And at the prayer of the said Negro Mahala by her attorney aforesaid Summons is ordered by the Court to issue to the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County against the said Charles Boone to answer the petition aforesaid and which accordingly issued in the words following to wit

Anne Arundel County S. The State of Maryland. To the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County Greeting. You are hereby commanded to summon Charles Boone that all excuses and delays set apart he be and appear before the County Court to be held at the City of Annapolis on the third Monday of April next to answer unto the Petition of Negro Mahala preferred against him in the said Court for freedom Hereof he is not to fail. and fail not at your peril and have you then and there this writ. Witness the honourable Thomas Beale Dorsey Esquire Chief Judge of the said Court the eighteenth day of October 1824

Issued the 28th day of March 1825

Wm I Green cd

At which mentioned third Monday of April being the eighteenth day of the said month in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty five and the day of the return of the aforegoing summons comes into the County Court here the said Negro Mahala by James T. Brice her attorney aforesaid and the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County to wit Robert Welch of Ben Gentleman to whom the said aforegoing summons was in form aforesaid directed makes return thereof to the Court here thus endorsed to wit

"Summoned R Welch of Ben Shff"

And the said Charles Boone being called appears in Court here by Joseph I Speed his attorney: and the said Charles Boone in his own proper person acknowledges himself to owe and stand justly indebted to the State of Maryland in the sum of two hundred dollars current money which sum he yielded and granted should be made and levied of his body goods and chattles lands and tenements to and for the use of the said State on condition that he does not remove Negro Mahala out of this State nor does obstruct her from attending this Court from time to time in support of her petition for freedom exhibited in the said Court against him. and in the mean time to feed clothe and use her well: And the said Charles Boone by his attorney aforesaid defends the force and injury when and wherefore and prays leave of the Court here to imparle unto the third Monday of October next and he hath it. the same day is given to the said Negro Mahala also

At which said third Monday of October being the seventeenth day of the same month in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty five comes again into the County Court here as well the said Negro Mahala by her attorney aforesaid. as the said Charles Boone by his attorney aforesaid. And the said Charles Boone by his attorney aforesaid as before defends the force and (injury)

injury when and wherefore and says that the said Negro Mahala is his slave and his property without that any of the facts and circumstances stated in said petition and on which she founds her right to her freedom are true and of this he puts himself upon the country. and the said Negro Mahala in like manner and wherefore. And this cause standing ready for trial the said Negro Mahala by her attorney aforesaid prays the Court here that commission may issue to Washington County in the State of Pennsylvania to examine Witnesses in this cause and that the depositions returned with the said commission may be read in Evidence at the trial hereof and it is granted by the Court whereupon the said Negro Mahala and the said Charles Boone by their said attornies pray the Court here that the same Commission may be directed to Joseph Henderson of the County of Washington in the State of Pennsylvania and that he examine and wherefore return able with all convenient speed and wherefore and thereupon the same commission accordingly issues in the words and of the tenor following to wit.

State of Maryland. Anne Arundel County S.

The State of Maryland To Joseph Henderson Esquire of Washington County Pennsylvania. Greeting. Be it known that you are appointed commissioner to examine Witnesses in a cause depending in Anne Arundel County Court between Negro Mahala Plaintiff and Charles Boone Defendant. Therefore you are requested having first taken the oath hereunto annexed. and also administered the annexed oath to the person whom you shall appoint as clerk to attend the execution of this commission, that at such time and place as to you shall seem convenient you cause to come before you all such Witnesses as shall be named or produced to you by either the Plaintiff or Defendant. and that you examine them upon their respective oaths to be by you administered on the holy Evangely of Almighty God touching their knowledge or remembrance of any thing that may relate to the cause aforesaid and having received the depositions of the witnesses so taken by you into writing you send the same with this commission closed under your hand and seal to the said County Court to be held at the City of Annapolis with all convenient speed. Witness the honourable Thomas Beale Dorsey Esquire Chief Judge of the third judicial district of Maryland the seventeenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty five

Issued the 30th day of December 1825

Wm I Green clk

James T. Brice attorney for the Plaintiff

Joseph I Speed attorney for the Defendant

Commissioners Oath

You shall according to the best of your skill and knowledge truly faithfully and without partiality to any election of the parties take the (examination).