

after the Revolution<sup>5</sup>—assuming that the mere attendance of a quorum of judges ready for business constituted a session of the court, for no business was done then; the court merely adjourned until June following. No judges attended in June, and a legislative enactment, act 1780, chapter 11, was necessary to adjourn the court and keep its process alive; and in October, another act, 1780, chapter 19, was passed to carry the court over despite an absence of judges at a session called for September. On October 3, 1780, when only Judges Rumsey and Murray attended, the commission of the judges, and certificates of the oaths of office taken by Judges Mackall and Murray, were filed and recorded in the minutes of that day, and the clerk of the General Court brought in the transcripts of records in two appeals, the first to be entered by the reorganized court: John Trammell's Lessee v. Arthur Nelson,<sup>6</sup> and Edward Mockbee's Lessee v. Samuel Clagett;<sup>7</sup> and these were filed and entered on the same day. The docket of the old court held by the Governor and Council seems to have been continued in use, the pending cases being re-entered as usual for a new term of court, and new cases being added, without a break in the continuity of the record. These seven pending cases, carried over from the May term, 1776, constituted the first business awaiting the new judges:

5. This information comes, not from original, contemporary minutes, but from entries made in the minute book after the minutes of 1805, apparently in the hand of Thomas Harris, of what are called on the back of the book "Styles of the Court, 1769 to 1805." The entries seem obviously copies of some originals.
6. 2 Harris & McHenry, 4.
7. Ibid, 1.