Patty Shorter who has petitioned against Thomas Stone this deponent has known ever since she was a child, she is daughter of Betty who was aunt of this deponent and sister of this deponents mother Nelly and was always reputed as such and she never heard it contradicted; the said Betty was daughter of Patty who belonged to old John Lancaster as the deponent always understood and never heard it contradicted. Sworn this 17th day of October 1795 before, John Randall

Taken before John T. Mason and Gabriel Duvall.

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 Gerard Shorter, the Petitioner aforesaid is entitled to his freedom, being decended, in the female line, from Elizabeth Shorter a free woman as he by his Petition to the Court here has alledged; therefore it is considered by the Court here, that the said Gerard Shorter the Petitioner aforesaid, be free and discharged of and from the service of the aforesaid Mary Boarman and that he the said Gerard Shorter the petitioner aforesaid, go thereof without day, &c.
It is further considered by the court here, that the said Gerard Shorter the Petitioner aforesaid, recover against the said Mary Boarman the sum of six hundred and seventy one pounds of Tobacco by the Court here, unto him the said Gerard Shorter on his afsent 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 John Gwinn Clk.

James Shorter against Eleanor Bradford | Be it remembered that heretofore to wit, on the sixteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety, James Shorter by Gabriel Duvall his attorney preferred and filed in the General Court here his petition for Freedom against Eleanor Bradford which is in form following, to wit.

To the honourable the Judges of the General Court, The petition of James Shorter humbly sheweth that he is held as a slave by Eleanor

Eleanor Bradford of Prince Georges County, although he is entitled to his freedom being descended from a free woman your petitioner is the son of Lucy Shorter, who was the daughter of Jane Shorter who was the daughter of Elizabeth Shorter a free woman. He therefore prayeth that your honours would take his case into consideration and discharge him from the Custody of the aforesaid Eleanor Bradford and that summonses may issue for his witnesses and and so forth. G. Duvall for Pltf.

Whereupon, in pursuance of the Rule and order of the Court here, in such case made on the seventh day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety, the said James Shorter by his attorney aforesaid, prosecuted and sued forth out of the General Court here, the writ of the State of Maryland of Subpena ad respondendum against the said Eleanor Bradford directed to the sheriff of Prince Georges County in form following, to wit.

The State of Maryland ss. To the sheriff of Prince Georges County Greeting. We Command you that you Summon Eleanor Bradford late of Prince Georges County that all excuses and delays 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 the Petition of James Shorter prefered 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 honourable Thomas Johnson Esquire Chief Judge of our said Court the 24th day of November Anno Domini 1790.

Issued the 7th day of December 1790. G. Duvall. Jno. Gwinn Clerk.

At which said second tuesday of May being the tenth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety one, and the day of the return of the aforegoing Summons comes into the General Court the said James Shorter by his attorney aforesaid; and the sheriff of Prince Georges County aforesaid to whom the said summons was in form aforesaid directed makes return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed to wit.

Summoned, Edward L. Wailes Sheriff.

Whereupon, comes into the General Court here the said Eleanor Bradford by Philip Barton Key her attorney, And 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 October next; the same day is given to the parties aforesaid then and so forth

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