as it stood between the years 1678 and 1681 and not by the Law as it may have been modified or altered subsequent to that period — No adjudged case in the British books hath been cited, nor have the Court been able to find one coming up to the case in the Exception — Opposing cases as well as opinions of particular Judges and Law writers have been cited as applicable to the case — About the period of Ann Joices being in England, a diversity of Opinions prevailed on that Subject — At one period it was held by a Judge that a Slave by being brought to England thereby became free, some times it hath been held that Trover would lie, at other times that it would not, that the sale of a Negroe was a sufficient consideration to support a Assumpsit to pay the price, that a Master deprived of his Slave might support an Action per quod Servitium amisit — By British Charters and British Acts of Parliament the Slave trade hath been authorised and encouraged, and Slaves have been considered there as Merchandize, as Chattels, as property, and have by a British Statute operating in this State been subjected to be sold and disposed of as other property for the payment of debts — Lord Chief Justice Talbot and Sir Philip York in 1729 expressly declare that a Slave coming from the West Indies with or without his Master to Great Britain or Ireland, doth not become free and that his Master's property or right in him is not thereby determined or varied &c — And that his Master may legally compel him to return — This opinion is recognised by Hardwick acting as Chancellor in 1749, and that Trover would lie for a Negroe — Judge Blackstone in his Commentaries in 1765 11 Edition Page 127, says that a Slave or Negroe the moment he lands in England falls under the protection of the Laws and so far becomes a freeman though the Masters right to his service may probably still continue — And in page 424 same Edition repeats the same and adds that the Law will protect him in the enjoyment of his person and property — But yet with regard to any right