

Lib. J. R. more of the Negroes who were lately imported into Pa-
& U. S. tuxent River in the Brigantine Edward of which one John Cousins is Master have declared that they are not Slaves but Freemen, that the Negroe called Cap^t Gray in particular is the son of a person of some Consequence and Power on the African Coast, and that the said Cousins treacherously stole and brought them away, I am Ordered by his Excellency and their Honours to communicate to you the Information that hath been given them and moreover to Desire that on the Receipt hereof you will send for, and examine the Surgeon Mates and Boatswain of the said Vessell & Endeavour to discover whether Cap^t Cousins hath committed the Crime whereof he is accused, and if you shall either by the Evidence of those Persons or any others be inclined to think that the Master is guilty, you will be pleased to have him apprehended immediately and delivered into the Custody of the Sheriff of Calvert County, and to give that Sheriff Orders to deliver him over to the Sheriff of this County, so that he may be brought without Delay before his Excellency & the Council to be dealt with as to them shall seem meet. If you see Cause for having him apprehended you will be pleased to send hither all the Persons that shall be able to give Evidence against him, & whether you Cause him to be apprehended and brought hither or not, you are desired to return to me the Depositions or Examinations that shall be by you taken on this Occasion. I am

Sir

Your most Obedient humble Serv^t

J Ross Cl: Conc:

To James Weems Esq^r Chief Justice of Calvert County.

p. 253 At a Council held at the City of Annapolis on Tuesday the twenty ninth Day of Septem^r in the tenth Year of his Lordships Dominion &c.. Annoque Domini 1760.

Present

His Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq^r Governor

The honourable	{	Benjamin Tasker Esq ^r	}	Col ^o Benjamin Tasker
		Col ^o Charles Hammond		Benedict Calvert Esq ^r
		Sam ^l Chamberlaine		Stephen Bordley Esq ^r
		Esq ^r		

Read the Return of James Weems Esq^r in relation to Cap^t Cousins which is as follows.