forewarned, comes into the General Court here, by Philip Barton Key his attorney; And the said Anna Butler and her two Children Moses Butler and Frank Butler by their attorney aforesaid, file in Court here, the Deposition of John Butler, which is in form following to wit

Lydia Butler. vs Nicholas Swingle. } John Butler aged seventy one years or thereabouts being duly sworn on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God deposeth & saith that he knows the Petitioner Lydia now present, who is Daughter of Betty who obtained her Freedom on a Petition against Henry Bill, which Betty was daughter of Phillis, Daughter of Elizabeth commonly called Abigail, who was Daughter of Nel Butler. — And he further saith that he well knows Anne Butler, Moses Butler and Frank Butler, who have Petitioned against John DeButts of S.Mary's County, and well knows Henny the mother of the said three Children & has known her ever since she could speak, she is the Daughter of Anne Butler, which said Anne and Henny are now present, and the said Anne, the Deponent always understood to be the grand-daughter of Nel Butler. And the said Henny has petitioned as he is informed against Henry Bill her present master. And he further saith that he well knows Nace, Katy and Lymus the Children of the aforesaid Henny who have also petitioned against the said Henry Bill their present master. Sworn 18. May 1792. Before Bullen.

Whereupon, the said John DeButts by his attorney aforesaid, saith, that he cannot deny the complaint aforesaid of the said Anna Butler and her two children Moses Butler and Frank Butler, the Petitioners aforesaid, so as aforesaid made, nor but that the said Anna Butler and her two Children Moses Butler and Frank Butler, the Petitioners aforesaid, are entitled to their Freedom, being descended in the female line from Eleanor Butler, a Free white woman, in manner and form as the said Anna Butler and her two Children Moses Butler and Frank Butler, by their said Petition to the Court here preferred against him the said John DeButts, above have alleged: And thereupon, the said Anna Butler and her two Children Moses Butler and Frank Butler by their attorney aforesaid, pray that they may be dismissed and discharged from the service of the said John DeButts, together with their costs and charges by them about the prosecution of their said Petition, to them to be adjudged, and so forth. Therefore it is considered by the Court here, that

that the said Anna Butler and her two Children Moses Butler and Frank Butler, the Petitioners aforesaid, recover of and against the said John DeButts their Freedom, and that they be hence freed and discharged of and from the service of the said John DeButts, and that they the said Anna Butler and her two Children Moses Butler and Frank Butler, the Petitioners aforesaid, go freed and discharged thereof without day, and so forth. And it is further considered by the Court here, that the said Anna Butler and her two Children Moses Butler and Frank Butler, the Petitioners aforesaid, recover against the said John DeButts the quantity of Two hundred and eighty three pounds of tobacco, by the Court here unto the said Anna Butler and her two Children Moses Butler and Frank Butler, on their assent adjudged, for their Costs and Charges by them about the prosecution of their said Petition in this behalf laid out and expended, and that they have thereof their Execution, and so forth. —

Test — John Gwinn Clerk.

Letty Butler. against Ann Digges. } Be it remembered, that heretofore to wit, on the Twenty seventh day of May in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty eight; Letty Butler by Jeremiah Townley Chase her attorney, preferred and filed in the General Court here, her Petition for Freedom against Ann Digges, which is in form following to wit. — To the Honorable Judges of the General Court for the Western Shore of Maryland. The humble Petition of Letty Butler, sheweth that your Petitioner is a Descendant of a Free white woman and as such is entitled to Liberty and all the rights of a Free woman; that your Petitioner has been most unjustly and wrongfully deprived of her liberty and is now held in Slavery by Ann Digges of Charles County: your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays your honors will take her case into consideration and grant her such relief as she is by Law & Justice entitled to and that your honors will direct a Summons to issue to the said Ann Digges, to be and appear before this honorable Court by a certain day to be therein mentioned, to answer the premises, and your Petitioner as in duty will pray & so forth. —

J. Townl. Chase for Petitioner. —

Thereupon, on motion of the said Letty Butler by her attorney aforesaid, it is ruled and ordered by the Court here, that the said Ann Digges