against the said Thomas Tongue to answer the Petition aforesaid and which accordingly issues in the words following to wit

Anne Arundel County Sc To the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County Greeting You are hereby Commanded to Summon Thomas Tongue that all excuses and delays Set apart he be and appear before the Judges of our Court of Anne Arundel County to be held at the City of Annapolis on the third Monday of April Inst. to answer unto the Petition of negroes Cressy Kelly George Susan Rhody and Wesley preferred against him in the said Court for freedom Hereof fail not at your peril and have you then and there this writ Witness the Honorable Nicholas Brewer Judge of the said Court the 23 day of October 1854

Issued the 12 day of April 1855

H. H. Murray — A. H. Green Clerk

And now at this term to wit the third Monday of April being the Eighteenth day of the same Month in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty five and the day of the return of the aforegoing Summons Comes into the Court here the said Negroes Cressy Kelly George Susan Rhody and Wesley by Henry H. Murray and Oliver Miller their attorneys. And the Sheriff of Anne Arundel County to wit Thomas Ireland Gentleman to whom the said aforegoing Summons was in form aforesaid directed Makes Return thereof to the Court here thereon endorsed to wit

Summoned — Thos Ireland Sheriff

And the said Thomas Tongue being called appears in Court here by William H. G. Dorsey and Thomas G. Pratt his attorneys, and the said Thomas Tongue in his own proper person acknowledges himself to owe and stand justly indebted to the State of Maryland in the full and just sum of three thousand dollars current money which said Sum he yielded and granted should be made and levied of his body goods and Chattels lands and tenements to and for the use of the said State of Maryland upon condition that he does not remove Negroes Cressy Kelly George Susan Rhody and Wesley out of this State Nor obstruct them from attending this Court from time to time in Support of their Petition for freedom Exhibited in the said Court against him and in the meantime keep Clothe and use them well. And the said Thomas Tongue by Wm H. G. Dorsey and Thomas G. Pratt his Attorneys saith that the said Negroes Cressy Kelly George Susan Rhody and Wesley are not entitled to their freedom or either of them as by their said Petition alleged and of this he puts himself upon the Country and the said Negroes Cressy Kelly George Susan Rhody and Wesley in like manner and so saith. Therefore let a jury come before the Court here immediately by whom and so saith, who neither and so saith to recognize and so saith; because as well and so saith; who being called come that is to say Samuel Richardson, Jacob Manchester, William H. Bond Benjamin O'Hara, Essick Dorsey, Smith Caprow, John H. Brown George W. Hammond, Samuel Carr, Benjamin C. Neff, Thomas H. Mitchell and Elisha C. Taylor who being empannelled and Sworn to say the truth in the premises upon their oath do say that the said Negroes Cressy, Kelly, George Susan Rhody and Wesley are free persons, as the said Negroes Cressy, Kelly, George Susan Rhody and Wesley the Petitioners aforesaid by their said Petition have alleged Therefore it is considered by the Court here, that the said Negroes Cressy Kelly, George Susan Rhody and Wesley the Petitioners aforesaid recover their freedom of and against the said Thomas Tongue, and that they be free and discharged of and from the service of the said Thomas Tongue and that they, the said Negroes Cressy Kelly, George Susan Rhody and Wesley go thereof free and discharged without day, and so saith: It is also considered by the Court here that the said Negroes Cressy Kelly, George Susan Rhody and Wesley, recover against the said Thomas Tongue the sum of ten dollars and sixty six cents lawful money by the Court here unto the said Negroes Cressy, Kelly, George Susan Rhody and Wesley, by their assent for their costs and charges by them about the prosecution of their petition aforesaid laid out and expended and that they have therefor their execution and so saith

Memorandum Before the jurors aforesaid withdrew from the bar of the Court here the said Thomas Tongue by his attorneys aforesaid filed in Court here the following bill of exception to wit