Be it Known that on this 13th day of February Anno Domini 1826. Before me Jas Henderson Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the peace in and for the County of Washington and State of Pennsylvania and Commissioner in a Dedimus Potestatem for this special purpose issued out of the Court of Anne Arundel County in the State of Maryland bearing date the 17th day of October A.D. 1825 in a certain action there pending between Negro Mahala Plaintiff and Charles Boone Defendant. Came Robert Colmery Esq. Register and Recorder of the County of Washington aforesaid and being sworn by the Almighty God the searcher of all hearts to speak the truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth did depose and answer to the interrogatories annexed to the Commission as follows.

To the first interrogatory he answers. That Purdons digest of the laws of Pennsylvania referred to is used and read in our Courts as the law of Pennsylvania.

Answer to second interrogatory. I do not know John Purdon.

Answer to the third interrogatory. By an act of assembly passed the 27 January 1819 the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was authorized to purchase eight hundred copies of Purdons digest of the laws of Pennsylvania which is the same BOOK referred to in the first interrogatory and a copy of said BOOK was sent the Prothonotary of this County for the use of the Courts and an other copy was said to the Register and Recorder for the use of his office which Copy I yet have in my office.

Answer to fourth Interrogatory. I do not know whether or not Philip H Nicklin was authorized to publish said book but the act of assembly referred to above authorizes the Secretary of the Commonwealth to purchase said book from Philip H Nicklin for the use of the Commonwealth.

Answer to the fifth Interrogatory. I do not know but I think that W Fry is not printer to the State of Pennsylvania

Answer to Sixth Interrogatory. I do not know of any other law book printed by W. Fry than the Digest aforesaid

Answer to Seventh Interrogatory. I do not know what are the requisites for holding Slaves in Pennsylvania by persons removing from Maryland. All the laws that are in force in Pennsylvania on the subject of negroes will be found in Purdons digest page 478 and our Courts generally hold the masters to a strict compliance with the statute

Answer to eighth Interrogatory. I do not know any thing else that will be material to either of the parties

Saml Cunningham Clerk.

R. Colmery

Taken before me the 13 day of February Anno Domini 1826

Jas Henderson Commissioner

Pennsylvania. Washington County ss. I William Sample Prothonotary of the Court of Common pleas in and for said County do certify that James Ord Esq. (before)

whom the foregoing affidavits of Jas Henderson and Samuel Cunningham were made. was at the time a Justice of the peace in and for said County duly Commissioned and that full faith and Credit are and ought to be given to his official acts. Given under my hand and Seal of said Court at Washington the 13 day of February A.D. 1826

Seal

Wm Sample Prothy

Pennsylvania. Washington County ss. I Thomas H Baird President Judge of the 14th Judicial district of Penn.a Composed of the Counties of Washington. Fayette and Greene do hereby certify that Wm Sample Esq. who gave the above Certificate was at the time Prothonotary of the Court of Common pleas in and for the said County of Washington duly Commissioned and that the said Certificate and seal of the said Court is in due form of law. and that full faith and Credit are due thereto. Given under my hand and Seal at Washington the 17 day of Feby A.D. 1826

Thos H Baird

Seal

Pennsylvania Washington County ss. I William Sample Prothonotary of the Court of Common pleas for said County do certify that the Honble Thomas H Baird who gave the foregoing Certificate was at the time President Judge of the 14th Judicial District of Penn.a Composed of the Counties of Washington. Fayette and Greene duly Commissioned and that full faith and Credit are due to his official acts Given under my hand and Seal of Office at Washington the 18th day of February Anno Domini 1826

Seal

Wm Sample Prothy

It was admitted by the defendants Counsel that the Petitioner is the daughter of Negro Rachel. and that Rachel was the slave of said Zachariah. to the admissibility of all which testimony to the jury. the defendant by his Counsel objected. and prayed the Court to instruct the jury that upon the evidence so offered. which is legally admissible before them. they are not authorized to find a verdict for the Petitioner which direction the Court gave. and thereupon the Petitioner by her Counsel prayed leave to except. and that their Honors would sign and seal this bill of exception. Signed and Sealed this twenty second day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty six

Thos B Dorsey
John I Riegart
J. H. Wilkinson

Seal
Seal
Seal

Test Wm S Greer

Afterwards Viz. on the twenty Eighth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and twenty seven the said Negro Mahala by James A Brice her attorney aforesaid in pursuance of the act of assembly in such Case made and provided makes application to the Clerk of the Court here and directs the said Clerk to enter an appeal from the judgment aforesaid (of)