

Years or upwards being sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God Deposeth and saith that he hath lived for twenty years past not further than a mile from that part of a Branch Branch formerly called the Hiding Place where a bridge now is and that he never heard of any Person near this pretending to hold up any claim or title to any Lands under a Proprietary Right nor that ever that Place was taken to be a Boundary between the Province of Maryland and Sussex County by any Person whatsoever, but that that Place of the Inhabitants around it were ever taken and accounted to be within the Province of Maryland. And this Deponent further saith that he about fourteen or fifteen years past acted as a Factor for Col. Adam & Neave who purchased a Plantation from a certain Abraham Ingram which was situated about seven Miles up Gravely Branch aforesaid & close to or near the Head thereof and at Place called the Beaver Dams or Drains. And this Deponent also saith that the aforesaid Abraham then informed the aforesaid Neave that the Branch or Drain from the said Beaver Dams running and extending along by reputation John and Benjamin Souther was the Division and reputed Boundary between the Province of Maryland & the County of Sussex. And this Deponent further saith that the Plantation so aforesaid purchased by the said Neave from the said Ingram was on the Maryland side of the said Beaver Dams & Drains and was held by a Maryland Title and Grant. And this Deponent also saith that he hath been frequently informed by sundry Persons and hath always understood that the Beaver Dams or Drains aforesaid were the actual and acknowledged Boundaries between the Province of Maryland and Sussex County aforesaid. And this Deponent further saith that about five or six years past he applied to one William Shanklin then and still Deputy Surveyor of Sussex County aforesaid to Survey and lay out for him a parcel of Land on the Westward side of the aforesaid Beaver Dams and Drains which the said Shanklin refused to do unless this Deponent would indemnify him for so doing for as much as it was out off beyond the Bounds of Sussex County as the said Shanklin then informed this Deponent. And this Deponent further saith that the aforesaid Shanklin then further told this Deponent that Mr. Poles had given Orders to him the aforesaid Shanklin not to Survey any Lands to the Westward or on the Westward side of the said Beaver Dams & Drains but that the said Shanklin then promised this Deponent that if ever it was in his Power he would secure the Land for him this Deponent for which this Deponent gave the said Shanklin two Shillings and six pence the Customary Fee for the Entry of Lands with the Surveyor of Sussex County it being then much talked of that the lines between the Proprietors of Maryland & the Proprietors of Carolina were shortly to be settled and for that this Deponent saith out

Taken and sworn to this 29th Day of August Anno Domini 1757

Thos. Collins

before Joseph Collins
Wm. Ellegood

Worcester County 5th

Robert Ingram of Worcester County in the Province of Maryland Planter aged Sixty two Years and upwards being sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth & saith that about fifty five years past he went to live up in the Head of the River formerly called but now Worcester County near unto a Branch called Green Branch where he now lives and ever since hath lived & that to the knowledge of this Deponent a Branch maketh out of the River Nanticoke called Gravely Branch aforesaid for its Course from the said River Nanticoke near North East for about the Distance of seven Miles where it Heads and that from thence another Branch maketh out from near South East untill it falls in with Green Branch aforesaid and that he always understood & ever heard that the Lands to the Northward of the aforesaid Branch so as aforesaid making out from the Head of Gravely Branch aforesaid were esteemed to be within the County of Sussex under the Government generally called Proprietary and those to the Southward within one Somerset but now Worcester County in the Province of Maryland. And this Deponent also saith that the Hiding Place now Gravely Branch aforesaid where now is a bridge is distant from the mouth of the aforesaid Branch called Gravely Branch about half a mile and that he hath always understood that the Lands on each side of Gravely Branch were within the Province of Maryland. And this Deponent further saith that from the Head of Gravely Branch aforesaid one other Branch maketh out for some to the Northward which is called by the name of the Beaver Dams which hath also ever heard and understood to be the Divisional Boundary between the Province of Maryland & the County of Sussex aforesaid and that the Inhabitants on the one side were always esteemed as Residents of Maryland & on the other Inhabitants of Sussex aforesaid. And this Deponent also saith that the Maple Marsh is situated at the Head of the Drains issuing out of the aforesaid Branch aforesaid. And this Deponent further saith that the Swampy which he hath heard called by some by the name