Ignatius Butter
vs
John Ford — } Anne Butter a Free person of Colour aged eighty three years, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God, deposeth & saith that she knows the Petitioner Ignatius Butter now present, and she has known him ever since he was a boy, & this deponent well knew Kate his Grandmother who belonged to Baptist Boarman who was aunt to the Deponent & sister of her mother Jenny, which Jenny & Kate were always reputed to be the Daughters of Irish Nell & this deponent never heard to the Contrary, & Jenny the Deponents mother belonged to Mr. Sherwin; and Rose who petitioned against Joseph Sims of George Town is the son of the deponents sister Kesh who was Daughter of Jenny before mentioned. Sworn to this day of May 1792. — Before. — Buller. —

Whereupon, the said John Ford by his attorney aforesaid, saith, that he cannot deny the Complaint aforesaid of the said Ignatius Butter the Petitioner aforesaid, so as aforesaid made, nor but that the said Ignatius Butter, the petitioner aforesaid, is entitled to his Freedom, being the son of Peggy Butter who was the Daughter of Kate Butter, who was the Daughter of Eleanor Butter a Free white Woman, in manner and form as the said Ignatius Butter by his said Petition to the Court here preferred against him the said John Ford, above hath alleged; and thereupon, the said Ignatius Butter by his attorney aforesaid, prays that he may be dismissed and discharged from the service of the said John Ford, 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 Ignatius Butter, the Petitioner aforesaid recover of and against the said John Ford, his Freedom, and that he be hence freed and discharged of and from the service of the said John Ford, and that he the said Ignatius Butter, the Petitioner aforesaid, go freed and discharged thereof without day, and so forth. And it is further considered by the Court here, that the said Ignatius Butter, the Petitioner aforesaid, recover against the said John Ford, the quantity of Two thousand Six hundred and sixty seven pounds of tobacco by the Court here, unto the said Ignatius Butter on his assent adjudged, for his Costs and charges by him about the prosecution of his said Petition in this behalf laid out and expended, and that he have thereof his Execution &c. Test. John Irwin Clk

John Butter
against
Henry Garner } Be it remembered, that heretofore, to wit, on the seventh day of December in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and ninety; John Butter by Henry Ridgely his attorney, preferred and filed in the General Court here, his Petition for Freedom against Henry Garner, which is in manner and form following to wit: To the honorable the Judges of the General Court. The Petition of John Butter humbly sheweth that he is held as a Slave by Henry Garner of Saint Marys County, altho' he is entitled to his Freedom, being descended from a Free white woman whose name was Eleanor Butter; your Petitioner is the son of Sarah Butter, who was the Daughter of Nelly Butter, who was the Daughter of Sarah Butter, who was the Daughter of Eleanor Butter, the Free white woman aforesaid: He therefore prays your honors to take his case into consideration, and discharge him from the custody of the said Henry Garner, and that Summonses may issue for his Witnesses, and so forth. — H. Ridgely for Petitioner. —

Thereupon, on motion of the said John Butter by his attorney aforesaid, it is ruled and ordered by the Court here, that the said Henry Garner do not remove the said John Butter out of this State, nor obstruct him from attending this Court from time to time in support of his Petition for Freedom, preferred to the Court here, and in the mean time to feed, cloath and use the said John Butter, well: It is further ruled and ordered by the Court here that the writ of the State of Maryland of Summons issue forth out of the General Court here against the said Henry Garner to answer unto the said Petition of the said John Butter; which issued accordingly, directed to the Sheriff of Saint Mary's County in form following to wit. — The State of Maryland, ss. To the Sheriff of Saint Mary's County, Greeting: We command you that you summon Henry Garner late of Saint Mary's County, that all excuses and delays set aside he be and appear before the Judges of our General Court to be held at the City of Annapolis on the second Tuesday of May next, to answer the Petition of John Butter, preferred against him for Freedom: Hereof he is not to fail, and fail not at your peril, and have you then and there this writ: Witness the honorable Thomas Johnson Esquire