petitioned against Richard Boarman and who was Grandson to Irish Nell and that he has heard his Father say that his Father told him that Irish Nell was a white Free woman and sold Cakes; This Deponent also saith that he hath heard the same Story generally in the Neighbourhood, that is, that John Butler was descended from Irish Nell. – This deponent also saith he has heard his Father say that Patrick Butler, who lives with Ann Boarman, was the son of Bet, who belongs to Henry Hill, and that Bet was the Daughter of Phillis, and that Phillis was Sister to Will Butler above named and descended from Irish Nell, but does not recollect to have heard this relationship of Patrick from any body but his Father – John Butler was present and seen by the deponent and so was Patrick. This deponent saith his Father was brought up among the Gardiners who were related to the Boarman's and died within five miles of Richard Boarman's – — John Joseph. —

Taken this 29th Oct. 1788. – Before – Rin.do Johnson. —

The Deposition of John Hardesty of S. Mary's County aged thirty eight years or thereabout, being sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, he deposeth and saith he knows John Butler, who lives with Henry Hill, that he hath always understood in the neighbourhood generally that John Butler was own Brother to Will Butler, who petitioned against Richard Boarman and that he descended from an Irish Woman, he also saith that Ann Whitehorn, who is now dead, told him that the Grand-Mother of Will and John, was an Irish Woman and as white as she was, that Ann Whitehorn has been dead eighteen or Twenty years and she was an old Woman when the said conversation happened – that this Deponent always lived within six miles of Richard Boarman's and most of his life within two miles – this deponent also saith that Ann Whitehorn was a woman of Credit, but poor – this deponent also saith he did not hear any body say that the Grandmother of Will and John Butler, was an Irish Woman, besides Ann Whitehorn. John Butler was present and seen by this deponent. — John Hardesty. —

Taken this 29th Oct: 1788. before – Rin.do Johnson. — —

On the 18th November 1788. Jeremiah Townly Chase appeared in open Court and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that he

he was present when the aforegoing depositions were taken, that the above named John Butler and Patrick Butler, who have petitioned for Freedom, were produced and shewn to the Witnesses and are the same persons who have petitioned and are named in the said Depositions. Sworn to in open Court. Jno. Irwin Clk.

The Deposition of Henry Spalding of S. Mary's County aged sixty five years or thereabout being first sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, he deposeth and saith he knew Will Butler, who Petitioned against Richard Boarman for his Freedom under the old Government, from a Boy, and also his Brother John Butler, who is now claimed by Henry Hill and that he always understood from the common talk in the neighbourhood, that they descended from a Free white woman and that they were reputed own Brothers – this deponent saith, he knows them very well, they were Boys together and that he always lived within five or six miles of Richard Boarman's. Allen Dwyer.

Thereupon, further process of and upon the premises aforesaid, between the parties aforesaid, by order of the Court here, is continued until the second Tuesday of May next; the same day is given to the parties aforesaid, then and so forth. —

And now at this day to wit, the said second Tuesday of May being the Twelfth day of the said month in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty nine, come again into the General Court here, as well the said John Butler by his attorney aforesaid, as the said Henry Hill by his attorney aforesaid: And the said John Butler by his attorney aforesaid files in Court here the Depositions of John Gardiner, Joseph Thompson and John Hooper Broom, which are in the words and figures following to wit:

The Deposition of John Gardiner of S. Mary's County aged sixty eight years or thereabout, who being first sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth and saith that while this deponent lived with old Richard Edelen about fifty or fifty two years ago, Sarah a mulatto woman came there and Mr. Edelen told his wife Sal Butler had come to see her and this deponent asked Mr. Edelen how she came to be called Sal Butler and Edelen told him she was the Daughter of Irish Nell & would get Free if she applied for it – Richard Boarman was present at this Conversation and he also said she was the Daughter