Joshua Elbert against John Parrott & William Sherwood,

Be it remembered that on the twentieth day of June in the year seventeen hundred & eighty seven, John Parrott and William Sherwood, the defendants by William Hayward Junior, their attorney did out of our Eastern Shore General Court the State of Maryland a writ of Habeas Corpus which hereunto is follows to wit,

The State of Maryland To the Justices and Sheriff of Caroline County greeting, whereas a certain John Parrott and William Sherwood are detained in prison of your said County under the custody of you our said Sheriff, at the suit of a certain Joshua Elbert of Talbot County, of a plea, put upon the petition of John Parrott and William Sherwood defendants of the Negro man slave named George of the price of Eighty five pounds current money of Maryland, One Negro Man slave named Ben of the price of eighty five pounds like money, One Negro Woman slave named Bett of the value of twenty five pounds like money and One Negro Boy slave named Jem Commonly Called Jem Certain of the price of twenty five pounds like money aforesaid, the proper negro slaves of the said Joshua Elbert which John Parrott and William Sherwood have taken and unjustly detain against sureties and pledges as it is said which said plea as it is said still depends before you our said Justices undetermined, and we being willing for divers Causes that the plea aforesaid undetermined as aforesaid should be heard and determined before the Judges of our General Court, Therefore we Command you that you have the bodies of the said John Parrott and William Sherwood, by whatsoever name or names they may be called in the plea aforesaid together with the Cause of their taking and detention and all things thereunto relating before the Judges of our General Court, at the said Court House on Eastern Shore of this State at Talbot County Court house the second Tuesday in September next that our Judges of our General Court may further proceed thereupon to Justice according and so forth. Witness Court at your peril and have you then and there this writ Witness the Honorable Robert Goldsborough Esquire one of the Judges of our said Court this twenty sixth day of April anno Domini 1787.

Issued the 20th day of June 1787. James Caste Clk.

To which said second Tuesday in September next, to wit, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty seven, being the day for the return of the aforesaid in Obedience to the Command aforesaid made return of the same writ with the following Record thereto annexed to wit, The State of Maryland Be it remembered of the said State held for Caroline County, at Melvill's Warehouse in the County aforesaid, the Monday before the third Tuesday in June, in the year seventeen hundred and Eighty seven, By the said State Justices and Officers authorized and impowered to

Preside the same of whom were Present, The Worshipful Mess.rs Henry Robinson Thomas Potter, William Hodges, Joseph Richardson, Peter Edmondson, Abner Stevens of Abner, and John Hardcastle, Justices, William Bounds Esquire Sheriff. William Richardson Clk.

Joshua Elbert. } Caroline County to wit Be it remembered that on the twentieth day
of } of March seventeen hundred and eighty seven, the plaintiff by William
John Parrott & } Hayward his attorney did out the State court of Replevin, the Form thereof
William Sherwood. } is in these words and figures following to wit, Caroline County to wit The State

of Maryland. To the Sheriff of Caroline County greeting, whereas Joshua Elbert, of Talbot County hath Come into our County Court and found sufficient sureties according to law for his Claim to prosecute as for one Negro Man slave named George of the price of eighty five pounds current money of Maryland, one negro Man slave named Ben of the price of eighty five pounds like money, and one Negro Woman named Bett of the value of twenty five pounds like money and one Negro Boy slave named Jem Commonly Called Jem certain of the price of twenty five pounds like money aforesaid the proper negro slaves of the said Joshua Elbert which John Parrott and William Sherwood have taken and unjustly detain against sureties and pledges as it is said to the plaintiff, the Replevin Bond shall be awarded therefore you are hereby commanded that the aforesaid Negro slaves to him the said Joshua Elbert be replevied and delivered for Cause, and that you put by sureties and safe pledges the said John and William that they be and appear before the Justices of our County Court to be held at Melvill's warehouse in the county before the third Tuesday in March Instant to answer unto him the said Joshua of a plea of taking and unjustly detaining the negro slaves aforesaid and how you shall execute this writ that you make known unto the Justices of the said County, and have you then and there this writ, witness Matthew Driver Gentleman, Chief Justice of our said Court the 18th day of October anno Domini 1786. Issued 17th March 1787. Wm Richardson Clk.

At which said monday before the third tuesday in March came the aforesaid plaintiff by his said attorney, and the sheriff of Caroline County to whom the said writ was directed also Came and made return thereof then endorsed viz.t Negro George and Negro Bett delivered, the reviewers removed Mr. Bounds sheriff and the aforesaid John Parrott and William Sherwood, by William Hayward Junr. their attorney Come and defended the force and injury when and so forth and prayed liberty of imparling thereof here until the Monday before the third Tuesday in June next and they had it, the same day and given to the plaintiff here and so forth, And now here at this day to wit, the Monday before the third tuesday in June seventeen hundred and eighty seven Comes as well the aforesaid plaintiff by his said attorney as aforesaid Defendants by their said attorney and thereupon the aforesaid William Hayward junior produced to the court here the States writ of Habeas Corpus in these words and figures following to wit,

The State of Maryland To the Justices and Sheriff of Caroline County greeting, whereas a certain John Parrott and William Sherwood, are detained in the prison of our said County under the Custody of you our said Sheriff at the suit of a certain Joshua Elbert of Talbot County, of a plea, put upon the petition of John