been informed that the said Anne was sent away by Raphael Boarman sometime after she had petitioned, answers she thinks he did; he was in the house when the deponent heard Benjamin Wakefield read the order of Court about her petitioning, that she was to be used well and the like and she was sent away some months afterwards, that it was at the house of the within of Raphael Boarman when the deponent heard the order of Court read, and from said house she was sent. That Nell Shorter who petitioned against William Chandler Brent is daughter of Minta now deceased, who was daughter of this deponent, and the deponent knew said Nell ever since she was a child. That Phillis who petitioned against Mary Boarman is daughter of this deponent, and Letty who petitioned against said Mary Boarman is daughter of the said Phillis. That Tom who petitioned against Richard Jordan this deponent has known ever since he was about two years old; he is the son of Betty, who was sister on the mother's and fathers side of this deponent. That Clem who petitioned against Raphael ~~[illegible]~~ Meale is a full brother of said Tom. Sworn to this 16th day of May 1796 before J. Bullen

Whereupon all and singular the premises between the parties aforesaid by the court here being seen, heard and fully understood, and mature deliberation thereupon had for that it appears to the Court here, that the said Stephen Shorter, the petitioner aforesaid is entitled to his freedom being descended, in the female line from a free white woman, as he by his petition to the court here have alledged; Therefore it is considered by the court here, that the said Stephen Shorter the petitioner aforesaid, be free and discharged of and from the service of the said John Boarman and that he the said Stephen Shorter the petitioner aforesaid, go thereof without day, &c. It is further considered by the Court here, that the said Stephen Shorter the petitioner aforesaid recover against the said John Boarman the quantity of eight hundred and forty one pounds of Tobacco by the court here unto him the said Stephen Shorter on his absent adjudged for his costs and Charges by him about the prosecution of his petition aforesaid, laid out and expended and that he have thereof his Execution, &c. Test — Jno. Gwinn Clk.

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Gerard Shorter against Mary Boarman

Be it remembered that heretofore to wit, on the ninth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, Gerard Shorter by Gabriel Duvall his attorney preferred and filed in the General Court here his petition for Freedom against Mary Boarman which is in form following to wit.

To the honourable the Judges of the General Court. The Petition of Gerard Shorter humbly sheweth, That he is held as a slave by Mary Boarman of Charles County; and he is advised he is entitled to his freedom, being descended in the female line, from Elizabeth Shorter a free woman. He therefore prays your honours, the premises being considered, and the facts proved, to discharge him from the further service of the said Mary Boarman. And he as in duty bound will pray and so forth. G. Duvall for Pet.

Whereupon, in pursuance of the Rule of the Court here in such cases made and provided, the said Gerard Shorter by his attorney aforesaid on the day and year aforesaid prosecuted and sued forth out of the General Court here, the writ of the State of Maryland of Subpana ad respondendum against the said Mary Boarman directed to the sheriff of Charles County in form following, to wit.

The State of Maryland Ss. To the sheriff of Charles County, greeting. We command you that you summons Mary Boarman of Charles County that all delays and excuses set aside, she 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 unto the Petition of Gerard Shorter preferred against her for Freedom; hereof she is not to fail, and fail not at your peril and have you then and there this writ; Witness the Honble Samuel Chase Esquire Chief Judge of our said Court the 29th day of December Anno Domini 1791.

Issued the 9th day of February 1792. (G.D.) John Gwinn Clk.

At which said second Tuesday of May being the eighth day of the said month in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, and the day of the return of the aforegoing summons comes into the General Court here the said Gerard Shorter by his attorney aforesaid; and the sheriff of Charles County aforesaid, to whom the said Summons was in form aforesaid directed makes return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed to wit. Non Est. James Simms sheriff

And the said Mary Boarman comes not into the General Court here;

Whereupon