years of Age that his Wife's name was Elizabeth that she the said Elizabeth has been dead about thirty Years and that she was as well as he can remember about fifty Years old when she died that the Names of the Negroes which William Cole had when he died was as follows viz.t Sam, Moll, Tom, Job. Sarah, and Judea that this Deponent never heard of their being any but one of the Name of William Cole the one abovementioned that he this Deponent also understood that the abovenamed William Cole made a Deed of Gift to his said Wife Elizabeth of the abovenamed Negroes and all other his personal Estate what kind soever which said Deed of Gift he heard of before said William Cole died

Test Robert Watts

his
John ++ Beal
mark.

The Deposition of Joseph Bennett aged seventy Years or thereabouts being sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and sayeth that he was well acquainted with a certain William Cole of Saint Marys County that he died about forty or fifty Years ago that he was forty odd Years of Age that his Wife's Name was Elizabeth that she the said Elizabeth had been dead about thirty Years that she was something odd of fifty Years of Age that the Names of the Negroes which William Cole had at the Time that he died was as follows Viz.t Sam. Moll, Tom. Job and Sarah that this Deponent never heard or knew of there being any of the Name of William Cole but one that ever lived in Saint Marys County

Test Robert Watts.

his
Joseph IB Bennett
mark.

Saint Marys County s.t I the Subscriber one of the Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid do hereby certify that on the twenty ninth day of September 1780 I took the Depositions of James Chizum. Martha Chizum, John Beal and Joseph Bennett they being all first sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God and that the word Cole in Martha Chizum's Deposition between the fourth and fifth Lines was interlined before signed Given under my hand and Seal the day and year above written

Robert Watts (seal)

Saint Marys County to wit These are to Certify that the within named Robert Watts Esquire before and by whom the Depositions appear to have been taken and who in Testimony thereof has hereunto subscribed his Name was at the taking and subscribing his Name and now is one of the States Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid thereunto duly authorised commissioned and sworn and to all Certificates of Depositions by him so taken and signed due Faith and Credit is and ought to be given as well in Justice Court and thereout.

(The County seal)

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Public Seal of Office for the County aforesaid this second day of October Annoque Domini 1780.

Timothy Bowes Clk.

State agreed to this 17.th day of May 1781.

I A T. for Petitioners
T S. Council for Defendant

Whereupon the said James Hopewell by his Attorney aforesaid files in Court the following Appeal Bond viz.t

Know all Men by these presents that We James Hopewell of Talbot County and Uriah Forrest of Annapolis are held and firmly bound unto Negroes Frank George and Isaac in the full and just Sum of One hundred and fifty thousand pounds of Crop Tobacco to be paid to the said Negroes Frank George and Isaac their 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 firmly by these presents Sealed with our Seal this 17.th day of May Anno Domini 1781.

Whereas the above named Negroes Frank, George and Isaac upon a petition for Freedom obtained a Judgment of the Honorable General Court against James Hopewell that the said Frank, George and Isaac are entitled to Freedom and that the said James Hopewell discharge the said Frank, George and Isaac from his Service and suffer them to go at large as freemen and pay to the said Frank, George and Isaac the Costs arising due on the petition aforesaid from which Judgment the said James Hopewell has appealed to the Court of Appeals. Now the Condition of the above obligation is such that if the said James Hopewell do and shall prosecute his said Appeal with Effect and do and shall pay to the said Frank, George and Isaac all such Costs and damages as shall be to him adjudged by the Court of Appeals And do and shall discharge Frank George and Isaac from his Service and suffer them to go at large as Freemen if the Court of Appeals shall so determine And do and shall suffer the said Frank George and Isaac to attend the Court of Appeals whenever the same sits, And do and shall pay to the said Frank George and Isaac reasonable Hire or Wages such as shall be adjudged by the said Court from the Time of filing their Petition aforesaid if the 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 Frank, George and Isaac properly then the above Obligation to be void otherwise to be in full force and Virtue in Law.

Signed Sealed and delivered in presence of — — — —
T. Stone
W H M.c Pherson

James Hopewell (seal)
Uriah Forrest (seal)

It is therefore ordered that the Record and proceedings in the premises aforesaid be transmitted to the high Court of Appeals accordingly

Test Tho.s Brooke Hodgkin clk

I A T. Negroes Minta, Roger, Iuda, Astin, Grace and Jack
against
T S. Thomas Hopewell

The Justices of the County Court of Saint Mary's transmit to the Judges of the General Court the following Record on an appeal made by Negroes Minta, Roger, Iuda, Astin, Grace and Jack the Tenor whereof follows in these words viz.t