chief Judge of our said Court the 26th day of June anno domini 1789. Issued the 29th day of July 1789. — Test. — Jno. Gwinn Clk.

At which said Second Tuesday of October being the Thirteenth day of the said month in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty nine, and the day of the return of the aforegoing Summons comes into the General Court here, the said Ralph Butler by his attorney aforesaid; and the Sheriff of Saint Mary's County aforesaid to whom the said Summons was in form aforesaid directed, makes return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed to wit,

"Summoned 17th August. — P. Ford, Sheriff" —

Whereupon, comes into the General Court here, the said John Lucas by Philip Barton Key his attorney; 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.

At which said Second Tuesday of May being the Eleventh day of the said month in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety, come again into the General Court here as well the said Ralph Butler by his attorney aforesaid, as the said John Lucas by his attorney aforesaid: Thereupon, further process of and upon the premises aforesaid, between the parties aforesaid, by order of the Court here, is further continued until the second Tuesday of October next; the same day is given to the parties aforesaid, then, and so forth. —

At which said Second Tuesday of October being the Twelfth day of the said month in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety, come again into the General Court here, as well the said Ralph Butler by his attorney aforesaid, as the said John Lucas by his attorney aforesaid: Thereupon, further process of and upon the premises aforesaid, between the parties aforesaid, by order of the Court here is further continued until the second Tuesday of May next; the same day is given to the parties aforesaid, then, and so forth. —

At which said Second Tuesday of May being the Tenth day of the said month in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety one, come again into the General Court here, as well the said Ralph Butler by his attorney aforesaid, as the said John Lucas by his attorney aforesaid; Thereupon, further process of and

upon

upon the premises aforesaid, between the parties aforesaid, by order of the Court here, is further continued until the second Tuesday of October 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 October being the Eleventh day of the said month in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and ninety one, come again into the General Court here, as well the said Ralph Butler by his attorney aforesaid as the said John Lucas by his attorney aforesaid: And the said Ralph Butler by his attorney aforesaid, files in Court here the Depositions of Clement Parsons and Joseph Butler, which are in form following to wit,

Ralph Butler vs John Lucas } Pet. for Freedom. — The Deposition of Clement Parsons of Saint Marys County aged 62. years deposeth saith, that he hired the Petitioner of the Defendant three or four years ago; and he heard the Defendant say that if the Butlers got free who had the same equal right with Ralph, he should set Ralph Free without Costs or trouble, and this Deponent understood from the Defendants conversation at the time that he admitted the Petitioner to be of the Butler Breed, and further he saith not. Sworn this 24th day of May 1791. Before the subscriber one of the Justices of Anne Arundel County. — Allen Duvyn.

(here insert John Butler's Deposition, which is in this Book entered in pages 21 & 22.)

Whereupon, the said John Lucas by his attorney aforesaid saith, that he cannot deny the complaint aforesaid of the said Ralph Butler the petitioner aforesaid, so as aforesaid made, nor but that the said Ralph Butler the petitioner aforesaid is entitled to his Freedom, being the son of Nelly Butler who was the Daughter of Jane Butler who was the Daughter of Eleanor Butler a Free white woman, in manner and form as the said Ralph Butler by his said petition to the Court here preferred against him the said John Lucas above hath alleged; And thereupon the said Ralph Butler by his attorney aforesaid prays that he may be dismissed and discharged from the service of the said John Lucas together with his Costs and Charges by him about the prosecution of his said petition, to him to be adjudged, and so forth: Therefore it is considered by the Court here, that the said Ralph Butler the petitioner aforesaid, recover of and against the said John Lucas his Freedom, and that he be hence freed and discharged of and from the service of the said John Lucas, and that he the said Ralph Butler the petitioner aforesaid, go free and discharged thereof without any, and so forth: And it is further considered by the Court here,